CITY OF DARLINGTON

SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

Tuesday August 18, 2026
4:30 PM (Special City Council Meeting) | 6:00 PM (Special City Council Meeting)
Held in the Courtroom at City Hall
400 Pearl Street, Darlington, SC 29532

Present at the meeting: Mayor Boyd, Interim City Manager Ronnie Ward, Councilpersons: Elaine Reed, Angela McRavin, Sheila Baccus, John Milling, John Segars, and Bryant Gardner. Also, present was Assistant Clerk/Treasurer Cheryl DuBose, Attorneys Ron Scott, and Joseph Dickey.

Executive Session at 4:30 PM
Discussion of Employment Matter – City Manager Candidate Interviews – S.C. Code Ann. § 30-4-70(a)(1)
The executive session was to have video interviews with two candidates for the city manager's position: Jamal Campbell was an in-person interview and Kenneth Geathers was on video call.

Councilwoman McRavin made a motion to go into executive session at 4:30 PM. Councilman Segars seconded the motion. Councilpersons Gardner, Milling, Reed, Baccus and Mayor Boyd voted in favor of the motion.

Councilwoman McRavin made a motion to end the executive session at 5:40 PM. Councilman Milling seconded the motion. All approved the motion to end the executive session.

PUBLIC HEARING BEGAN AT 6:03 PM
Present at the meeting: Mayor Boyd, Interim City Manager Ronnie Ward, Councilpersons: Elaine Reed, Angela McRavin, Sheila Baccus, John Milling, John Segars, and Bryant Gardner. Also, present was Clerk/Treasurer Gloria Pridgen, Attorneys Ron Scott and Joseph Dickey, Diane Sigmon, Steven Abbott, Patrick Lee, Representative Robert Williams, Representative Richard Yow, Representative Jason Luck, Josh Harris, President of the Darlington Racetrack and Russell Branham and Mr. Mike Sprott.

Mayor Boyd read the rules for making comments during the public hearing. **Councilman Gardner made a motion to approve the rules for public comment. Councilwoman Reed seconded the motion. Councilpersons Milling, McRavin, Segars, Baccus and Mayor Boyd voted in favor of the motion. Councilman Gardner made a motion to begin the Public Hearing at 6:03 PM. Councilwoman Reed seconded the motion. All council members approved the motion.**

Patrick Lee said he is a lifelong resident in Darlington, but he lives in the County. He said he purchased his house when he was nineteen or twenty years old and he had no control over whether it had city water

or not. Mr. Lee said he thinks this is a failure of the county not having a better plan. He said he has a septic tank and gets water and sanitation from the City of Darlington. Mr. Lee said he doesn't see this as a viable option for what is being proposed tonight and he strongly opposes it. Mr. Lee said he would encourage that the city leaders form a better plan and try to come to an agreement such as voluntarily for those that wish to seek to join the city. He said at one time two people were very big champions for the people in terms of increases. He said he would challenge each one to do this tonight.

Representative Robert Williams said he was here in opposition against this ordinance. He said NASCAR has helped build Darlington for many years. He said from an economic standpoint NASCAR has been good to Darlington over the years. He said when you have customers coming into town spending their dollars that is what helps build Darlington itself. He said from an economic standpoint that by hurting the Raceway it does not help Darlington to improve. Representative Williams said he encourages all of them when they make their decision on how you're going to move with this be mindful of the impact because I would hate to see the racetrack filled up with weeds and grass if they decide to move out of Darlington. He said this is the oldest track in the nation, so he asked them to think about it and not rush to judgement. There were no other comments, so the public hearing closed at 6:14 PM.

I. Executive Session

a. Receipt of legal advice and discussion of a contractual matter regarding administrative and IT consulting services for the City – S.C. Code Ann. § 30-4-70(a)(2)
b. Receipt of legal advice and discussion of contractual matters regarding provision of City utility services – S.C. Code Ann. § 30-4-70(a)(2)
c. Discussion and Receipt of legal advice regarding pending legal action regarding real property – S.C. Code 30-4-70(a)(2)
d. Discussion of employment matters regarding selection of the City Manager – S.C. Code 30-4-70(a)(1)

Councilwoman McRavin made a motion to go into executive session at 6:14 PM. Councilman Gardner seconded the motion. All council members approved the motion to go into executive session.

Back in regular session

Councilwoman McRavin made a motion to come out of executive session at 7:11 PM. Council Gardner seconded the motion. All council members approved the motion to end the executive session.

Councilman Milling said on behalf of the council he would make a motion to modify somewhat the title of Ordinance No. 2026–05 to provide some clarity, but the content of the ordinance will remain the same. Councilman Milling made a motion to approve Second Reading on Ordinance No. 2026–05 an Ordinance of the City of Darlington, South Carolina, to amend Chapter 86, Article II, Section 21 and Chapter

86, Article III Section 295 of the City of Darlington Code of Ordinance to require the annexation of properties contiguous with the City of Darlington if the City has contracted to provide water and/or sewer services outside its municipal boundaries; and other matters related thereto. Councilwoman Reed seconded the motion. Councilpersons Gardner, McRavin, Segars, Baccus, and Mayor Boyd voted in favor of the motion.

Councilwoman McRavin made a motion to approve the services contract as discussed in executive session, subject to legal revision. Councilman Milling seconded the motion. Councilpersons Baccus, Reed, Gardner, Segars, and Mayor Boyd voted in favor of the motion. Mayor Boyd said the motion carried for consideration of approval of consultant services agreement with Xpert Solutions Group LLC.

Reminders/Announcements

a. Tuesday, September 1, 2026, at 6:00 PM – Next Regular City Council Meeting
b. Monday September 7, 2026, Labor Day – City Offices Will Be Closed
c. Tuesday September 22, 2026 – Special City Council Meeting

Adjournment

Upon motion of Councilwoman McRavin, seconded by Councilwoman Reed, the meeting adjourned at 7:14 PM. All council members voted in favor of adjourning the meeting.

_____
Mayor

ATTEST:

_____
Clerk & Treasurer