

January 14, 2020 City Council Special Meeting (Visioning Session Day 2)

**SAVANNAH CITY GOVERNMENT  
SUMMARY/FINAL MINUTES  
CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING  
(Visioning Session - Day 2)  
January 14, 2020 – 8:30 a.m.**

**PRESENT:** Mayor Van R. Johnson, II, Presiding  
Aldерwoman Keshа Gibson-Carter, At-Large, Post 1  
Aldерwoman Alicia Miller Blakely, At-Large, Post 2  
Aldерwoman Bernetta B. Lanier, District 1  
Alderman Detric Leggett, District 2  
Aldерwoman Linda Wilder-Bryan, District 3  
Alderman Nick Palumbo, District 4  
Aldерwoman Dr. Estella E. Shabazz, District 5  
Alderman Kurtis Purtee, District 6

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

City Manager Pat Monahan  
Assistant City Manager Heath Lloyd  
Assistant to the City Manager Daphanie Williams  
Taffanye Young, Chief Community Services Officer  
Clerk of Council Mark Massey

The Special Called Meeting was held at 8:59 a.m. at the Savannah Civic Center in the Bryan Room. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Alderman Palumbo which was recited in unison. The invocation was offered by Aldерwoman Dr. Shabazz.

Date: Jan 14 2020 (8:30 a.m.)

**Special Meeting Agenda Items**

[1. Visioning Session Day 2](#)

📎 [20200114\\_2020 Council Visioning Priorities.pdf](#)

## **Opening Remarks and Welcome:**

Welcome and opening remarks by Mayor Johnson.

## **Discussion:**

City Attorney Bates Lovett discussed his role as legal counsel for the Mayor and Aldermen. Attorney Lovett briefly outlined the Ordinances relating to Council's interaction with staff other than the City Attorney, City Manager and Clerk of Council. Mayor Johnson asked the Attorney or Clerk of Council to have available at Thursday's meeting the Ethics Resolution for all Councilmember to receive and sign.

Topics of discussion (continuing from the previous day), facilitated by Ms. Ruth Demeter.

- Review of Day One/Progress to date
- How do we prioritize goals over a four-year term
- What are our tasks for the first two quarters of 2020?

## **Lunch Break (1:15 p.m. – 2:02 p.m.)**

### **Discussion: (Continued)**

Aldерwoman Wilder-Bryan announced the passing of long-time friend and community activist Freddie Patrick's passing today.

As the facilitator, Ms. Ruth Demeter continued to collect, receive and post input from the Mayor and Aldermen in round-robin fashion.

- Responsibilities and Management of Tasks
- Exercise – Connecting Elected Officials to the Plan

### **Additional Housekeeping and organizational items:**

Mayor Johnson polled the Council for a Special Called Meeting regarding approval of pending alcohol licenses. A consensus was reached that the meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 28, 2020, at 5:00 p.m., with attendance of Mayor Johnson, Aldermen Palumbo, Leggett, Purtee, and Aldерwoman Dr. Shabazz.

Due to the Cities United Summit in Atlanta, the January 30,

2020, Regular Council Meeting is postponed/deferred to February 13, 2020.

Mayor Johnson briefly discussed the responsibilities and the nominations of Mayor Pro-Tem, Chairman and Vice Chairman that will be voted on at the meeting of Thursday, January 16, 2020. Alderwoman Blakely recommended Alderwoman Dr. Shabazz for Mayor Pro-Tem and Alderwoman Gibson-Carter for Chairman. Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan recommended Alderman Palumbo for Vice Chairman and Alderwoman Dr. Shabazz recommended Alderwoman Blakely for Vice Chairman.

The Mayor suggested altering the Council meeting times as the following:

Meeting on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month. The meeting held on the 2nd Thursday will begin at 2:00 p.m. and the meeting held on the 4th Thursday to be held at 6:00 p.m. Work Sessions would be 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. It was suggested to test the new schedule out for a quarter to see how it works for Council and staff, starting with meetings in February.

For the days presenters/citizens attend the meetings, Mayor Johnson asked the City Manager to look into validating their parking by the City.

**Closing:**

The facilitator, Ms. Ruth Demeter, congratulated the Mayor and Council on a successful visioning session for the past day and a half. She asked Glenn Hull to create a document with a list of priorities/projects, as discussed by Mayor and Council during the session.

Mayor Johnson thanked Ms. Demeter, Council Members and all in attendance for their support and with no further business coming before the assembly, Mayor Johnson adjourned the meeting at 4:52 p.m.

Mark Massey, Clerk of Council

Date Minutes Approved: February 27, 2020

Initials: mm