



SAVANNAH CITY GOVERNMENT
SUMMARY/FINAL MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
JULY 8, 2021 – 2:00 p.m.

Due to the Coronavirus Pandemic, the regular meeting of the City Council was held via Zoom video communications at 2:02 p.m. Following the roll call, Mayor Johnson recognized Aldерwoman Lanier to introduce Bishop Dorothy M. Tanksley, Senior Pastor of Restoration Praise and Worship Ministries, who offered the Invocation. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited in unison.

PRESENT: Mayor Van R. Johnson, II, Presiding

Aldерwoman Kesha Gibson-Carter, At-Large, Post 1, Chairman

Aldерwoman Alicia Miller Blakely, At-Large, Post 2

Aldерwoman Bernetta B. Lanier, District 1

Alderman Detric Leggett, District 2

Aldерwoman Linda Wilder-Bryan, District 3

Alderman Nick Palumbo, District 4, Vice-Chairman

Aldерwoman Dr. Estella Edwards Shabazz, District 5, Mayor Pro-Tem

Alderman Kurtis Purtee, District 6

ALSO, PRESENT:

Acting City Manager Michael Brown

City Attorney Bates Lovett

Clerk of Council Mark Massey

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

[1. Adoption of the Regular Meeting Agenda for July 8, 2021](#)

Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz moved to adopt/approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Aldерwoman Lanier and Alderman Palumbo. The motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

[2. Approval of Minutes for the Work Session & City Manager's Briefing held on June 24, 2021 at 4:00 p.m.](#)

Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz moved to approve Items #2 and #3, seconded by Aldерwoman Lanier. The motion passed unanimously.

[3. Approval of Minutes for the Regular Meeting held on June 24, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.](#)

[Agenda Plus RM DRAFT MINUTES June 24, 2021 City Council Regular Meeting.pdf](#)

Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz moved to approve Items #2 and #3, seconded by Aldерwoman Lanier. The motion passed unanimously.

ALCOHOL LICENSE HEARINGS - (CITY MANAGER RECOMMENDS APPROVAL OF ALL ITEMS IN THIS SECTION)

[4. Approval of a Class E \(Beer, Wine\)\(By the Package\) Alcohol License to Nikhil M. Patel of Stop N Save, a Convenience Store at 4004 Montgomery St. in District 5. Existing Business Allowed Under the Current Alcohol and Overlay District Ordinances. \(Request is for Transfer of License Back to Original Petitioner/Owner\). Concerns from Neighborhood Association; Agreement Not Accepted \(Exhibit 5\).](#)

[Exhibit 1: Checklist - Stop N Save](#)

[Exhibit 2: Density Map - Stop N Save](#)

[Exhibit 3: Alcohol Reports - Stop N Save](#)

[Exhibit 4: Measurement Report - Stop N Save](#)

[Exhibit 5: Stop N Save Good Neighbor Agreement](#)

[Exhibit 6: Stop N Save Timeline.docx](#)

Mayor Johnson opened the alcohol license hearing for Item #4.

Speaker(s):

- Dr. Betty Jones, President, Feiler Park Neighborhood Assoc. - OPPOSED
- Nikhil Patel, applicant – SUPPORTED

City Attorney Lovett clarified the issue regarding the issuance of the alcohol license. There was a question regarding if this establishment was eligible for a license because of the overlay. The overlay prevents new licenses at new locations, but current establishments can reapply for a license within twelve months for a transfer of property ownership. It will be at Council's discretion to allow.

Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz stated there are 21 out of 24 allowable alcohol license within a one-mile radius of the establishment. The neighborhood association has not accepted the agreement because of the saturation of alcohol establishments within a one-mile radius.

Alderwoman Gibson-Carter recommended Attorney Lovett communicate with business owners about the alcohol application requirements and process prior to an applicant completing the application. Attorney Lovett will work on wording of a document and report to Council Members.

Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan read the general provisions from the alcohol beverage ordinance, Section 8-18-20-6, Sec. 6-1202 which clearly states, an alcohol license is a privilege not a right. This should be conveyed to all alcohol applicants.

- a. Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz moved to close the hearing for Item #4, seconded by Alderman Leggett. The motion passed unanimously.
- b. Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz moved to deny Item #4, seconded by Alderwoman Gibson-Carter and Alderman Leggett. The motion passed unanimously.

ORDINANCES - FIRST READING (CITY MANAGER RECOMMENDS APPROVAL OF ALL ITEMS IN THIS SECTION)

[5. Approval to Amend Section 6-1214 of the Alcohol Ordinance Entitled, 'Consumption of Alcohol on City Streets', to Allow the Use of Aluminum Cups on Public Right of Way Within a Specified Boundary Area \(See Narrative for Exact Boundaries\). Current Ordinance Allows Paper and Plastic Cups Only; One-Per Person; Up to 16 Ounces. Recommend Approval.](#)

[Exhibit 1: Map - Current Open Container Boundaries.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 2: COS Code of Ordinances - Section 6.1214 Consumption of Alcohol on City Streets- CURRENT.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 3: COS Code of Ordinances - Section 6.1214 Consumption of Alcohol on City Streets- RED LINE CHANGE.docx](#)

FIRST READING, HEARD.

Alderwoman Miller Blakely asked if the wording 'aluminum' was the only change. Mayor Johnson answered, yes within a specific boundary. She asked if the City will be receiving the cups from Rome, Ga and who would pay for the cups.

Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz presided. Mayor Johnson had to leave the meeting due to another obligation (First Lady Biden's visit).

Acting City Manager Brown explained it will be the business owners option to use the aluminum cups. Ball Company will provide the aluminum cups. Alderwoman Miller Blakely has concerns for business owners who may experience additional expenses, like purchasing the aluminum cups. Alderman Palumbo gave a brief description of the aluminum cup factory and the reasons for using Ball Company. He stated, using the aluminum cups will give the public and business owners an alternative to plastic, will be better for the environment, and supports Savannah becoming a more sustainable City.

Alderwoman Gibson-Carter asked Mr. Brown who presented the item as an initiative. Mr. Brown answered, Alderman Palumbo. Because this is an initial initiative, and the use of aluminum cups will have a major impact on business owners, Alderwoman Gibson-Carter offered the following motion.

Alderwoman Gibson-Carter moved to postpone Item #5 and schedule a workshop on the use of aluminum cups by business owners, seconded by Alderwoman Miller Blakely. The motion was not voted upon.

Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz informed Council this was a first reading only and the opportunity for discussion will be available upon the second reading.

PURCHASING ITEMS - (CITY MANAGER RECOMMENDS APPROVAL OF ALL ITEMS IN THIS SECTION)

[6. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for Dryer Belts and Parts to Huber Technology in the Amount of \\$90,287. Belts and Other Parts are Used to Move Sludge Through the Solid Handling Dryer at the President Street Plant, Reducing Volume by 90% and Allowing for Transport as Dried vs. Liquid Sludge to the Dean Forest Landfill.](#)

[Exhibit 1: Funding Verification - Huber Belts and Parts](#)

[Exhibit 2: Purchasing Notes - Huber Belts and Parts](#)

Alderman Wilder-Bryan moved to approve Item #6, seconded by Alderwoman Miller Blakely, Alderwoman Lanier and Alderman Leggett. The motion passed, 8-0-1, with Mayor Johnson not present.

[7. Authorize the City Manager to Award a Contract for Electronic Upgrades to the Industrial Computer System at the Montgomery Cross Roads Stormwater Pump Station with Control Instruments, Inc. in the Amount of \\$311,750. Upgrades will Allow Staff the Ability to Remotely Monitor Equipment Used to Control Five 5.5 Ton Pumps Which Move 87,000 Gallons of Water Per Minute Each.](#)

[Exhibit 1: Funding Verification - Electronic Upgrades to the Industrial Computer System](#)

Alderman Palumbo moved to approve Item #7, seconded by Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan. The motion passed, 8-0-1, with Mayor Johnson not present.

[8. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for the DeLesseps Avenue Widening Project with APAC-Atlantic, Inc. in the Amount of \\$6,910,645. Includes the Addition of Sidewalks, Bike Lanes, Curb and Gutter and Other Drainage Improvements Along DeLesseps Avenue from Waters Avenue to Skidaway Road for Improved Pedestrian Safety. Project Publicly Presented/ Vetted. Approved by GDOT.](#)

[Exhibit 1: Funding Verification - Contract for the DeLesseps Avenue Widening Project](#)

[Exhibit 2: City Manager Memo to Council- DeLesseps Avenue Widening Project.docx](#)

[Exhibit 3: Conceptual Plans - DeLesseps Avenue Widening Project.pdf](#)

Alderwoman Lanier asked Acting City Manager Brown if there would be bike tag fees issued to help pay for roads. Mr. Brown answered, there haven't been bike tag fees for about forty years, but he would ask the transportation department staff and the Bike Savannah group for recommendations.

Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan moved to approve Item #8, seconded by Alderwoman Miller Blakely and Alderman Palumbo. The motion passed, 8-0-1, with Mayor Johnson not present.

AGREEMENTS - (CITY MANAGER RECOMMENDS APPROVAL OF ALL ITEMS IN THIS SECTION)

[9. Approval of a Water and Sewer Agreement with D.R. Horton Homes, Inc. for Godley Park Phase 6, Located Off Troupe Drive in the Godley West Service Area. The Water and Sewer Systems Have Adequate Capacity to Serve This 36-Equivalent Resident Unit Development Located off Troupe Drive in the Godley West Service Area. Recommend Approval.](#)

[Exhibit 1: Agreement - Godley Park Phase 6.pdf](#)

Alderwoman Gibson-Carter asked Acting City Manager Brown the status of the impact fees ordinance. Mr. Brown answered, when the comprehensive plan is adopted with the impact fees ordinance, Council will be able to move forward with the impact fees ordinance. She asked if there were any community benefits. Mr. Brown answered, the benefits are the meter and tap fees being paid by the residents for the expansion of the City's water and sewer system.

Alderwoman Lanier moved to approve Item #9, seconded by Alderwoman Miller Blakely and Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan. The motion passed 7-1-1. Alderwoman Gibson-Carter voted no and Mayor Johnson was not present.

[10. Approval of Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Sub-Recipient Awards to Ross IES and Eckerd Connects-Paxen for \\$876,473 for Career, Case Management and Training Services for Adults \(Ages 18 and Older\) and Dislocated Workers \(Unemployed or Laid Off\) in Bryan, Bulloch, Camden, Chatham, Effingham, Glynn, Liberty, Long, McIntosh and Screven Counties. \(July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022\)](#)

[Exhibit 1: CWDB Motion Sheet Investment Board 6-15-2021.Vote Record.pdf](#)

Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan moved to approve Items #10, #11 and #12, seconded by Alderwoman Miller Blakely. The motion passed 8-0-1, with Mayor Johnson not present.

[11. Approval of a Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Sub-Recipient Award to Ross IES for \\$1,033,383 for Academic, Career Development and Training Services for Youth \(Ages 16-24\) in Bryan, Bulloch, Camden, Chatham, Effingham, Glynn, Liberty, Long, McIntosh and Screven Counties. \(July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022\)](#)

[Exhibit 1: CWDB Motion Sheet Investment Board 6-15-2021.Vote Record.pdf](#)

Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan moved to approve Items #10, #11 and #12, seconded by Alderwoman Miller Blakely. The motion passed 8-0-1, with Mayor Johnson not present.

[12. Approval of a Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Sub-Recipient Award to In The Door for \\$200,000 to Support the "One-Stop Delivery System" To Ensure Mandated Partners Comply with Agency Policies as it Pertains to Job Training, Preparation and Placement Services in Bryan, Bulloch, Camden, Chatham, Effingham, Glynn, Liberty, Long, McIntosh and Screven Counties. \(July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022\)](#)

Since this is an on-going project, Alderwoman Lanier asked Acting City Manager Brown for the data and outcomes associated with the project; i.e., how many workers, what was the impact of the funds, impact on the workforce, etc. Mr. Brown will prepare a report for Council.

Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan moved to approve Items #10, #11 and #12, seconded by Alderwoman Miller Blakely. The motion passed 8-0-1, with Mayor Johnson not present.

MISCELLANEOUS - (CITY MANAGER RECOMMENDS APPROVAL OF ALL ITEMS IN THIS SECTION)

[13. Approval of a Major Subdivision - The Pines at New Hampstead, Phase 1, Being a Portion of Parcel 1A into 61 Single Family Lots, Property Located on Highgate Boulevard, West of the Intersection of Highway 204 and I-95.](#)

[Exhibit 1: Plat - The Pines at New Hampstead, Phase 1, Being a Portion of Parcel 1A](#)

Alderman Palumbo moved to approve Item #13, seconded by Alderwoman Lanier and Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan. The motion passed 7-1-1. Alderwoman Gibson-Carter voted no and Mayor Johnson was not present.

Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz adjourned the work session at 2:56 p.m.

A video recording of the regular meeting can be found by copying and inserting the link below in your url:

<https://savannahgovtv.viebit.com/player.php?hash=gnBZNdOMLhxH>

Mark Massey, Clerk of Council

Date Minutes Approved: _____

Initials: _____

