

Meeting will begin at 4:00p.m.

February 27, 2020 City Council Workshop

**SAVANNAH CITY GOVERNMENT
SUMMARY/FINAL MINUTES
COUNCIL WORK SESSION & CITY MANAGER'S BRIEFING
February 27, 2020 – 4:00 p.m.**

The Work Session of the City Council was held at 4:00 p.m. in the 2nd Floor Media Room of City Hall.

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

OTHERS PRESENT:

City Manager Pat Monahan
Assistant City Manager Heath Lloyd
Interim Chief Operating Officer Bret Bell
Assistant to the City Manager Daphanie Williams
City Attorney Bates Lovett
Clerk of Council Mark Massey
Deputy Clerk of Council Margaret Fox

Mayor Johnson called the meeting to order at 4:01 p.m.

Workshop Agenda Items

[1. Discussion - Board Appointments](#)

Facilitated by Mayor Johnson, the following nominations were discussed and consensus reached by Council:

- 1.
1. Alderman Detric Leggett to serve on the Chatham Area Transit Authority (CAT);
2. Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan and Alderman Purtee to serve on the Chatham-Savannah Authority for the Homeless;
3. Mayor Johnson(Heath Lloyd in the absence of the Mayor), Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz, and Alderman Palumbo to serve on the Coastal Region Metropolitan Planning Organization Board (CORE MPO);
4. Alderman Palumbo to serve on the Pension Board;
5. Alderwoman Miller Blakely to serve on Visit Savannah (Savannah Convention and Visitors Bureau); and,
6. Alderwoman Lanier to serve on the Savannah Resource Recovery Development Authority
7. Alderwomen Gibson-Carter and Wilder-Bryan would like to serve on the United Way Board. This will be voted on at the Regular meeting.

[2. Discussion - Special Work Session Schedule](#)

Mayor Johnson and City Manager Monahan discussed the need to hold special work sessions for Council Members to discuss and rank priorities.

Earlier this week the City Manager distributed a worksheet for selection of dates/times for the work sessions and rankings of priorities. The City Manager's office will compile all the preferences from Council and schedule a work session and items for discussion.

[3. 2020 Legislative Update](#)

Joe Shearhouse, Jr., Acting Assistant to the City Manager, gave an update on the 2020 Legislative Update, a Review of the Legislative Agenda, discussed the items adopted by Council in January and updated the Council on the status of each item.

Mr. Shearhouse updated Council on the House Bills that are on the radar for the City. He discussed the Governor's anti-gang efforts and the gun measures introduced during the Legislative Session. Alderwoman Gibson-Carter recommended not requesting staggered term limits but only term limits. She requested an updated report from Connect South on their current efforts during the Legislative Session.

Alderwoman Lanier requested a list of the negative impacts to the local infrastructure, such as water and air quality on the port communities that are affected most.

The City Manager announced that Mark Revenue, Interim IT Director, has left the City and has taken the position as Deputy Director of the Department of Insurance. The new IT Director is Tim Moody, former IT Director for Georgia Southern and Armstrong.

[4. St. Patrick's Day Presentation](#)

The City Manager introduced Ms. Susan Broker, Director of the Office of Special Events, Film & Tourism.

Ms. Broker introduced the team of the Office of Special Events, Film & Tourism and thanked them for all the support and hard work given to the office. She gave an update on the next thirty days of activities, including an in depth outline of the St. Patrick's Day Festival and Parade.

During and following the slide presentation by Ms. Broker, Mayor and Council discussed all aspects of the St. Patrick's Day Festival and Parade. Ms. Broker answered questions and informed the Council of all the improved safety changes made since 2019 for the Festival.

Aldерwoman Gibson-Carter inquired of the City Manager her requested summary/plan of action from the police department on gun violence.

Aldерwoman Miller Blakely asked when the Board appointments would be brought before the Council and if the application process was still opened for citizen submission.

[5. Special Events Ordinance Presentation](#)

Rescheduled to the next Work Session.

[6. Housing Savannah](#)

Rescheduled to the next Work Session.

[7. Litigation, Real Estate and Personnel](#)

Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz moved to recess the meeting for a closed executive session regarding litigation and real estate, Aldерwoman Miller Blakely seconded. Hearing no objections, the motion carried unanimously.

The work session ended at 5:32 p.m.

The executive session began at 5:48 p.m.

Mayor Johnson adjourned the executive session at 6:00 p.m., thereby ending the work session.

[8. Review of Agenda](#)

Agenda not reviewed.

The video recording of the Council Work Session can be found by copying and inserting the below link in your url:

<https://savannahgovtv.viebit.com/player.php?hash=HqIj9qAjRRC8>

Mark Massey, Clerk of Council

Date Minutes Approved: March 12, 2020

Initials: mm