



**MEETING OF FLORENCE CITY COUNCIL
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 24, 2026 – 3:00PM
CITY CENTER – PECAN ROOM (4TH FLOOR)
324 WEST EVANS STREET
FLORENCE, SOUTH CAROLINA**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Lethonia Barnes, Chaequez McCall, Lawrence Smith

STAFF PRESENT: Scotty Davis, Annie Brown, Mary DeLung

MEDIA PRESENT: Emmy Ribero with Morning News, Dierdre Weaver-Currin with Post and Courier

CALL TO ORDER: Councilman Lawrence Smith called the meeting to order at 3:16pm.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Mayor Lethonia Barnes made a motion to approve the minutes from the May 27, 2026, meeting. Councilman Chaequez McCall seconded the motion and the minutes were approved.

ITEMS DISCUSSED:

Councilman Smith requested an update on the demolition of the property at 215 E. Darlington Street. Dr. Annie Brown reported that invitations to bid had been sent to contractors, with the pre-bid meeting scheduled for June 30 and the bid opening set for July 14. She explained that demolition is typically completed within approximately ten days following the bid opening.

Councilman Smith then requested an update on Building Florence Together. Speaking on behalf of Michelle Morgan, Dr. Brown explained that Ms. Morgan was unable to attend the meeting because she was working on lease agreements and gathering documentation for an upcoming audit.

Mayor Barnes commented on the visible improvements in the Pine Street area and noted that the community is excited about the progress being made.

Dr. Brown also announced that the sale of the newly constructed home at 412 S. Gaillard Street was scheduled to close on June 29. She stated that the purchaser successfully completed the First-Time Homebuyer Program and would receive \$25,000 in closing cost assistance.

Additionally, Dr. Brown reported that, due to an issue requiring the project to be re-advertised, Michelle Morgan would conduct a re-bid in July for the construction of four homes in the E. Pine Street and Gaillard Street area.

Dr. Brown distributed a printed update from the Community Services Department outlining the status of current Neighborhood Revitalization and Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) projects. The report included updates on housing rehabilitation, demolitions, down payment assistance, lot acquisitions, homebuyer workshops, and neighborhood meetings.

There being no further discussion, the meeting adjourned at 3:56pm.

The next meeting is scheduled for July 29th at 3:00pm.