

ORDINANCE NO.: 2020-035

*Amending Ordinance 2019-078 to Amend the Budget for the City of Columbia,
South Carolina, for the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2020*

WHEREAS, on October 1, 2019 City Council enacted Ordinance No. 2019-078 amending Ordinance 2019-038 adopting the budget for Fiscal Year 2019-2020 and establishing the ad valorem tax millage rate of ninety-eight and one tenth (93.8) mills; and,

WHEREAS, SARS-CoV-2 (the Coronavirus) the virus that causes the disease COVID-19 is responsible for an outbreak that began in Wuhan, China, and has become a serious worldwide health concern, resulting in the issuance of national, state and local emergency orders; and,

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization (WHO) and South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control ("SCHDEC") have confirmed that the spread of the disease is made by person-to-person contact and has urged citizens to restrict activities that place them in close contact with others; and,

WHEREAS, the President of the United States, Donald J. Trump, the Governor of the State of South Carolina, Henry McMaster and the Mayor and City Council of the City of Columbia have also encouraged and recommended the reduction of citizens in public spaces and to remain at least six (6) feet from others while in public; and,

WHEREAS, businesses throughout the City of Columbia, especially small locally owned businesses have been greatly impacted by the reduction in customers and revenue resulting in a reduction of hours, reduction or laying off of staff, revamping their business activities, or temporarily closing their doors; and,

WHEREAS, City staff compiled and presented to the Mayor and City Council various financial assistance programs which have been incorporated into "A Resilient Columbia: Economic Stabilization Plan" to address possible and known impacts of COVID 19 on small businesses and non-profits across the City and impacts to the City's budget in order to provide seamless delivery of public services in response to emergencies; and,

BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and City Council of the City of Columbia, South Carolina this 21st day of April, 2020 that Ordinance No. 2019-038 be and it hereby is amended pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 6-1-320 to reallocate funds from Water and Sewer Non-Operating Revenue to the following:

- Establish a Small Business & Non-Profit Stabilization Package - \$2,000,000
- Reduce the Hospitality Tax transfer to the General Fund by \$925,000
- Allocate funding to Columbia Police Department for recruitment and retention \$2,000,000
- Allocate funding for other public safety initiatives needed to strengthen the City's ability to respond in emergencies for various departments and to enhance the City's ability to provide on-line service delivery - \$1,150,000

- Allocation to Senior Resources in the amount of \$250,000 for emergency senior nutrition program

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that the general fund for budget year FY 2019-2020 is hereby amended as reflected on the attached.

This ordinance is effective as of final reading.

Requested by:

Assistant City Manager Palen

Mayor



Approved by:

Cheresa Wilson
City Manager

Approved as to form:

T. A. Knox

City Attorney

ATTEST:

Erika Dill Hammond
City Clerk

Introduced: 4/7/2020

Final Reading: 4/21/2020