



**NOVEMBER 21, 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 2:03 p.m. Mayor Johnson recognized **Alderwoman Alicia Miller Blakely** who introduced **Minister Tammy Stone** to offer the invocation. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited in unison.

**PRESENT:**

Mayor Van R. Johnson, II, Presiding  
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

**ABSENT:**

Alderwoman Kesha Gibson-Carter, At-Large, Post 1

**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

Mayor Johnson acknowledged and sent condolences to the family on the passing of Former First Lady Roslyn Carter and asked everyone to keep the family in prayer.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

[1. Adoption of the Regular Meeting Agenda for November 21, 2023.](#)

Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz moved to adopt/approve the agenda as amended thereby postponing several agenda items as listed, seconded by Alderwoman Lanier, Alderman Leggett, Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan, and Alderman Purtee.

1. Item #8 - postponed/continue to the December 7, 2023, City Council Meeting at Petitioner's request.
2. Items #12, #13, #16, and #18 - postponed/continued to the January 11, 2024, City Council Meeting at Petitioner's request.
3. Item #21 - postponed/continued to the December 19, 2023, City Council Meeting at the County Commissioner's request.
4. Item #34 - postponed/continued to the December 7, 2023, City Council Meeting

The motion passed unanimously, 8-0-1, with Alderwoman Gibson-Carter being absent.

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

##### [2. Approval of the Minutes for the Regular Meeting Held on November 9, 2023, at 2:00 p.m.](#)

[Exhibit 1: Draft Minutes - November 9, 2023 City Council Regular Meeting.pdf](#)

Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz moved to approve Items #2 and #3, seconded by Alderwoman Miller Blakely, Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan, and Alderman Palumbo. The motion passed unanimously, 8-0-1, with Alderwoman Gibson-Carter being absent.

##### [3. Approval of the Minutes for the Budget Retreat Held on November 14, 2023.](#)

[Exhibit 1: Draft Minutes - November 14, 2023 Budget Retreat.pdf](#)

Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz moved to approve Items #2 and #3, seconded by Alderwoman Miller Blakely, Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan, and Alderman Palumbo. The motion passed unanimously, 8-0-1, with Alderwoman Gibson-Carter being absent.

Mayor Johnson acknowledged School Board President Roger Moss for being present.

#### PRESENTATIONS

##### [4. A Proclamation Recognizing the Alee Shriners for their Service to the Community and Longevity in Our Community.](#)

READ by Mayor Johnson, Vice Chairman Palumbo, Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan, and Alderman Purtee, and PRESENTED to Potentate Robbie Moore.

Potentate Moore thanked Mayor and Council for their support and recognition. He introduced other attendees: Chief Rabban Carey Hodges; High Priest and Prophet David W. Armstrong, II; Oriental Guide Ray Christian; Temple Treasurer John Farley; Temple Recorder and Past Potentate David W. Armstrong, Sr.; and Public Relations Chairman Greg Lard.

##### [5. Presentation of the Employee Engagement Team and Recognition of the Third Quarter 2023 Employee of the Quarter Winners.](#)

Mayor Johnson introduced City Manager Melder who introduced the Employee Engagement Team who selected the Third Quarter Winners: Rhonda Ruesch; April Ludwig; De'Anna Dudley; Jason Mahl; Daniel Colello; Manuel Dominguez; Brian Coyne; Tasheca Hutchinson; Brenda Mitchum; Shawnte Coles; Aalana Lacewell; Sean Sueaquan; Latoyia Duncan; Anthony Gaston; and Jeff Grant.

City Manager Melder introduced the Third Quarter 2023 Employee Winners:

- Christopher Berry - Savannah Fire Department (Engineer)
- LeQuinton Kates - Community Services Center (Manager, Moses Jackson Center)
- Jennifer Becknell - Government Operations Department (Training Officer)
- Antonio Clarke - Infrastructure and Development Department (Maintenance Crew Chief)
- Mohammed Yusufi - Municipal Operations (Auto Mechanic II)
- Corporal Jon Lindsey and Bolt (dog) - Savannah Police Department
- Tanya Jones - Strategy Services (Human Resource Manager)

Mayor Johnson and City Manager Melder congratulated and thanked Winners.

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

##### [6. Approval of a Class E \(Beer, Wine\) \(By the Package\) Alcohol License to Amish Patel for Hari's Corner, a Convenience Store Located at 2200 Habersham Street. The establishment is located between East 38th and East 39th Streets in Aldermanic District 2.](#)

[Exhibit 1: Checklist - Hari's Corner.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 2: Density Map - Hari's Corner .pdf](#)

[Exhibit 3: Alcohol Reports - Hari's Corner.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 4: Measurement Report - Hari's Corner.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 5: Security Plan - Hari's Corner.pdf](#)

Mayor Johnson declared the alcohol license hearings open for Items #6, #7, #9, and #10.

**No Speaker(s).**

**a.** Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz moved to close the alcohol license hearing closed for Items #6, #7, #9, and #10, seconded by Alderman Palumbo. The motion passed unanimously, 8-0-1, with Alderwoman Gibson-Carter being absent.

**b.** Alderman Leggett moved to approve Item #6, seconded by Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan and Alderman Palumbo. The motion passed unanimously, 8-0-1, with Alderwoman Gibson-Carter being absent.

[7. Approval of a Class G \(Complimentary\) \(Beer and Wine\) \(By the Drink\) Alcohol License to Claire Blaisdell for Wonderland Photography Studios, a Photography Studio Located at 340 Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard, Suite B. The establishment is located between West Jones and West Chariton Streets in Aldermanic District 2.](#)

[Exhibit 1: Checklist - Wonderland Photography.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 2: Density Map - Wonderland Photography.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 3: Alcohol Reports - Wonderland Photography.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 4: Measurement Report - Wonderland Photography.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 5: Security Plan - Wonderland Photography.pdf](#)

Mayor Johnson declared the alcohol license hearings open for Items #6, #7, #9, and #10.

**No Speaker(s).**

**a.** Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz moved to close the alcohol license hearing closed for Items #6, #7, #9, and #10, seconded by Alderman Palumbo. The motion passed unanimously, 8-0-1, with Alderwoman Gibson-Carter being absent.

**b.** Alderman Leggett moved to approve Item #7, seconded by Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan and Alderman Palumbo. The motion passed unanimously, 8-0-1, with Alderwoman Gibson-Carter being absent.

[8. \(Continued to the December 7, 2023, Council Meeting at Petitioner's Request\) Approval of a Class C \(Liquor, Beer, and Wine\) \(By the Drink\) Alcohol License with Sunday Sales to Christopher Clarke for Orale Tacos, a Restaurant Located at 36 Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard. The establishment is located between West Congress and West Broughton Streets in Aldermanic District 2.](#)

[Exhibit 1: Checklist - Orale Tacos.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 2: Density Map - Orale Tacos.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 3: Alcohol Reports - Orale Tacos.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 4: Measurement Report - Orale Tacos.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 5: Security Plan - Orale Tacos.pdf](#)

CONTINUED/POSTPONED Item #8 during the adoption of the agenda to the December 7, 2023, City Council Meeting at the request of the Petitioner.

[9. Approval of a Class C \(Liquor, Beer, and Wine\) \(By the Drink\) Alcohol License with Sunday Sales to Yan Li for Sakura 88, a Restaurant Located at 8465 Waters Avenue. The establishment is located between East Montgomery Crossroads and Cranman Drive in Aldermanic District 4.](#)

[Exhibit 1: Checklist - Sakura 88.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 2: Density Map - Sakura 88.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 3: Alcohol Reports - Sakura 88.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 4: Measurement Report - Sakura 88.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 5: Security Plan - Sakura 88.pdf](#)

Mayor Johnson declared the alcohol license hearings open for Items #6, #7, #9, and #10.

**No Speaker(s).**

**a.** Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz moved to close the alcohol license hearing closed for Items #6, #7, #9, and #10, seconded by Alderman Palumbo. The motion passed unanimously, 8-0-1, with Alderwoman Gibson-Carter being absent.

**b.** Alderman Palumbo moved to approve Item #9, seconded by Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan. The motion passed unanimously, 8-0-1, with Alderwoman Gibson-Carter being absent.

[10. Approval of a Class C \(Beer, and Wine\) \(By the Drink\) Alcohol License to Russell Goeken for Café Taureau, a Restaurant Located at 3129 Bull Street. The establishment is located between West 48th and Nephew Streets in Aldermanic District 5.](#)

[Exhibit 1: Checklist - Cafe Taureau.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 2: Density Map - Cafe Taureau.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 3: Alcohol Reports - Cafe Taureau.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 4: Measurement Report - Cafe Taureau.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 5: Security Plan - Cafe Taureau.pdf](#)

Mayor Johnson declared the alcohol license hearings open for Items #6, #7, #9, and #10.

**No Speaker(s).**

**a.** Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz moved to close the alcohol license hearing closed for Items #6, #7, #9, and #10, seconded by Alderman Palumbo. The motion passed unanimously, 8-0-1, with

Alderwoman Gibson-Carter being absent.

**b.** Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz moved to approve Item #10, seconded by Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan and Alderman Palumbo. The motion passed unanimously, 8-0-1, with Alderwoman Gibson-Carter being absent.

#### PUBLIC HEARINGS

[11. First Public Hearing to Receive Comments on the 2024 Proposed Service Program and Budget.](#)

City Manager Melder thanked City Council for attending the Budget Retreat on November 14, 2023, concerning the budget for FY2024. He gave a brief outline of the budget priorities and indicated staff is looking forward to finalizing the FY2024 budget.

Mayor Johnson declared the public hearing open for Item #11.

#### **Speaker(s):**

- Patrick Kelsey, IN SUPPORT of Arts & Culture Alliance of Chatham County/funding
- Katrina Bostick, IN SUPPORT of funding for the housing insecure/Family Promise of the Coastal Empire
- Patrick Zimmerman (The Black Rabbit), IN SUPPORT of changes to the Alcohol licensing and review process (extension of the to-go cup zone), with the submission of several petitions.
- Terry Tolbert, IN SUPPORT of funding for the Economic Opportunity Authority (EOA)/employment

#### ZONING HEARINGS

[12. \(Continued to the January 11, 2024, Council Meeting at Petitioner's Request\) Petition of John D. Northrup III, Agent for Capital Development Partners, for a Comprehensive Plan Future Land Use Map \(FLUM\) Amendment from Residential - Suburban Single Family to Industry Light for ~52.86 Acres Located at 343 and 339 Buckhalter Road \(10942 01003 & -01002A\), 335 Buckhalter Road \(10942 01002B\), 331 Buckhalter Road \(10942 01002C\), 325 Buckhalter Road \(10942 01002D\), 323 Buckhalter Road \(10942 01002E\), 315 Buckhalter Road \(10942 01002F\), 309 Buckhalter Road \(10942 01007 & -01008\), and 311 Buckhalter Road \(10942 01009\). \(File No. 23-002328-ZA\). \(Item was continued from the September 14, 2023, Council Meeting\).](#)

[Exhibit 1: MPC Recommendation for Buckhalter Road Future Land Use Map \(23-002328-ZA\).pdf](#)

[Exhibit 2: Maps for Buckhalter Road.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 3: Draft Ordinance for Buckhalter Road Future Land Use Map \(23-002328-ZA\).pdf](#)

[Exhibit 4: Annexation Notification to County and Annexation Petition.pdf](#)

CONTINUED/POSTPONED Item #12 during the adoption of the agenda to the January 11, 2024, City Council Meeting at the request of the Petitioner.

#### **Written comment(s):**

- Judy Helton – IN SUPPORT
- Diane B. Brannen – OPPOSED
- Helen Hester, representing Laura Mackey and Dorie Clark – OPPOSED
- Kerrie Bieber – OPPOSED
- Patricia McKenzie – IN SUPPORT
- Dawn and Jack Lewis – IN SUPPORT
- Dorie Clark, et al - OPPOSED

[13. \(Continued to the January 11, 2024, Council Meeting at Petitioner's Request\) Petition of John D. Northrup III, Agent for Capital Development Partners, for a Zoning Map Amendment to Rezone ~52.86 Acres Located at 343 and 339 Buckhalter Road \(10942 01003 & -01002A\), 335 Buckhalter Road \(10942 01002B\), 331 Buckhalter Road \(10942 01002C\), 325 Buckhalter Road \(10942 01002D\), 323 Buckhalter Road \(10942 01002E\), 315 Buckhalter Road \(10942 01002F\), 309 Buckhalter Road \(10942 01007 & -01008\), and 311 Buckhalter Road \(10942 01009\) from R-A-CO \(Residential Agricultural\) to IL \(Light Industrial\) with Conditions \(File No. 23-000304-ZA\). \(Item was continued from the September 14, 2023, Council Meeting\).](#)

[Exhibit 1: MPC Recommendation for Buckhalter Road \(23-000304-ZA\).pdf](#)

[Exhibit 2: Maps for Buckhalter Road.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 3: Draft Ordinance for Buckhalter Road Rezoning \(23-000304-ZA\).pdf](#)

[Exhibit 4: Annexation Notification to County and Annexation Petition.pdf](#)

CONTINUED/POSTPONED Item #13 during the adoption of the agenda to the January 11, 2024, City Council Meeting at the request of the Petitioner.

#### **Written comment(s):**

- Judy Helton – IN SUPPORT
- Diane B. Brannen – OPPOSED
- Helen Hester, representing Laura Mackey and Dorie Clark – OPPOSED
- Kerrie Bieber – OPPOSED
- Patricia McKenzie – IN SUPPORT
- Dawn and Jack Lewis – IN SUPPORT
- Dorie Clark, et al - OPPOSED

[14. Petition of Joshua Yellin \(Agent\) on Behalf of The Habersham School, Inc. \(Owner\) for Bludworth Holdings, LLC to Change the Future Land Use Map Amendment from Residential – Suburban Single-family to Residential – General at 505 E. 54th Street \(PIN 20086 27004\) in Aldermanic District 4 \(File No. 23-004628-ZA\). \(Item was continued from the November 9, 2023, Council meeting\).](#)

[Exhibit 1: MPC Report for 505 E. 54th Street \(23-004628-ZA\).pdf](#)

[Exhibit 2: Maps for 505 E. 54th Street \(23-004628-ZA\).pdf](#)

[Exhibit 3: Site Proposal for 505 E. 54th Street - 09.09.2023.pdf](#)

Mayor Johnson declared the zoning hearings open for Items #14 and #15.

**Speaker(s):**

- . Edward Morrow, MPC representative
- . Ardis Wood – OPPOSED
- . Harold Yellin, representing petitioner

**Written comment(s):**

- . Clinton Edminster – IN SUPPORT

There was discussion of Ms. Woods not receiving the information packet and a community meeting notice from the developer; however, Attorney Harold Yellin indicated documents were sent to Ms. Wood prior to the MPC meeting and there was an open house attended by 50 residents. Ms. Wood indicated she did receive the documents.

Alderman Palumbo expressed gratitude to the developer for the project and indicated this petition has two (2) additional public hearings prior to approval; a site variance through the Board of Appeals and the MPC site plan review.

Alderman Palumbo moved to close the zoning hearings for Items #14 and #15, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz and Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan. The motion passed unanimously, 8-0-1, with Alderwoman Gibson-Carter being absent.

[15. Petition of Joshua Yellin \(Agent\) on Behalf of The Habersham School, Inc. \(Owner\) for Bludworth Holdings, LLC to Rezone 1.37 Acres at 505 E. 54th Street \(PIN 20086 27004\) from RSF-6 \(Residential Single Family-6\) to RMF-2-19 \(Residential Multi-family 2- 19 units per acre\) in Aldermanic District 4 \(File No. 23-004627-ZA\). \(Item was continued from the November 9, 2023, Council meeting\).](#)

[Exhibit 1: MPC Report for 505 E. 54th Street \(23-004627-ZA\).pdf](#)

[Exhibit 2: Maps for 505 E. 54th Street \(23-004627-ZA\).pdf](#)

[Exhibit 3: Use and Development Standards.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 4: 505 E. 54th Street Site Proposal 09.09.2023.pdf](#)

Mayor Johnson declared the zoning hearings open for Items #14 and #15.

**Speaker(s):**

- . Edward Morrow, MPC representative
- . Ardis Wood – OPPOSED
- . Harold Yellin, representing petitioner

**Written comment(s):**

- . Clinton Edminster – IN SUPPORT

There was discussion of Ms. Woods not receiving the information packet and a community meeting notice from the developer; however, Attorney Harold Yellin indicated documents were sent to Ms. Wood prior to the MPC meeting and there was an open house attended by 50 residents. Ms. Wood indicated she did receive the documents.

Alderman Palumbo expressed gratitude to the developer for the project and indicated this petition has two (2) additional public hearings prior to approval; a site variance through the Board of Appeals and the MPC site plan review.

Alderman Palumbo moved to close the zoning hearings for Items #14 and #15, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz and Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan. The motion passed unanimously, 8-0-1, with Alderwoman Gibson-Carter being absent.

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

[16. \(Continued to the January 11, 2024, Council Meeting at Petitioner's Request\) Petition of John D. Northup III, Agent for Capital Development Partners, for a Comprehensive Plan Future Land Use Map \(FLUM\) Amendment from Residential - Suburban Single Family to Industry Light for ~52.86 Acres Located at 343 and 339 Buckhalter Road \(10942 01003 & -01002A\), 335 Buckhalter Road \(10942 01002B\), 331 Buckhalter Road \(10942 01002C\), 325 Buckhalter Road \(10942 01002D\), 323 Buckhalter Road \(10942 01002F\), 315 Buckhalter Road \(10942 01002E\), 309 Buckhalter Road \(10942 01007 & -01008\), and 311 Buckhalter Road \(10942 01009\). \(File No. 23-002328-ZA\). \(Item was continued from the September 14, 2023, Council Meeting\).](#)

[Exhibit 1: MPC Recommendation for Buckhalter Road Future Land Use Map \(23-002328-ZA\).pdf](#)

[Exhibit 2: Maps for Buckhalter Road.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 3: Draft Ordinance for Buckhalter Road Future Land Use Map \(23-002328-ZA\).pdf](#)

CONTINUED/POSTPONED Item #16 during the adoption of the agenda to the January 11, 2024, City Council Meeting at the request of the Petitioner.

[17. Petition of Joshua Yellin \(Agent\) on Behalf of The Habersham School, Inc. \(Owner\) for Bludworth Holdings, LLC to Rezone 1.37 Acres at 505 E. 54th Street \(PIN 20086 27004\) from RSF-6 \(Residential Single Family-6\) to RMF-2-19 \(Residential Multi-family 2- 19 units per acre\) in Aldermanic District 4 \(File No. 23-004627-ZA\).](#)

[Exhibit 1: MPC Report for 505 E. 54th Street \(23-004627-ZA\).pdf](#)

[Exhibit 2: Maps for 505 E. 54th Street \(23-004627-ZA\).pdf](#)

[Exhibit 3: Use and Development Standards.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 4: 505 E. 54th Street Site Proposal 09.09.2023.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 5: Draft Ordinance for 505 E. 54th Street \(23-004627-ZA\).pdf](#)

After the first reading was considered the second reading and a request that an ordinance be placed and passed upon its adoption, Alderman Palumbo moved to approve Items #17 and #19, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz and Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan. The motion passed, 7-1-1, with Alderwoman Miller Blakely voting no, and with Alderwoman Gibson-Carter being absent.

[18. \(Continued to the January 11, 2024, Council Meeting at Petitioner's Request\) Petition of John D. Northrup III, Agent for Capital Development Partners, for a Zoning Map Amendment to Rezone ~52.86 Acres Located at 343 and 339 Buckhalter Road \(10942 01003 & -01002A\), 335 Buckhalter Road \(10942 01002B\), 331 Buckhalter Road \(10942 01002C\), 325 Buckhalter Road \(10942 01002D\), 323 Buckhalter Road \(10942 01002F\), 315 Buckhalter Road \(10942 01002E\), 309 Buckhalter Road \(10942 01007 & -01008\), and 311 Buckhalter Road \(10942 01009\) from R-A-CO \(Residential Agricultural\) to IL \(Light Industrial\) with Conditions \(File No. 23-000304-ZA\). \(Item was continued from the September 14, 2023, Council Meeting\).](#)

[Exhibit 1: MPC Recommendation for Buckhalter Road \(23-000304-ZA\).pdf](#)

[Exhibit 2: Maps for Buckhalter Road.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 3: Draft Ordinance for Buckhalter Road Rezoning \(23-000304-ZA\).pdf](#)

CONTINUED/POSTPONED Item #18 during the adoption of the agenda to the January 11, 2024, City Council Meeting at the request of the Petitioner.

[19. Petition of Joshua Yellin \(Agent\) on Behalf of The Habersham School, Inc. \(Owner\) for Blutworth Holdings, LLC to Change the Future Land Use Map Amendment from Residential – Suburban Single-family to Residential – General at 505 E. 54th Street \(PIN 20086 27004\) in Aldermanic District 4 \(File No. 23-004628-ZA\). \(Item was continued from the November 9, 2023, Council meeting\).](#)

[Exhibit 1: MPC Report for 505 E. 54th Street \(23-004628-ZA\).pdf](#)

[Exhibit 2: Maps for 505 E. 54th Street \(23-004628-ZA\).pdf](#)

[Exhibit 3: Draft Ordinance for 505 E. 54th Street \(23-004628-ZA\).pdf](#)

After the first reading was considered the second reading and a request that an ordinance be placed and passed upon its adoption, Alderman Palumbo moved to approve Items #17 and #19, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz and Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan. The motion passed, 7-1-1, with Alderwoman Miller Blakely voting no, and with Alderwoman Gibson-Carter being absent.

#### ORDINANCES - FIRST READING

[20. Approval of the 2024 Revenue Ordinance. Each year, City Council adopts a Revenue Ordinance to authorize the collection of taxes and fees.](#)

[Exhibit 1 - 2024 Revenue Ordinance Update memo.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 2 - 2024 Sanitation Fund Rate Memo.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 3 - 2024 Water and Sewer Fund Rate Memo.pdf](#)

FIRST READING ONLY. READ by Mayor Johnson.

#### **Speaker(s):**

- Ryan Tamez – IN SUPPORT of Savannah Adult Recreation Club (SARC) programs

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

[21. \(Continued to the December 7, 2023, Council Meeting at Petitioner's Request\) Zoning Map Amendment for Bryan Wardlaw from Landmark 24 on Behalf of William Fawcett \(Owner\) to Rezone ~105 Acres on Wild Heron Road \(PIN 21003 03001\) from A-1 \(Agriculture-1\) to RSF-5 \(Residential Single Family-5\) and RMF-1 \(Residential Multifamily-1\) with Conditions in Aldermanic District 6 \(File No. 22-002692-ZA\). \(Item was continued from the July 26, 2023, Council meeting\).](#)

[Exhibit 1: MPC Recommendation Packet for Wild Heron Road \(File-no-22-002692-ZA\).pdf](#)

[Exhibit 2: Context Aerial Map for Wild Heron Road \(File No. 22-002692-ZA\).pdf](#)

[Exhibit 3: Maps for Wild Heron Road \(File No. 22-002692-ZA\).pdf](#)

[Exhibit 4: Traffic Impact Analysis for Wild Heron Road \(File No. 22-002692-ZA\).pdf](#)

[Exhibit 5: Typical Street Sections for Wild Heron Road \(File No. 22-002692-ZA\).pdf](#)

[Exhibit 6: Development Standards for Wild Heron Road \(File No. 22-002692-ZA\).pdf](#)

[Exhibit 7: Wild Heron Initial Master Plan.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 8: Wild Heron Master Plan with Conditons.pdf](#)

CONTINUED/POSTPONED Item #21 during the adoption of the agenda to the December 19, 2023, City Council Meeting at the request of the County Commissioner.

#### **Written comment(s):**

- Tom Zecchin – OPPOSED
- Debbie Walker – Commented regarding traffic control evaluation made by Chatham County and comments made by Alderman Purtee

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

[22. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for Two \(2\) 56ft. Aerial Bucket Trucks from Custom Truck One Source in the Amount of \\$331,054. The trucks will be used to perform routine tree maintenance. The two bucket trucks will be replacing vehicles #1228 and #1229, which are planned FY23 replacements. \(Fleet Services\)](#)

[Exhibit 1: Funding Verification - 56ft Aerial Bucket Trucks.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 2: Purchasing Notes - 56ft Aerial Bucket Trucks.pdf](#)

Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz moved to approve Items #22, #23, #25, and #26, seconded by Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan and Alderman Palumbo. The motion passed unanimously, 8-0-1, with Alderwoman Gibson-Carter being absent.

[23. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for Six \(6\) Backhoe Loaders with Low Country Machinery JCB in the Amount of \\$575,160. The backhoe loaders will be utilized by the Water Resources Department, Sanitation, and City Cemeteries. The new backhoe loaders will be replacing units 2850, 4249, 4632, 4729, 4856, and 8842, which are planned replacements for FY23. \(Fleet Services\)](#)

[Exhibit 1: Funding Verification - Backhoe Loaders.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 2: Purchasing Notes - Backhoe Loaders.pdf](#)

Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz moved to approve Items #22, #23, #25, and #26, seconded by Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan and Alderman Palumbo. The motion passed unanimously, 8-0-1, with Alderwoman Gibson-Carter being absent.

[24. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract Renewal for EnerGov Software with Tyler Technologies in the Amount of \\$171,143. The Department of Innovation + Technology Services Department will use EnerGov to track permitting and inspection activities of various City departments. Participating departments include Development Services, Traffic Engineering, Film and Permitting Services, Savannah Police, and Savannah Fire. \(ITS\)](#)

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

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

Alderwoman Lanier asked City Manager Melder if the City will track any construction permitting to get improvement in that area. City Manager indicated this is a system currently in place, but he will follow-up with Alderwoman Lanier on the process of tracking permits and inspections.

Alderwoman Lanier moved to approve Item #24, seconded by Alderwoman Miller Blakely. The motion passed unanimously, 8-0-1, with Alderwoman Gibson-Carter being absent.

[25. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for the Purchase of a Rotary Mower with Jet-Vac Equipment Company, Inc. in the Amount of \\$75,500. The mower is used to maintain the on/off ramp slopes of the Truman Parkway once the vegetation has been cleared. This will also give the department the ability to maintain detention pond basins city-wide. \(Park & Tree\)](#)

[Exhibit 1: Funding Verification - RC Mower.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 2: Purchasing Notes - RC Mower.pdf](#)

Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz moved to approve Items #22, #23, #25, and #26, seconded by Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan and Alderman Palumbo. The motion passed unanimously, 8-0-1, with Alderwoman Gibson-Carter being absent.

[26. Notification of an Emergency Procurement of One \(1\) Habsite Meter from Safeware, Inc., in the Amount of \\$148,500. The purchased meter will replace a current meter purchased 18 years ago, used on many occasions to keep the hazmat team and community safe from hazardous gases and vapors. The Savannah Fire Department's hazardous team services the City of Savannah including Chatham County and serves as the regional type one \(1\) team for the State of Georgia. \(Fire\)](#)

[Exhibit 1: Funding Verification - Habsite Meters.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 2: Purchasing Notes - Habsite Meters.pdf](#)

Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz moved to approve Items #22, #23, #25, and #26, seconded by Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan and Alderman Palumbo. The motion passed unanimously, 8-0-1, with Alderwoman Gibson-Carter being absent.

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

[27. Resolution Authorizing the Chatham County/City of Savannah Land Bank Authority to Use Up to \\$220,000 to Acquire 1826 Florance Street and CHSA Development, Inc. to Use Up to \\$480,000 to Facilitate the Renovation of Four Apartments for Medically Fragile Persons Experiencing Homelessness.](#)

[Exhibit 1: Resolution Authorizing Funding for Purchase of 1826 Florance Street.pdf](#)

Mayor Johnson and City Manager Melder expressed gratitude for this great program for homeless citizens. The four apartments will facilitate housing for homeless individuals recovering from medical services who need a place to recover.

Mayor Johnson acknowledged and thanked the Land Bank Authority and CHSA (Director Anita Smith-Dixon) on the outstanding job to facilitate affordable housing; however, other local municipalities and agencies need to lend a helping hand with projects and services.

Alderwoman Miller Blakely advised the public they can purchase lots from the Land Bank Authority.

Alderwoman Lanier moved to approve Item #27, seconded by Alderwoman Miller Blakely. The motion passed unanimously, 8-0-1, with Alderwoman Gibson-Carter being absent.

[28. Resolution Authorizing the Sale of Alcoholic Beverages for On-Premises Consumption on Sunday, March 17, 2024.](#)

[Exhibit 1: Resolution for Sales of Alcoholic Beverages on Sunday, March 17 2024.pdf](#)

Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz moved to approve Item #28, seconded by Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan and Alderman Palumbo. The motion passed unanimously, 8-0-1, with Alderwoman Gibson-Carter being absent.

#### AGREEMENTS

[29. Approval of a Water & Sewer Agreement with GA-HYG Imports, Inc for AutoNation Hyundai. This is a development consisting of a 600 sq.ft. office space expansion located at 7011 Abercorn Street in the President Street Treatment Plant service area in Aldermanic District 4.](#)

[Exhibit 1: Water & Sewer Agreement - AutoNation Hyundai.pdf](#)

Alderman Palumbo moved to approve Items #29 and #30, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz, Alderwoman Lanier, and Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan. The motion passed unanimously, 8-0-1, with Alderwoman Gibson-Carter being absent.

[30. Approval of a Water & Sewer Agreement with Gulfstream Aerospace Corporation. This is a development consisting of a 16,917 sq.ft. aircraft hangar located at 1000 Davidson Drive in the Crossroads Treatment Plant service area in Aldermanic District 1.](#)

[Exhibit 1: Water & Sewer Agreement - Gulfstream Service Center East Phase II.pdf](#)

Alderman Palumbo moved to approve Items #29 and #30, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz, Alderwoman Lanier, and Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan. The motion passed unanimously, 8-0-1, with Alderwoman Gibson-Carter being absent.

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

[31. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Lease for 5,040 square feet of Office Space at 1000 Business Center Drive, Suites 120-130.](#)

[Exhibit 1: Map Attachment - 1000 Business Center Drive.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 2: Landlord Signed Lease - 1000 Business Center Drive.pdf](#)

Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan moved to approve Item #31, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz. The motion passed unanimously, 8-0-1, with Alderwoman Gibson-Carter being absent.

**CITY ATTORNEY ITEMS**

[32. Settlement #1.](#)

Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz moved to approve Item #32, to authorize the City Attorney's office to resolve the car wreck claim of George Cummings for \$50,000.00, seconded by Alderwoman Miller Blakely and Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan. The motion passed unanimously, 8-0-1, with Alderwoman Gibson-Carter being absent.

**MISCELLANEOUS**

[33. Approval of a Major Subdivision: Meadow Lakes Phase 1, a Portion of the Spencer Connerat Tract. The subject property is the first phase of the Meadow Lakes Subdivision. This proposed phase totals 28.759 acres and will consist of 99 single family lots with varying lot sizes with a dedicated entrance located off Little Neck Road south of Interstate 16 in Aldermanic District 5.](#)

[Exhibit 1: Plat: Major Subdivision: Meadow Lakes Phase 1 a Portion of the Spencer Connerat Tract..pdf](#)

Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz moved to approve Item #33, seconded by Alderman Palumbo. The motion passed unanimously, 8-0-1, with Alderwoman Gibson-Carter being absent.

[34. \(This item is postponed\) Approval of Major Subdivision: Flannery Ward Lots 65, 66 & 67. The subject property is the first phase and only anticipated phase of the Flannery Ward Subdivision. This proposed subdivision is located on West 38th Street between Montgomery Street and Jefferson Street, totals 0.403 acres, and will consist of seven \(7\) single family lots to be occupied by single family attached buildings in Aldermanic District 2.](#)

[Exhibit 1: Plat Major Subdivision Lots 65, 66, & 67, Flannery Ward.pdf](#)

CONTINUED/POSTPONED Item #34 during the adoption of the agenda to the December 7, 2023, City Council Meeting.

[35. Approval of the City of Savannah's 2024 State Legislative Agenda.](#)

[Exhibit 1. State Legislative Agenda 2024](#)

Mayor Johnson explained to the public the process and reasoning for the State Legislative Agenda.

Alderwoman Miller Blakely asked Director of Policy and Intergovernmental Affairs Joe Shearouse to give the full definition of blighted property for the public. Mr. Shearouse read the full definition of blighted property and indicated amendments recommended by the City.

Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan moved to approve Item #35, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz and Alderman Palumbo. The motion passed unanimously, 8-0-1, with Alderwoman Gibson-Carter being absent.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Alderman Leggett wished a Happy Thanksgiving to staff. He stated he will be working to feed the hunger later this evening. He sent condolences to the family of Andrea Patterson on the passing of her husband Jack Patterson.

Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan announced First Bryan Baptist Church is having an event tonight at 6:00 p.m. She expressed thanks to all the City partnerships.

Alderwoman Miller Blakely expressed concern for dead animals lying on the road for days and encouraged citizens and staff to call 311 when they see a dead animal on the side of the road. She wished all a Happy Thanksgiving. Alderwoman Miller Blakely asked for the additional duties for



Assistant City Manager Heath Lloyd (City Manager Melder provided Assistant City Manager Lloyd's duties).

Mayor Johnson thanked staff and wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving. He sent condolences to the family of former County Commissioner Dr. Priscilla Thomas whose husband Nathaniel Thomas passed.

Alderwoman Miller Blakely announced Alderwoman Gibson-Carter was absent from today's meeting due to a death in her family and sent condolences to her family.

Mayor Johnson adjourned the Regular Meeting at 3:35 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=nukDtzzl04J1UgmZ>

Mark Massey, Clerk of Council

**Date Minutes Approved:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

