



SAVANNAH CITY GOVERNMENT
SUMMARY/FINAL MINUTES
COUNCIL WORK SESSION & CITY MANAGER'S BRIEFING
July 9, 2020 – 11:00 a.m.

Due to the Coronavirus Pandemic, the City Council work session and City Manager's Briefing was held at 11:04 a.m., via Zoom video communications. Mayor Johnson recognized Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan who then offered the Invocation.

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

OTHERS PRESENT:

City Manager Pat Monahan
 City Attorney Bates Lovett
 Clerk of Council Mark Massey

Workshop Agenda Items

[1. Financial and Compliance Audit for Year Ended December 31, 2019](#)

[Exhibit 1: Financial and Compliance Audit - 2019.pptx](#)

City Manager Monahan gave a brief outline of the financial and compliance audit process and then introduced Finance Director David Maxwell.

Mr. Maxwell introduced Mr. Miller Edwards and Mr. Trey Scott of Mauldin and Jenkins, who presented the details of the City's financial and compliance audit via a slide presentation.

Following the presentation, there was a question and answer session by the Mayor and Aldermen with Finance Director David Maxwell and representatives of Mauldin and Jenkins.

[2. Millage Rate Discussion](#)

[Exhibit 1: Presentation - Property Tax Millage Rate.pptx](#)

City Manager Monahan gave detailed information on the current millage rate and the impact of the rollback rate. Mr. Monahan introduced Chief Finance Officer David Maxwell, Revenue Department Director Ashley Simpson, and Chief Budget Officer Melissa Carter.

The Mayor and Aldermen asked questions of Mr. Maxwell, Ms. Carter, and Ms. Simpson relating to the millage rate and the impact of a rollback millage rate. Ms. Carter asked for a consensus from the Council to proceed

with the advertisement of the millage rate.

Mayor Johnson asked Council for a consensus:

- Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan - keep current millage rate, 12.856
- Alderman Palumbo - keep current millage rate, 12.856
- Alderwoman Gibson-Carter - adopt rollback rate, 12.739
- Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz - adopt rollback rate, 12.739
- Alderman Purtee - 2020 Budgeted rate, 12.856
- Alderwoman Miller Blakely - adopt rollback rate, 12.739
- Alderwoman Lanier - adopt rollback rate, 12.739

As a result of his polling, Mayor Johnson directed staff to advertise the millage rate at the 2020 budgeted rate of 12.856 which is a tax increase, and if the Mayor and Aldermen decide to lower the millage rate to the 12.739 rollback rate, they will make that decision later.

[3. City of Savannah Website Improvements](#)

[Exhibit 1: Presentation - City of Savannah Website Improvements.pdf](#)

NOT PRESENTED.

[4. Strategic Plan Discussion](#)

[Exhibit 1: Vision Savannah Strategic Plan 2020 \(Draft\).pdf](#)

[Exhibit 2: Vision Savannah Strategic Plan 2020 Presentation.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 3: Vision Savannah Strategic Plan 2020 Council Champions List.pdf](#)

NOT PRESENTED.

Hearing no further business, Mayor Johnson adjourned the meeting at 1:13 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=vLOUhi0Ebw2O>

Mark Massey, Clerk of Council

Date Minutes Approved: _____

Initials: _____

