

MINUTES
MARION CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS
TUESDAY, JUNE 9, 2026 AT 6:30 P.M.

MAYOR/COUNCILMEMBERS PRESENT:

Mayor Ashley Brady	Councilman Fred Gause
Councilman Ronald Atkinson	Mayor Pro Tem Emerson Hunt
Councilman Donny Gerald	Councilwoman Tassie Lewis
Councilman Michael Baker	

STAFF PRESENT:

Alan Ammons, City Administrator	City Attorney James Brogdon
City Treasurer Patricia Brown	Police Chief Tony Flowers
City Clerk Lakesha Shannon	

1. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Ashley Brady.

2. PRAYER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Brady led the prayer and pledge of allegiance.

3. WELCOME CITIZENS, GUESTS & PRESS

Mayor Brady welcomed all citizens and guest.

4. APPROVE MINUTES

- Regular City Council Meeting – May 12, 2026
- Budget Workshop – May 19, 2026

A motion was made by Councilman Fred Gause, seconded by Councilman Michael Baker to approve the minutes of the May 12, 2026 Regular City Council Meeting and May 19, 2026 Budget Workshop. The motion passed unanimously.

5. MAY EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH

Mayor Brady named City Treasurer Patricia Brown as the May 2026 Employee of the Month. He thanked Patricia for all that she does to assist in the preparation of the city's annual budget each year.

6. AWARDS PRESENTATION – CITY OF MARION RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Recreation Director Chasity Samuels presented awards and gifts to the 2026 SCAP State Runner-Up 12U Girls Basketball team and coaches.

7. CITY OF MARION POLICE DEPARTMENT FAMILY FUN DAY

Police Chief Tony Flowers announced that the City of Marion Police Department will be hosting a Family Fun Day/Back to School Event on July 25, 2026 at Grice's Recreation Center. This event will bring together community members, organizations, churches, businesses, and daycares to give back to our children. There will be food trucks, bouncy houses, and vendors in attendance to ensure community involvement and fellowship. Chief Flowers thanked council for their continued support to the police department.

8. APPROVE ORDINANCES:

- **2nd Reading on Ordinance 26-07 An Ordinance Granting a Non-Exclusive Right, Privilege and Franchise to HTC, Inc., to Construct, Operate and Maintain a Telecommunications System in the City of Marion, South Carolina, Subject to the Conditions, Reservations and Limitations Herein Stated**

A motion was made by Councilman Ronald Atkinson, seconded by Councilwoman Donny Gerald to approve 2nd Reading on Ordinance 26-

07 An Ordinance Granting a Non-Exclusive Right, Privilege and Franchise to HTC, Inc., to Construct, Operate and Maintain a Telecommunications System in the City of Marion, South Carolina, Subject to the Conditions, Reservations and Limitations Herein Stated.

The motion passed unanimously

- **2nd Reading on Ordinance 26-08 An Ordinance to Amend Ordinance 25-08 An Ordinance Authorizing the City of Marion to Convey Certain Real Property**

A motion was made by Councilman Fred Gause, seconded by Councilman Michael Baker to approve 2nd Reading on Ordinance 26-08 An Ordinance to Amend Ordinance 25-08 An Ordinance Authorizing the City of Marion to Convey Certain Real Property. The motion passed unanimously.

- **1st Reading on Ordinance 26-09 An Ordinance to Amend Rates for Sanitation Services**

A motion was made by Councilwoman Tassie Lewis, seconded by Councilman Donny Gerald to approve 1st Reading on Ordinance 26-09 An Ordinance to Amend Rates for Sanitation Services. The motion passed unanimously.

- **1st Reading on Ordinance 26-10 An Ordinance to Amend Ordinance 23-08 An Ordinance Amending City of Marion Code of Ordinances Section 7-2014 Regarding Authorized Days for Use of Fireworks**

A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Emerson Hunt, seconded by Councilwoman Tassie Lewis to approve 1st Reading on Ordinance 26-10 An Ordinance to Amend Ordinance 23-08 An Ordinance Amending City

of Marion Code of Ordinances Section 7-2014 Regarding Authorized

Days for Use of Fireworks. Mayor Brady noted that the fireworks ordinance was amended 3 years ago to reduce the number of days fireworks could be used in the city. That decision was made in an effort to reduce noise for families that are trying to rest at night, individuals that suffer from PTSD and concerns of the fireworks noise sounding like gunshots. Mayor Brady stated that one individual has asked that the ordinance be amended to extend the time of fireworks use on July 4th for the upcoming 250th celebration this year. He noted that he individual does not live or have a business in the City of Marion, neither do they pay any property taxes in the city. Chief Flowers commented that fireworks can create a hardship for staff and the community due to the noise sounding like gunshots. The officers have to respond to every call whether it's a valid incident or not, which is time consuming. He is not in favor of adopting this ordinance. Following discussion, ***the motion failed unanimously.***

9. SET DATE FOR PUBLIC HEARING:

A public hearing will be held on July 14, 2026 at 6:20 pm to allow for public comments on Ordinance 26-09 **An Ordinance to Amend Rates for Sanitation Services**

10. ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Administrator Alan Ammons provided an updated on the \$110,000.00 gunshot detection grant the city will be receiving. Chief Flowers stated that the city's current Flock camera system can be integrated with a compatible gunshot detection system, and he will follow up with the company for

details on how it will work. Administrator Ammons stated that 248 nuisance letters have been sent out so far to address overgrown grass throughout the city, and the city is now cutting the properties and charging fees accordingly. The city is currently taking applications from property owners and creating a new list of homes to be demolished. Any property owner that is willing to pay for the environmental inspection for asbestos can get their home demolished immediately if no asbestos is present. Council discussed various properties that need to be addressed for possible demolition.

11. CITY ATTORNEY'S LEGAL UPDATE

Attorney James Brogdon had no update.

12. DISTRICT AND CITY UPDATE FROM COUNCIL AND MAYOR

Mayor Ashley Brady

Mayor Brady stated that banners are being installed on Main Street in preparation for the upcoming 250th year celebration of our country. The Green Street Stormwater Project is still delayed due to a powerline that needs to be rerouted. He congratulated the 2026 SCAP State Runner-Up 12U Girls Basketball team and coaches on their win. The City of Marion Recreation Department will host the 10U Baseball Championship games on this coming weekend.

Councilman Michael Baker

Councilman Baker asked if the burned house on Green Street would need an asbestos inspection. Administrator Ammons stated that it would need an inspection before it can be demolished, and he will confirm if the notification letter has been sent out to the owner.

Councilman Fred Gause

Councilman Gause announced that he will be hosting a District 4 update meeting on June 17, 2026 to address issues and concerns from citizens within the district. He will partner with County Councilman Dwayne Tennie, School Board Trustee Ogleretta White, and Pee Dee Community Action Agency Board Chairman Cynthia Legette to provide information and resources during this meeting. He encouraged all councilmembers to attend as well.

Councilman Ronald Atkinson

Councilman Atkinson stated that citizens need to be aware of the construction going on with the Jones Avenue roundabout project. The project has started and estimated to be complete by the end of 2026.

Mayor Pro Tem Emerson Hunt

Mayor Pro Tem Hunt acknowledged Dr. Suggs and thanked him for attending the meeting. He encouraged citizens to stay hydrated.

Councilwoman Tassie Lewis

Councilwoman Lewis encouraged citizens to go out and vote.

Councilman Donny Gerald

Councilman Gerald had no comments.

13. EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Councilman Ronald Atkinson, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Emerson Hunt to go into Executive Session to discuss Economic Development, Contractual Matter, and Personnel Matter – Fire Department. The motion carried unanimously.

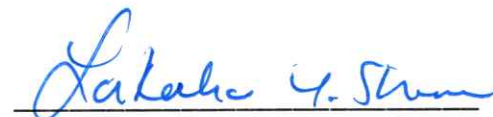
14. POSSIBLE ACTION FOLLOWING EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Councilman Ronald Atkinson, and seconded by Councilman Fred Gause to return from Executive Session. The motion carried unanimously. Mayor Brady stated that there was no action taken in executive session.

15. ADJOURNMENT

Hearing no further business, ***a motion was made by Councilman Ronald Atkinson, seconded by Councilman Donny Gerald to adjourn. The motion carried unanimously.***


Mayor Ashley Brady


Lakesha Y. Shannon, City Clerk