



FEBRUARY 7, 2023, 2:00 p.m. - CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

**CITY GOVERNMENT
OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
OF THE MAYOR AND ALDERMEN
SAVANNAH, GEORGIA**

The regular meeting of the City Council was held at **2:05 p.m.** Mayor Johnson recognized **Alderman Alicia Miller Blakely**, who introduced **Reverend Dr. Leonard Small of Litway Missionary Baptist Church** to offer 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
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
Chief of Staff Daphanie Williams
City Attorney Bates Lovett
Clerk of Council Mark Massey
Deputy Clerk of Council Margaret Fox

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

[1. Adoption of the Regular Meeting Agenda for February 7, 2023.](#)

Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz moved to approve/adopt the agenda for February 7, 2023, seconded by Alderman Lanier. The motion passed unanimously, 9-0-0.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

[2. Approval of the Minutes for the Work Session and City Manager's Briefing Held on January 26, 2023, at 4:30 p.m.](#)

[Exhibit 1: DRAFT MINUTES_January 26, 2023 City Council Workshop.pdf](#)

Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz moved to approve Items #2 and #3, seconded by Alderwoman Lanier. The motion passed unanimously, 9-0-0.

[3. Approval of the Minutes for the Regular Meeting Held on January 26, 2023, at 6:30 p.m.](#)

[Exhibit 1: DRAFT MINUTES_January 26, 2023 City Council Regular Meeting.pdf](#)

Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz moved to approve Items #2 and #3, seconded by Alderwoman Lanier. The motion passed unanimously, 9-0-0.

ORGANIZATIONAL ITEMS

[4. Resolution of the Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Savannah in Support of the General Assembly Enacting a Local Law Amending the City Charter to Provide for Aldermanic Term Limits.](#)

[Exhibit 1: Resolution - Aldermanic Term Limit.pdf](#)

Alderman Purtee moved to approve item #4, seconded by Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan and Alderman Palumbo. The motion passed, 7-2-0. Alderwoman Miller Blakely and Alderwoman Lanier voted no.

Written comment(s):

- Ivan Cohen – OPPOSED (completed a speaker's card)

[5. Resolution of the Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Savannah to Provide for Compensation and Resources for Future Councils.](#)

[Exhibit 1: Resolution - City Council Salary Increases.pdf](#)

Alderwoman Gibson-Carter asked if the compensation includes a Mayor's car stipend and a City vehicle, in addition to the salary. Mayor Johnson indicated the Mayor does not have a City issued vehicle. The Resolution is for future Mayors and Aldermen.

Alderwoman Miller Blakely indicated that she opposed Item #5 due to viewing a City sanitation worker's pay stub showing an increase of a \$0.37 raise. She cannot, in good faith, receive a raise when the City has sanitation workers receiving \$15.37/hour. Council should not think about getting a raise, until all City employees receive fair wages.

Mayor Johnson stated that Alderwoman Miller Blakely annually questions Council's compensation. Alderwoman Miller Blakely replied she asked for mileage not compensation.

Mayor Johnson further stated, not only has this Council recently approved the largest increase of 8%, employees received a 2.5% increase effective January 1, 2023.

Alderman Purtee stated a comment was made the increase is for this Council, that is incorrect; the compensation increase is for future Councils.

Alderwoman Gibson-Carter stated her no vote reflects concerns for the residents of Yamacraw Village. She discussed how she would like the funds allocated to this Council or future Councils to provide resources to those in most need. Mayor Johnson replied those are annual budgeted expenses which the City Manager will create in the City Budget.

Alderman Palumbo moved to approve Item #5, seconded by Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan. The motion passed, 6-3-0. Alderwoman Gibson-Carter, Alderwoman Miller Blakely and Alderwoman Lanier voted no.

PRESENTATIONS

[6. Recognition of Sandra Hoffmann from Halle, Germany, a Participant in the International Exchange Firefighter Program. The exchange program is part of an agreement to bring the two cities together for cultural and tourist exchanges.](#)

Mayor Johnson recognized Fire Chief Kitchen who introduced International Exchange Firefighter Sandra Hoffmann from Savannah's Sister City, Halle, Germany. Ms. Hoffmann will be in Savannah for 23 days learning and working with the fire department and then return to Halle equipped with information received from Savannah Fire Department to share with Halle Germany Fire Department.

Ms. Hoffmann, a four year firefighter, thanked the City and Savannah Fire Department for receiving her with open arms and will return to Halle to share her welcoming visit.

Fire Marshall Brooke Mollenkamp has opened her home for Ms. Hoffmann and will be one of the Savannah Firefighters eligible to visit Halle, Germany for the International Exchange Program.

Dr. James Anderson expressed his thanks for working with the Greater Savannah International Alliance on the Exchange Program. Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan thanked former Mayor Otis Johnson for his vision in bringing the International Exchange Program to the City.

[7. Appearance by and Recognition of St. Joseph's/Candler Health System's Donation for the Savannah Affordable Housing Fund.](#)

President and CEO Paul Hinchey presented the Mayor Johnson with a \$40,000.00 donation for the (CHSA) Savannah Affordable Housing Fund from St. Joseph/Candler Health Systems. To date the Health Systems has donated \$145,000.00. Vice President of Human Resources Steve Pounds, Vice President of Mission Services Brendan Moss, and Manager of Switchboard Operations Vanessa Roseman from St. Joseph/Candler Health Systems were on-hand for the presentation. There have been 52 Health Systems employees to achieve homeownership through the program. A recent first time homeowner, Ms. Breonna Frazier shared her home buying experience through the program.

On-hand to receive the donation were Community Housing Services Director Anita Smith-Dixon, Housing Savannah, Inc. Executive Director Laura Lane McKinnon, and CHSA Administrative Coordinator Adela Smith.

Alderwoman Lanier gave a shout-out to the DreamMaker Program. The Program is working to deliver homeownership for residents. Alderwoman Lanier invited residents looking for housing to investigate the DreamMaker Program for home ownership.

[8. A Proclamation Declaring February 17, 2023, as the Annual Arbor and Tree Planting Day in the City of Savannah.](#)

[Exhibit 1: 2023 Arbor Day Proclamation Draft.docx](#)

The Proclamation was READ by Mayor Johnson.

Alderman Palumbo invited residents to celebrate Arbor Day this Saturday starting at 8:30 a.m. in the Parkside Neighborhood, at 1201 East 49th Street, to help with planting 80 trees.

Alderwoman Gibson-Carter asked if Sean Mannion was in attendance (no). She thanked Mr. Mannion for his tireless work and the work performed in the Edgemere/Sackville Neighborhood.

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

[9. Approval of a Class E \(Beer, Wine\), \(By the Package\) Alcohol License to Parth Patel for Avom Food Mart, a Convenience Store at 1402 Stiles Avenue between Hearn Street and Ogeechee Road in Aldermanic District 1.](#)

[Exhibit 1: Checklist - Avom Food Mart.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 2: Density Map - Avom Food Mart.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 3: Alcohol Reports - Avom Food Mart.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 4: Measurement Report - Avom Food Mart.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 5: Security Plan - Avom Food Mart.pdf](#)

Mayor Johnson declared the alcohol hearings open for Items #9 and #10.

No speaker(s).

a. Alderwoman Lanier moved to close the alcohol hearings for Items #9 and #10, seconded by Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan and Alderman Palumbo. The motion passed unanimously, 9-0-0.

b. Alderwoman Lanier moved to approve Item #9, seconded by Alderwoman Miller Blakely. The motion passed unanimously, 9-0-0.

[10. Approval of a Class E \(Beer, Wine\), \(By the Package\) Alcohol License to Amkit Amin for Smart Shop, a Convenience Store at 1114 Abercorn Street between East Park Avenue and East Duffy Street in Aldermanic District 2.](#)

[Exhibit 1: Checklist - Smart Shop.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 2: Density Map - Smart Shop.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 3: Alcohol Reports - Smart Shop.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 4: Measurement Report - Smart Shop.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 5: Security Plan - Smart Shop.pdf](#)

Mayor Johnson declared the alcohol hearings open for Items #9 and #10.

No speaker(s).

a. Alderwoman Lanier moved to close the alcohol hearings for Items #9 and #10, seconded by Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan and Alderman Palumbo. The motion passed unanimously, 9-0-

0.

b. Alderman Leggett moved to approve Item #10, seconded by Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan and Alderman Palumbo. The motion passed unanimously, 9-0-0.

[11. Approval of a Class C \(Liquor, Beer, Wine\) \(By the Drink\) Alcohol License with Sunday Sales to Matthew Burnett for Bellwether House, a Bed and Breakfast Inn at 211 East Gaston Street between Abercorn and Lincoln Streets in Aldermanic District 2. \(Staff recommends continuation.\)](#)

Due to an underlying zoning matter/issues, City Manager Melder stated staff recommends postponing indefinitely, Item #11.

Alderman Leggett stated there is also an issue with the neighborhood association understanding the scope of the business plan.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

[12. First of Two Public Hearings to Adopt the Impact Fee Ordinance.](#)

[Exhibit 1: Methodology Report Final Document.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 2: Capital Improvements Element Final Document.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 3: City of Savannah CIE Approval.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 4: Proposed Savannah Impact Fee Ordinance and Maximum Fee Schedule.pdf](#)

Mayor Johnson declared the public hearing open for Item #12.

City Manager Melder explained the details of the proposed impact fee ordinance and recommends approval by Council with a phased implementation:

- Year 1: 50% of impact fee
- Year 2: 75% of impact fee
- Year 3: 100% of impact fee

City Manager Melder stated, if Council opposes or chooses to dilute the above proposed impact fee implementation phases, then Council should not adopt an impact fee ordinance at this time.

No speaker(s).

Written comment(s):

- Mike Vaquer on behalf of Home Builders Association - OPPOSED

Mayor Johnson closed the public hearing for Item #12.

ZONING HEARINGS

[13. Petition of Josh Yellin on Behalf of Savannah Country Day School to Rezone ~ 0.81 Acres at 0 Merrydell Drive \(PIN 20653 01001\) from RSF-6 \(Residential Single Family-6\) to OI-E \(Office and Institutional-Expanded\) with Conditions. Aldermanic District 6 \(File No. 22-005457-ZA\). Continued to March 9, 2023 Meeting.](#)

[Exhibit 1: MPC Recommendation for 0 Merrydell Drive \(File No. 22-005457-ZA\).pdf](#)

[Exhibit 2: Maps for 0 Merrydell Drive \(File No. 22005457-ZA\).pdf](#)

[Exhibit 3: Draft Ordinance for 0 Merrydell Drive \(File No. 22-005457-ZA\).pdf](#)

Alderman Purtee moved to continue Item #13 to the March 9, 2023, City Council meeting, seconded by Alderwoman Miller Blakely and Alderman Palumbo. The motion passed unanimously, 9-0-0.

ORDINANCES - FIRST READING

[14. Adoption of the Impact Fee Ordinance. \(2nd Reading, Scheduled for February 23, 2023\)](#)

[Exhibit 1: Methodology Report Final Document.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 2: Capital Improvements Element Final Document.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 3: City of Savannah CIE Approval.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 4: Proposed Savannah Impact Fee Ordinance and Maximum Fee Schedule.pdf](#)

HEARD Item #14, FIRST READING ONLY.

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

[15. Petition of Robert McCorkle on Behalf of Telfair Business Center, LLC, to Zone Approximately 13.3 Acres Located at 115 Bamboo Lane \(PIN 11029 05012\) from P-IL \(Planned Light Industrial\) to I-L \(Light Industrial\) to Support the Annexation of this Parcel into the City of Savannah \(File No. 22-005857-ZA\).](#)

[Exhibit 1: Staff Report for 115 Bamboo Lane \(File No. 22-005494-ZA\).pdf](#)

[Exhibit 2: Maps for 115 Bamboo Lane \(File No. 22-005857-ZA\).pdf](#)

Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz moved to approve Item #15, seconded by Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan. The motion passed, 8-1-0. Alderwoman Gibson-Carter voted no.

[16. Approval to Annex 13.3 Acres Located at 115 Bamboo Lane near Ogeechee Road. The property owner desires service by city utilities at inside city rates.](#)

[Exhibit 1: Annexation Petition - 115 Bamboo Lane \(File No. 22-005857-ZA\).pdf](#)

[Exhibit 2: Annexation Ordinance - 115 Bamboo Lane \(File No. 22-005857-ZA\).pdf](#)

[Exhibit 3: Draft Ordinance for 115 Bamboo Lane \(File No. 22-005857-ZA\).pdf](#)

Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz moved to approve Item #16, seconded by Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan and Alderman Palumbo. The motion passed, 8-1-0. Alderwoman Gibson-Carter voted no.

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

[17. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for Commercial Refuse Containers with Lewis Steel Works, Inc. in an Amount Not to Exceed \\$90,975. The Sanitation Department will use these items to replace worn, damaged, and unserviceable front-end commercial refuse containers. \(Sanitation\)](#)

[Exhibit 1: Funding Verification - Sanitation Commercial Refuse Containers.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 2: Purchasing Notes - Sanitation Commercial Refuse Containers.pdf](#)

Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan moved to approve Items #17 and #18, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz. The motion passed unanimously, 9-0-0.

[18. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for Roll-Off Containers with Lewis Steel Works, Inc. in the amount of \\$59,235. The Sanitation Department will use these to replace worn, damaged, and serviceable roll-off containers. \(Sanitation\)](#)

[Exhibit 1: Funding Verification - Sanitation Roll-Off Containers.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 2: Purchasing Notes - Sanitation Roll-Off Containers.pdf](#)

Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan moved to approve Items #17 and #18, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz. The motion passed unanimously, 9-0-0.

[19. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Final Close-Out Savings Modification for the Springfield Canal Bulkhead and Widening Project at the Old City Lot with C.A. Murren & Sons Heavy Civil LLC \(LOCAL\) in the Reduced Amount of \\$534,436. This is the first phase of a SPLOST-funded project to improve drainage in the Springfield basin by widening the canal to its outfall. \(Stormwater\)](#)

[Exhibit 1: Purchasing Notes - Springfield Canal Bulkhead & Widening.pdf](#)

Alderwoman Gibson-Carter asked if the City is receiving money back. Mayor Johnson answered, yes.

Alderwoman Gibson-Carter asked, as it relates to the Springfield Canal, are we still considering a canal district project? City Manager Melder stated the City is still planning for the development of the canal district as it relates to the Enmarket Arena in all directions. She asked if the City currently has funding for a canal district project. City Manager Melder indicated, as it relates to this project, its related to the bulkhead and the widening of the canal. Because the City was able to achieve the completion of the project below budget, a little over half a million dollars will be returned to the SPLOST fund. Mayor Johnson clarified this has to do with the basin and not the development of the Arena.

As it relates to the Springfield Canal drainage basin projects, Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz stated this was approved with the SPLOST VII voter approval. She would like to keep the canal conversation alive as the City approaches SPLOST VIII allocations and the continued inclusion of the Springfield Canal drainage basin projects.

Alderman Palumbo moved to approve Item #19, seconded by Alderwoman Miller Blakely, Alderwoman Lanier and Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan. The motion passed unanimously, 9-0-0.

[20. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract with Thomas & Hutton \(LOCAL\) for the Lift Station 193 Force Main Upgrade in the Amount of \\$464,785. The vendor will design and oversee the construction of the upgrade for lift station 193 force main which is needed to convey additional sewage to the Travis Field Treatment Plant to serve new residential and industrial development in the Southwest Quadrant \(New Hampstead\). \(Public Works and Water Resources\)](#)

[Exhibit 1: Funding Verification - Engineering Design and Construction Overview Services.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 2: Purchasing Notes - Engineering Design and Construction Overview Services.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 3: Project Vicinity Map - Engineering Design and Construction Overview Services.pdf](#)

Alderwoman Gibson-Carter stated this is for design and overseeing the construction. She asked City Manager Melder if the City has any idea the number of units for the New Hamstead development and what type of development (light or heavy industrial?) City Manager Melder replied he will have to get back to her with more details.

Alderwoman Gibson-Carter stated the West Chatham residents continue to reach out to her concerning traffic and public safety issues. She cannot support Item #20 .

Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz moved to approve Item #20, seconded by Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan and Alderman Palumbo. The motion passed, 8-1-0. Alderwoman Gibson-Carter voted no.

[21. Authorize the City Manager to Execute an Agreement for Ogeechee Road Water and Sewer Relocations with Georgia Department of Transportation \(GDOT\) in the Amount of \\$2,980,672. GDOT is planning to widen Ogeechee Road from I-516 to Victory Drive and to update the intersections and traffic signals for better roadway safety.](#)

(Public Works & Water Resources)

[Exhibit 1: Funding Verification - Ogeechee Road Water and Sewer Relocation.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 2: Purchasing Notes - Ogeechee Road Water and Sewer Relocation.pdf](#)

Alderwoman Gibson-Carter expressed concern for the last GDOT project before Council. There was an Ogeecheeton sign that disappeared during a City budget meeting. This caused adverse actions to the residents in the area and she does not want the same thing to happen to that neighborhood again. Alderwoman Gibson-Carter stated the City spent over \$2 million on that project along Derenne Avenue two years ago, and she has not seen any evidence of a GDOT project. For the current project, Alderwoman Gibson-Carter does not want the immediate residents to experience any adverse actions due to the GDOT project. City Manager Melder indicated the Derenne Avenue project was a water and sewer project that involved a busted water main. Alderwoman Gibson-Carter stated the project she is relating to predates City Manager Melder.

Mayor Johnson stated the sign was placed on the State right-of-way, so the City had to ask for permission. The sign was removed during the construction. Once construction is complete, a new better sign will be erected. Alderwoman Gibson-Carter asked Mayor Johnson to tell the residents of Ogeecheeton when the sign will be replaced. He replied when the construction is completed.

City Manager Melder explained the project is for widening Ogeechee Road and is sponsored by GDOT with cost sharing responsibilities on the part of the City. It reflects a reimbursement from GDOT of \$88,000 to the City for their portion of design work. The City's portion of the project is to remove and relocate the utilities, and cost share for construction.

The Derenne Avenue project of several years ago was not a GDOT sponsored project. It is a City of Savannah sponsored project with the Federal Highway Administration, working through environmental injustice processes. The City has not received a Federal Highway Administration record of decision as it relates to the Derenne Avenue project.

Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz stated the Ogeechee Road widening projects have been on the books going on 25-27 years. The underground work of relocating the utilities must be done first before the widening project can begin.

Alderwoman Miller Blakely asked City Manager Melder for the total cost. The City's cost share will be \$2,980,671.21, and GDOT's portion is \$1,730,362.79.

Alderman Palumbo thanked City Manager Melder and staff for all the hard work in getting the highway project underway. He requested this activity to be the first protected bike lane in the City. City Manager Melder and Mayor Johnson will ask and follow-up.

Alderwoman Miller Blakely asked if all residents affected by right-of-way have been notified. City Manager Melder and Mayor Johnson indicated all right-of-way issues have been satisfied.

Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz moved to approve Item #21, seconded by Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan. The motion passed, 7-2-0. Alderwoman Gibson-Carter and Alderwoman Miller Blakely voted no.

SAVANNAH AIRPORT COMMISSION

[22. Approval to Renew Contract for Professional Services with Ailevon Pacific Aviation Consulting, in the Amount of \\$165,000.](#)

HEARD after Item #8.

Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz moved to approve Items #22, #23 and #24, seconded by Alderman Leggett. The motion passed unanimously, 9-0-0.

[23. Approval for Savannah/Hilton Head International Airport to Participate in a Local Advertising Campaign to Promote New Service on Breeze Airways, in the Amount of \\$134,151](#)

HEARD after Item #8.

Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz moved to approve Items #22, #23 and #24, seconded by Alderman Leggett. The motion passed unanimously, 9-0-0.

[24. Approval for Savannah/Hilton Head International Airport to Participate in a Co-Op International Golf Marketing Event with the Hilton Head Island Chamber of Commerce, in the Amount of \\$60,000.](#)

HEARD after Item #8.

Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz moved to approve Items #22, #23 and #24, seconded by Alderman Leggett. The motion passed unanimously, 9-0-0.

[25. Approval for Task Order No. 21 for the SAV PCR Development Project with AECOM, in the Amount of \\$50,690.](#)

Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz recused herself from voting or discussing his agenda item, due to business reasons.

Alderman Palumbo moved to approve Items #25 and #26, seconded by Alderwoman Miller Blakely and Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan. The motion passed, 8-0-1. Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz recused herself from the vote.

[26. Approval for Task Order No. 22 for the Review of the Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan with AECOM, in the Amount of \\$37,310.](#)

Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz recused herself from voting or discussing his agenda item, due to business reasons.

Alderman Palumbo moved to approve Items #25 and #26, seconded by Alderwoman Miller Blakely and Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan. The motion passed, 8-0-1. Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz recused herself from the vote.

[27. Approval to Modify and Extend a Five-Year Software Subscription from ESI Acquisitions, Inc., in the Amount of \\$162,438.](#)

Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz moved to approve Item #27, seconded by Alderwoman Miller Blakely, Alderwoman Lanier and Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan. The motion passed unanimously, 9-0-0.

BOARD APPOINTMENTS

[28. Boards, Commissions, and Authorities.](#)

By majority vote, the following appointments and/or reappointments were made.

- **Cultural Affairs Commission – Emilee J. Cantrell Kornegay**
- **Historic District Board of Review – Stan Houle**
- **Historic Preservation Commission – Pamela A. Miller**
- **Metropolitan Planning Commission – Karen M. Jarrett**
- **Civil Service Board – Ryan Martin**
- **Park and Tree Commission – Erika Archibald**
- **Savannah Airport Commission – Randy Houston**
- **Savannah Economic Development Authority – Charles P. Roberson**
- **Savannah Zoning Board of Appeals – Michael T. Condon & Armand J. Turner**

AGREEMENTS

[29. Approval of a Water & Sewer Agreement with Riverchase Apartments Owner, LLC for Riverchase Vista Apartments. This is for a development consisting of an apartment complex on Chatham Center Drive off Chatham Parkway.](#)

[Exhibit 1: Water & Sewer Agreement - Riverchase Vista Apartments.pdf](#)

Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz moved to approve Items #29 and #30, seconded by Alderwoman Lanier. The motion passed, 8-1-0. Alderwoman Gibson-Carter voted no.

[30. Approval of a Water & Sewer Agreement with Beacon Builders, Inc. for The Palms Phase 3. This is for a development consisting of 132 single family homes in the Travis Field Service area.](#)

[Exhibit 1: Water & Sewer Agreement - The Palms Phase 3.pdf](#)

Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz moved to approve Items #29 and #30, seconded by Alderwoman Lanier. The motion passed, 8-1-0. Alderwoman Gibson-Carter voted no.

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

[31. Authorize the City Manager to Approve an Easement to the General Services Administration under Whitaker Street \(Petition 21-057\).](#)

[Exhibit 1: Whitaker Street Cable Cross.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 2: Easement - GSA signed.pdf](#)

Alderman Purtee moved to approve Items #31 and #32, seconded by Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan. The motion passed unanimously, 9-0-0.

[32. Authorize the City Manager to Declare Surplus and Available for Sale a Portion of a City Service Road Fronting 10421 Abercorn Street.](#)

[Exhibit 1: Vaden - Map Attachment.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 2: Vaden - Plat.pdf](#)

Alderwoman Gibson-Carter asked City Manager Melder who will be the purchaser of the property. City Manager Melder replied, Vaden Nissan.

Alderwoman Miller Blakely asked for the purchase price. City Manager Melder replied, the property appraised at \$255,000.00 (sales price).

Alderman Purtee moved to approve Items #31 and #32, seconded by Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan. The motion passed unanimously, 9-0-0.

MISCELLANEOUS

[33. Approval of a Major Subdivision - Savannah Highlands Phase 8. This subdivision is part of the Highlands Development in the North Godley PUD. This proposed phase totals 19.476 acres and will consist of 60 single family lots with varying lot sizes. It is located along the northern right-of-way line of Highlands Boulevard. Continued from January 12, 2023 meeting.](#)

[Exhibit 1: Savannah Highlands - Plat for Major Subdivision Phase 8 .pdf](#)

[Exhibit 2: Highlands - Master Plan 01-12-16.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 3: Godley Station - Approved Master Plan 10-13-15.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 4: Savannah Highlands - Location Map Phase 8.pdf](#)

Alderwoman Lanier thanked City Manager Melder and Assistant City Manager Lloyd along with the traffic engineers in coordinating the traffic lights in The Highlands. This helps move the traffic expeditiously and safely.

Alderwoman Lanier moved to approve Item #33, seconded by Alderwoman Miller Blakely and Alderman Leggett. The motion passed unanimously, 9-0-0.

[34. Approval of a Major Subdivision - Sweetwater Station Phase 8. The subject property is the eighth phase in the established subdivision of Sweetwater Station. This proposed phase totals 8.963 acres and will consist of 34 single family lots with varying lot sizes.](#)

[Exhibit 1: Sweetwater Station - Plat of Major Subdivision Phase 8.Pdf](#)

[Exhibit 2: Sweetwater Station - Revised Master Plan.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 3: Sweetwater Station Phase 8 - Location Map.pdf](#)

Alderman Purtee stated there are nine phases of Sweetwater Station and the traffic is a nightmare. He recommended reaching out to our County counterparts to help resolve the traffic issues. If the issues remain unresolved, there won't be a phase nine.

Alderman Purtee moved to approve Item #34, seconded by Alderwoman Miller Blakely and Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan. The motion passed, 8-1-0. Alderwoman Gibson-Carter voted no.

[35. Approval of a Major Subdivision - Rockingham Farms Tract 7. The subject property is the second phase within the Rockingham Farms subdivision/development. This proposed phase totals 448.807 acres and will consist of three large lot sizes.](#)

[Exhibit 1: Rockingham Farms - Plat Major Subdivision Tract 7.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 2: Rockingham Farms - Masterplan.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 3: Rockingham Farms - January 12, 2023 City Council Regular Meeting Agenda Item.pdf](#)

Alderman Purtee moved to approve Items #35 and #36, seconded by Alderman Leggett and Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan. The motion passed, 7-2-0. Alderwoman Gibson-Carter and Alderwoman Miller Blakely voted no.

[36. Petition of Josh Yellin on Behalf of Jeremy Huggins, 12500 Apache, LLC, to Secure a Special Use Permit with Conditions at 12500 Apache Avenue \(PIN 20861 02001\) for Accessory Alcohol Sales by the Drink in Association with a Marina Restaurant. Aldermanic District 6 \(File No. 22-004426-ZA\).](#)

[Exhibit 1: MPC Recommendation for 12500 Apache \(File No. 22-004426-ZA\).pdf](#)

[Exhibit 2: Maps for 12500 Apache Avenue \(File No. 22-004426-ZA\).pdf](#)

Alderman Purtee moved to approve Items #35 and #36, seconded by Alderman Leggett and Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan. The motion passed, 8-1-0. Alderwoman Gibson-Carter voted no.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz invited District 5 senior citizens to "Love In The Air" programs, Tuesday, February 14, 2023, from 11:30am to 1:00pm at Liberty City and Tatemville Centers for registered senior citizens of the Golden Age. This is in partnership with the City. Senior citizens do not have to sit at home alone, come out to enjoy the festivities. There will a DJ, dancing and lots of enjoyment for all in attendance.

Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan announced PUSH along with the Alderwoman of District 3 will have Valentines Parties next week for Stillwell, Veranda, Wheaton Street and Parks. Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan expressed condolences to the family of James Harrell Friedman, a long-time

businessman in Savannah (The Pit Stop & The Deck), who recently passed. Services will be held this Saturday, February 11, 2023, at First African Baptist Church in East Savannah.

Alderwoman Miller Blakely expressed concern for the activity on the Fairgrounds. She asked if the City is being paid. If so, can the funds be used in the community. City Manager Melder stated the activity is unrelated to the Fairgrounds. He will send data/information to Council on the activity. Alderwoman Miller Blakely sends condolences to the family of Van Slice Kennedy (former City employee) and Pastor Hart's mom (The Queen).

Alderman Leggett thanked everyone who participated in the Waters Avenue Streetscape project and remarked on the successful ribbon cutting held last week. There will be another ribbon cutting next week with Chief Taffanye Young for Recreation Reimagined, not only for the youth but the elderly at William's Court and the surrounding areas in District 2. He thanked Ms. Young and Assistant City Manager Lloyd for all their assistance. Alderman Leggett thanked SCAD for the donation relating to the computer lab.

Mayor Johnson adjourned the Regular Meeting at 3:49 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=xm6WpRAnlp6o>

Mark Massey, Clerk of Council

Date Minutes Approved: _____

Signature: _____

