

Meeting Begins at 1:00pm

October 10, 2019 City Council Workshop

**SAVANNAH CITY GOVERNMENT
SUMMARY/FINAL MINUTES
COUNCIL WORK SESSION & CITY MANAGER'S BRIEFING
October 10, 2019 – 1:00 p.m.**

The work session of the City Council was held at 1:00 p.m. in the 2nd Floor Media Room of City Hall.

PRESENT: Mayor Eddie W. DeLoach, Presiding
Mayor Pro-Tem Carolyn H. Bell
Alderman Julian Miller, Chairman of Council
Alderman Brian Foster, Vice-Chairman of Council
Alderman Van R. Johnson, II, District 1
Alderman Bill Durrence, District 2
Alderman John Hall, District 3
Alderman Dr. Estella E. Shabazz, District 5
Alderman Tony Thomas, District 6

OTHERS PRESENT:
Assistant City Manager Heath Lloyd
Assistant to the City Manager Bret Bell
City Attorney Bates Lovett
Deputy City Attorney Jen Herman
Assistant City Attorney William Shearouse
Clerk of Council Mark Massey
Deputy Clerk of Council Margaret Fox

Mayor DeLoach called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

Date: Oct 10 2019 (1:00pm)

Workshop Agenda Items

[1. Emergency Preparedness Update](#)

Assistant City Manager Heath Lloyd announced that City Manager Patrick Monahan would be unable to attend the meeting.

As Acting City Manager, Mr. Lloyd introduced David Donnelly, Director of Emergency Management, for an update on Emergency Preparedness. Mr. Lloyd informed Mayor and Council the Emergency Preparedness is an agenda item on today's regular meeting.

Mr. Donnelly described the agenda item as 'Incident Based Services'. This would be a primary point of logistics that could be temporary or mobile. The idea is to have this set-up after a catastrophe disaster or a disastrous hurricane where you can lodge, feed, provide work space and fuel vehicles for City employees as well as laundry, shower, and wrap-around services.

After hurricane Dorian, even though there was no devastation, the City recognizes, based on studies and past history, it needs a plan for a category #4 or #5 hurricane in which City buildings and residential homes are destroyed leaving the City without power and water for critical facilities such as hospitals, fire stations and police precincts for six to ten days, and residential homes could be longer.

Mr. Donnelly stated the City is pursuing this because it is a best practice. Last year the City secured an Agreement regarding Center Perry for a category #4 or #5. The City would protect its equipment and employees by sending them to Perry, the City also has a facility at the Industrial and Domestic Water Plant, a Critical Work Force Shelter that houses two hundred and fifty people. Once the hurricane has passed, they will need a place to come back to.

The City did a "Request for Proposals" (RFP) process. The awarded bid is close to one million dollars for mobilization and demobilization for a week for five hundred people. This could be scaled back based on the number of people, services, fuel, security, etc. There is no retainer/cost until the City uses the services. There was only one other bid that was over two million dollars.

Alderman Foster indicated that since there was such a huge disparity in cost, the City should be concerned with a low-ball cost and the vendor not delivering the services. Mr. Donnelly has no concerns, the vendor is out of Statesboro, GA (Ranco), and they have a network of subcontractors on a local and national level to provide the services.

Acting City Manager Lloyd noted that Ranco did assist the City during the Dorian Hurricane, so the City has had experience working with Ranco and they can do what they say they can do.

Alderman Foster asked if any financial disclosures were examined for Ranco. Mr. Donnelly indicated that would be part of the RFP process and Acting City Manager Lloyd indicated they could look further into Ranco's

financials and get back to him.

Alderman Foster asked where the one million dollars would come from and if it would be reimbursed from FEMA or GEMA. Mr. Donnelly did check with Chief Financial Officer David Maxwell, and funding would be reimbursed. The initial money would come from a rainy day fund or some other fund, and then be reimbursed.

[2. Discussion Regarding the Rescheduling of the November 21, 2019 Meeting, as a Result of the National League of Cities Summit](#)

Clerk of Council Mark Massey asked Mayor and Council to discuss how they would like to handle the November 21st Council Meeting since four members are planning to attend the National League of Cities City Summit that week. Mr. Massey indicated, there would be a quorum of five members, but Council could reschedule the meeting or meet as planned.

After discussion, by consensus, the City Council agreed to allow the Assistant City Manager to see if the November 21st meeting can be combined with the previously scheduled Budget Retreat on the afternoon of Friday, November 15, 2019, or alternatively hold the November 21st meeting on Monday, November 18, 2019.

[3. Appointments to Boards, Commissions and Authorities \(Discussion Only\)](#)

Clerk of Council Mark Massey distributed a packet to Mayor and Council of current opportunities for citizens to serve on Boards, Commissions and Authorities. Mr. Massey gave a brief outline of the seven Boards, including vacancies, reappointment opportunities and current received applications.

A recommended timeline for implementation will be used to begin with public notification, reviewing applications and if needed, interviewing by Council of the opportunities for residents to serve. A public vote for appointments is not anticipated until the December 5, 2019 meeting. Alderman Durrence recommended sending the public notice to the neighborhood associations. He requested some memberships be decreased when there are 25 members. Seven, nine or eleven would be a good number for membership.

During discussion, Alderman Foster questioned if the Code Enforcement Appeals Board was necessary. Attorney Lovett informed Council that Board is under discussion as to if it should continue and he is in the process of creating an Ordinance for Council's vote. This Board has not been utilized in the past and might be dissolved.

Mr. Massey recommended Council author a Resolution that would centralize minutes of the Boards, Commissions and Authorities. Mayo Pro-Tem Bell requested the City Attorney to move forward in authoring the Resolution.

There were no objections to the timeline, so Clerk Massey will continue as outlined in the schedule.

[4. Real Estate, Litigation, Personnel](#)

Alderman Durrence moved to recess the Work Session to conduct a closed Executive Session for the purpose of discussing real estate, litigation and personnel, Alderman Miller seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

The Executive Session began at 1:25 p.m.

Alderman Johnson moved to adjourn the closed Executive Session, Mayor DeLoach seconded. Hearing no objections, the closed Executive Session was adjourned.

There was no action taken in the closed Executive Session.

The Executive Session ended at 1:29 p.m.

[5. Review of Agenda](#)

Reviewed.

The video 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=Vt1kV2cTEAcB>

Mark Massey, Clerk of Council

Date Minutes Approved: October 24, 2019

Initials: mm