



FEBRUARY 8, 2024, 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 **2:04 p.m.** Mayor Johnson recognized **Aldерwoman Miller Blakely** who introduced **Minister Corey Brooks, Come As You Are Deliverance International Ministries Youth Pastor** to offer the invocation. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited in unison.

PRESENT:

Mayor Van R. Johnson, II, Presiding
Aldерwoman Carolyn H. Bell, At-Large, Post 1
Aldерwoman Alicia Miller Blakely, At-Large, Post 2
Aldерwoman Bernetta B. Lanier, District 1
Aldерman Detric Leggett, District 2
Aldерwoman Linda Wilder-Bryan, District 3 - Vice Chair
Aldерman Nick Palumbo, District 4 - Chairman
Aldерwoman Dr. Estella Edwards Shabazz, District 5 - Mayor Pro Tem
Aldерman 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 8, 2024.](#)

Mayor Johnson acknowledged the loss of three Army Reserve soldiers identified as Georgia residents, killed during a drone strike at a U.S. military base in Jordan last month (January 28th). Staff Sgt. William Jerome Rivers, 46, of Carrollton; Sgt. Kennedy Ladon Sanders, 23, of Waycross; and Sgt. Breonna Alexsondria Moffett, 23, of Savannah and a graduate of Windsor Forest High School.

Mayor Johnson asked for a moment of silence in honor of the fallen soldiers.

Mayor Pro Tem Dr. Shabazz moved to authorize/approve Resolutions in honor of the fallen Army Reserve soldiers, Staff Sgt. William Jerome Rivers, Sgt. Kennedy Ladon Sanders, and Sgt. Breonna

Alexsondria Moffett to be added to the agenda, seconded by Ald. Miller Blakely and Ald. Wilder Bryan. The motion passed unanimously, 9-0-0.

Mayor Johnson instructed Clerk of Council to prepare the Resolutions of the three Army Reserve soldiers for transmittal to the families.

Mayor Pro Tem Dr. Shabazz moved to adopt/approve the agenda as amended to add the three Resolutions, and an appearance by Amanda Hollowell on behalf of the Savannah Black Heritage Festival, seconded by Ald. Miller Blakely, Ald. Wilder-Bryan, and Ald. Palumbo. 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 25, 2024, at 11:00 a.m.](#)

[Exhibit 1: Draft Minutes - January 25, 2024 City Council Workshop.pdf](#)

Mayor Pro Tem Dr. Shabazz moved to approve Items #2 and #3, seconded by Ald. Miller Blakely, Ald. Wilder-Bryan, and Ald. Palumbo. The motion passed unanimously, 9-0-0.

[3. Approval of the Minutes for the Regular Meeting Held on January 25, 2024, at 2:00 p.m.](#)

[Exhibit 1: Draft Minutes - January 25, 2024 City Council Regular Meeting.pdf](#)

Mayor Pro Tem Dr. Shabazz moved to approve Items #2 and #3, seconded by Ald. Miller Blakely, Ald. Wilder-Bryan, and Ald. Palumbo. The motion passed unanimously, 9-0-0.

Mayor Johnson announced that the Mayor and Aldermen conducted a closed executive session earlier on the topic of Personnel, Real Estate, and Litigation for which no votes were taken.

Mayor Pro Tem Dr. Shabazz moved to approve Mayor Johnson signing a Resolution and Affidavit of Executive Session for the February 8, 2024, meeting for the purpose of discussing Personnel, Real Estate, and Litigation for which no votes were taken, seconded by Ald. Miller Blakely and Ald. Wilder-Bryan. The motion passed unanimously, 9-0-0.

PRESENTATIONS

[4. A Proclamation Declaring February 15, 2024, as the Annual Arbor and Tree Planting Day in the City of Savannah.](#)

[Exhibit 1: 2024 Arbor Day Proclamation.docx](#)

READ and PRESENTED by Mayor Johnson to Park and Tree Director Gordon Denney and Government Operations Chief Gene Prevatt. Mr. Denney accepted the Proclamation and invited everyone to the tree planting ceremony and event on Thursday, February 15, 2024, at A. B. Williams Elementary School. Mr. Prevatt asked everyone to remember those who are good stewards of the forest, who support the City, and improve the quality of life for everyone.

ADD-ON:

[4B. An appearance by Savannah Black Heritage Festival Co-Coordinator Amanda Hollowell.](#)

Mayor Johnson introduced Savannah Black Heritage Festival Co-Coordinator Amanda Hollowell who shared information on this year's events, which the City is playing a more prominent role this year.

On behalf of the Black Heritage Festival Committee and Executive Director Teresa-Michelle Walker Jackson, Ms. Hollowell thanked Mayor and Council for the opportunity to share information concerning the Black Heritage Festival program and activities. She highlighted a few events and distributed programs and posters to Council Members for the upcoming events during the month of February.

Mayor Johnson thanked Council Members and City Manager Melder for the continuing opportunities through the City's budget to support cultural programming regionally. Mayor Johnson announced the celebration of the 291st Birthday of Georgia. He announced, for the first time in history, Savannah will name one of the squares after a formerly enslaved woman of color, Susie King Taylor. The ceremony will be held Saturday, February 10, 2024, beginning at 11:00 a.m. at the new Taylor Square.

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

[5. Approval to Add a Class E \(Wine\) \(By the Package\) to an Existing Class C \(Wine\) \(By the Drink\) Alcohol License to Tonya Rintye for Locally Made Savannah, an Ice Cream Shop Located at 223 West Broughton Street. The establishment is located between Jefferson and Barnard Streets in Aldermanic District 2.](#)

[Exhibit 1: Checklist - Locally Made.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 2: Density Map - Locally Made.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 3: Alcohol Reports - Locally Made.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 4: Measurement Report - Locally Made.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 5: Security Plan - Locally Made.pdf](#)

Mayor Johnson opened the alcohol hearing for Item #5.

Ald. Leggett asked the applicant why an ice cream shop wants to sell wine by the package. Ms. Rintye explained Locally Made is a gift shop and has partnered with a Georgia winery and would like to sell bottles of their wine. Ms. Rintye also described how Locally Made uses wine with the ice cream (slushies, sherbet topped with sake, floats, or chocolate ice cream topped with red sangria).

Ald. Leggett asked Revenue Department Director Jones if there was a plan for carding anyone purchasing wine from Locally Made. Ms. Jones indicated all establishments serving liquor within the city limits are required to have a server training card.

Applicant Rintye expressed concern for not being able to serve wine on Sunday since the establishment is a restaurant. Ms. Jones indicated the establishment must sell at least 51% of prepared food as required by State Law. City Manager Melder will follow-up with the applicant to make sure she understands the local ordinances and State Laws.

Speaker(s).

- Tonya Rintye - applicant
- Judee Jones - representing Revenue Department

a. Ald. Leggett moved to close the alcohol hearing for Item #5, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Dr. Shabazz. The motion passed unanimously, 9-0-0.

b. Ald. Leggett moved to approve Item #5, seconded by Ald. Wilder-Bryan and Ald. Palumbo. The motion passed unanimously, 9-0-0.

[6. Approval of a Class C \(Liquor, Beer, and Wine\) \(By the Drink\) Alcohol License with Sunday Sales to Joaquin Montesino for Casa Guava, a Restaurant Located at 314 Drayton Street. The establishment is located between East Harris and East Liberty Streets in Aldermanic District 2.](#)

[Exhibit 1: Checklist - Casa Guava.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 2: Density Map - Casa Guava.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 3: Alcohol Reports - Casa Guava.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 4: Measurement Report - Casa Guava.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 5: Security Plan - Casa Guava.pdf](#)

Mayor Johnson opened the alcohol hearings for Items #6 and #7.

No speaker(s).

a. Mayor Pro Tem Dr. Shabazz moved to close the alcohol hearings for Items #6 and #7, seconded by Alderman Palumbo. The motion passed unanimously, 9-0-0.

b. Ald. Leggett moved to approve Item #6, seconded by Ald. Wilder-Bryan. The motion passed unanimously, 9-0-0.

[7. Approval of a Class C \(Beer and Wine\) \(By the Drink\) Alcohol License to Elda Rodriguez for Katrina's Mexican Grill, a Restaurant Located at 2 Park of Commerce Boulevard, Suite C. The establishment is located between Park of Commerce Way and Chatham Parkway in Aldermanic District 5.](#)

[Exhibit 1: Checklist - Katrina's Burrito Express.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 2: Density Map - Katrina's Burrito Express.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 3: Alcohol Reports - Katrina's Burrito Express.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 4: Measurement Report - Katrina's Burrito Express.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 5: Security Plan - Katrina's Burrito Express.pdf](#)

Mayor Johnson opened the alcohol hearings for Items #6 and #7.

No speaker(s).

a. Mayor Pro Tem Dr. Shabazz moved to close the alcohol hearings for Items #6 and #7, seconded by Alderman Palumbo. The motion passed unanimously, 9-0-0.

b. Mayor Pro Tem Dr. Shabazz moved to approve Item #7, seconded by Ald. Palumbo. The motion passed unanimously, 9-0-0.

ZONING HEARINGS

[8. Petition of Harold Yellin on Behalf of Community Bible Church of Savannah Inc. for a Special Use Permit for ~0.21 Acres at 1202 East 69th Street \(PIN 20114 13012\) in the RSF-6 \(Residential Single Family-6\) Zoning District to Permit a Place of Worship \(File No. 23-005388-ZA\) in Aldermanic District 3.](#)

[Exhibit 1: MPC Recommendation Packet for 1202 East 68th Street \(File No. 23-005388-ZA\).pdf](#)

[Exhibit 2: Maps for 1202 East 69th Street \(File No. 23-005388-ZA\).pdf](#)

Mayor Johnson opened the zoning hearings for Items #8 and #9.

Speaker(s):

- Edward Morrow, MPC representative
- Craig Landolt – OPPOSED - requested a parking/traffic study & a comprehensive master plan

- Harold Yellin, representing the applicant
- Mark Pickering, representing the church

Ald. Wilder-Bryan indicated a parking agreement has been signed with Memorial Hospital. She recommended the applicant secure additional security on meeting days. Memorial Hospital will provide two hundred additional parking spaces for the Church.

Mayor Johnson, Ald. Wilder-Bryan and Ald. Bell discussed and recommended the applicant create a parking plan, security plan, and add an additional officer for traffic/parking control. Attorney Yellin assured Council the applicant would meet with the neighbors to resolve the parking issues, and work towards a parking/security plan to establish a good neighbor relationship.

a. Ald. Wilder-Bryan moved to close the zoning hearings for Items #8 and #9, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Dr. Shabazz and Ald. Palumbo. The motion passed unanimously, 9-0-0.

b. Ald. Wilder-Bryan moved to approve Items #8 and #9, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Dr. Shabazz and Ald. Palumbo. The motion passed unanimously, 9-0-0.

[9. Petition of Harold Yellin on Behalf of Community Bible Church of Savannah Inc. for a Special Use Permit for ~0.60 and 0.14 Acres at 1206 East 68th Street \(PIN 20114 11011\) and 5302 Sanders Street \(PIN 20114 11001\) in the RSF-6 \(Residential Single Family-6\) Zoning District to Permit a Place of Worship \(File No. 23-005389-ZA\) in Aldermanic District 3.](#)

[Exhibit 1: MPC Recommendation Packet for 1206 East 68th Street & 5302 Sanders Street \(File No. 23-00589-ZA\).pdf](#)

[Exhibit 2: Map for 1206 East 68th Street and 5302 Sanders Street \(File No. 23-005389-ZA\).pdf](#)

Mayor Johnson opened the zoning hearings for Items #8 and #9.

Speaker(s):

- Edward Morrow, MPC representative
- Craig Landolt – OPPOSED - requested a parking/traffic study & a comprehensive master plan
- Harold Yellin, representing the applicant
- Mark Pickering, representing the church

Ald. Wilder-Bryan indicated a parking agreement has been signed with Memorial Hospital. She recommended the applicant secure additional security on meeting days. Memorial Hospital will provide two hundred additional parking spaces for the Church.

Mayor Johnson, Ald. Wilder-Bryan and Ald. Bell discussed and recommended the applicant create a parking plan, security plan, and add an additional officer for traffic/parking control. Attorney Yellin assured Council the applicant would meet with the neighbors to resolve the parking issues, and work towards a parking/security plan to establish a good neighbor relationship.

a. Ald. Wilder-Bryan moved to close the zoning hearings for Items #8 and #9, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Dr. Shabazz and Ald. Palumbo. The motion passed unanimously, 9-0-0.

b. Ald. Wilder-Bryan moved to approve Items #8 and #9, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Dr. Shabazz and Ald. Palumbo. The motion passed unanimously, 9-0-0.

[10. Petition of James Massey on Behalf of Starland Partners, LLC for a Special Use Permit to Allow a Craft Distillery Use at 12 W. 41st Street \(PINs 20065 47020 and 20065 47021\), 2427 DeSoto \(20065 47019\), 2425 DeSoto \(20065 47018\), 2423 DeSoto \(20065 47017\), 2421 DeSoto \(20065 47016\), and Bull St \(20065 47007\) in the TC-1 \(Traditional Commercial-1\) Zoning District \(File No. 23-006445-ZA\) in Aldermanic District 2.](#)

[Exhibit 1: MPC Recommendation Packet for 12 West 41st Street \(File No. 23-006445-ZA\).pdf](#)

[Exhibit 2: Maps for 12 W. 41st Street \(File No. 23-006445-ZA\).pdf](#)

Mayor Johnson opened the zoning hearing for Item #10.

Speaker(s):

- Edward Morrow, MPC representative

Ald. Miller Blakely asked for clarity on the addresses and the distillery placement. Mr. Morrow explained in detail the layout and structure of the distillery.

a. Ald. Leggett moved to close the zoning hearing for Item #10, seconded by Ald. Palumbo. The motion passed unanimously, 9-0-0.

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

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

[11. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for Two \(2\) Savannah Police Department \(SPD\) Pursuit Vehicles with Santee Automotive, LLC in the Amount of \\$120,557. The pursuit vehicles will be utilized by the SPD Highway Enforcement of Aggressive Traffic \(H.E.A.T\) unit and outfitted with law enforcement-grade materials including sirens, lights, and exterior body wraps. \(Police\)](#)

[Exhibit 1: Funding Verification - SPD Pursuit Vehicles.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 2: Purchasing Notes - SPD Pursuit Vehicles.pdf](#)

Mayor Pro Tem Dr. Shabazz moved to approve Items #11, #12, #13, #14, and #17, seconded by Mayor Johnson. The motion passed unanimously, 9-0-0.

[12. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for Smartsheet Enterprise Software Licenses from Carahsoft Technology in the Amount of \\$196,820. The Innovation and Technology Services Department will use the software throughout the City as a project management center that allows city staff to assign tasks, track the progress of projects and tasks, manage calendars, and share and edit documents. \(ITS\)](#)

[Exhibit 1: Funding Verification - Smartsheet Contract Renewal.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 2: Purchasing Notes - Smartsheet Contract Renewal.pdf](#)

Mayor Pro Tem Dr. Shabazz moved to approve Items #11, #12, #13, #14, and #17, seconded by Mayor Johnson. The motion passed unanimously, 9-0-0.

[13. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Three \(3\) Year Contract for Information Technology \(IT\) Governance and Technology Advisory Services with Info-Tech in an Amount Not to Exceed \\$207,480 Annually. InfoTech Research Group is a technology advisory research firm that provides IT governance and core process analysis in building a strategic data-driven plan and is a pivotal partner for the ITS department. This contract encompasses staff development, best practices guidance, and networking opportunities for municipal government IT professionals, and serves as a cornerstone for Innovation and Technology Services. \(ITS\)](#)

[Exhibit 1: Funding Verification - Information Technology Advisory Services.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 2: Purchasing Notes - Information Technology Advisory Services.pdf](#)

Mayor Pro Tem Dr. Shabazz moved to approve Items #11, #12, #13, #14, and #17, seconded by Mayor Johnson. The motion passed unanimously, 9-0-0.

[14. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Three \(3\) year Contract for Rubicon Smart City Software from Rubicon Global LLC in an Amount Not to Exceed \\$256,019 in Year One. To be paid over the length of the agreement as follows: year one in the amount of \\$256,019, year two and three in the amount of \\$249,867. The software is utilized by the Sanitation Department to optimize and manage daily routes. \(ITS\)](#)

[Exhibit 1: Funding Verification - Rubicon SmartCity Software.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 2: Purchasing Notes - Rubicon SmartCity Software.pdf](#)

Mayor Pro Tem Dr. Shabazz moved to approve Items #11, #12, #13, #14, and #17, seconded by Mayor Johnson. The motion passed unanimously, 9-0-0.

[15. Authorize the City Manager to Execute Contract Modification No.1 for the Arena Surface Parking Lot with APAC-Atlantic, Inc in the Amount of \\$4,500,000. This contract will cover the removal of additional contaminated soil quantities that are anticipated for the remediation of the site. \(Capital Projects\)](#)

[Exhibit 1: Funding Verification - Arena Parking Lot.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 2: Purchasing Notes - Arena Parking Lot.pdf](#)

Mayor Pro Tem Dr. Shabazz moved to approve Item #15, seconded by Mayor Johnson. The motion passed unanimously, 8-1-0. Ald. Miller Blakely voted no.

[16. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for Truman Linear Park Trail Phase 2B Construction with JHC Corporation in the Amount of \\$8,193,540. The Truman Trail Phase 2B project is part of the Tide to Town system and begins at 52nd Street at Bee Road and ends at DeRenne Avenue near Jenkins High School. \(Capital Projects\)](#)

[Exhibit 1: Funding Verification - Truman Linear Park Trail Phase 2B.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 2: Purchasing Notes - Truman Linear Park Trail Phase 2B.pdf](#)

Ald. Palumbo expressed his gratitude for the partnerships with Chatham County, local agencies and individuals who supported establishing the Truman Linear Park Trail. It was a long time coming and the Trail will be a welcome addition to the City of Savannah. Ald. Wilder-Bryan thanked all parties involved in the completion of the Trail.

Ald. Wilder-Bryan moved to approve Item #16, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Dr. Shabazz and Ald. Palumbo. The motion passed unanimously, 9-0-0.

Written comment(s):

- Caila Brown – IN SUPPORT
- Richard Morgan – IN SUPPORT
- Armand Turner – IN SUPPORT

[17. Authorize the City Manager to Execute Contract Modification No. 2 for Bilbo Canal Phase 2 with SJ Hamill Construction in the Amount of \\$125,642. To match the previous construction \(phase 1\) and continue expanding the Bilbo Canal Widening east wall, the concrete wall cap was retrofitted to tie the existing wall and box culvert to the proposed east wall expansion of the Bilbo Canal Phase 2 project. This was done because the existing wall and box culvert are at different elevations and required the construction of a transitioning wall cap to connect them. \(Stormwater\)](#)

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

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

Mayor Pro Tem Dr. Shabazz moved to approve Items #11, #12, #13, #14, and #17, seconded by Mayor Johnson. The motion passed unanimously, 9-0-0.

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

[18. Resolution Accepting the Donation of a Tugboat Play Structure Known as "Tinkerbell" from Margot Meyerhoff.](#)

[Exhibit 1: 2024 Tugboat Donation Resolution.docx](#)

Park and Tree Director Gordon Denney introduced Margot Meyerhoff and thanked the Meyerhoff family for the tugboat. Members of Council expressed their gratitude to the Meyerhoff family.

Ald. Leggett moved to approve Item #18, seconded by Ald. Wilder-Bryan and Ald. Palumbo. The motion passed, 8-0-1. Ald. Miller Blakely was away from the dais during the vote.

[19. Second Amended and Restated Resolution Amending and Superseding the Amended and Restated City of Savannah Resolution Dated August 24, 2023 Authorizing the City Manager to Execute the Creation of Savannah's Waterfront Community Improvement District in Accordance with Section VII, Article IX of the Georgia Constitution.](#)

[Exhibit 1: Draft - Second Amended and Restated City Resolution SWCID.pdf](#)

Mayor Johnson thanked the Legislators for their help in amending the terms and conditions of SB 640.

Mayor Johnson moved to approve Item #19, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Dr. Shabazz and Ald. Palumbo. The motion passed, 8-0-1. Ald. Miller Blakey was away from the dais during the vote.

AGREEMENTS

[20. Authorize the City Manager to Accept a Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act FY2024 Rapid Response Grant Award in the Amount of \\$70,000. The award will be used to implement general Dislocated Worker workforce training activities. The City serves as the fiduciary agent for the 10-county region.](#)

[Exhibit 1: FY2024 Rapid Response Dislocated Worker WIOA Statement of Grant Award.pdf](#)

Ald. Lanier asked City Manager Melder for updated information on the funding for the programs. City Manager Melder indicated WorkSource Coastal is currently working on the updated data. He will send the information to Council Members when the reports are completed.

Mayor Pro Tem Dr. Shabazz moved to approve Items #20, #21, and #22, seconded by Ald. Lanier and Ald. Wilder-Bryan. The motion passed unanimously, 9-0-0.

[21. Authorize the City Manager to Accept the Second Allocation of FY2024 Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Grant Awards for Adult \(\\$636,322\) and Dislocated Worker \(\\$1,105,555\) Programs. These awards will be used to provide programs from October 1, 2023 through June 30, 2025 to adults who are unemployed or underemployed, and adults who have been laid off from their jobs. The City serves as the fiduciary agent for the 10-county region.](#)

[Exhibit 1: FY2024 Dislocated Worker WIOA Statement of Grant Award.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 2: FY2024 Adult WIOA Statement of Grant Award.pdf](#)

Mayor Pro Tem Dr. Shabazz moved to approve Items #20, #21, and #22, seconded by Ald. Lanier and Ald. Wilder-Bryan. The motion passed unanimously, 9-0-0.

[22. Authorize the City Manager to Accept the Modification of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act FY2023 Rapid Response Dislocated Worker Grant Award in the Amount of \\$95,000. The award will be used to support Dislocated Worker workforce/training activities such as On-the-Job Training, Incumbent Worker Training, Tuition Assistance and Supportive Services from January 1, 2023, through March 31, 2024. The City serves as the fiduciary agent for the 10-county region.](#)

[Exhibit 1: FY2023 Rapid Response Dislocated Worker Notice of Grant Award Modification.pdf](#)

Mayor Pro Tem Dr. Shabazz moved to approve Items #20, #21, and #22, seconded by Ald. Lanier and Ald. Wilder-Bryan. The motion passed unanimously, 9-0-0.

[23. Approval of a Development and Limited Use Agreement Between the City of Savannah and the Telfair Museum of Art, Inc. for Telfair Square.](#)

[Exhibit 1: Development and Use Agreement - Telfair Square 2.5.24.docx](#)

Mayor Johnson invited Telfair Museum Executive Director Benjamin T. Simons, and Board Chairman Josh Keller to the podium. Legal Counsel John 'Jay' Neely and Trustee Roger Moss, Jr. were unable to attend the meeting.

City Manager Melder expressed the City's appreciation for the public-private partnership in the guidance for the development and implementation of a master plan for the Telfair Museum of Art, totally funded by Telfair. The limited use agreement will provide art services for Savannah residents for a third of the year.

Mayor Johnson, Ald. Palumbo, and Ald. Leggett thanked Executive Director Simons for opening the doors of Telfair Museum by showing equity and opportunity for all to enjoy art.

Ald. Miller Blakely asked what type of art will be displayed in the Square and will any type of artist be able to submit works. Mr. Simons indicated the program is open to all. The type of art has not been decided.

Mayor Pro Tem Dr. Shabazz and City Manager Melder reinforced the program will be open and free to all.

Mayor Pro Tem Dr. Shabazz moved to approve Item #23, seconded by Ald. Miller Blakely and Ald. Palumbo. The motion passed, 6-0-3. Ald. Leggett, Ald. Wilder-Bryan, and Ald. Purtee being away from the dais during the vote

[24. Approval to Renew the Statewide Mutual Aid and Assistance Agreement with the State of Georgia. Pre-existing agreements for mutual aid assistance in emergencies help to ensure the timely provision of mutual aid assistance and the reimbursement of costs incurred by those parties who render such assistance.](#)

[Exhibit 1: 2024 State Mutual Aid and Assistance with City of Savannah.pdf](#)

Mayor Pro Tem Dr. Shabazz moved to approve Item #24, seconded by Ald. Miller Blakely and Ald. Palumbo. The motion passed, 6-0-3. Ald. Leggett, Ald. Wilder-Bryan, and Ald. Purtee being away from the dais during the vote.

[25. Approval of a Cooperation Agreement Between the City of Savannah and Savannah's Waterfront Community Improvement District \(SWCID\). This Agreement stipulates that the relationship between the SWCID and the City is and shall be one of cooperative partnership, with both parties working together with the common goal of improving and benefitting the District.](#)

[Exhibit 1: SWCID Cooperation Agreement.pdf](#)

Mayor Pro Tem Dr. Shabazz moved to approve Item #25, seconded by Ald. Miller Blakley, Ald. Lanier and Ald. Palumbo. The motion passed, 6-0-3. Ald. Leggett, Ald. Wilder-Bryan, and Ald. Purtee being away from the dais during the vote.

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

[26. Authorize the City Manager to Execute an Underground Easement to Benefit Georgia Power Company for a Utility Project at 16 E. 35th Street \(PIN 20065 05001\).](#)

[Exhibit 1: Map - 16 E. 35th.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 2: Easement - 16 E. 35th.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 3: Easement Exhibit A - 16 E. 35th.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 4: Underground Distribution Construction Agreement.pdf](#)

Mayor Pro Tem Dr. Shabazz moved to approve Items #26 and #28, seconded by Ald. Lanier. The motion passed, 8-0-1. Ald. Purtee was away from the dais during the vote.

[27. Authorize the City Manager to Enter Into a Third Amendment of the Land Lease with Tenenbaum, Inc. for Use of Land as a Surface Parking Lot Located Along W. Gwinnett Street Next to the Arena.](#)

[Exhibit 1: Maps - W Gwinnett Street.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 2: Revised Amended and Restated Land Lease.pdf](#)

Ald. Lanier moved to approve Item #27, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Dr. Shabazz. The motion passed, 7-1-1. Ald. Miller Blakely voted no, and Ald. Purtee was away from the dais during the vote.

[28. Authorize the City Manager to Declare Surplus and Available for Sale to the Adjoining Property Owner a 0.039-acre parcel of vacant land located 0 East Broad Street at a price of \\$24,000.](#)

[Exhibit 1: Map - Intersection of East Broad Street & 31st Street.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 2: Survey - 1410 E Broad Street.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 3: Signed Purchase & Sale Agreement by Purchaser.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 4: Easement to Georgia Power Company - Easement Daniel Murphy.pdf](#)

Mayor Pro Tem Dr. Shabazz moved to approve Items #26 and #28, seconded by Ald. Lanier. The motion passed, 8-0-1. Ald. Purtee was away from the dais during the vote.

MISCELLANEOUS

[29. Approval for the Installation of a Historical Marker on Public Property Adjacent to 23 Barnard Street to Recognize the Montmollin Building and Bryan School.](#)

[Exhibit 1: Montmollin-Bryan School Marker Research.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 2: Signed HSMC Recommendation.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 3: HSMC Submittal Packet - Montmollin Building.pdf](#)

Ald. Wilder-Bryan moved to approve Item #29, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Dr. Shabazz. The motion passed, 8-0-1. Ald. Purtee was away from the dais during the vote.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Ald. Miller Blakely announced on March 2, 2024, Mt. Herman Baptist Church in Coffee Bluff will unveil a Marker of designated historical preference of two hundred years. She stated African American history is not only downtown, but also on the South Side of Savannah.

Ald. Leggett honored the life of Willie Bale Breck, and Theresa Macon Jackson of District 2.

Ald. Miller Blakely sent a shout out to her granddaughter, Tariji Blakely, named 'Student of the Month' at Myers Middle School.

Mayor Johnson adjourned the Regular Meeting at 3:53 p.m.

The video recordings of the Regular Meeting can be found by copying and inserting the link below in your url:

<https://savannahgovtv.viebit.com/player.php?hash=ol83GAu2jpSw9Lbz>

Mark Massey, Clerk of Council

Date Minutes Approved: _____

Signature: _____

