



OCTOBER 14, 2021, 2:00 p.m. - CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

CITY GOVERNMENT

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS

OF THE MAYOR AND ALDERMEN

SAVANNAH, GEORGIA

Due to the Coronavirus Pandemic, the regular meeting of the City Council was held at 2:00 p.m., via Zoom video communications. Mayor Johnson introduced Senior Pastor Da'Henri R. Thurmond Sr. of St. Paul Christian Methodist Episcopal (CME) Church, who offered the invocation. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited in unison.

PRESENT: Mayor Van R. Johnson, II, Presiding

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

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

ALSO, PRESENT:

City Manager Joseph A. Melder

City Attorney Bates Lovett

Clerk of Council Mark Massey

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

[1. Adoption of the Regular Meeting Agenda for October 14, 2021.](#)

Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz moved to adopt/approve the agenda, seconded by Alderwoman Miller Blakely. The motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

[2. Approval of Minutes for the Work Session & City Manager's Briefing held on September 23, 2021 at 4:00 p.m.](#)

[Exhibit 1: Minutes - September 23, 2021 City Council Worksop.pdf](#)

Alderwoman Miller Blakely moved to approve Items #2 and #3, seconded by Alderman Leggett. The motion passed unanimously.

[3. Approval of Minutes for the Regular Meeting held on September 23, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.](#)[Exhibit 1: Minutes - September 23, 2021 City Council Regular Meeting.pdf](#)

Alderman Miller Blakely moved to approve Items #2 and #3, seconded by Alderman Leggett. The motion passed unanimously.

ORGANIZATIONAL ITEMS

[4. Amend the 2021 City Council Regular Meeting Schedule to Accommodate the November and December Holidays: Thereby Changing the November 11 Meeting to Tuesday, November 9 at 2:00 p.m.; Changing the November 25 Meeting to Tuesday, November 23 at 2:00 p.m.; and Changing the December 23 Meeting to Tuesday, December 21 at 2:00 p.m.](#)[Exhibit 1: Revised 2021 Meeting Schedule.pdf](#)

Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz moved to approve Item #4, seconded by Alderman Miller Blakely and Alderman Wilder-Bryan. The motion passed unanimously.

PRESENTATIONS

[5. A Proclamation Recognizing St. Paul CME's 150th Church Anniversary. The Church is located at 1601 Barnard Street.](#)

READ into the record and PRESENTED by Mayor Johnson to Senior Pastor Da'Henri R. Thurmond, Sr.

Pastor Thurmond thanked the Mayor and Aldermen/Aldermen for the Proclamation recognizing St. Paul CME's 150th Church Anniversary. Members of Council along with the Mayor thanked Pastor Thurmond for his leadership and the Church's outstanding service to Savannah residents (Alderman Leggett, Alderman Wilder-Bryan, Alderman Miller Blakely and Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz).

[6. An Appearance by Savannah State University President, Kimberly Ballard-Washington, Student Government Association President, Dhruvi Shah, Mister Savannah State, Christian Hill, and Miss Savannah State Ottoria Foremen to Recognize Homecoming 2021](#)

Item #6 was heard following Item #7.

READ into the record and PRESENTED by Mayor Johnson to Savannah State University President Kimberly Ballard-Washington, Student Government Association (SGA) President Dhruvi Shah, Vice President Anastasia Stephens, Miss Savannah State University Ottoria Foremen, Mr. Savannah State University Christian Hill, and Homecoming Committee Chair Mr. Moncello Stewart and Co-Chair Ms. Trenace Johnson.

On behalf of staff, students and faculty President Ballard-Washington thanked the Mayor, Aldermen/Aldermen and the residents of Savannah for their support of Savannah State University and she welcomed all to celebrate Homecoming weekend.

[7. A Proclamation Recognizing October 11, 2021, and Every Succeeding 2nd Monday of October Thereafter as Indigenous Peoples Day in Savannah, GA](#)

Item #7 was heard following Agenda Item #46.

READ into the record by Mayor Johnson.

Alderman Palumbo welcomed Indigenous Peoples Day in Savannah. As a proud Italian American, in the future, he recommends not having a Proclamation honoring one nation of people over another. Each nation of people should have their own day/month to honoring their heritage. Columbus Day has great significance to him and in the future he would like October as the month to honor Italian Americans or choose another day to honor Columbus.

Mayor Johnson stated, across the nation, President Joe Biden has declared October 11, 2021 as Indigenous Peoples Day.

City Manager Jay Melder reported the Savannah Fire Department received reaccreditation status with the The Commission On Fire Accreditation International (CFAI) for meeting the criteria established through CFAI's voluntary self assessment and accreditation program. There are only 112 fire departments with both ISO Class 1 status and CFAI accreditation in the nation. Savannah Fire Department ranks in the top .04% of the nations 29,705 fire departments. Congratulations to Chief Minard and the entire Fire Department in Savannah.

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

[8. Approval of a Class C \(Liquor, Beer, Wine\)\(By the Drink\) Alcohol License to Arthur Rudy Gaskin for Frosty Frog Express, a Bar/Lounge at 224 W. Factors Walk, Between Barnard St. Ramp and Montgomery St. in Aldermanic District 2. No concerns noted by the neighborhood association or the Savannah Police Department. The applicant plans to operate a bar/lounge. \(New Owner/New Location\)](#)[Exhibit 1: Checklist - Frosty Frog Express.pdf](#)[Exhibit 2: Density Map - Frosty Frog Express.pdf](#)[Exhibit 3: Alcohol Reports - Frosty Frog Express.pdf](#)[Exhibit 4: Measurement Report - Frosty Frog Express.pdf](#)[Exhibit 5: Security Plan - Frosty Frog Express.pdf](#)

Mayor Johnson opened the alcohol hearings for Items #8, #9, #10, #11, #12 and #13.

No speaker(s) present.

- a. Mayor Johnson closed the alcohol hearing for Item #8.
- b. Alderman Leggett moved to approve Item #8, seconded by Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan. The motion passed unanimously.

[9. Approval of a Class C \(Liquor, Beer, Wine\)\(By the Drink\) Alcohol License with Sunday Sales to Donald McGraw for McGraws, A Restaurant at 14 N. Abercorn St. Ramp, Between E. River St. and E. Bay St. in Aldermanic District 2. No concerns noted by the neighborhood association or the Savannah Police Department. Distance Measurement Met. \(New Owner/ Request\)](#)

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

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

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

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

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

Mayor Johnson opened the alcohol hearings for Items #8, #9, #10, #11, #12 and #13.

No speaker(s) present.

- a. Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz moved to close the alcohol hearings for Items #9, #11, #12 and #13, seconded by Alderwoman Lanier. The motion passed unanimously.
- b. Alderman Leggett moved to approve Item #9, seconded by Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan. The motion passed unanimously.

[10. Approval of a Class C \(Liquor, Beer, Wine\)\(By the Drink\) Alcohol License with Sunday Sales to Mary Githens for Mint to be Mojito Bar & Bites, A Restaurant at 12 W. State St., Between Whitaker St. and Bull St. in Aldermanic District 2. No concerns noted by the neighborhood association or the Savannah Police Department. \(Existing Business/New Owner\)](#)

[Exhibit 1: Checklist - Mint To Be Mojito Bar and Bites.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 2: Density Map - Mint To Be Mojito Bar and Bites.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 3: Alcohol Reports - Mint To Be Mojito Bar and Bites.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 4: Measurement Report - Mint To Be Mojito Bar and Bites.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 5: Security Plan - Mint To Be Mojito Bar and Bites.pdf](#)

Mayor Johnson opened the alcohol hearings for Items #8, #9, #10, #11, #12 and #13.

Speaker(s) present:

- . Mary Githens – applicant (Owner)
 - . Quentin Marlin – representing applicant
 - . Ian Phillips – applicant’s employee (Manager)
- a. Mayor Johnson closed the alcohol hearing for #10.
 - b. Alderman Leggett moved to approve Item #10, seconded by Alderwoman Miller Blakely and Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan. The motion passed unanimously.

[11. Approval of a Class E \(Wine\)\(By the Package\) Alcohol License to Carol Sellers for Salt Table, A Package Store at 190 W. Bryan St., Between Barnard St. and Whitaker St. in District 2. No concerns noted by the neighborhood association or the Savannah Police Department. Distance measurement met. \(New Location/Existing Owner\)](#)

[Exhibit 1: Checklist - The Salt Table.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 2: Density Map - The Salt Table.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 3: Alcohol Reports - The Salt Table.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 4: Measurement Report- The Salt Table.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 5: Security Plan - The Salt Table.pdf](#)

Mayor Johnson opened the alcohol hearings for Items #8, #9, #10, #11, #12 and #13.

No speaker(s) present.

- a. Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz moved to close the alcohol hearings for Items #9, #11, #12 and #13, seconded by Alderwoman Lanier. The motion passed unanimously.
- b. Alderman Leggett moved to approve Item #11, seconded by Alderwoman Miller Blakely. The motion passed unanimously.

[12. Approval of a Class C \(Beer\)\(By the Drink\) Alcohol License with Sunday Sales to Edilma A. Martin Lopez for LaFonda, a Restaurant at 310 E. Montgomery Cross Roads, Between Bruce Ave. and Aegean Ave. in District 4. No concerns by the Savannah Police Department or issues with littering or loitering. No active neighborhood association in the area. Distance measurement met. \(New Owner/New Location\)](#)

[Exhibit 1: Checklist - La Fonda.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 2: Density Map - La Fonda.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 3: Alcohol Reports - La Fonda.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 4: Measurement Report - La Fonda.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 5: Security Plan - La Fonda.pdf](#)

Mayor Johnson opened the alcohol hearings for Items #8, #9, #10, #11, #12 and #13.

No speaker(s) present.

- a. Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz moved to close the alcohol hearings for Items #9, #11, #12 and #13, seconded by Alderwoman Lanier. The motion passed unanimously.
- b. Alderman Palumbo moved to approve Item #12, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz, Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan and Alderman Purtee. The motion passed unanimously.

[13. Approval of a Class E \(Beer, Wine\)\(By the Package\) Alcohol License to Dharmeshkumar Patel for Frank's Corner, a Convenience Store at 3701 Bull St., Between West 54th St. and West 55th St in Aldermanic District 5. No concerns noted by the neighborhood association or the Savannah Police Department. Distance measurement met. \(Existing Business/New Owner\).](#)

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

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

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

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

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

Mayor Johnson opened the alcohol hearings for Items #8, #9, #10, #11, #12 and #13.

No speaker(s) present.

Alderwoman Gibson-Carter stated the Council has previously denied an alcohol license for a similar business in the same District with an alcohol moratorium. Mayor Johnson indicated this applicant is not located in the alcohol overlay district. They are an existing business with a new owner. Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz indicated the application was presented to the neighborhood association with no concerns. The pizza business questioned by Alderwoman Gibson-Carter is located near 60th Street on Montgomery in the alcohol overlay district.

- a. Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz moved to close the alcohol hearings for Items #9, #11, #12 and #13, seconded by Alderwoman Lanier. The motion passed unanimously.
- b. Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz moved to approve Item #13, seconded by Alderman Leggett and Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan. The motion passed unanimously.

ZONING HEARINGS

[14. Petition of Dana Braun \(Agent\) on Behalf of 42/43 LLC \(Owner\) for a Special Use Permit to Allow Alcohol Sales by the Drink in Association with a Restaurant at 9 W. 43rd Street \(PIN 20074 24002\) in the Starland Area, Aldermanic District 2. \(File No. 21-002668-ZA\). MPC Recommends Approval w/Condition \(Hours 7am to 10pm; permit is non-transferrable\)](#)

[Exhibit 1: Map of Surrounding Alcoholic Beverage License Establishments - 9 West 43rd Street](#)

[Exhibit 2: MPC Recommendation Packet - 9 West 43rd Street](#)

[Exhibit 3: Map - 9 West 43rd Street](#)

MPC recommended approval with the condition, the permit is non-transferrable and hours of operation are 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.

Speaker(s) present:

- . Marcus Lotson, MPC Representative
- . Dana Braun, representing applicant
- . Anne Smith, architect
- . Maria Laprea, applicant

- a. Alderman Leggett moved to close the zoning hearing for Item #14, seconded by Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan. The motion passed unanimously.
- b. Alderman Leggett moved to approve Item #14 conditioned upon the hours of operation being 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. and the permit being non-transferable, seconded by Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan. The motion passed unanimously.

[15. Petition of Jeremy Hammonds for Underdog Brewing on Behalf of J. Scott Vaughn for a Special Use Permit to Operate a Microbrewery at 120 E. 42nd Street \(PIN 20074 10009\)\(PIN 20074 24002\) in the Starland Area, Aldermanic District 2. \(File No. 21-004011-ZA\). Condition that permit is non-transferrable.](#)

[Exhibit 1: MPC Recommendation Packet - 120 E. 42nd Street](#)

[Exhibit 2: Map of Alcohol Establishments - 120 E. 42nd Street](#)

Mayor Johnson opened the zoning hearing for Item #15.

Speaker(s) present:

- . Marcus Lotson, MPC Representative
- . Jeremy Hammonds, applicant (brewery expert)
- . Terry Bailey, representing applicant

Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan asked the applicant the difference between a craft and micro brewery. The Applicant and his representative Mr. Bailey answered her questions.

a. Alderman Leggett moved to close the zoning hearing for Item #15, seconded by Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan. The motion passed unanimously.

b. Alderman Leggett moved to approve Item #15 conditioned upon the permit being non-transferable, seconded by Alderwoman Miller Blakely and Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan. The motion passed unanimously.

[16. Zoning of 6098 Ogeechee Road \(PIN 11029 05014\) Owned by Thankful Baptist Church, Inc. from RA \(Residential Agriculture\) to RA-CO \(Residential Agriculture-County\) to Support Annexation \(File No. 21-005068-ZA\)](#)

[Exhibit 1: Annexation Petition - 6098 Ogeechee Road](#)

[Exhibit 2: Map - 6098 Ogeechee Road](#)

[Exhibit 3: Draft Ordinance - 6098 Ogeechee Road](#)

Mayor Johnson opened the hearing for Item #16.

Speaker(s) present:

- Bridget Lidy, Planning & Urban Design Director

Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz moved to close the zoning hearing for Item #16, seconded by Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan. The motion passed unanimously.

[17. Petition of Harold Yellin \(Agent\) on Behalf of Alice Keller \(Owner\) for a Map Amendment to Rezone Little Neck Road \(Parcel ID# 21007 01001 and 21007 01002\) from R-A-CO \(Residential-Agricultural-County\) to PD \(Planned Development\). File No. 20-005235-ZA. \(Hopeton Landing Master Plan\)](#)

[Exhibit 1: MPC Recommendation Packet - Little Neck Road \(Hopeton Landing\)](#)

[Exhibit 2: Draft Ordinance - Rezone Little Neck Road - \(Hopeton Landing\)](#)

[Exhibit 3: Master Plan - Hopeton Landing](#)

[Exhibit 4: Water and Sewer Agreement - Hopeton Landing](#)

[Exhibit 5: Traffic Analysis - Hopeton Landing](#)

[Exhibit 6: Stormwater Management Strategy - Hopeton Landing](#)

[Exhibit 7: Memo to City Council dated September 7, 2021 - Hopeton Landing](#)

[Exhibit 8: Community Questions dated October 1, 2021 - Hopeton Landing](#)

Questions were asked of staff that have been addressed and/or answered.

Speaker(s) present:

- Bridget Lidy, Planning & Urban Design Director
- Travis Burke, Engineer representing applicant
- Harold Yellin, representing applicant - explained in great detail the applicant's project and plans for the site including all background leading up to current actions.

Alderwoman Lanier asked Mr. Yellin the price point of single family homes on the proposed site. (Unknown at this time as no developer is secured at this time. There will be smaller lots and greater density which means more affordable).

Alderman Purtee asked Mr. Yellin if approved or not approved, will the property be developed and how will the environmental issues previously discussed be addressed. (Property can be developed now through Chatham County Ordinance but the lots and price point would be increased. Mr. Burke discussed/explained how all environmental concerns will be addressed). Alderman Purtee asked will the City approve each phase of the development separately. (Mayor Johnson answered, each phase of the development will come before Council for approval).

If approved today, Alderwoman Miller Blakely asked if the City could collect impact fees from the development? (City Manager Melder answered yes. If the City approves an Impact Fee Ordinance it will be applied at the time of the building permits). Traffic surrounding the proposed site has increased, Alderwoman Miller Blakely asked how and when the traffic concerns of residents will be addressed. (Mr. Burke answered, when the current traffic construction on I-16 and I-95 is completed, the flow of traffic will return to normal. Forseeing the future developments, Chatham County has commissioned designs to alleviate the proposed increase in traffic for new development areas).

Alderwoman Miller Blakely stated she has met with the residents surrounding the development site and they are totally against the development as it will be a negative impact on their quality of life. Alderwoman Miller Blakely stated the agenda includes a traffic study not a traffic plan. She will be voting against the request.

Alderwoman Lanier questioned what kind of development the residents wanted on the site, will there be community benefit agreements for the area and is there a traffic plan? (Mr. Yellin answered yes to all of the above, adding Little Neck Road will be widened to accommodate the increased traffic).

Alderwoman Gibson-Carter confirmed Mr. Yellin met with the West Chatham Community on September 3rd via Zoom and the community was satisfied with all responses. She asked if the ground radar study was completed. (City Manager Melder answered, a ground study was delivered

today due to an open records request to Chatham County). She expressed concerns for this community being underserved and as such, she will not support this request.

Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan expressed concern for Members wanting the City to collect impact fees but not voting for developments. Mr. Melder stated the impact fee ordinance study is moving forward and he will give Council updated information. Mayor Johnson stated, each development plan meets the current requirements of the rules and ordinances in place.

Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz asked Mr. Melder to quote the amounts the City would receive from impact fees for this development. Full build-out tax revenue generated annually will be \$805,863. Each phase amount will need to be re-calculated at time of build out. Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz stated she will be voting no on the map amendment to rezone Little Neck Road. If the Item is approved, she will work with staff, City Manager and Chatham County on an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) to address issues associated with Little Neck Road and revise the current IGA to include canal maintenance.

Written comments received:

- . Joseph Darieng – OPPOSED
- . Diane B. Brannen – OPPOSED
- . Damon Mullis – OPPOSED
- . Ben Darieng – OPPOSED
- . Joni Darieng – OPPOSED
- . Kerrie Bieber – OPPOSED
- . Mike Mayhew - OPPOSED

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

[18. Petition of Harold Yellin \(Agent\) on Behalf of Alice Keller \(Owner\) for a Map Amendment to Rezone Little Neck Road \(Parcel ID# 21007 01001 and 21007 01002\) from R-A-CO \(Residential-Agricultural-County\) to PD \(Planned Development\), \(Hopeton Landing Master Plan\) File No. 20-005235-ZA.](#)

[Exhibit 1: MPC Recommendation Packet - Little Neck Road \(Hopeton Landing\)](#)

[Exhibit 2: Draft Ordinance - Little Neck Road - \(Hopeton Landing\)](#)

[Exhibit 3: Master Plan - Hopeton Landing](#)

[Exhibit 4: Executed Water and Sewer Agreement - Hopeton Landing](#)

[Exhibit 5: Traffic Analysis - Hopeton Landing](#)

[Exhibit 6: Stormwater Management Strategy - Hopeton Landing](#)

[Exhibit 7: City Council Memo dated September 7, 2021 - Hopeton Landing](#)

[Exhibit 8: Community Questions dated October 1, 2021 - Hopeton Landing](#)

Mayor Johnson indicated all Council Members must agree to vote as First and Second Reading on Item #18.

Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan moved for the vote. The motion was not carried, as requested by Mayor Johnson since it was not unanimous.

Item #18 HEARD, First Reading Only, with Alderwoman Gibson-Carter and Alderwoman Miller Blakely opposed to the second reading.

ORDINANCES - FIRST READING

[19. Approval for the Annexation of 14.585 Acres Located off Ogeechee Road Near Canebrake Road. The Property is currently vacant and no current development is planned.](#)

[Exhibit 1: Annexation Petition - 6098 Ogeechee Road](#)

[Exhibit 2: Ordinance - 6098 Ogeechee Road](#)

[Exhibit 3: Map - 6098 Ogeechee Road](#)

Item #19 HEARD, First Reading Only.

[20. Zoning of 6098 Ogeechee Road \(PIN 11029 05014\) Owned by Thankful Baptist Church, Inc. from R-A \(Residential Agriculture\) to R-A-CO \(Residential Agriculture-CO\) to Support Annexation \(File No. 21-005068-ZA\)](#)

[Exhibit 1: Annexation Petition - 6098 Ogeechee Road](#)

[Exhibit 2: Map - 6098 Ogeechee Road](#)

[Exhibit 3: Draft Ordinance - 6098 Ogeechee Road](#)

Item #20 HEARD, First Reading Only.

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

[21. Petition of Nathan Pollard on Behalf of Linda B. Morgan and Charles D. Broometo to Amend the Zoning Map with Conditions for 1103 East 69th Street \(PIN 20114 19002\) from RSF-6 \(Residential Single Family-6\) to O-I \(Office Institutional\) \(File No. 21-003122-ZA\). Aldermanic District 3.](#)

[Exhibit 1: MPC Recommendations - 1103 E 69th Street.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 2: Draft Ordinance with Conditions - 1103 E 69th Street.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 3: Proposed Conceptual Layout - 1103 E 69th Street.pdf](#)

Mayor Johnson stated Item #21 was continued from the September 9, 2021 Regular Council Meeting.

Speaker(s) present:

- Richard Mackin – OPPOSED (had trouble connecting via zoom)

Written comments received:

- Richard Mackin - OPPOSED

Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan moved to approve Item #21 conditioned upon the hours of operation being 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. and office medical use only, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz and Alderwoman Miller Blakely. The motion passed unanimously.

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

[22. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Construction Contract for the New Hudson Hill Community Center Building \(20%DBE /10%LDBE Goal\) to Paul S. Akins Company, Inc. in the Amount of \\$2,774,827. This Amount Reflects Vendor's Original Bid Less Exclusions Necessary to Value Engineer the Project to Meet the Approved Budget. \(Expected Completion in Ten Months\)](#)

[Exhibit 1: Funding Verification - Hudson Hill Community Center](#)

[Exhibit 2: Purchasing Notes - Hudson Hill Community Center](#)

[Exhibit 3: Rendering - Hudson Hill Community Center](#)

Alderwoman Lanier discussed the challenges associated with the new Hudson Hill Community Center's building and requested a rendering for inclusion on the property. She thanked everyone involved in the approval of the new center.

Mayor Johnson gave background information on the old center and cracking of the cinder blocks which caused the center to be closed. After years without a center and amid the COVID-19 pandemic, the newly built facility will replace the old center to meet the needs of the Hudson Hill neighborhood.

Alderman Purtee would like to see additional community centers for the 6th District and Alderman Palumbo expressed concerns for a new facility in close proximity to other facilities recently approved in the same general area. He had concerns for residents ability to access the facilities, i.e. bus, car, walk. Alderman Palumbo requested City Manager Melder to outline the pedestrian accessibility to the Hudson Hill Community Center and he requested detailed information on future planned capital projects (community centers), district, timeline and cost, along with associated budget approvals. City Manager Melder will provide walk ability information to the Community Center to Council.

Mayor Johnson answered/addressed Alderman Purtee and Alderman Palumbo's concerns and questions by explaining the timing and approval of expenditures for each facility mentioned and the plans for obtaining land for future community centers throughout the City.

Alderman Palumbo asked City Manager Melder for the budget total for Item #22 and information on the chosen contractor. Mr. Melder explained the total budget amount and the process for vendor selection.

The following Members of Council commented:

- Alderwoman Lanier - Thanked everyone involved in getting the Hudson Hill Community Center approved. She discussed how the City was built on the sweat of slaves and how the West Savannah community's years of being overlooked for improved facilities at the expense of other City neighborhoods.
- Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan called for point of order.
- Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz detailed the entire process of the Hudson Hill community facility destruction and Council's approval of the new facility. The project was approved and budgeted by a previous administration.
- Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan reminded Council Members there were no projects in the budget for the 3rd District until 2024. She expressed her concerns for District 1 receiving numerous projects and then stating it's not enough and then citing happenings from 400 years prior. She is concerned with what is happening today and would like to move forward with projects in other districts.
- Alderwoman Gibson-Carter called for point of order.
- Mayor Johnson called for point of order.
- Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan stated District 3 has not received street calmings and sidewalks while District 1 requests additional projects. She would like to have the same projects as District 1. Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan noted the \$30 million not approved by certain Council Members directly impacted the lack of projects in numerous Districts, however Council continues to approve projects in District 1.
- In light of prior statements, Alderman Purtee stated it is not just West Savannah with a rich history of African-American community and culture; Coffee Bluff, Whilshire and Winsor Forest all have a rich history along with the City of Savannah. All Savannahians built Savannah. He stated the 6th District needs infrastructure, development and maintenance projects completed.
- Alderwoman Gibson-Carter reminded Council Members they represent all citizens of Savannah in programming, project development and service. Council Members must come together for the

greater good of all Savannah.

- Mayor Johnson stated, the items voted on have taken years of diligent work by Council Members and he is committed to ensuring there is equity and inclusion citywide. He will work with all Districts to meet the needs of the constituents.

Speaker(s) present:

- Ms. Tonia Miller, representing Hudson Hill Neighborhood

Alderwoman Lanier moved to approve Item #22, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz and Alderwoman Miller Blakely. The motion passed unanimously.

[23. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Final Contract Modification for Heavy Equipment Rental and Labor \(Dump Trucks, Dozers, Excavators, and Roll-Off Trucks\) with Savannah River Utilities \(Local\) for up to \\$420,000. Contract Primarily Used by Sanitation at the Dean Forest Road Landfill When City-Owned Equipment is Down for Repair to Remain Compliant with the Environmental Protection Division](#)

[Exhibit 1: Funding Verification - Heavy Equipment Rental](#)

[Exhibit 2: Purchasing Notes - Heavy Equipment Rental](#)

Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz moved to approve Items #23, #24, #27, #28, #29, #32, #33 and #34 per City Manager Melder's recommendation, seconded by Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan. The motion passed unanimously.

[24. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract Modification for the Engineering Agreement with Thomas & Hutton for the Jimmy Deloach Connector 48-Inch Water Main Relocation in the Amount of \\$325,600](#)

[Exhibit 1: 371 CM5 48in I&D Line Relo FV.pdf](#)

Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz moved to approve Items #23, #24, #27, #28, #29, #32, #33 and #34 per City Manager Melder's recommendation, seconded by Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan. The motion passed unanimously.

[25. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for Information Technology \(IT\) Services and Equipment from Layer 3 Communications, LLC \(Local\) in the amount of \\$249,545. Services and Equipment will be Used to Upgrade the City's Fiber Optic Cabling, Improving Ethernet Speeds at City Facilities.](#)

[Exhibit 1- Funding Verification - Layer 3 Communications.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 2-Purchasing Notes - Layer 3 Communications.pdf](#)

Alderman Purtee asked if the modifications will be used for all City facilities. City Manager Melder answered, this will support every City facility.

Alderman Purtee moved to approve Item #25, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz and Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan. The motion was approved 7-0-2. Alderwoman Gibson-Carter and Alderwoman Miller Blakely were not present.

[26. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for Temporary Staffing Services for the Information Technology Department with Robert Half International, Inc. in the Amount of \\$170,000. Services Will be Used to Provide Technical Knowledge and Skill in Specialized Computer Applications for City Staff Through the Remainder of the Year to Allow the Department an Opportunity to Fill Vacant Positions.](#)

[Exhibit 1- Funding Verification - Temporary Staffing](#)

[Exhibit 2- Purchasing Notes - Temporary Staffing](#)

Alderman Purtee asked for the timeframe involved. City Manager Melder answered, the contract is a not to exceed for one year. The term is not a calendar year, but October 2021 through October 2022. Alderman Purtee asked what steps the City has taken to ensure vacant staff positions will be filled and maintained. City Manager Melder answered, staff is working to alleviate vacancies.

Alderman Purtee moved to approve Item #26, seconded by Alderwoman Miller Blakely and Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan. The motion passed unanimously.

[27. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for Arboricultural Consultancy & Reporting Services with Davey Resource Group, Inc. in an Amount up to \\$90,000. Services Shall Include Tree Inspections, Tree Risk Assessments, Tree and Landscape Appraisals, Qualified Arborist Reports, Expert Witness Services & Tree Inventories on an as-Needed Basis for Trees Located on Public and Private Properties.](#)

[Exhibit 1: Funding Verification - Arboriculture Consultancy](#)

[Exhibit 2: Purchasing Notes - Arboriculture Consultancy](#)

Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz moved to approve Items #23, #24, #27, #28, #29, #32, #33 and #34 per City Manager Melder's recommendation, seconded by Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan. The motion passed unanimously.

[28. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for Four Replacement Bar Screens with WSG & Solutions, Inc. in the Amount of \\$53,030. Bar Screens Used To Remove Debris From Incoming Stormwater at the DeRenne Pump Station, Allowing Proper Water Flow Through the Conveyance Process.](#)

[Exhibit 1:Funding Verification - Bar Screens](#)

[Exhibit 2:Purchasing Note - Bar Screens](#)

Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz moved to approve Items #23, #24, #27, #28, #29, #32, #33 and #34 per City Manager Melder's recommendation, seconded by Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan. The motion passed unanimously.

[29. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract Modification for Overhead Door Maintenance and Repair for the Fire Department with Action Overhead Door & Supply](#)

[for up to \\$25,000. Contract is Used to Maintain and Repair Overhead and Bay Doors at Fire Stations. This Modification is Necessary to Continue Quarterly Inspections, Preventative Maintenance and Emergency Repairs.](#)

[Exhibit 1: Funding Verification - Overhead Door Maintenance](#)

[Exhibit 2: Purchase Notes - Overhead Door Maintenance](#)

Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz moved to approve Items #23, #24, #27, #28, #29, #32, #33 and #34 per City Manager Melder's recommendation, seconded by Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan. The motion passed unanimously.

[30. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract Modification For One-Ton Chlorine Cylinders With JCI Jones Chemicals in the Amount of \\$18,180. The Chlorine Disinfects Over 13 Billion Gallons Of Water and Waste Water Annually. This Modification is Due to the Increase in Cost of Raw Material.](#)

[Exhibit 1: Funding Verification - Chlorine Cylinders](#)

[Exhibit 2: Purchasing Notes - Chlorine Cylinders](#)

Alderman Purtee has received numerous complaints from the Southside and Pooler area residents about the smell of water. City Manager Melder requested Alderman Purtee to forward any such complaints to his office and he will follow-up on the complaints and send copies to Council Members.

Alderwoman Lanier stated the problem could be the level of sulfur in the water which can be adjusted.

Alderman Purtee moved to approve Item #30, seconded by Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan. The motion passed unanimously.

[31. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for Engineering and Design Services for Additions to the City Lot Bulkhead with Hussey Gay Bell \(Local\) in the Amount of \\$80,000. Services are Needed for Bulkhead Wall Additions, to Provide Improved Drainage for the Outfall and to Lay the Groundwork for Future Drainage Improvements into the Carver Village Neighborhood.](#)

[Exhibit 1: Funding Verification - Future Drainage Carver Village](#)

[Exhibit 2: Purchasing Notes - Future Drainage Carver Village](#)

Alderwoman Lanier asked if this will be a replacement of the 36" storm drain pipe. Mayor Johnson and City Manager Melder answered, the 5' 10" box will replace the 36" pipe for improved water flow. Since residents in the area are still experiencing flooding issues, Alderwoman Lanier requested staff members to attend community meetings to explain the water flow improvements that will alleviate flooding to residents.

Alderwoman Gibson-Carter stated she has received drainage issues and flooding complaints from residents of the Cloverdale area and would like to see improvements and updated maintenance to alleviate the problems. Mayor Johnson indicated he lives in the center of the Northside of Cloverdale and has not experienced any flooding.

Alderwoman Lanier moved to approve Item #31, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz and Alderman Purtee. The motion passed unanimously.

[32. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for Portable Staging and Barricades for the Enmarket Arena with StageRight in the Amount of \\$181,709. The Stage will Include Guardrails, Drapery, Barricades and an Access Ramp. Expenditure Included in Project Budget.](#)

[Exhibit 1: Funding Verification - Portable Staging for Arena](#)

[Exhibit 2: Purchasing Notes - Portable Staging for Arena](#)

Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz moved to approve Items #23, #24, #27, #28, #29, #32, #33 and #34 per City Manager Melder's recommendation, seconded by Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan. The motion passed unanimously.

[33. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for Point-of-Sale Equipment with Appetize Technologies, Inc. at the Enmarket Arena in the Amount of \\$170,000. Equipment will be Used to Allow Credit/Debit Card and Cash Transactions, Inventory Tracking, Transaction Security, Transaction Efficiency and Reporting. Expenditure Included in Project Budget.](#)

[Exhibit 1: Funding Verification - Point-of-Sale](#)

[Exhibit 2- Purchasing Notes - Point-of-Sale](#)

Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz moved to approve Items #23, #24, #27, #28, #29, #32, #33 and #34 per City Manager Melder's recommendation, seconded by Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan. The motion passed unanimously.

[34. Notification of an Emergency Procurement for Two Engine Replacements for Marine 1, Savannah Fire Rescue's Multi-Purpose Fire Boat, with Donnelly Yachts in the Amount of \\$186,730. Mechanical Issues Were Discovered That Were Caused In-Part by an Extended Period of Down Time.](#)

[Exhibit 1: Funding Verification - Marine 1 Engine](#)

[Exhibit 2: Purchasing Notes - Marine 1 Engine](#)

Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz moved to approve Items #23, #24, #27, #28, #29, #32, #33 and #34 per City Manager Melder's recommendation, seconded by Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan. The motion passed unanimously.

[35. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for Interior Painting Services for the former Development Services Building at 5515 Abercorn St. with E&D Coatings \(Local\) in the Amount of \\$37,800. Services are Needed to Prepare the Space for the Relocation of Staff Currently Working in the Savannah Morning News Building by the End of this Year.](#)

[Exhibit 1- Funding Verification - Painting](#)

[Exhibit 2- Purchasing Notes - Painting](#)

Alderwoman Miller Blakely asked which staff will occupy the 5515 Abercorn Street space. Mayor Johnson indicated, Human Resources and Housing. She then asked about the 3rd floor space in City Hall being designated for Council Members and when/if Council will have designated space. Mayor Johnson answered the 3rd floor space was discussed for Council, but Council approved moving staff out of the Savannah Morning News (SMN) facility at Chatham Parkway; therefore, staff from SMN facility was moved to the 3rd floor space in City Hall.

Alderwoman Miller Blakely requested space to meet with constituents. Mayor Johnson indicated Acting City Manager Brown previously sent Council Members a list of facilities for their use throughout the City including a conference room at City Hall. He indicated, there has never been office space for Council Members at City Hall.

Alderwoman Gibson-Carter informed City Manager Melder there has been space available for Council Member's use at City Hall. Prior Acting City Manager Brown made the decision (a knee-jerk reaction) to remove office space at City Hall for Council. She asked Mr. Melder to do what is fair and balanced for Council Members.

Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan called point of order. So noted by Mayor Johnson.

For the record, Mayor Johnson stated Council Members have never had office space at City Hall.

Alderwoman Gibson-Carter recommended City Manager Melder give thought to assigning space and administrative support to Council Members. She suggested the City Manager meet with the entire Council to have input from all Members.

Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz moved to approve Item #35, seconded by Alderwoman Miller Blakely and Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan. The motion passed unanimously.

SAVANNAH AIRPORT COMMISSION

[36. Approval of a One-Year Extension with Hancock Askew & Co., LLP, for the Audit of the 2021 Financials and Preparation of the 2021 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report, in the amount of \\$53,125.](#)

Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz moved to approve Items #36, #37 and #38 per the City Manager's recommendation, seconded by Alderwoman Lanier. The motion passed unanimously.

[37. Recommend Approval to Renew the Diiio Software Subscription with Reed Business Information for Two Years, in the Amount of \\$63,950.](#)

Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz moved to approve Items #36, #37 and #38 per the City Manager's recommendation, seconded by Alderwoman Lanier. The motion passed unanimously.

[38. Recommend Approval to Renew the Paychex Service Subscription for Two Years, in the Amount of \\$153,750.](#)

Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz moved to approve Items #36, #37 and #38 per the City Manager's recommendation, seconded by Alderwoman Lanier. The motion passed unanimously.

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

[39. Approval of a Resolution Authorizing the Mayor and Aldermen to Adopt the City of Savannah Plan 2040 Comprehensive Plan that Provides a Unified, Long-Term Vision for Savannah and Unincorporated Chatham County in the Areas of Land Use, Housing, Economic Development, Transportation, Natural Resources and Quality of Life](#)

[Exhibit 1: Resolution - Comprehensive Plan.pdf](#)

Alderwoman Miller Blakely asked when the final Plan was distributed to Council. Mayor Johnson indicated Council received the document as part of the agenda packet on July 22, 2021. Since June 2021, there were three (3) additional public meetings for feedback into the process.

Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz moved to approve Item #39, seconded by Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan and Alderman Purtee. The motion passed, 6-3-0. Alderwoman Gibson-Carter, Alderwoman Miller Blakely and Alderwoman Lanier voted no.

[40. Approval of a Resolution to Adopt the Housing Savannah Action Plan](#)

[Exhibit 1: Resolution - Housing Savannah Action Plan.pdf](#)

Mayor Johnson gave a brief background of the Plan. Alderwoman Lanier related previous and recent affordable housing efforts in the City of Savannah. After meeting with City Manager Melder, she has written issues that should be addressed prior to adoption of the Housing Savannah Action Plan focusing on input and inclusion from residents impacted for the next ten (10) years. Mayor Johnson stated Council is adopting the Plan. The next phase will be for the City Manager to recommend to Council definite action steps.

Alderwoman Miller Blakely asked if the Plan is available to the public and if so, how would they receive a copy. It is available on the City of Savannah web site. She encouraged the citizens to view the plan and share ideas with Council Members.

Alderman Wilder-Bryan moved to approve Item #40, seconded by Alderman Palumbo and Alderman Purtee. The motion passed, 6-3-0. Alderman Gibson-Carter, Alderman Miller Blakely and Alderman Lanier voted no.

AGREEMENTS

[41. Approval of a Water and Sewer Agreement with Bobby Chu, LLC for Natalie's Place, a Development Consisting of 25 Single-Family Homes on Clayton Street and Betz Creek Road on Wilmington Island](#)

[Exhibit 1: Water and Sewer Agreement - Natalies Place.pdf](#)

Alderman Wilder-Bryan moved to approve Item #41, seconded by Alderman Palumbo and Alderman Purtee. The motion passed, 6-2-1. Alderman Gibson-Carter and Alderman Miller Blakely voted no. Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz was not present.

[42. Approval of a Water and Sewer Agreement with D.R. Horton Homes, Inc. for The Pines at New Hampstead Phase 1. Development Consists of 61 Single-Family Homes and is Located on Highgate Boulevard.](#)

[Exhibit 1: Water and Sewer Agreement - The Pines at New Hampstead.pdf](#)

Alderman Purtee moved to approve Item #42, seconded by Alderman Wilder-Bryan. The motion passed, 7-1-1. Alderman Gibson-Carter voted no. Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz was not present.

CITY ATTORNEY ITEMS

[43. Approval of a Resolution Ratifying the Mayor's September 24th Emergency Order Requiring Masks or Facial Coverings Within the City to Slow the Spread of COVID-19](#)

[Exhibit 1: Emergency Order - September 24, 2021.pdf](#)

Mayor Johnson and City Manager Melder met with local medical advisors and reports the COVID-19 numbers have decreased and vaccination numbers are at or around the 50% level. As such, the City will move into the next phase to allow for larger events in November. City Manager Melder reported community centers, The Civic Center and John Mercer Auditorium will open for events/services. Mask are still required in all government centers and in-person meetings of Council is expected to resume at the November 9, 2021 Council Meeting. The Rock'N'Roll Marathon is approved for November with restrictions (10 listed restrictions).

Alderman Miller Blakely asked if the City will hire additional staff to monitor the restrictions for the November Roc'N'Roll Marathon. No. She expressed concerns with approximately 15,000 marathon participates the City COVID-19 number may increase. She encouraged Savannah residents to stay-in and keep protected.

Alderman Miller Blakely asked if the City was contributing any funds toward the Rock'N'Roll Marathon. City Manager Melder reported this is the final year of the City's contribution of a 3-year agreement of \$25,000.00. The City will no longer contribute. The Mayor suggested a cost benefit analysis and a community climate survey to determine future participation.

Alderman Gibson-Carter asked City Manager Melder to give (early and often) consideration to Council Members interested in matters such as the Marathon. Mayor Johnson indicated, the Rock'N'Roll Marathon meeting was the Mayor's meeting and the meeting ended just before 4:00 p.m. Immediately following the meeting, Mayor Johnson sent the notice to Council Members.

Alderman Wilder-Bryan moved to approve Item #43, seconded by Alderman Leggett. The motion passed unanimously.

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

[44. Approval of the Naming of an Unnamed Park Located at Atlantic Avenue and East 66th Street in Aldermanic District 4 as "Ridgewood Park". The Historic Site and Monument Commission Recommends Approval.](#)

[Exhibit 1: HM Board Recommendation to City Council - Unnamed Park.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 2: Submittal Packet HM - Unnamed Park.pdf](#)

Alderman Palumbo shared background information on the unnamed 'park that could' and how the selection of the name was chosen by the neighborhood.

Alderman Palumbo moved to approve Item #44, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz and Alderman Wilder-Bryan. The motion passed 6-0-3. Alderman Gibson-Carter, Alderman Miller Blakely and Alderman Lanier were not present.

[45. Approval of an Honorary Street Designation for "LT. White Avenue" Located Along Bouhan Avenue Between Wheaton Street and Reid Court to Commemorate Lieutenant John White as the Last Remaining Survivor of "The Original Nine", Who were the First African-Americans to Serve in the Savannah Police Department. Aldermanic District 3](#)

[Exhibit 1: Location Map-LT John White.pdf](#)

[Exhibit 1: LT. White Avenue- Honorary Street Designation Memo Supporting Packet.pdf](#)

Alderman Wilder-Bryan cited the history of Lt. John White and his service to the City of Savannah as one of the first African-American police officers. Alderman Lanier and Mayor Johnson provided additional information on the life and contributions of Lt. John White and his many contributions to the City and residents of Savannah.

Alderwoman Wilder Bryan moved to approve Item #45, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz and Alderwoman Lanier. The motion passed unanimously.

[46. Added Item: A Proclamation Designating October as National Planning Month](#)

Item #46 was heard following Agenda Item #5.

Mayor Johnson READ into the record and PRESENTED to Metropolitan Planning Commission Executive Director Melanie Wilson and Pamela Everett the Proclamation Designating October as National Planning Month.

On behalf of Metropolitan Planning Commission (MPC) staff, Ms. Wilson thanked Mayor and Council for recognition and support as the local planning agency.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

City Manager Melder reminded residents and viewers our Police Department recommends celebrating Halloween on Saturday, October 30 from 5pm to 8pm, instead of celebrating it on Sunday, October 31. Several community centers will be open from 4pm to 6pm on October 30th in order to welcome Trick or Treaters and have a safe place to celebrate, including Grant, Eastside, Thompkins, W.W. Law and Windsor.

Mayor Johnson advised although October 30 is the Georgia v. Florida game, we are sorry. The City wants to celebrate Halloween during a time when our resources are available.

Aldermen Leggett expressed condolences and strongest regards to the family and coworkers of Steve Boatwright, maintenance director at Chatham Area Transit (CAT) who passed away at St. Joseph's. CAT employees wrestled with a COVID outbreak within the maintenance department, although most recovered.

Mayor Pro-Tem Shabazz announced the date and times for the "One Chatham" listening sessions in her district, along with Chatham County Commissioner Tanya Milton. The listening sessions will take place on Thursday, October 21 from 4:30pm to 5:30 pm, and from 6:15pm to 7:15pm at the Liberty City Community Center, located at 1401 Mills B. Lane Blvd. Topics will include street repaving, traffic flow improvements, sidewalk connections (additions and improvements), intersection safety enhancements, bike path and trail developments, larger regional transit challenges and drainage.

Alderwoman Miller Blakely announced on Saturday, October 16 from 10am to 1pm at the Savannah Center for Blind & Low Vision at 1141 Cornell Street, they will be giving away free eye exams and free glasses. She encouraged to call them at 912.236.4473. She also reminded everyone Savannah State's homecoming is also on Saturday. Alderwoman Miller Blakely asked everyone to participate and wear masks, but to be safe. COVID is real.

Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan announced she is wearing the T-shirt of Ricardo Morris a 38-year old father of six children and the grandson of Brenda Johnson. His body was found on July 11, 2015. She will continue to wear these shirts. There are mothers whose cases are not cold anymore, but they are icicles. If you see or know anything, say something, including silent witnesses to Councilmembers or moms of murdered sons (MOMS). Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan also announced Rock the Block initiative starts again on the first Friday in November.

Alderman Purtee announced Rock the Block will occur this weekend in Windsor Forest at the corner of Windsor and Largo. Also, this Saturday is the Southside Community Day hosted by the Southside Precinct of the Savannah Police Department at 1143 Mohawk Street, co-sponsored by the Spiva Law Group. Then on October 31st (Halloween), they are hosting a community celebration at Tribble Park from noon to 3pm.

Mayor Johnson adjourned the meeting at 6:02 p.m.

The audio recording of the Council Meeting can be found by copying and inserting the below link in your url:

<https://savannahgovtv.viebit.com/player.php?hash=qLJcJgkAjFS5>

Mark Massey, Clerk of Council

Date Minutes Approved: _____

Signature: _____

