



SAVANNAH CITY COUNCIL
(preliminary)
ACTION MINUTES
Monday, November 14, 2022

CITY COUNCIL BUDGET WORKSHOP

Mayor Johnson called the budget workshop of the City Council to order at 9:08 a.m. Alderman Purtee offered the invocation.

MEMBERS: Mayor Van R. Johnson, II, Presiding
Aldерwoman Kesha Gibson-Carter, Post 1, At-Large
Aldерwoman Alicia Miller Blakely, Post 2, At-Large
Aldерwoman Bernetta B. Lanier, District 1
Aldерman Detric Leggett, District 2
Aldерwoman Linda Wilder-Bryan, District 3
Aldерman Nick Palumbo, Vice-Chairman of Council, District 4
Aldерwoman Dr. Estella Edwards Shabazz, Mayor Pro-Tem, District 5
Aldерman Kurtis Purtee, District 6

ALSO PRESENT:
City Manager Jay Melder
Assistant City Manager Heath Lloyd
Sr. Director, Management and Budget Melissa Carter
Sr. Director, Financial Services David Maxwell
City Attorney Bates Lovett and Asst. City Attorney Denise Cooper
Clerk of Council Mark Massey

AGENDA ITEMS

- See attached Agenda, PowerPoint presentations, and Parking Lot.
- The City Manager and staff made their presentations in accordance with the attached agenda, followed by the Mayor and Aldermen who either weighed-in, asked questions, offered comments, and/or made requests.
- The Management and Budget Team compiled a “Parking Lot” of items based upon the matters raised by the Mayor and Aldermen. See attached.

Mayor Johnson adjourned the meeting at 4:54 p.m. [NO ACTION WAS TAKEN.]

Video recordings of the budget workshop can be found on the City’s Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/cityofsavannah>) and will be uploaded on the City’s website and made available using the following link: <https://savannahgovtv.viebit.com/index.php?folder=ALL>.



FY2023 Council Budget Workshop

Savannah Civic Center Ballroom

November 14, 2022

AGENDA

- 8:30 AM **Budget Workshop Opening** (*Breakfast will be served*)
- 9:00 AM **Call to Order**..... **Honorable Van R. Johnson, II**
Mayor
- 9:05 AM **FY23 Proposed Budget Overview**..... **Joseph A. Melder**
City Manager
- 9:15 AM **Investing in Community Services** **Taffanye Young**
Chief, Community Services
- Culture & Recreation Update**..... **Stuart Miller**
Sr. Director, Cultural Resources
- Kelly Ledbetter**
Sr. Director, Recreation and Leisure Services
- Human Services, Housing and Homelessness**..... **Kerri Reid**
Sr. Director, Human Services
- Martin Fretty**
Sr. Director, Housing and Neighborhood Services
- 10:45 AM **Morning Break**
- 11:00 AM **Public Safety**
- Youth Violence Reduction Activities**..... **John Bush**
Director, Neighborhood Safety and Engagement
- Savannah Fire Department Overview**..... **Chief Elzie Kitchen**
Savannah Fire Chief
- Savannah Police Department Overview**..... **Chief Lenny Gunther**
Interim Police Chief
- 12:15 PM **Lunch**

Getting Back to Basics **Heath Lloyd**
Assistant City Manager

Transportation – Safe Streets for All Stephen Henry
Sr. Director, Transportation Services Department

Comprehensive Grounds Maintenance..... Gordon Denney
Sr. Director, Park and Tree Department

Marketing & Communication Strategy..... Nick Zoller
Sr. Director, Marketing and Communications

Investing in Team Savannah
Recruitment and Retention Strategies **Jeff Grant**
Sr. Director, Human Resources

Professional Workspaces.....**Bret Bell**
Chief of Operations

Pension Plan Update **David Maxwell**
Sr. Director, Financial Services

Afternoon Break

FY22 Financial Overview..... David Maxwell
Sr. Director, Financial Services

FY23 Proposed Budget Framework Melissa Carter
Sr. Director, Management and Budget

FY23 Proposed Enterprise Funds and Debt Service David Maxwell
Sr. Director, Financial Services

Council Direction.....Honorable Van R. Johnson II, *Mayor*

Adjourn

Parking Lot:

1. Can Cultural Arts narrow down the Weave-A-Dream application process? **(AB)**
2. Creating programs that will help young people understand the music business/industry. **(MVJ)**
3. Additional investments in energy efficiency/ weatherization incentives for senior citizens in existing home repair program and possible annual reporting. (Housing outlook) **(NP)**
4. Community input for using existing Grant Center for original purpose and not for storage. **(BL)**
5. Need report on Implementation Status of Phase 1 Recreation Park in Highlands area. **(BL)**
6. Focus on additional investments for entrepreneurship in the logistics tech corridor, and youth tech and entrepreneurialship investments city-wide with a priority focus on the entrepreneurial center slated for the waterworks building site. **(BL)**
7. Emergency Shelter Grants- 1 year action plan. **(KGC)**
8. When will we see our city products rival market rate products? **(KGC)**
9. How do we make certain that our dollars are not unspent on Community Partnership, and they are doing the work they are tasked to do? How are we measuring outcomes and accountability? **(KGC)**
10. How can we replicate Affordable Housing City-wide through the use of accessory dwelling units (ADU)? **(KGC)**
11. Are we looking to the future to set the pace for compensation in Public Safety? (MVJ)
12. Expedite/ explore ways to establish a partnership for Hospital-Based Intervention Program (HBIP) at the Hospital to serve as Mr. Bush's counterpart. **(MVJ)**
13. Has the city contacted the county's 911 due to high call volume? (MVJ)
14. Get at-risk and high-risk youth involved in other programs outside of Savannah. **(AB)**
15. Wealth of History in Savannah- ONSI getting with Historical program to learn the wealth/background of the city. **(LWB)**
16. Are we up to date on all our fire apparatus? **(DL)**
17. In need of audit source for ONSI grants. (DL)
18. Are we overlapping programs between ONSI and SIP? **(DL)**
19. New presentation from ONSI pertaining to programmatic plans. **(DL)**
20. Create program that will mirror the Hospital-Based Intervention Program (HBIP).

21. Audit impact of ONSE since implemented. How is the ONSE program impacting? **(BL)**
22. Continue partnering with local agencies (text to 911 meet people where they are at). **(NP)**
23. Community frustration no response when calling non-emergency 911 lines, so more work can be done with our partners. **(KP)**
24. Extend Summer 500 Program beyond the summer, perhaps adding the weekends. **(KGC)**
25. City should not fund ONSE request pertaining to Hospital-Based Intervention Program (HBIP), rather support the partners that are currently doing that work. **(KGC)**
26. Information/stats pertaining to District 2 Fire Structure. **(KGC)**
27. Corresponding SPD calls for service data by aldermanic districts. **(KGC)**
28. Are we in conversation with county pertaining to 911 calls due to the lack of response? **(KGC)**
29. Will BHU coordinator hours expand to weekends due to additional coordinators being added to all precincts. **(KGC)**
30. Will there be Police added to the Highlands due to fluctuation of houses? What is the status of the Highlands that's receiving standalone precinct? **(KGC)**
31. Expand the reach in the DA's office. **(KGC)**
32. Investigate additional spaces in the Waters Ave. Facilities beyond SIP and Family Justice Center. **(DL)**
33. How many crew members does Street Maintenance have to fill potholes? **(KGC)**
34. How does Street Maintenance prioritize sidewalk repairs? **(KGC)**
35. Requested report on Robotics data. **(KGC)**
36. Identify a dedicated funding source for Stormwater Management. **(NP)**
37. Request Skidaway Corridor Beautification Project, assistance in establishing a Skidaway Neighborhood Association. **(LWB)**
38. Signage in place for the west side – District 1, until Traffic Calming devices are implemented. **(BL)**
39. Come back with report of opportunities stemming from our 473 vacant lots. **(MVJ)**
40. OpenGov dashboard for community engagement and transparency. **(MVJ)**
41. What is the status of the 3 acres on Old Talmage Bridge? **(BL)**
42. Identify current tax allocation districts. **(KGC)**
43. Want prior council knowledge of contractual agreements for real-estate. **(KGC)**

44. Partner with the President of Magnolia Neighborhood Association for strategies to address homeless population under Truman. **(KGC)**
45. Consider Hybrid workspaces. **(KGC)**
46. Provide council the list of all tax allocation districts. **(KGC)**
47. Grant revenues/funding sources incorporated in the FY23 Grants Fund Budget. What are the grant matching requirements? **(KGC)**