



OCTOBER 28, 2021, 6:30 p.m. - CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

CITY GOVERNMENT

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS

OF THE MAYOR AND ALDERMEN

SAVANNAH, GEORGIA

Due to the Coronavirus Pandemic, the regular meeting of the City Council was held at 6:30 p.m., via Zoom video communications. Mayor Johnson recognized Alderman Keshia Gibson-Carter to introduce Reverend Dr. Stephen Williams, Pastor of First Presbyterian Church, and co-president of JUST, an interfaith, interracial coalition advocating for justice issues in Savannah., who offered the invocation. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited in unison.

PRESENT: Mayor Van R. Johnson, II, Presiding

Alderman Keshia Gibson-Carter, At-Large, Post 1, Chairman

Alderman Alicia Miller Blakely, At-Large, Post 2

Alderman Bernetta B. Lanier, District 1

Alderman Detric Leggett, District 2

Alderman Linda Wilder-Bryan, District 3

Alderman Nick Palumbo, District 4, Vice-Chairman

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

Alderman Kurtis Purtee, District 6

ALSO, PRESENT:

City Manager Joseph A. Melder

City Attorney Bates Lovett

Clerk of Council Mark Massey

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

[1. Adoption of the Regular Meeting Agenda for October 28, 2021.](#)

Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz moved to adopt/approve the agenda as amended to add Item #36, a Resolution honoring former employee Mr. Lindsay Bostick, seconded by Alderman Miller Blakely, Alderman Lanier and Alderman Leggett. The motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

[2. Approval of Minutes for the Work Session & City Manager's Briefing held on October 14, 2021 at 12:00 p.m.](#)

[Agenda Plus_WS DRAFT MINUTES_October 14, 2021 City Council Workshop.pdf](#)

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

[3. Approval of Minutes for the Regular Meeting held on October 14, 2021 at 2:00 p.m.](#)

[Agenda Plus_RM DRAFT MINUTES_October 14, 2021 City Council Regular Meeting.pdf](#)

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

PRESENTATIONS

[4. An Appearance by the Veteran's Council of Chatham County to Announce the Veteran of the Year 2021-2022 and 2021 Parade Grand Marshall](#)

ACKNOWLEDGED by Mayor Johnson. He recognized Chatham County Veterans Council Chairman Mr. Joe Higgins who announced the 2021 Veterans Parade Grand Marshal Jim Grismer and 2021 Veteran of the Year Mr. O.C. Fowler. Also present were American Legion Post 135 Commander Sam Currie, and past Veterans of the Year Rich Noel and Jim Bay.

Mr. Higgins recognized Alderwoman Miller Blakely as a veteran and thanked her for her service. He gave a brief background on the Parade Grand Marshall Jim Grismer and Veteran of the Year O.C. Fowler. Mr. Higgins invited the Council out to view the Parade on Veteran's Day, November 11, 2021.

[5. An Appearance by Patrick Kelsey, Executive Director of the Arts and Culture Alliance of Chatham County to Receive a Proclamation Designating October as National Arts and Humanities Month](#)

READ and PRESENTED by Mayor Johnson to Executive Director of the Arts and Culture Alliance of Chatham County Mr. Patrick Kelsey. Mr. Kelsey thanked Mayor and Council for the recognition and requested Council remember Arts and Culture during their budget negotiations.

As a point of personal privilege, Mayor Johnson moved Item #36 up on the agenda to be heard after Item #5, and Item #33 to be heard after Item #36.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

[6. Second Public Hearing to Receive Comments Concerning the City's 2022 One-Year Action Plan. The plan serves as the blueprint for how the City will use Federal entitlement funds and other resources to address the needs of low and moderate income persons and to improve housing, economic and other conditions within predominantly low-income neighborhoods.](#)

[Exhibit 2: Document - One Year Action Plan.pdf](#)

Mayor Johnson provided a brief description/background information on the Federal entitlement funds and resources to assist the residents of Savannah to improve housing, the economy and other conditions in low-income communities.

Mayor Johnson declared the public hearing open for Item #6.

No speaker(s) were present.

Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz moved to close the public hearing for Item #6, seconded by Alderman Leggett. The motion passed unanimously.

ZONING HEARINGS

[7. Petition of Historic Savannah Foundation \(HSF\) to Amend the Zoning Map for 1811 Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard \(PIN 20066 24003\) from TR-1 \(Traditional Residential-1\) to TC-1 \(Traditional Commercial-1\), Aldermanic District 1 \(File No. 21-004867-ZA\). The Metropolitan Planning Commission recommends approval.](#)

[Exhibit 1: MPC Recommendation Packet for 1811 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.\(File No. 21-004867-ZA\)](#)

[Exhibit 2: Draft Ordinance for 1811 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.\(File No. 21-004867-ZA\)](#)

Mayor Johnson declared the zoning hearing open for Item #7.

Speaker(s) present:

- Marcus Lotson, MPC Representative described the project. MPC recommended approval.
- Ryan Avary, representing the applicant

No written comment(s) received.

Alderwoman Lanier moved to close the zoning hearing for Item #7, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz. The motion passed unanimously.

[8. Petition of Harold Yellin for America's Second Harvest of Coastal Georgia \(Owner PHRM Holdings, LLC\) to Amend the Zoning Map for 1380 Chatham Parkway \(PIN 20834 01021\) from B-C \(Community Business\) to IL-T \(Light Industrial-Transition\), Aldermanic District 1 \(File No. 21-004875-ZA\). The Metropolitan Planning Commission recommends approval.](#)

[Exhibit 1: MPC Recommendation Packet for 1380 Chatham Parkway \(File No. 21-004875-ZA\)](#)

[Exhibit 2: Draft Ordinance for 1380 Chatham Parkway \(File No. 21-004875-ZA\)](#)

Mayor Johnson declared the zoning hearing open for Item #8.

Speaker(s) present:

- Marcus Lotson, MPC Representative described project. MPC recommended approval.
- Josh Yellin, representing applicant
- Mary Crouch - SUPPORTED

No written comment(s) received.

Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan expressed appreciation for the outstanding work America's Second Harvest Coastal Georgia's food bank contributed to the 3rd District and suggested with the move to District 1, the food bank consider satellite locations throughout the City.

Alderwoman Lanier moved to close the zoning hearing for Item #8, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz and Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan. The motion passed unanimously.

[9. Petition of Harold Yellin for Vista Realty Partners \(Owner PHRM Holdings, LLC\) to Amend the Zoning Map for 1000 Chatham Center Drive \(PIN 20739 01013\) from B-C \(Community Business\) to RMF-2-25 \(Residential Multi Family-2-25 Dwelling Units Per Acre\). Aldermanic District 1 \(File No. 21-004876-ZA\).](#)

[Exhibit 1: MPC Recommendation Packet for 1000 Chatham Center Drive \(File No. 21-004876-ZA\)](#)

[Exhibit 2: Draft Ordinance for 1000 Chatham Center Drive \(File No. 21-004876-ZA\)](#)

Mayor Johnson declared the zoning hearing open for Item #9.

Speaker(s) present:

- Marcus Lotson, MPC Representative described property. MPC recommended approval.
- Harold Yellin, representing applicant
- J. Patrick Connell – OPPOSED - represents Walden Apartments and its residents.
- Michael Neyhurt – SUPPORTED
- Natalie de Guardiola – SUPPORTED

Written comment(s) received:

- J. Patrick Connell – OPPOSED

Alderwoman Lanier recommended meeting with the opposed parties for due diligence and have a 1st reading only of the petition today.

Alderwoman Lanier moved to close the zoning hearing for Item #9, seconded by Alderwoman Miller Blakely and Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan. The motion passed unanimously.

ORDINANCES - FIRST AND SECOND READING - (CITY MANAGER RECOMMENDS APPROVAL OF ALL ITEMS IN THIS SECTION UNLESS NOTED OTHERWISE)

[10. Petition of Historic Savannah Foundation \(HSF\) to Amend the Zoning Map for 1811 Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard \(PIN 20066 24003\) from TR-1 \(Traditional Residential-1\) to TC-1 \(Traditional Commercial-1\). Aldermanic District 1 \(File No. 21-004867-ZA\). The Metropolitan Planning Commission recommends approval.](#)

[Exhibit 1: MPC Recommendation Packet for 1811 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd \(File No. 21-004867-ZA\)](#)

[Exhibit 2: Draft Ordinance for 1811 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd \(File No. 21-004867-ZA\)](#)

After the first reading was considered the second reading and a request that an ordinance be placed and passed upon its adoption, Alderwoman Lanier moved to approve Item #10, seconded by Alderwoman Miller Blakely. The Motion passed unanimously.

[11. Petition of Harold Yellin for America's Second Harvest of Coastal Georgia \(Owner PHRM Holdings, LLC\) to Amend the Zoning Map for 1380 Chatham Parkway \(PIN 20834 01021\) from B-C \(Community Business\) to IL-T \(Light Industrial-Transition\). Aldermanic District 1 \(File No. 21-004875-ZA\). The Metropolitan Planning Commission recommends approval.](#)

[Exhibit 1: MPC Recommendation Packet for 1380 Chatham Parkway \(File No. 21-004875-ZA\)](#)

[Exhibit 2: Draft Ordinance for 1380 Chatham Parkway \(File No. 21-004875-ZA\)](#)

After the first reading was considered the second reading and a request that an ordinance be placed and passed upon its adoption, Alderwoman Lanier moved to approve Item #11, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz, Alderwoman Miller Blakely and Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan. The motion passed unanimously.

[12. Petition of Harold Yellin for Vista Realty Partners \(Owner PHRM Holdings, LLC\) to Amend the Zoning Map for 1000 Chatham Center Drive \(PIN 20739 01013\) from B-C \(Community Business\) to RMF-2-25 \(Residential Multi-Family-2-25 Dwelling Units Per Acre\). Aldermanic District 1 \(File No. 21-004876-ZA\). The Metropolitan Planning Commission recommends approval.](#)

[Exhibit 1: MPC Recommendation Packet for 1000 Chatham Center Drive \(File No. 21-004876-ZA\)](#)

[Exhibit 2: Draft Ordinance for 1000 Chatham Center Drive \(File No. 21-004876-ZA\)](#)

FIRST READING HEARD ONLY for Item #12, as requested by Alderwoman Lanier

ORDINANCES - SECOND READING - (CITY MANAGER RECOMMENDS APPROVAL OF ALL ITEMS IN THIS SECTION UNLESS NOTED OTHERWISE)

[13. Approval for the Annexation of 14.585 Acres Located off Ogeechee Road Near Canebrake Road. The Property is currently vacant and no current development is planned. \(This item is associated with the zoning of 6098 Ogeechee Road for Thankful Baptist Church\).](#)

[Exhibit 1: Annexation Petition - Tract A-2 6098 Ogeechee Road](#)

[Exhibit 2: Ordinance - Tract A-2 6098 Ogeechee Road](#)

Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz moved to approve Item #13, seconded by Alderwoman Miller Blakely. The motion passed unanimously.

[14. Zoning of 6098 Ogeechee Road \(PIN 11029 05014\) Owned by Thankful Baptist Church, Inc. from R-A \(Residential Agriculture\) to R-A-CO \(Residential Agriculture-CO\) to Support Annexation \(File No. 21-005068-ZA\)](#)

[Exhibit 1: Annexation Petition - 6098 Ogeechee Road](#)

[Exhibit 2: Map - 6098 Ogeechee Road](#)

[Exhibit 3: Draft Ordinance - 6098 Ogeechee Road](#)

Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz moved to approve Item #14, seconded by Alderwoman Miller Blakely. The motion passed unanimously.

[15. Petition of Harold Yellin \(Agent\) on Behalf of Alice Keller \(Owner\) for a Map Amendment to Rezone Little Neck Road \(Parcel ID# 21007 01001 and 21007 01002\) From R-A-CO \(Residential-Agricultural-County\) to PD \(Planned Development\), File No. 20-005235-ZA. \(Hopeton Landing Master Plan\). The Metropolitan Planning Commission recommends approval with conditions. \(See narrative for conditions\).](#)

[Exhibit 1: MPC Recommendation Packet - Little Neck Road \(Hopeton Landing\)](#)

[Exhibit 2: Draft Ordinance - Rezone Little Neck Road - \(Hopeton Landing\)](#)

[Exhibit 3: Master Plan - Hopeton Landing](#)

[Exhibit 4: Water and Sewer Agreement - Hopeton Landing](#)

[Exhibit 5: Traffic Analysis - Hopeton Landing](#)

[Exhibit 6: Stormwater Management Strategy - Hopeton Landing](#)

[Exhibit 7: Memo to City Council dated September 7, 2021 - Hopeton Landing](#)

[Exhibit 8: Community Questions dated October 1, 2021 - Hopeton Landing](#)

Clerk of Council Massey reported one (1) written comment was received and forwarded to Members of Council prior to the meeting. Alderwoman Gibson-Carter requested the comment be read. Mayor Johnson indicated the written comment was sent to Council Members prior to the meeting and will become part of the permanent record.

Written comment(s) received:

- . Kerrie Bieber - OPPOSED
- a. Alderman Palumbo moved to approve Item #15, seconded by Alderman Leggett and Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan. The motion passed, 5-4-0, with Mayor Johnson, Alderman Leggett, Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan, Alderman Palumbo, and Alderman Purtee voting yea. Mayor Pro-Tem Shabazz, Alderwoman Gibson-Carter, Alderwoman Miller Blakely and Alderwoman Lanier voted no.
- b. Alderwoman Gibson-Carter amended the motion pending a completed ground radar study by Chatham County, seconded by Alderwoman Miller Blakely. With a roll-call of the vote requested by Alderwoman Gibson-Carter, the motion failed, 3-6-0. Alderwoman Gibson-Carter, Alderwoman Miller Blakely and Alderwoman Lanier voting yea. Mayor Johnson, Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz, Alderman Leggett, Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan, Alderman Palumbo and Alderman Purtee voted no.

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

[16. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract with P3 Venture Group for the Development of the Fairgrounds Property, Located at 4701 Meding Street.](#)

[Exhibit 1: Fairground Property.pdf](#)

Item #16 heard after Item #17.

Mayor Johnson gave a brief history of the Fairgrounds property from the purchase date up to and including presentations by proposed vendors, and the final selection of P3 Venture Group.

Alderwoman Lanier stated it is important to support the residents most impacted by the development and make sure their quality of life does not decrease. Alderwoman Miller Blakely stated the concept development for the public:

- . 20.5 acres of conserved wetlands with public trails,
- . 2.4 acres of a public central park with public off-street parking,
- . 18.3 acres of multi-purpose playing fields, basketball courts, community gardens and an indoor recreation facility,
- . 14.5 acres for single and multifamily homes with a focus on senior housing and mixed-use retail,
- . 6.2 acres for a production studio and career development opportunities, and
- . 11.4 acres for public streets, sidewalks, tree lawns and on-street parking.

Mayor Johnson added, the purchase price was \$2 million with an expected City tax revenue of \$3.8 million; total financial benefit for the City is estimated at close to \$5.9 million over a twenty year period.

Written comment(s) received:

- . Reverend Dr. Betty M. Jones, representing Feiler Park Neighborhood Association, Inc.

Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz moved to approve Item #16 per City Manager Melder's recommendation, seconded by Alderwoman Gibson-Carter. The motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz outlined numerous benefits realized by the approval of the Fairgrounds property development. She thanked the citizens, City staff, Mayor Johnson and the Council for the hard work and support during the decision-making process.

Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan stated the residents of the 3rd District require maintenance work on lanes, traffic calming and other issues to be addressed. She is waiting for equity for the 3rd District. Mayor Johnson stipulated the same requests for all Districts.

[17. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract Modification for up to \\$100,000 for Lot Clearing Services for the Remainder of 2021 and a Contract Renewal for up to \\$350,000 for 2022 with Beers Housing, Inc. This contract is used when property owners fail to respond to notices of violations. Lot clearing includes mowing and cutting of vegetative growth. 20% DBE goal, including 10% LDBE](#)

[Exhibit 1: Funding Verification - Lot Clearing](#)

[Exhibit 2: Purchasing Notes - Lot Clearing](#)

Item #17 heard before Item #16.

Alderwoman Miller Blakely has concerns with local and DBE businesses not receiving the contract. City Manager Melder discussed the responses received during the bid process and stated this is a service the City needs to continue right now. In the future, City staff will provide greater equity to allow local and DBE's a greater opportunities to secure this type of contract. He recommends Council approve Item #17.

Alderwoman Miller Blakely asked City Manager Melder what two (2) vendors submitted bids, and when the City is responsible for the lot clearing service, who will decide the responsible department. City Manager Melder answered, the two bidders were; Beers Housing from Georgia and Moss Construction from South Carolina; and the decision to assign such work orders to City departments is the responsibility of the City Manager's office.

Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan moved to approve Item #17, seconded by Alderman Palumbo. The motion passed, 8-1-0. Alderwoman Miller Blakely voted no.

[18. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for Smallwares with Bargreen Ellington in the Amount of \\$270,571. The Smallwares will be used in the Enmarket Arena for food preparation and service. Items include utensils, ovens, food storage containers, cutting boards, cleaning equipment, and beverage dispensers. Expenditure included in project budget.](#)

[Exhibit 1: Funding Verification - Smallwares](#)

[Exhibit 2: Purchasing Notes - Smallwares](#)

Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz moved to approve Items #18 through #29 per City Manager Melder's recommendation, seconded by Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan. The motion passed unanimously.

[19. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract Amendment with Arnge Consulting LLC for Water, Sewer, and Capital Project Management Services in an Amount Not to Exceed \\$175,000. Contract will be used to continue project management services through the end of the Arena development and to allow for continued water and sewer planning services. Expenditure included in Project Budget.](#)

Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz moved to approve Items #18 through #29 per City Manager Melder's recommendation, seconded by Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan. The motion passed unanimously.

[20. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for the Purchase of Security Equipment to Include 19 Walk-Through Metal Detectors and 19 Handheld Metal Detectors for the Enmarket Arena from CEIA USA in the Amount of \\$72,389. Expenditure included in Project Budget.](#)

Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz moved to approve Items #18 through #29 per City Manager Melder's recommendation, seconded by Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan. The motion passed unanimously.

[21. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract Modification for Recycled Crushed Aggregate Stone with Savannah River Utilities \(Local\) for up to \\$60,000. This contract is used to procure recycled crushed aggregate stone \(i.e. stone, concrete, asphalt\). Material is used to provide traction for vehicles driving into the landfill for the Sanitation Department.](#)

[Exhibit 1: Funding Verification - Crushed Stone](#)

[Exhibit 2: Purchasing Notes - Crushed Stone](#)

Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz moved to approve Items #18 through #29 per City Manager Melder's recommendation, seconded by Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan. The motion passed unanimously.

[22. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract Modification for Improvements to the "MySavannah" Site with Robert Half/Protiviti \(Local\) in the Amount of \\$4,390 \(Event No. 8036\). "MySavannah" is a technology solution used for internal team collaboration and communication for City employees. It offers 24/7 access and provides the City with the most flexible and responsive workforce possible.](#)

[Exhibit 1: Funding Verification - Sharepoint.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 2: Purchasing Notes - Sharepoint.pdf](#)

Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz moved to approve Items #18 through #29 per City Manager Melder's recommendation, seconded by Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan. The motion passed unanimously.

[23. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for Self-Funded Health Plan Third Party Administration Services with Health Plans, Inc. in the Amount of \\$310,935. The Human Resources uses this contract is to provide self-funded health plan third-party administration \(TPA\) for medical claims processing, COBRA administration and various plan administration services.](#)

[Exhibit 1- Funding Verification - Self-Funded Health Plan Third Party Administration Services.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 2- Purchasing Notes - Self-Funded Health Plan Third Party Administration Services.pdf](#)

Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz moved to approve Items #18 through #29 per City Manager Melder's recommendation, seconded by Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan. The motion passed unanimously.

[24. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for Voluntary Employee Accident Insurance with Hartford Financial Services, Inc. at No Cost to the City. The Human Resources Department offers eligible employees and dependents access to voluntary accident insurance coverage. The estimated premium is paid 100% by those members who are enrolled in the insurance coverage.](#)

[Exhibit 1- Funding Verification - Voluntary Employee Accident Insurance](#)

[Exhibit 2- Purchasing Notes - Voluntary Employee Accident Insurance.pdf](#)

Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz moved to approve Items #18 through #29 per City Manager Melder's recommendation, seconded by Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan. The motion passed unanimously.

[25. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for Voluntary Cancer Insurance Coverage with TransAmerica Corporation at No Cost to the City. The Human Resources Department offers eligible employees and dependents access to voluntary cancer insurance coverage. The estimated premium is paid 100% by those members who are enrolled in this insurance coverage plan.](#)

[Exhibit 1- Funding Verification - Voluntary Cancer Insurance Coverage.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 2- Purchasing Notes - Voluntary Cancer Insurance Coverage.pdf](#)

Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz moved to approve Items #18 through #29 per City Manager Melder's recommendation, seconded by Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan. The motion passed unanimously.

[26. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for Voluntary Employee Critical Illness Insurance with Hartford Financial Services Group, Inc. at No Cost to the City. The Human Resources Department offers eligible employees and dependents access to voluntary critical illness insurance coverage. The estimated premium is to be paid by those members who are enrolled in the insurance coverage.](#)

[Exhibit 1- Funding Verification - Voluntary Employee Critical Illness Insurance.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 2- Purchasing Notes - Voluntary Employee Critical Illness Insurance.pdf](#)

Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz moved to approve Items #18 through #29 per City Manager Melder's recommendation, seconded by Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan. The motion passed unanimously.

[27. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for Employee Dental Insurance with Metropolitan Life Insurance Company at No Cost to the City. The Human Resources Department offers eligible employees, retirees and family members access to voluntary dental insurance coverage. The estimated premium is to be paid 100% by those members who are enrolled in the insurance coverage.](#)

[Exhibit 1- Funding Verification - Employee Dental Insurance.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 2- Purchasing Notes - Employee Dental Insurance.pdf](#)

Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz moved to approve Items #18 through #29 per City Manager Melder's recommendation, seconded by Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan. The motion passed unanimously.

[28. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for Employee Short-Term Disability Benefits with Lincoln Financial Group at No Cost to the City. The Human Resources Department offers eligible employees and dependents access to voluntary short-term disability insurance coverage. The estimated premium is paid 100% by members who are enrolled in the insurance coverage.](#)

[Exhibit 1- Funding Verification - Short-Term Disability Benefits.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 2- Purchasing Notes - Short-Term Disability Benefits.pdf](#)

Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz moved to approve Items #18 through #29 per City Manager Melder's recommendation, seconded by Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan. The motion passed unanimously.

[29. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for Voluntary Employee Vision Insurance with National Vision Administration at No Cost to the City. The Human Resources Department offers eligible employees and dependents access to voluntary vision insurance coverage. The estimated premium is to be paid 100% by those members who are enrolled in the insurance coverage.](#)

[Exhibit 1- Funding Verification - Voluntary Employee Vision Insurance.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 2- Purchasing Notes - Voluntary Employee Vision Insurance.pdf](#)

Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz moved to approve Items #18 through #29 per City Manager Melder's recommendation, seconded by Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan. The motion passed unanimously.

RESOLUTIONS - (CITY MANAGER RECOMMENDS APPROVAL OF ALL ITEMS IN THIS SECTION UNLESS NOTED OTHERWISE)

[30. Approval of a Resolution Adopting the City's 2022 One-Year Action Plan. The plan serves as the blueprint for how the City of Savannah will use Federal entitlement funds and other resources to address the needs of low and moderate income persons and to improve housing, economic and other conditions within predominantly low-income neighborhoods.](#)

[Exhibit 1: Resolution.2022 OYA Plan.docx](#)

[Exhibit 2: Document - One Year Action Plan.pdf](#)

Alderwoman Lanier asked how the City will inform and educate the public on the amount of Federal funds received and how they will be disbursed. Mayor Johnson indicated the City has a department that will handle the funds and there are legal standards which must be given by public notice. City Manager Melder stated the Human Services Department did a good job of educating and engaging the public during the public notifications.

Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz moved to approve Item #30, seconded by Alderwoman Miller Blakely and Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan. The motion passed unanimously.

[31. Approval of a Resolution Authorizing the Submission of the FY2021 Continuum of Care \(CoC\) Application. The grant is in the amount of \\$788,095 to implement a CoC supportive housing program known as City 54, which provides \\$40,219 in administrative expenses and \\$747,876 for tenant-based rental subsidies and supportive services.](#)

[Exhibit 1: Council RESOLUTION Authorizing FY21 Application.pdf](#)

Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan moved to approve Items #31 and #32 per City Manager Melder's recommendation, seconded by Alderwoman Miller Blakely. The motion passed unanimously.

[32. Approval of a Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Accept Reimbursement Funds from the Environmental Protection Division in the Amount of \\$231,145. Reimbursement is for costs associated with the remediation of the Deptford Tract Site.](#)

[Exhibit 1: 2021 Resolution Hazardous Waste Trust Fund Reimbursement.docx](#)

Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan moved to approve Items #31 and #32 per City Manager Melder's recommendation, seconded by Alderwoman Miller Blakely. The motion passed unanimously.

[33. Approval of a Resolution Designating Juneteenth Celebrated on June 19th as a Paid City Holiday Beginning in 2022. Juneteenth marks the oldest African-American holiday observance in the U.S. and commemorates the beginning of the emancipation of enslaved Americans.](#)

[Exhibit 1: RES Juneteenth Day.jnh10222021.docx](#)

Item #33 was heard after Item #36.

Mayor Johnson explained the meaning of Juneteenth and announced President Biden has designated Juneteenth as a Federal Holiday.

Alderwoman Miller Blakely gave recognition to The Daughters of Mary Magdalene, Marilyn Jackson and Ivan Cohen for celebrating Juneteenth at 38th Street Park for over twenty years. They have worked tirelessly over the years to make Juneteenth a national holiday. Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz expressed appreciation to those who have worked to make Juneteenth a national holiday and asked the citizens of Savannah to participate in Juneteenth festivities by remembering the individuals and the reason for the celebration.

Alderwoman Lanier moved to approve Item #33, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz and Alderwoman Miller Blakely. The motion passed unanimously.

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

[34. Approval for the City Manager to Accept a Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Youth Grant Award in the Amount of \\$1,120,105. The award will be used to provide youth programs from April 1, 2021 to June 30, 2023 to low-income youth between the ages of 16 and 24. The City serves as the fiduciary agent for the 10-county region.](#)

[Exhibit 1: PY21 Youth Statement of Award.pdf](#)

Alderwoman Lanier moved to approve Items #34 and #35 per City Manager Melder's recommendation, seconded by Alderwoman Miller Blakely, Alderman Leggett and Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan. The motion passed unanimously.

[35. Approval for the City Manager to Accept a Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Adult and Dislocated Worker Grant Award in the Amount of \\$444,152. The award will be used to provide programs from July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2023 to to adults who are unemployed or underemployed, and adults who have lost their jobs. The City serves as the fiduciary agent for the ten-county region.](#)

[Exhibit 1: PY21 Adult Statement of Award.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 2: PY21 DW Statement of Award.pdf](#)

Alderwoman Lanier moved to approve Items #34 and #35 per City Manager Melder's recommendation, seconded by Alderwoman Miller Blakely, Alderman Leggett and Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan. The motion passed unanimously.

ADD-ON

Item #36 was heard after Item #5.

[36. Resolution honoring Lindsay Bostick, a City of Savannah employee in the Parking Services Department.](#)

Mayor Johnson PRESENTED the Resolution honoring Mr. Lindsay Bostick to his family and expressed deep condolences on behalf of the Council and staff. There was a moment of silence honoring the memory of Mr. Bostick.

Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz moved to approve Item #36, seconded by Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan. The motion passed unanimously.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Mayor Johnson thanked Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan for all of her work at Stillwell Towers.

Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan announced Trunk-or-Treat with Captain Young from Eastside Precinct in Daffin Park on Friday, October 29, 2021, from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.; on November 3, 2021. She invited the public to stand at Waters & Bowens Street to commemorate Lt. White, the oldest, longest living and last surviving member of the first nine African Americans members who served on the Police Department in Savannah. Lt. White turned 97 on October 27. On November 5, 2021, Rock-the-Block will occur in the 3rd District; and on Sunday a cleaning detail on President Street. They need volunteers. She is wearing a tee-shirt honoring Madea & Kenneth Clark. Their son was stolen at Savannah State on February 24th, if you have any information, please contact the Savannah police department. She thanked Mayor Johnson for the amazing 'State of the City Address' given last evening.

Mayor Johnson thanked City Council Members for their support on the many projects approved during their administration. He thanked City Manager Melder & Public Communications staff for the virtual experience for the younger participants.

Alderman Wilder-Bryan thanked SCAD for donations and feeding 200 members at Stillwell Towers. She, Alderman Leggett and other volunteers fed the first responders in Daffin Park today during the rain.

Alderman Gibson-Carter personally thanked City Manager Melder for responding to the families at Stillwell Towers. SCAD provided food but it would be nice if SCAD provided the residents with needed replacement housing. Coffee and a biscuit is nice but the residents are begging for relief. Stillwell Towers has deplorable units in housing authority. In addressing City Manager Melder, she hopes he will investigate and provide some relief to the families of Stillwell Towers (a ticking time bomb on Waters Avenue). It was in the Mayor's purview to appoint two people to the Housing Authority Board, but she has not received any updates.

For the record, Mayor Johnson asked City Attorney Lovett who appoints members to the Housing Authority Board. Attorney Lovett answered, he believes its the Mayor. Alderman Gibson-Carter asked Attorney Lovett if a letter was sent to the Housing Authority asking if the Mayor had the authority to unilaterally appoint two Board Members to the Housing Authority Board outside of the knowledge of the Council. Attorney Lovett answered, he doesn't have the answer right now but he will send the information to the entire Council.

Mayor Johnson stated, the enabling Ordinance of the Housing Authority of Savannah stipulates the Mayor of the City of Savannah appoints the members of the Housing Authority of Savannah. The Mayor of the City of Savannah carried out his responsibilities in appointing two members to the Housing Authority of Savannah.

Alderman Gibson-Carter asked City Manager Melder to advise Council Members if there is a prescription for any relief available to the residents of Stillwell Towers.

Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz asked residents of the 5th District to come out to 'Hello Neighbor' this Saturday, October 30, 2021, from 12:00 noon to 3:00 p.m. She will be the guest speaker at Tatemville Center, open air, open space. Dr. Shabazz along with Shameka Simmons from Black Voters Matter will be at the Liberty City Center on November 6th from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. to host a vaccine clinic. Information will be posted on Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz Facebook page.

Mayor Johnson announced this is the last virtual Council meeting. The next meeting will be in person at City Hall in Council Chambers, 2 East Bay Street, 2nd Floor. The meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 9, 2021, at 2:00 p.m. followed by a Tuesday, November 23, 2021, 2:00 p.m. meeting due to holidays.

Alderman Wilder-Bryan announced partnering with the Housing Authority on November 6th at the Veranda for an 'Appreciation of Residents'.

Mayor Johnson adjourned the meeting at 8:21 p.m.

The audio recording of the Council Meeting can be found by copying and inserting the below link in your url:

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

Mark Massey, Clerk of Council

Date Minutes Approved: _____

Signature: _____