

**MINUTES OF
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
LORIS CITY HALL – COUNCIL CHAMBERS
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2025 – 6:00 P.M.**

PRESENT:	MAYOR	MICHAEL E. SUGGS
	COUNCIL	ANDREA L. COLEMAN
		JOAN S. GAUSE
		KELLI D. GERALD
		CARROLL D. PADGETT, JR.
		TONYA F. SYKES

ABSENT:	COUNCIL	LEWIS C. HARDEE, JR.
PRESENT:	INTERIM ADMINISTRATOR	ANGEL R NEIGHBOURS
	CLERK	MELINDA T. PRICE
ABSENT:	ATTORNEY	JOHN C. ZILINSKY

CALL TO ORDER:

The council meeting was called to order by Mayor Suggs at 6:00 P.M. on Monday, September 8, 2025.

INVOCATION:

The invocation was given by Councilman Padgett.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Suggs.

ROLL CALL:

The roll was called by City Clerk Melinda Price.

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Councilman Hardee was unable to attend the regular meeting due to medical reasons. Attorney John Zilinsky was unable to attend due to medical reasons. Attorney Brad Smith attended the meeting in Attorney John Zilinsky's absence.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A. AUGUST 4, 2025 – REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

The minutes of August 4, 2025, Regular Council Meeting were presented for approval. A motion was made by Councilwoman Gause, seconded by Councilwoman Gerald, to approve the minutes of the August 4, 2025, Regular Council Meeting. Mayor Suggs and all members present voted favorably. Motion passed.

B. AUGUST 25, 2025 – PUBLIC HEARING

The minutes of August 25, 2025, Public Hearing were presented for approval. A motion was made by Councilman Padgett, seconded by Councilwoman Sykes to approve the minutes of August 25, 2025, Public Hearing. Mayor Suggs and all members present voted favorably. Motion passed.

C. AUGUST 25, 2025 – SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING

The minutes of August 25, 2025, Special Council Meeting were presented for approval. A motion was made by Councilman Padgett, seconded by Councilwoman Coleman, to approve the minutes of the August 25, 2025, Special Council Meeting. Mayor Suggs and all members present voted favorably. Motion passed.

COMMUNICATIONS:

A. MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Suggs reported the following:

Introduced Melinda Price and welcomed as the new City Clerk. Melinda began her duties August 26th.

Main Street downtown as well as Meeting Street parking space lines have been repainted. The yellow curbs, handicapped parking spaces and crosswalks have been repainted also.

The SC Highway 9 East road construction is still in progress which is causing a slight change in traffic so please be careful especially around Loris Elementary School.

Regular pickup has resumed since the leaf and limb truck has been repaired.

Mayor Suggs thanked the community and the Chamber of Commerce for supporting our athletes, cheerleaders, and band members by holding the pep rally downtown before the Loris Green Sea-Floyds Bog-Off Bowl Game.

The first home game for the Loris Lions will be held Friday September 12th against the North Myrtle Beach Chiefs. Loris Lions are at 3 and 0 starting the season.

Loris Legacy Awards Banquet was held Saturday night September 6th, during the event, two members of our city family received well deserved awards for their service. Sergeant Bobby Brush from the Police Department and Wayne Fox, our Building Inspector.

Loris Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Samantha Norris was present and discussed the preparations being made for the upcoming Bog-Off. Samantha also discussed the startup of Downtown Tuesdays as well as the chamber's upcoming Trunk or Treat event.

B. ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

Interim Administrator Neighbours reported that she was happy that the City Clerk position has been filled and welcomed Melinda.

Several projects are underway in the city which have been funded by grants are in progress and other potential grants are being pursued.

C. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

There were no committee meetings during the month of August.

D. DEPARTMENT HEAD'S REPORTS:

Mayor Suggs advised that written reports were prepared by each department and provided in the council meeting packet.

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1. CODE ENFORCEMENT & PLANNING – Planning and Zoning Director Meredith Holmes stated that she didn't have a written report at this time. She stated that they have several projects coming back before the Council soon and she will have a written report next month.

2. FIRE – City Fire Marshal Robert Rudelitch presented his written report for council. He also discussed the kickoff to Fire Prevention Week. "Charge into Fire Safety" posters and pamphlets have been distributed and are available in the lobby. Open house at the Public Safety Building will be held October 7th from 6:00 to 8:00 pm.

3. POLICE – No additions to written report. Chief Gary Buley stated that they will be partnering with the Fire Department at upcoming events in October.

4. PUBLIC WORKS – No written reports presented.

5. RECREATION – Recreation Director Woody Hinson presented his written report to council. He also stated that they had hosted Top Gun All-American All-Star Games over Labor Day weekend which had brought lots of business to our city.

BUSINESS:

A. FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE 07-25: (A-202504-002) AN ORDINANCE TO ANNEX APPROXIMATELY 359.97 COMBINED ACRES INTO THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF CITY OF LORIS AS R-1.4 (RESIDENTIAL) LOCATED EAST OF HERITAGE ROAD (S-26-568), SOUTH OF LORIS LIONS ROAD (S-26-1305), AND WEST OF HIGHWAY 66 (S-26-66). PIN(S) 185- 00-00-0018 & 185-00-00-0041 (G-3 ENGINEERING, AGENT, HERITAGE LAKES HOLDING VENTURES, LLC, OWNER).

Mayor Suggs reported that earlier today G3 Engineering, the agent for the property owner, withdrew the Petition for Annexation of the 359.97 acres located East of Heritage Road. The withdrawal of the petition for annexation means that first reading of Ordinance 07-05 is unnecessary because the owner is no longer asking to be annexed into the City of Loris. Mayor Suggs inquired if any council members had anything further regarding the withdrawal of the petition for annexation. A motion was then made by Councilwoman Gerald, seconded by Councilwoman Gause to rescind council's previous acceptance of the Petition for annexation of the 359.97 acres owned by Heritage Lakes Holding Ventures, LLC and to declare the annexation petition null and void. Mayor Suggs and all members present voted favorably. Motion passed.

B. FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE 08-25: (PC-202401-003) AN ORDINANCE TO RE-ZONE APPROXIMATELY 18.8 TOTAL ACRES FROM IND (INDUSTRIAL) TO PD (PLANNED DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT) LOCATED ON THE SOUTHERN CORNER OF BROAD STREET (U.S. 701) AND MEADOW STREET (STATE ROAD S-26-152). PIN#: 186-00-00-0023 & 186-03-04-0004, (BOLTON & MENK, AGENT).

City Clerk Melinda Price read Ordinance 08-25 by title only. Planning and Zoning Director Meredith Holmes gave details of the property to be rezoned and explained the Planned Development District. A motion was made by Councilman Padgett, seconded by Councilwoman Gerald to approve first reading Ordinance 08-25. Mayor Suggs and all members present voted favorably. Motion passed.

C. FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE 09-25: (PC-202502-001) AN ORDINANCE TO RE-ZONE APPROXIMATELY 3.8 TOTAL ACRES FROM R-1.4 (RESIDENTIAL) TO C-2 (GENERAL BUSINESS) LOCATED ON THE SOUTHERN SIDE OF MAIN STREET (S.C. 9). PIN#: 176-09- 04-0002, (WAGDI MITRY, AGENT/OWNER).

City Clerk Melinda Price read Ordinance 09-25 by title only. Planning and Zoning Director Meredith Holmes gave details of the property to be rezoned. A motion was made by Councilman Padgett, seconded by Councilwoman Gause to approve first reading Ordinance 09-25. Mayor Suggs and all members present voted favorably. Motion passed.

D. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO SIGN ON BEHALF OF THE CITY THE SURVEY PLATS OF THE OLD LORIS HIGH SCHOOL SITE.

Mayor Suggs explained that the survey of the old Loris High School property was almost complete and that the survey plats must be signed by a representative of the city before they can be recorded at the Horry County Register of Deeds Office. A motion was made by Councilwoman Gerald, seconded by Councilwoman Coleman to authorize Mayor Suggs to sign on behalf of the city the survey plats of the old Loris High School Site. Mayor Suggs and all members present voted favorably. Motion passed.

PUBLIC AND PRESS COMMENTS:

Hattie Williams of 3301 Church Street Loris addressed the council about her water bill. Mrs. Williams wanted to know how the bills were calculated. Mayor Suggs, Councilwoman Sykes, and Councilwoman Gerald responded to Mrs. Williams questions.

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Glenn Arrington of 1832 Brinson Lane Loris addressed the council about Ordinance 07-25. Although Ordinance 07-25 was withdrawn, Mr. Arrington presented aerial maps to council showing how the wetlands had changed over the years since the property was acquired by the present owner and ditches had been cut at various locations on the property.

Jeanie Arrington of 1832 Brinson Lane, Loris signed-up to address council but waived her right to speak.

Candice Grella of 3208 Main Street Loris was present to voice her concerns about Ordinance 07-25 but indicated those were resolved by the withdrawal of the annexation request.

David Eichelberger of 4941 Circle Drive Loris wanted to address council over the potential drainage problem in his area related to Ordinance 07-25 but chose not to speak.

Joshua Franklin of 5652 Main Street Loris addressed council about zoning and construction as well as the process followed by council to approve the projects.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Attorney Brad Smith indicated that there was one contractual matter to be discussed in executive session. A motion was made by Councilwoman Gause, seconded by Councilwoman Gerald, to enter executive session to discuss a contractual matter. Mayor Suggs and all members present voted favorably. Motion passed.

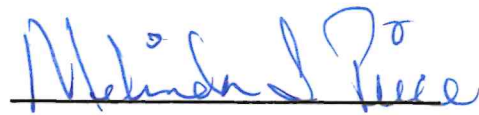
Upon returning from executive session, a motion was made by Councilwoman Gause, seconded by Councilwoman Coleman to exit executive session and reconvene in open session. Mayor Suggs and all members present voted favorably. Motion passed.

Mayor Suggs announced that in executive session Council discussed a contractual matter and that no action or votes were taken in executive session.

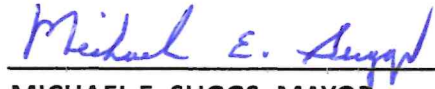
ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Councilwoman Gause, seconded by Councilwoman Gerald to adjourn the Regular City Council Meeting. Mayor Suggs and all members present voted favorably. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:15 P.M.

ATTEST:



MELINDA T. PRICE
CITY CLERK



MICHAEL E. SUGGS, MAYOR



ANDREA L. COLEMAN, COUNCIL

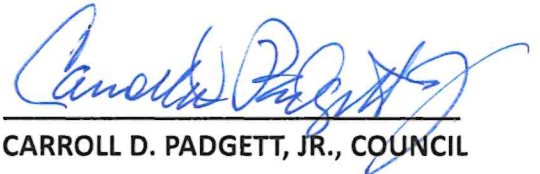


JOAN S. GAUSE, COUNCIL

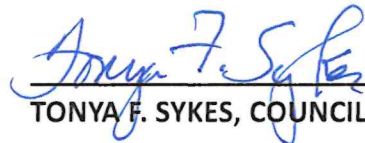


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