



**REGULAR MEETING OF FLORENCE BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
THURSDAY, APRIL 16, 2026 - 3:30 PM
324 WEST EVANS STREET
MAGNOLIA ROOM
FLORENCE, SC**

- I. CALL TO ORDER**
- II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
 - a. February 19, 2026
- III. MONTHLY URBAN SQUARE UPDATE BY STYX CO**
- IV. GENERAL DISCUSSION RELATED TO BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT NEEDS AND CONSIDERATIONS FOR THE CITY OF FLORENCE**

(Note: Action may be taken during committee Meeting to recommend action to City Council.)
- V. NEXT MEETING – May 21, 2026**
- VI. ADJOURN**



**FLORENCE CITY COUNCIL
BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
THURSDAY, JANUARY 15, 2026 – 3:30 PM
CITY CENTER - Magnolia Room (1ST Floor)
324 WEST EVANS STREET
FLORENCE, SOUTH CAROLINA**

Members Present:

Mayor Pro Tem, Jebaily, Mayor Barnes, and via phone - Councilman McKay
Scotty Davis, Clint Moore, and Michael Hemingway

Member Absent: None.

Also Present: Amanda Pope, City of Florence; Deidre Weaver-Currin, Post & Courier; Emily Ribero, SC NOW; Don Strickland, PDRTA; Mary Kate Morookian, Kimley-Horn; Porter Rivers, Michael Henry, Keiran Ryan, via Teams connection - Erica King and Brooke Grow, AECOM

Call to Order:

Councilman Pro Tem Jebaily called the February 19, 2026, meeting of the City of Florence Business Development Committee to order at 3:30 PM.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM JANUARY 15, 2026, motion by Mayor Barnes and second by Councilman McKay. Motion approved.

Matters Discussed:

MONTHLY URBAN SQUARE UPDATE FOR STYX CO by Clint Moore

- Approximately 75 % of the plumbing is installed
- Inspection approved for the elevator and stairwell foundations

AECOM – Utility System Communication Presentation

Porter Rivers introduced the team and portions of the presentation were led by Michael Henry, Keiran Ryan, and Brooke Grow. The presentation and handout are attached.

Mayor Pro Tem, Jebaily asked how will this integrate with existing communication methods? Yes, the existing communication methods will be adjusted and expanded where it is possible to work with the recommendations being provided. Mayor Barnes asked if “CY” could provide people answers to water questions, yes. Mayor Pro Tem asked how are we going to improve our listening? Brooke (AECOM) provided the following opportunities – improved tracking with backend form with a designee to respond to the customer; comment box; designated email; collaborative work with the media; and shared that secret chat boards are no help to the city to correct the problem. Mayor Pro Tem asked the city manager to include this as part of his monthly report to council. Councilman McKay asked about the status of non-revenue water. Porter (AECOM) responded the Water Master Plan reported the potential could be as high as 40% but additional and more accurate information needs to be collected to ensure quality information is being provided. Ideally the standard water loss should be approximately 15 – 20 % and there is a parallel between water efficiency and water loss. Clint also stated that we must work with all entities that interact with the city’s water distribution system.

PDRTA

Don Strickland introduced Mary Kate Morookian, Kimley-Horn consultant. Mary Kate presented the Transit Study that was funded by Florence County. This presentation is attached. Don shared that PDRTA is going to hire armed security for the Downtown Transit Center.

Motion to adjourn by Councilman McKay and second by Mayor Pro Tem session adjourned at 4:58 PM.