

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA}  
COUNTY OF PICKENS}  
CITY OF LIBERTY}

ORDINANCE NO. 2025-03

**AN ORDINANCE  
TO PROVIDE FOR THE ADOPTION OF A CITY OPERATING BUDGET,  
ITS EXECUTION AND EFFECT, FOR THE FISCAL PERIOD  
JULY 1, 2025, THROUGH JUNE 30, 2026**

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LIBERTY, SOUTH CAROLINA:

SECTION 1. In accordance with Section 2-48 of The Code of the City of Liberty, South Carolina, there is hereby adopted for the fiscal period July 1, 2025, to June 30, 2026, an operating budget for the City of Liberty, South Carolina, based on budget estimates of various funds as prepared by the City Administrator/Mayor and/or Deputy Administrator and incorporated into the FY 2025-2026 Budget, and as indicated in the attached schedule.

SECTION 2. The total revenues and expenditures for the fiscal period are estimated as follows:

| Fund   | Revenues     | Expenditures | Surplus(Deficit) | Millage Rate |
|--|--------------|--------------|------------------|--------------|
| General Fund                                 | 2,674,302.00 | 2,674,302.00 |                  | 93.1         |
| Utility Fund                                 | 2,115,077.40 | 2,115,077.40 |                  |              |
| Hospitality Fund                             | 150,084.00   | 150,084.00   |                  |              |
| Victims Fund                                 | 4,190.00     | 4,190.00     |                  |              |
| Note: The current millage rate is 93.1 mils. |              |              |                  |              |

SECTION 3. Within each fund, the City Administrator/Mayor and/or Deputy Administrator shall have the authority to transfer appropriated funds within any of the designated expenditure categories, and such transfers shall be entered on the books of account of the City.

SECTION 4. A copy of the budget containing detailed schedules which support the appropriations set forth in Section 2, above, shall be maintained as an official record in the office of the City Administrator/Mayor and/or Deputy Administrator.

SECTION 5. The sums appropriated and set forth in the detailed schedules for personnel services shall be paid in accordance with the current pay plan, or as shown in the budget for those positions not classified under the pay plan.

SECTION 6. All sums received by the City of Liberty from any source whatsoever, unless by law designated for some special fund or purpose, may be used in meeting disbursements from the General Fund, as described in Section 2, above.

SECTION 7. The City Administrator/Mayor and/or Deputy Administrator is authorized to inform the County Tax Collector, or such other officer of the County as may be appropriate, to levy such ad valorem millage as will be reasonable and appropriate to raise the ad valorem revenue reflected in the approved budget, provided such millage does not exceed the amount allowed by South Carolina Section 6-1-320 "Millage Rate Increase Limitations; Exceptions".

## SECTION 8. Schedule of Water &amp; Sewer Charges

**Water & Sewer Base Rate & Usage Charges—3/4" Meter (Primarily Residential)**

| <b>¾" Meter</b>                                       | <b>Inside City</b>       | <b>Outside City</b>      |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Water Base Rate—up to 2000 Gallons                    | <b>\$22.55</b> per month | <b>\$33.82</b> per month |
| Sewer Base Rate—up to 2000 Gallons                    | \$25.75 per month        | \$38.95 per month        |
| <b>Water &amp; Sewer Base Rate up to 2000 gallons</b> | \$48.10 per month        | \$72.57 per month        |
| Water—Additional 1000 Gallon Units                    | <b>\$5.59</b> per unit   | <b>\$8.31</b> per unit   |
| Sewer—Additional 1000 Gallon Units                    | \$10.37 per unit         | \$16.38 per unit         |

**Water Base Rate & Usage Charges (larger than ¾" Meter)**

| <b>Meter Size</b>                  | <b>Inside City</b>   | <b>Outside City</b>  |
|------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| 1" Meter—up to 3,000 Gallons       | \$31.49 per month    | \$59.70 per month    |
| 1 ½" Meter—up to 5,000 Gallons     | \$52.06 per month    | \$101.27 per month   |
| 2" Meter—up to 15,000 Gallons      | \$131.53 per month   | \$271.19 per month   |
| 3" Meter—up to 50,000 Gallons      | \$273.59 per month   | \$572.59 per month   |
| 4" Meter—up to 150,000 Gallons     | \$667.62 per month   | \$1,416.68 per month |
| 6" Meter—up to 250,000 Gallons     | \$990.22 per month   | \$2,092.49 per month |
| 8" Meter—up to 400,000 Gallons     | \$1,584.35 per month | \$3,347.97 per month |
| Irrigation Meter—no base charge    | \$5.49 per unit      | \$8.21 per unit      |
| Water—Additional 1000 Gallon Units | \$5.49 per unit      | \$8.21 per unit      |

**Sewer--Commercial Base Rate & Usage Charges**

| <b>Meter Size</b>                  | <b>Inside City</b> | <b>Outside City</b> |
|------------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| Commercial—up to 2000 Gallons      | \$29.46 per month  | \$47.73 per month   |
| Sewer—Additional 1000 Gallon Units | \$10.37 per unit   | \$17.06 per unit    |

**Water & Sewer Tap Fees (Includes Service, Irrigation & Fire Lines)**

|                           | <b>Inside City</b> | <b>Outside City</b> |
|---------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| Water Tap Fee 5/8" x 3/4" | \$2,000            | \$3,000             |
| Water Tap Fee 1"          | \$2,500            | \$3,500             |
| Water Tap Fee 2"          | ***                | ***                 |
| Water Tap Fee 3" or Above | ***                | ***                 |
| Sewer Tap Fee 4"          | \$2,000            | \$3,000             |
| Sewer Tap Fee Over 4"     | ***                | ***                 |

\* Customer is responsible for material & labor costs and tap must be performed under the City's supervision

\*\* When feasible for City to provide sewer outside the city limits

\*\*\* Case-by-case bases determined by the city engineer (Rosier) cost estimate for each request.

**Miscellaneous Water & Sewer Fees—All Customers (Inside & Outside City)**

|  |                                     |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| Deposit--Property Owner  | N/A                                 |
| Deposit--Renter (applied/refunded when deactivated)                      | \$100.00                            |
| Connection (establishing account)  | \$35.00                             |
| Disconnect Fee (applied once cutoff list is created & subject to cutoff) | \$40.00                             |
| Transfer Service Fee (within our service area)                           | \$35.00                             |
| Cleaning (5 day minimum)   | \$5.00 per day                      |
| Late Penalty   | 10% per month                       |
| Non-Sufficient Check or Bank Draft Fee                                   | \$30.00                             |
| Meter Testing (refunded if meter is defective)                           | \$50.00/\$82.50                     |
| Moving Meter for Customer  | City's cost / +65%                  |
| Meter Tampering Fee  | \$150.00/ \$247.50                  |
| Meter Damage Fee   | Cost of repair or replacement/ +65% |
| Cramer-Roper Fee (per meter unit)  | \$3.10 per month                    |
| Sewer Maintenance Fee (per meter unit)                                   | \$2.50 per month                    |
| Bulk Water Sales (1000-gallon units)                                     | \$8.21 per unit                     |
| Credit Card convenience fee  | 3% per transaction                  |

## SECTION 9. Schedule of Solid Waste Fees

**Residential Solid Waste Charges**

|   | <b>Inside City</b> | <b>Outside City (1)</b> |
|---|--------------------|-------------------------|
| Weekly Trash Pickup                     | \$15.00 per month  | \$23.76 per month       |
| Additional Residential Cart Fee-limit 1 | \$11.50 per month  | \$19.76 per month       |
| Bulk Items (Brush & Brown Goods) (2)    | \$2.50 per month   | N/A                     |

(1) New outside-the-city trash customers must be pre-approved by the City Administrator based on the proximity of current customers and the availability of staff & resources.

(2) Bulk Item fee will be charged to all customers within the city that are charged the weekly trash pickup fee. See Ordinance 2019-13 for services & limitations of bulk item pickups.

**Business/Commercial Solid Waste Charges (Inside the City Only)**

|  | <b>Inside City Only</b> |
|--|-------------------------|
| Bagged Trash—up to 3 pickups a week    | \$30 per month          |
| Additional Commercial Cart Fee         | \$20 per month          |
|  |                         |
| Extra Large Dumpster--1 pickup a week  | \$150 per month         |
| Extra Large Dumpster--2 pickups a week | \$225 per month         |
| Extra Large Dumpster--3 pickups a week | \$300 per month         |
|  |                         |
| Large Dumpster--1 pickup a week        | \$120 per month         |
| Large Dumpster--2 pickups a week       | \$175 per month         |
| Large Dumpster--3 pickups a week       | \$220 per month         |
|  |                         |
| Medium Dumpster--1 pickup a week       | \$100 per month         |
| Medium Dumpster--2 pickups a week      | \$175 per month         |
| Medium Dumpster--3 pickups a week      | \$220 per month         |
|  |                         |
| Small Dumpster--1 pickup a week        | \$90 per month          |
| Small Dumpster--2 pickups a week       | \$130 per month         |
| Small Dumpster--3 pickups a week       | \$170 per month         |
|  |                         |
|  |                         |
|  |                         |
|  |                         |

**Notes:** (1) Should the cost of fuel increase over \$3.00 per gallon, the City reserves the right to add a fuel surcharge to the monthly fee to recover the additional cost of the expense of providing this service (applies to both residential & business/commercial customers); (2) To minimize unpleasant odors, restaurants need to have a minimum of 3 trash pickups a week during the months of May through September.

SECTION 10. Schedule of Recreation Fees (rental fees may be waived for non-profit organizations when the public benefit outweighs the fee as determined by the City)

**Sports Fees**

| <b>Sport</b>                            | <b>Fee</b> |
|---|------------|
| Youth Baseball/Tee-ball/Softball        | \$80.00    |
| Youth Basketball                        | \$80.00    |
| Youth Cheerleading-Spirit               | \$40.00    |
| Youth Cheerleading-Spirit Uniform       | \$125.00   |
| Youth Cheerleading- Competitive         | \$40.00    |
| Youth Cheerleading- Competitive Uniform | \$205.00   |
| Youth Tackle Football                   | \$85.00    |
| Youth Flag Football                     | \$80.00    |
| Youth Volleyball                        | \$80.00    |
| Youth Soccer                            | \$80.00    |
| Adult Co-ed Volleyball                  | \$30.00    |
| Adult Co-ed Softball                    | \$30.00    |
| Adult Co-ed Basketball                  | \$30.00    |

**Facility Rental Fees**

| <b>Facility</b>              | <b>1<sup>st</sup> Hour Rate</b> | <b>Add'l Hours</b> | <b>Lights</b> | <b>Cleaning Fee</b> |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------|---------------|---------------------|
| Football Stadium             | \$200                           | \$50               | \$75          | \$75                |
| Woodside Ballpark            | \$200                           | \$50               | \$75          | \$75                |
| City Gym                     | \$50                            | \$25               | \$25          | \$25                |
| Mills Ave Gym                | \$50                            | \$25               | \$25          | \$25                |
| Water Tower                  | \$100                           | \$50               | N/A           | \$10                |
| Morris Field                 | \$100                           | \$50               | \$75          | \$10                |
| Islen Field                  | \$100                           | \$50               | \$75          | \$10                |
| Freedom Park Field           | \$75                            | \$25               | \$75          | \$10                |
| Freedom Park Small Gazebo    | \$20                            | \$10               | N/A           | \$5                 |
| Freedom Park Large Gazebo    | \$30                            | \$10               | N/A           | \$5                 |
| Rosewood Parking Lot         | \$25                            | \$25               | N/A           | \$5                 |
| Football Stadium Parking Lot | \$25                            | \$25               | N/A           | \$5                 |
| Mills Ave Gym Parking Lot    | \$25                            | \$25               | N/A           | \$5                 |
| City Gym Parking Lot         | \$25                            | \$25               | N/A           | \$5                 |

## SECTION 11. Schedule of Planning, Zoning &amp; Building Fees:

**Signs**

| <b>Type</b>                  | <b>Fee</b>                         |
|------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Grand Opening Temporary Sign | \$0 for 60 days for grand openings |
| Temporary Sign               | \$10                               |
| Permanent Sign/ Application  | \$25                               |

**Planning & Zoning Fees**

| <b>Type</b>                      | <b>Fee</b> |
|----------------------------------|------------|
| Certificate of Zoning Compliance | \$25       |
| Zoning Appeal                    | \$50       |
| Zoning Variance                  | \$50       |
| Rezoning Request                 | \$50       |

**Building Permit Fees**

| <b>Building Valuation</b> | <b>Fee</b>   |
|---------------------------|--|
| \$50,000 or less          | \$100 for the first \$5,000 plus \$7 for each additional \$1,000 units (or fraction thereof)     |
| \$50,001 to \$100,000     | \$365 for the first \$50,000 plus \$6 for each additional \$1,000 units (or fraction thereof)    |
| \$100,001 to \$500,000    | \$665 for the first \$100,000 plus \$5 for each additional \$1,000 units (or fraction thereof)   |
| \$500,001 and up          | \$2,665 for the first \$500,000 plus \$4 for each additional \$1,000 units (or fraction thereof) |



**Building Miscellaneous Fees**

| Type   | Fee  |
|--|--|
| Grading Permit— less than ½ acre   | \$50   |
| Grading Permit— ½ acre to less than 2 acres  | \$150  |
| Grading Permit— 2 acres to less than 5 acres   | \$150  |
| Grading Permit— 5 acres or more  | \$400 plus \$20 for each additional acre   |
| Demolition Permit  | \$150 per structure or \$150 plus an additional \$50 per unit or utility tap for multi-unit complexes or structures which is greater |
| Moving (moving building or structure outside of jurisdiction)  | \$150  |
| Home Occupation Permit   | \$75   |
| Reinspection Fee (Reinspection is defined as any trip made in addition to those specifically named on the permit job card or any trip made as the result of condemned or disapproved work, calling for inspections prior to the work being ready for inspection, and additional trips made because access to the structure was not provided. Fee must be paid prior to reinspection) | \$50 per reinspection  |
| Failure to Appear or Cancel Inspection   | \$50   |
| Commencing work on a building, structure, electrical, gas, mechanical or plumbing system before obtaining the necessary permit   | Respective fee is doubled  |
| <b>Life Safety Inspection</b>  | <b>\$100</b>   |

**Plan Review Fees (are in addition to the Building Permit Fee)**

| Single Family & Duplex Residential Units--Not Part of Group Development                | Fee                                |
|--|------------------------------------|
| Up to 2400 square feet of total floor area   | \$75                               |
| 2401 – 4800 square feet of total floor area  | \$150                              |
| 4801 – unlimited square feet of total floor area                                       | \$250                              |
| Single Family & Duplex Residential Units--Part of Group Development                    | 100% of the Permit Fee             |
| Non-Residential & Multi-Family Properties  | 100% in addition of the Permit Fee |
| Alterations, Additions, and/or Accessory Buildings                                     | 100% in addition of the Permit Fee |
| Projects That Exceed 2 Resubmissions of Revised Plans—Each Submission Will Be Assessed | 100% in addition of the Permit Fee |



SECTION 12. Nuisance Abatement Fees.

**Nuisance Abatement Fees\***

| <b>Type</b>  | <b>Admin Fee</b> | <b>Abatement Fee</b> |
|--|------------------|----------------------|
| Tall & overgrown grass & vegetation—each abatement                               | \$100            | Cost of abatement    |
| Litter (Defined in Section 729)—each abatement                                   | \$100            | Cost of abatement    |
| Unsafe or Dangerous Structures—each abatement                                    | \$250            | Cost of abatement    |
| Property Maintenance Code Violations (includes securing building)—each abatement | \$100            | Cost of abatement    |
| Other Nuisance Items—each abatement  | \$100            | Cost of abatement    |
| Late Penalty, Once Invoiced  | 5% Per Month     |                      |

\* When the City abates a nuisance condition, charge both the Admin Fee and the Abatement Fee

\*\*Calculated from national published actuary tables

SECTION 13. Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Public Records Request

**FOIA Fees**

| <b>Type</b>  | <b>Rate</b> |
|--|-------------|
| Search/retrieval time (per hour)                             | \$14-35     |
| Paper copies on Copier (each page) *                         | \$.10       |
| Other paper copies via an outside source                     | Actual cost |
| Create an electronic copy (per hour, if agreed upon by City) | \$14-20     |
| CD/DVD (each)  | \$1         |
| Flash Drive/External Drive                                   | Actual Cost |

\* No charge when there are ten copies or less

SECTION 14. Miscellaneous Fees

**Miscellaneous Fees**

| <b>Type</b>   | <b>Rate</b>        |
|---|--------------------|
| Payment via Credit/Debit Card Charge for Business License/<br>Hospitality Taxes & Planning/Zoning/Building Fees | 3% convenience fee |

SECTION 15. Business License Tax

For business license tax rates, see Ordinance 2024-07, and 2025-02.

SECTION 16. Façade Improvement Grant Program

The City's Façade Improvement Grant Program (FIGP) provides up to \$5,000 to eligible businesses to make improvements to their business façade. The FIGP is a 50/50 match between the property owner/business and the City.

SECTION 17. The City Administrator/Mayor and/or Deputy Administrator shall administer the budget and may authorize the transfer of appropriated funds within and between departments as necessary to achieve the goals of the budget as established by City Council.

Section 18. If for any reason any sentence, clause or provision of this ordinance shall be declared invalid, such shall not affect the remaining provisions thereof. All ordinances or parts of ordinances inconsistent or in conflict with the provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of conflict or inconsistency.

SECTION 19. This Ordinance shall become effective upon the date of passage, designated as Ordinance No. 2025-03

DONE, RATIFIED, AND PASSED this 9<sup>th</sup> Day of June.

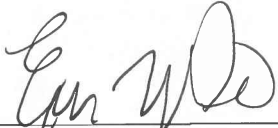
**ATTEST:**

Public Notice: April 16<sup>th</sup>, 2025

Public Hearing: May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2025

First Reading: May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2025

Second Reading: June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2025

  
Erica Romo Woods, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
Bailee Locke, Municipal Clerk