

**AN ORDINANCE TO RAISE REVENUE FOR THE TOWN OF LAMAR
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2023**

BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Council of The Town of Lamar this 27th day of June 2022, in Council duly assembled and by the authority of same:

SECTION 1. AUTHORITY FOR PREPARATION OF BUDGET. Pursuant to Section 5-9-30(5) of the South Carolina Code of Laws of 1976, as amended (the "South Carolina Code"), the mayor has the power and duty to prepare and submit the annual budget and capital program to the Council.

Pursuant to the foregoing Authority, the Mayor and Council have prepared and presented to this meeting a budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2022, and ending June 30, 2023. A copy of the Fiscal Year 2022 Budget has been made available to the Council and to the public prior to this meeting and is incorporated herein by reference.

SECTION 2. PUBLIC NOTICE AND PUBLIC HEARING. Pursuant to Section 6-1-80 of the South Carolina Code, notice of a public hearing on the Fiscal Year 2022 Budget was published in at least one South Carolina newspaper of general circulation in the area, on June 12, 2022. The notice advertised a public hearing on the Fiscal Year 2022 Budget to be held on June 27, 2022, which date was not less than 15 days after the date of publication of the notice. The published notice was a minimum of two columns wide with a bold headline, and contained the information required by Section 6-1-80 of the South Carolina Code. The form of the published notice is attached hereto.

SECTION 3. APPROVAL OF BUDGET. Pursuant to Section 5-9-40 of the South Carolina Code, the Council has the authority and responsibility to approve the annual budget for The Town of Lamar. The Fiscal Year 2022 Budget as presented is hereby approved in accordance with its terms.

SECTION 4. CURRENT TAX LEVY; LIMITS ON INCREASE. For the current fiscal year, The Town of Lamar levied an *ad valorem* property tax in the amount of 75 mills. Pursuant to Section 6-1-320(A) of the South Carolina Code, The Town of Lamar "may increase the millage rate imposed for general operating purposes above the rate imposed for such purposes for the preceding tax year only to the extent of the increase in the average of the twelve monthly consumer price indexes for the most recent twelve-month period consisting of January through December of the preceding calendar year, plus, beginning in 2007, the percentage increase in the previous year in the population" of the municipality. The Town of Lamar, with the advice of the Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office of the State of South Carolina, has determined that the maximum permitted increase in The Town of Lamar's operating millage for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, is 4.81%. Pursuant to Section 6-1-320(D), however, the millage limit "does not affect millage that is levied to pay bonded indebtedness or payments for real property purchased using a lease-purchase agreement or used to maintain a reserve account."

SECTION 5. ESTABLISHMENT OF PROPERTY TAX LEVY. In order to raise revenues and defray expenses as presented in the Fiscal Year 2022 Budget, the Council hereby ordains that an *ad valorem* property tax at the millage rate hereinafter stated to cover the period from the first day of July A.D. 2022, to the 30th day of June A.D. 2023, both inclusive, for the sums and in the manner hereinafter mentioned, is and shall be levied, collected and paid into the Treasury of Darlington County, South Carolina, for credit to The Town of Lamar, for the use and service thereof. The millage rate for such *ad valorem* property tax shall be 75 mills. Such millage rate shall be applied to the value of all real estate and personal property of every description owned and used in The Town of Lamar, except such as is exempt from taxation under the Constitution and law of the State of South Carolina.

SECTION 6. APPROPRIATION. Funds are hereby appropriated as shown in the Fiscal Year 2022 Budget and the documents attached thereto and incorporated herein by reference, comprising a total appropriated amount of \$930,000 and consisting of Sub-budgets by fund, e.g., General Fund and utility Fund.

SECTION 7. BILLING AND COLLECTION. The billing dates, the penalty dates, and the amount of penalty which shall be levied for delinquent taxes shall be the same as those established by Darlington County, South Carolina, pursuant to State Law.

SECTION 8. ADMINISTRATION AND TRANSFER. The Mayor and Town Administrator shall administer the budget and is authorized to transfer any sum from one budget line item to another or from one department or division to another; provided that no such transfer may be made from one fund to another fund, may conflict with any existing bond or other financial covenants, or may conflict with any previously adopted policy of Council. Changes or amendments that alter the total expenditures of any fund must be approved by Council.

SECTION 9. SEVERABILITY. Should any section, phrase, sentence, or portion of this Ordinance be found invalid by a court or competent jurisdiction, such finding shall not invalidate the remaining portions.

DONE AND RATIFIED IN COUNCIL ASSEMBLED THIS 27th DAY OF JUNE 2022.

TOWN OF LAMAR

ATTEST:

[CLERK]

First Reading: June 13, 2022
Public Hearing: June 27, 2022
Final Reading: June 27, 2022