
2025-7 (1ST READING): TO AMEND THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2024, AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2025, BY AUTHORIZING THE USE OF HOSPITALITY TAX FUND BALANCE FOR SECURITY DEVICES.

Applicant/Purpose: Staff / to amend the FY25 Hospitality Tax Budget and authorize the purchase of vehicle barriers, beam gate systems, and related accessories.

Brief and Issues:

- The safety and security of our residents and visitors is a priority of the City Council and City Staff
- The City hosts numerous special events throughout the year that result in large gatherings of people concentrated in areas.
- Increasingly vehicles are being used as weapons to create mass casualty events resulting in deaths and serious injuries such as the one in New Orleans on New Years Day and the Christmas Market in Germany in addition to several others that have taken place in recent years
- The Federal Bureau of Investigation and Department of Homeland Security issued a public announcement on July 13, 2025, warning of copycat attacks after the New Orleans incident.
- The purchase of these security devices are crucial to mitigating threats from vehicles.

Public Notification: Normal meeting notification.

Alternatives:

- Deny or modify the proposed Ordinance.

Financial Impact:

- The estimated cost is approximately \$630,000.

Manager's Recommendation:

- I recommend 1st reading (1.28.25)

Attachment(s): Proposed Ordinance

ORDINANCE 2025-7

**CITY OF MYRTLE BEACH
COUNTY OF HORRY
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA**

**TO AMEND THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET FOR
THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1,
2024, AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2025, BY
AUTHORIZING THE USE OF HOSPITALITY
TAX FUND BALANCE FOR SECURITY
DEVICES.**

WHEREAS, Section 5-13-30(3) of the Code of Laws of South Carolina requires that a municipal council shall act by ordinance to adopt budgets and to levy taxes pursuant to public notice; and

WHEREAS, Ordinance 2024-30, the City's Budget Ordinance for FY 2024-25 was adopted by City Council on May 28, 2024; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has determined that the safety and security of our residents and visitors is a priority; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has determined that the City needs to have additional tools and mitigation equipment to respond to the emerging threat of vehicles being used to create mass casualty events; and

WHEREAS, the City's Hospitality Tax Fund has available funds to support the purchase of vehicle barriers, beam gate systems, related accessories, which is an authorized expenditure for these funds; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the governing body of the City of Myrtle Beach, in Council duly assembled, and by the authority of the same, the sum of \$630,000 is appropriated as a transfer from the Hospitality Tax Fund balance to the General Fund for the purchase of vehicle barriers, beam gate systems, and related accessories.

BRENDA BETHUNE, MAYOR

ATTEST:

JENNIFER ATKINS, CITY CLERK

First Reading: 1-28-2025

Second Reading: