



CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL CALLED MEETING
April 6, 2020 – 3:00 p.m.

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

OTHERS PRESENT:
Interim City Manager Patrick C. Monahan
City Attorney Bates Lovett
Assistant City Manager Health Lloyd
Deputy Assistant to the Mayor Marty Johnston
Director of Public Communications Nick Zoller
Clerk of Council Mark Massey

The Special Called Meeting was held at 3:20 p.m. via **ZOOM video**. The invocation was offered by Mayor Johnson.

Opening Remarks by Mayor Johnson:

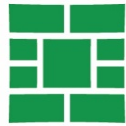
Mayor Johnson gave an update of the coronavirus in the coastal health district. Governor Kemp's Order went into effect Friday at 6:00 p.m. That Order will end on April 14th and Mayor Johnson's amended Order will go into effect on that date. The next two weeks are projected to be the worst. Beginning tomorrow, Mayor Johnson will ask the public to wear a mask. He has asked the City Manager to find revenue to give the staff working on the front line a stipend.

City Manager Monahan gave an update on the supplies for the City staff. The teleworking is continuing to expand and staggering hours for those continuing to come into the office to work. At this time, he does not see the need for any furloughs.

The City Attorney gave a brief outline of the Governor's Order describing the three tiers of business and their guidelines.

Aldermen gave comments in the round-robin fashion:

- Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz – she is receiving calls from citizens concerned with staff picking up recycling at the curb. Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz gave a detailed outline of the SBA Loans available to local businesses and she encouraged business owners to apply for loans.



- Alderwoman Gibson-Carter – no comment at this time.
- Alderwoman Miller Blakely – she would like citizens to take the pandemic serious and to protect themselves and their families. Just because a business is open does not mean you have to go shopping. She reported that sanitation staff picked up trash and recyclables at the same time with only two on the truck and they did a wonderful job.
- Alderwoman Lanier – she is concerned with District 1 deaths in the past three weeks and residents would like to know how to arrange funerals. She noted that the lower income areas will experience more problems due to underlying conditions. Alderwoman Lanier expressed concerned for the occupants of the local jails and making sure they are safe.
- Alderman Leggett – he really wants the residents to take this pandemic seriously. He described in detail how the testing is performed. He expressed condolences to Mayor Johnson on the death of a family member. He inquired about the free parking throughout the City and expressed concern for those individuals are operating Airbnb's illegally.
- Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan – she is concerned with children still out without mask and gloves. She has received calls from residents that the 311 line is not operating on the weekends.
- Alderman Palumbo – he thanked Tim Moody and his staff for setting up the meeting via zoom video. He encouraged local businesses to visit their local banks and apply for the SBA loans that are available. Alderman Palumbo expressed thanks and concern for the sanitation workers picking up trash that is contaminated.
- Alderman Purtee – received phone calls and emails concerning sanitation workers picking up yard waste especially senior citizens who cannot haul away their own debris.

Closing:

Mayor Johnson reiterated the importance of keeping the staff safe during this pandemic. He asked the City Attorney to give further information on the Governor's Home Rule. He reported that the City has no information on unemployment offices. He expressed concern for all the citizens during this time of Passover and Easter and their inability to meeting and worship together.

Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan asked concerning the stimulus package and if the City Attorney could give further explanation on the issue.



**SAVANNAH CITY COUNCIL
Summary/Final Minutes
Special Called Meeting
APRIL 6, 2020**

Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz asked the City Manager to explain the yard waste situation for the residents. She commended Mayor Johnson on his international address to the public

Alderman Miller Blakely asked Mayor Johnson how residents can access the meetings.

Mayor Johnson announced the next meeting will be the City Council Regular Meeting on Thursday, April 9, 2020 at 2:00 p.m. via Zoom video. He has requested that City will be illuminated in red through the pandemic. He encouraged all residents to practice social distancing and to stay safe.

Hearing no objections, Mayor Johnson adjourned the meeting at 4:20 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=43w2etu4s1cJ>

Mark Massey, Clerk of Council

Date Minutes Approved: _____

Initials: _____