



CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL CALLED MEETING
January 13, 2020 – 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

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

OTHERS PRESENT:
Interim City Manager Patrick C. Monahan
Assistant City Manager Heath Lloyd
Interim Chief Operating Officer Bret Bell
Taffanye Young, Chief Community Services Officer
Clerk of Council Mark Massey

The Special Called Meeting was held at 8:58 a.m. at the Savannah Civic Center in the Bryan Room. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Alderman Putree which was recited in unison. The invocation was offered by Alderman Leggett.

Opening Remarks and Introduction of Facilitator:

Mayor Johnson thanked and welcomed the citizens of Savannah to the first gathering of the newly elected officials. He asked for a moment of silence to honor Mayor Pro-Tem of the City of Port Wentworth, Ms. Debbie Johnson, who was an ex-employee of the City of Savannah. She passed away suddenly last evening.

The Mayor explained the process for the next two days and introduced Ms. Ruth Demeter, Ruth Demeter Consulting. He gave a brief outline of her education and consulting background.

Welcome:

Ms. Demeter thanked Mayor and Council for giving her the opportunity to come before them to facilitate the Visioning Session and welcomed all in attendance. She informed the Mayor and Council what the intent would be for the Visioning Sessions.

Introduction of City Council Members:

Each Council Member introduced themselves and gave two things they are excited to change for the City of Savannah and one thing you may not know about them.



Discussion:

The following topics were discussed during the session, as facilitated by Ms. Demeter:

- How do we work together as a group?
- Participation in group activity.
- Reviewing actions for urgency and importance.
- Hiring a new City Manager (search firm, timeline, desired skills, etc.).
- Strategic visioning conversation.

Utilizing round-robin style, the feedback from each member of the City Council was gathered and added to the wall under various categories of skill/experience. The items gathered will be compiled by Glenn Hull in the City Manager's office.

Closing:

Mayor Johnson thanked all in attendance and with no further business coming before the assembly, Mayor Johnson adjourned the meeting at 12:16 p.m.

Mark Massey, Clerk of Council

Date Minutes Approved: _____

Initials: _____



Qualities Expected of the Next City Manager

Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Savannah



Culture and Historical City

Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Savannah

Culture and Historical City

▶ FAMILIAR WITH CITY OF THIS SIZE AND
HISTORIC VALUES

(i.e. EAGER AND RECEPTIVE OF PEOPLE)

Culture and Historical City

- ▶ REALIZES THE COMPREHENSIVE HISTORY OF THE ENTIRE CITY OF SAVANNAH

Culture and Historical City

- ▶ VISION FOR ENGAGING YOUTH IN CAREER DEVELOPMENT AND PERSONAL GROWTH

Culture and Historical City

- ▶ ABILITY TO BALANCE HISTORY AND GROWTH

Culture and Historical City

- ▶ INCLUSIVE OF THE FAITH-BASED
COMMUNITY AND CHILDREN

Culture and Historical City

- ▶ UNDERSTANDS THE NEEDS OF YOUNG ADULTS

Culture and Historical City

- ▶ UNDERSTANDS THE NEEDS OF YOUNG ADULTS



Management & Leadership

Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Savannah

Management and Leadership

- ▶ PROGRESSION OF CITY FROM MANAGEMENT AND CONSTITUENT PERSPECTIVE

Management and Leadership

- ▶ BUILDING COMMUNITY VISION FROM GROUND UP

Management and Leadership

- ▶ PERSONAL INTEGRITY, ETHICS, AND CHARACTER

Management and Leadership

▶ ALIGNED WITH ADOPTED MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the City of Savannah is to provide exceptional public services to residents, businesses and guests so they may experience a safe, healthy, and thriving community.

Management and Leadership

- ▶ EXPERIENCED AND BOLD ENOUGH TO LEAD US, HELP US WITH POLICIES AND INFORMATION

Management and Leadership

- ▶ ATTENTIVE TO MORALE OF EMPLOYEES AND HAS THE ABILITY TO MAINTAIN A POSITIVE WORK ENVIRONMENT

Management and Leadership

- ▶ **SENSATIVE TO THE NEEDS OF CITY STAFF**
(i.e. EQUAL CONCERN FOR INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL PARTNERS)

Management and Leadership

- ▶ DEMONSTRATED EXECUTIVE LEVEL MANAGEMENT OF A FULL SERVICE MUNICIPAL OPERATION

Management and Leadership

- ▶ DEMONSTRATED RECORD OF ENGAGEMENT WITH COMMUNITY AND NEIGHBORHOODS

Management and Leadership

▶ PROVEN TRACK RECORD OF
TRANSPARENCY AND INCLUSIVENESS

Management and Leadership

- ▶ **ABILITY TO WORK WITH A DIVERSE
COMMUNITY**
(i.e. MILITARY AND COLLEGES/UNIVERSITIES)

Management and Leadership

- ▶ **SUCCESSFUL EXPERIENCE MANAGING A
PUBLIC SAFETY DEPARTMENT**
(i.e. POLICE AND FIRE)

Management and Leadership

- ▶ ABILITY TO MANAGE A DIVERSE WORKFORCE, CONDUCT STRATEGIC DEPARTMENT EVALUATIONS, AND REORGANIZE IF NECESSARY

Management and Leadership

- ▶ ABILITY TO CREATE AND MAINTAIN A POSITIVE RELATIONSHIPS WITH THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY, WHILE BRINGING THEM TOGETHER WITH THE CITIZENS AND ELECTED OFFICIALS

Management and Leadership

- ▶ CREATIVE IN HELPING TO RELAY MESSAGE OF SHARED RESPONSIBILITY WITH METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREA (MSA)
(i.e. STRONG INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS SKILLS)

Management and Leadership

▶ OFFERS SYNERGY AND CONTINUITY BETWEEN DISTRICTS, AND FOSTERS REAL-TIME PARTNERSHIPS WITH OTHER AGENCIES

(i.e. MUNICIPALITIES, COUNTIES, AND SCHOOL BOARD)

Management and Leadership

- ▶ ABILITY TO SPEAK DIPLOMATICALLY AND DIVERSITY IF TANTAMOUNT

Management and Leadership

- ▶ GO OUT IN COMMUNITY AND KNOW WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING

Management and Leadership

- ▶ WILLING TO ASK FOR UNANIMOUS APPROVAL TO BE HIRED



Economic Development

Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Savannah

Economic Development

▶ EMBRACE CONCEPT OF EQUITABLE DEVELOPMENT AND NEW URBAN DESIGN THEORIES

Economic Development

- ▶ KNOWLEDGE OF POLICIES THAT MAXIMIZES
DISENFRANCHISED BUSINESS
PARTICIPATION

(i.e. WOMAN, MINORITY-OWNED, AND SMALL)



Technology

Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Savannah

Technology

▶ PROVEN TRACK RECORD WITH
MANAGEMENT OF TECHNOLOGY, SYSTEMS,
AND LOGISTICS

Technology

- ▶ EXPLORE NEW TECHNOLOGY AND INSPIRE INNOVATION



Fiscal Management

Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Savannah

Fiscal Management

- ▶ BUDGETING EXPERIENCE WITH A MINDSET TO FIND INNOVATIVE WAYS TO DIVERSIFY REVENUE STREAMS BEYOND CITIZENSHIP

Fiscal Management

- ▶ EXPERIENCE AND ABILITY TO LEVERAGE PUBLIC DOLLARS WHEN INVESTING IN PRIVATE VENTURES

Fiscal Management

- ▶ DIRECT STAFF TO FIND POSITIVE WAYS TO INCREASE TAX BASE TO IMPROVE SERVICES TO ALL CITIZENS

Fiscal Management

▶ KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE IN
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ENTITIES
(CDE)

Fiscal Management

- ▶ FOCUS ON WHOLE CITY DEVELOPMENT
(i.e. BEYOND DOWNTOWN)

Fiscal Management

▶ FISCALLY SUSTAINABLE VISION

Fiscal Management

▶ **EXPERIENCE WRITING AND MANAGING
GRANTS**

(i.e. SO THEY CAN HIRE A GREAT GRANT WRITER)

Fiscal Management

- ▶ EXECUTIVE EXPERIENCE IN A PORT CITY



Housing

Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Savannah

Housing

▶ CUSTOMER DRIVEN APPROACH TO
EXPANDING ACCESS TO HOUSING AND
ADDRESSING HOMELESSNESS

Housing

- ▶ FINANCIAL EMPOWERMENT AND AFFORDABLE HOUSING



Personal Attributes

Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Savannah

Personal Attributes

- ▶ GROWTH MINDSET, PROJECT STABILITY, STRONG!

Personal Attributes

- ▶ **STRONG PERSONALITY WITH YEARS OF SERVICE**



Environment & Sustainability

Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Savannah

Environment & Sustainability

- ▶ PROACTIVE AND UNDERSTANDS URBAN FOREST CONCEPT WITH THE ABILITY TO MANAGE/PROMOTE “WE ARE A GLOBAL CITY”

Environment & Sustainability

- ▶ ABILITY TO WORK WITH THE COMMUNITY TO CREATE A VIABLE SUSTAINABILITY PLAN