



Work Session and City Manager's Briefing

Due to the Coronavirus Pandemic, the City Council Work Session and City Manager's Briefing was held via Zoom video communications at 11:01 a.m. Alderman Leggett offered the invocation, as requested by Mayor Johnson.

PRESENT: Mayor Van R. Johnson, II, Presiding
Alderman Keshia Gibson-Carter, Post 1, Chairman
Alderman Alicia Miller Blakely, Post 2
Alderman Bernetta B. Lanier, District 1
Alderman Detric Leggett, District 2
Alderman Linda Wilder-Bryan, District 3
Alderman Nick Palumbo, District 4, Vice Chairman
Alderman Dr. Estella Edwards Shabazz, District 5, Mayor Pro-Tem
Alderman Kurtis Purtee, District 6

ALSO PRESENT:
Acting City Manager Heath Lloyd
City Attorney Bates Lovett
Clerk of Council Mark Massey

AGENDA ITEMS:

1. Hearing to Receive Public Comment on the 2021 Property Tax Millage Rate. **(HELD. Mayor Johnson presided over the hearing and offered an overview of the 2021 Property Tax Millage Rate.)**

Speaker(s) present:

- a. Sarah Thompson (City resident – District 4) – **OPPOSED** to proposed millage rate.
- b. Jennifer Salandi (not a City resident – County) – **OPPOSED** to proposed millage rate.
- c. William Robyn (City resident – District 3) – **OPPOSED** to proposed millage rate.



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At 11:28 a.m., Mayor Johnson declared the hearing closed, since there were no other speakers present, whereupon the City Council members discussed the meeting schedule, dates and times.

Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz moved to re-open the hearing, seconded by Alderman Leggett and Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan. The motion passed unanimously.

Additional speaker(s):

- d. Keith Padgett (City resident – District 6) – OPPOSED to proposed millage rate.

For the record, written comment(s) were received by the Clerk of Council, as follows:

- i. Sara Laine Moneymaker (not a City resident – County) – OPPOSED to proposed millage rate.
- ii. Gene Karl Robinson (not a City resident – County) – OPPOSED to proposed millage rate.
- iii. Sarah Thompson (City resident – District 4) – OPPOSED to proposed millage rate.

Mayor Johnson declared the hearing closed and adjourned the work session at 11:38 a.m.



CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

Due to the Coronavirus Pandemic, the regular meeting of the City Council was held at 2:02 p.m., via Zoom video communications. Mayor Johnson recognized Alderman Wilder-Bryan to introduce Reverend Dr. Bernita Rivers Smalls, Pastor of Second Bethlehem Baptist Church, who offered the invocation. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited in unison.

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

ALSO, PRESENT:
Acting City Manager Heath Lloyd
City Attorney Bates Lovett
Clerk of Council Mark Massey

AGENDA ITEMS:

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

1. Adoption of the Regular Meeting Agenda for August 12, 2021. **(APPROVED #1 UNANIMOUSLY)**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

2. Approval of Minutes for the Special Called Meeting (Mid-Year Budget Workshop) held on July 13, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. **(APPROVED #2, #3, #4 and #5 UNANIMOUSLY)**



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3. Approval of Minutes for the Special Called Meeting (Fairgrounds Presentations) held on July 15, 2021 at 2:00 p.m. **(APPROVED #2, #3, #4 and #5 UNANIMOUSLY)**
4. Approval of Minutes for the Work Session & City Manager's Briefing held on July 22, 2021 at 4:00 p.m. **(APPROVED #2, #3, #4 and #5 UNANIMOUSLY)**
5. Approval of Minutes for the Regular Meeting held on July 22, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. **(APPROVED #2, #3, #4 and #5 UNANIMOUSLY)**

ALCOHOL LICENSE HEARINGS

6. Approval of a Class C (Liquor, Beer, Wine)(By the Drink) Alcohol License with Sunday Sales to Wen Zhang for OD Crab House, a New Restaurant at 1915 E. Victory Dr., between Skidaway Rd. and Harry S. Truman Pkwy in District 3. No Concerns by Savannah Police Department or Neighborhood Association. No Issues with Litter or Loitering at Location. Distance Measurement Met.
No speaker(s).
CLOSED HEARINGS for #6 and #8.
(APPROVED #6 UNANIMOUSLY, conditioned upon a good neighbor agreement)
7. Approval of Class C (Liquor, Beer, Wine)(By the Drink) Alcohol License with Sunday Sales to M. Douglas Godley for Ballastone Inn, at 14 Oglethorpe Ave., Between Bull St. and Drayton St. in District 2. No concerns Noted by Neighborhood Association or the Police. No Issues with Littering or Loitering. (Existing Business/New Owner)
No speaker(s).
CLOSED HEARING for #7.
(APPROVED #7 UNANIMOUSLY)
8. Approval of Class C (Wine) and Class G (Wine)(Complimentary) Alcohol License with Sunday Sales to Angela King for Presidents Quarter, an Inn at 225 E. President St., Between Abercorn St. and Lincoln St. in District 2. No concerns Noted by Neighborhood Association or the Police. No Issues with Littering or Loitering. (Existing Business/New Owner)
Speaker(s):



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- **Josh Yellin, representing the applicant**
CLOSED HEARINGS for #6 and #8.
(POSTPONED/CONTINUED #8 to the August 26, 2021 City Council Meeting)

9. Approval of a Class E (Beer, Wine)(By the Package) Alcohol License to Vinaybhai Patel for Eagle Market, a Convenience Store, at 2120 W. Bay St. in District 1. Original License Issued Before Alcohol Overlay District; Time Period for Re-establishing Use Met. No concerns by Police or Neighborhood Association. No Issues with Littering or Loitering. Distance Measurement Met. Existing Business/New Owner

Speaker(s) present:

- **Justin D. Maines, representing applicant – SUPPORTED**
- **Jason T. Whipple, hired employee – SUPPORTED**
- **Diedra Lewton, hired employee – SUPPORTED**

(POSTPONED/CONTINUED #9 to the September 9, 2021 City Council Meeting)

Written comment(s) received:

- **Joann Johnson Polite – OPPOSED**
- **Lucille Jackson – OPPOSED**
- **Tonia Miller – OPPOSED**
- **Jacqueline White – OPPOSED**
- **Vinay Patel (submitted a petition list) - SUPPORTED**

10. Approval of a Class C (Beer, Wine)(By the Drink) and Class A (Wine)(Caterer) Alcohol License and Resolution Providing Zoning Conditions (See Exhibit 6 for Details) to Robert Evangelista for Bellwether House, A New Hotel at 211 E. Gaston St., Between Abercorn and Lincoln St. in District 2. No Concerns by Police or Issues with Littering or Loitering. Distance Measurement Met. (Item Cont'd from 7/22)

Speaker(s) present:

- **Robert Evangelista, applicant – SUPPORTED**

CLOSED HEARING for #10.



(APPROVED #10 UNANIMOUSLY, conditioned upon a good neighbor agreement)

ZONING HEARINGS

11. Petition of Phillip R. McCorkle from McCorkle, Johnson & McCoy, LLP (Petitioner) on behalf of Whitaker @ Charlton Lane, LLC (Owner) for a Special Use Permit to have a Restaurant at 348 Whitaker Street (PIN 20032 05001). Aldermanic District 2. File No. 21-002772-ZA.

Speaker(s) present:

- John Northup - OPPOSED

(CONTINUED #11 and #15 to the August 26, 2021 City Council Meeting)

Written comment(s) received:

- Terry & Marlborough Packard – OPPOSED
- Ardis Wood – OPPOSED
- Mary Wegman, Joan Levy, and Dr. & Mrs. Finger – OPPOSED
- Austin Hill – SUPPORTED
- Angus & Leslie Littlejohn – SUPPORTED
- Cheryl Lang – SUPPORTED
- Henry & Heidi Reed – SUPPORTED
- Celia Dunn – SUPPORTED
- Glen Nicotra – SUPPORTED
- Vance Peacock & Darren Bryenton – SUPPORTED

12. Petition of Bob Isaacson (Agent) on behalf of Savannah Core (Owner) to Amend the Zoning Map for 527 E. 39th Street (PIN 20075 05010) from TN-2 (Traditional Neighborhood-2) to East Broad Market Lofts PUD. Aldermanic District 2. (File No. 21-002411-ZA)

Speaker(s):

- Marcus Lotson, MPC representative
- Bob Isaacson, agent - SUPPORTED

(CLOSED HEARING for #12 and #13)

Written comment(s) received:

- Bob Isaacson – SUPPORTED



- **Kathryn Dillon – SUPPORTED**
- **Smith Mathews – SUPPORTED**
- **Dr. Daniel Chapman – SUPPORTED**
- **Scott Cleveland – SUPPORTED**
- **Megan Miller - SUPPORTED**

13. Petition of Bob Isaacson (Agent) on behalf of Savannah Core (Owner) to Amend East Broad Market Lofts PUD to include 527 E. 39th Street (PIN 20075 05010). Aldermanic District 2. (File No. 21-002377-ZA)

Speaker(s):

- **Marcus Lotson, MPC representative**
- **Bob Isaacson, agent - SUPPORTED**

(CLOSED HEARING for #12 and #13)

Written comment(s) received:

- **Bob Isaacson – SUPPORTED**
- **Kathryn Dillon – SUPPORTED**
- **Smith Mathews – SUPPORTED**
- **Dr. Daniel Chapman – SUPPORTED**
- **Scott Cleveland – SUPPORTED**
- **Megan Miller - SUPPORTED**

14. Petition of Chris Rowland on behalf of Macmillan Properties, Inc. to Rezone a Portion of Ogeechee Road (PIN 20873 01003) from B-C (Business Community) to I-L (Light Industrial). Aldermanic District 1. (File No. 21-001285-ZA)

Speaker(s):

- **Marcus Lotson, MPC representative**

(CLOSED HEARING for #14)

ORDINANCES – FIRST AND SECOND READING

15. Petition of Bob Isaacson (Agent) on behalf of Savannah Core (Owner) to Amend the Zoning Map for 527 E. 39th Street (PIN 20075 05010) from TN-2 (Traditional Neighborhood-2) to East Broad Market Lofts PUD. Aldermanic District 2. (File No. 21-002411-ZA) **(CONTINUED #11 and #15 to the August 26, 2021 City Council Meeting)**



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16. Petition of Bob Isaacson (Agent) on behalf of Savannah Core (Owner) to Amend East Broad Market Lofts PUD to include 527 E. 39th Street (PIN 20075 05010). Aldermanic District 2. (File No. 21-002377-ZA). **(POSTPONED/CONTINUED #16 to the September 9, 2021 City Council Meeting, thereby allowing the Acting City Manager to coordinate with the MPC on revised conditions to be presented to the Mayor and Aldermen)**
17. Petition of Chris Rowland on behalf of Macmillan Properties, Inc. to Rezone a Portion of Ogeechee Road (PIN 20873 01003) from B-C (Business Community) to I-L (Light Industrial). Aldermanic District 1. (File No. 21-001285-ZA) **(After the first reading was considered the second reading, APPROVED #17 UNANIMOUSLY)**

ORDINANCES – SECOND READING

18. Approval to Amend the 2021 Revenue Ordinance, Adopt the 2021 Property Tax Millage Rate, and Adopt the Special Service District Tax Rate for the Water Transportation District. **(APPROVED #18, with Alderwoman Gibson-Carter, Alderwoman Miller Blakely and Alderwoman Lanier voting no.)**

Speaker(s):

- a) David J. Tootle (City resident – District 2) – **OPPOSED** to the proposed millage rate.
- b) Sara Laine-Moneymaker (not a City resident – County) – **OPPOSED** to the proposed millage rate.
- c) Gary Plotycia (City resident – District 2) – **OPPOSED** to the proposed millage rate.
- d) Ben Adams (City resident – District 5) – **OPPOSED** to the proposed millage rate.
- e) Sarah Thompson (City resident – District 4) – **OPPOSED** to the proposed millage rate.

Written comment(s) were received:

- Sara Laine Moneymaker (not a City resident – County) – **OPPOSED** to proposed millage rate.
- Gene Karl Robinson (not a City resident – County) – **OPPOSED** to proposed millage rate.



- **Sarah Thompson (City resident – District 4) – OPPOSED to proposed millage rate.**

PURCHASING ITEMS

19. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for Office and General Furnishings for the Enmarket Arena with Center Office Systems Inc. (Local) in the Amount of \$627,677. Over 1,000 items will be Procured, Including 800 Chairs, 6 Sofas and Loveseats, 130 Tables and other Items that will be Placed Throughout the Arena. Facility will Open in February 2022. Expenditure Included in Project Budget. **(APPROVED #19, with Alderwoman Gibson-Carter and Alderwoman Miller Blakely voting no, and Alderman Purtee not present)**
20. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for Two Electric-Powered Ice Resurfacing Machines for the Enmarket Arena with All Star Arenas in the Amount of \$299,999. Equipment will be used to Clean and Properly Maintain the Ice Rink to Ensure Safe Conditions for Skaters. Two Electric Charging Stations are also Included in the Purchase Amount. Expenditure Included in Project Budget. **(APPROVED #20, with Alderwoman Gibson-Carter and Alderwoman Miller Blakely voting no, and Alderman Purtee not present)**
21. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for the Expansion of Greenwich Cemetery, Located at 330 Greenwich Road, with Sandhill ALS Construction Inc in the Amount of \$231,970. Project will Create Space for 1,978 Burial Plots which can be Sold to the General Public, Generating an Estimated \$2.2 Million Dollars in Revenue (40% Goes to Cemetery Capital Funds/60% Goes to Perpetual Care Trust). **(APPROVED #21, with Alderman Purtee not present)**
22. Notification of an Emergency Procurement of Yard Waste Disposal Services with Waste Management of Georgia in the Amount of \$135,660. Used to Dispose of Vegetative Material Collected by Sanitation Staff from Sept. 2020 to Mar. 2021. Previous Vendor was Unable to Continue Providing Services Due to a Fire at Its Location. Council Approved a New Service Contract with Daly Organics, LLC in March 2021. **(APPROVED #22, with Alderman Purtee not present)**
23. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for Dredging Services, which will be Used to Remove 3,500 Cubic Yards of Alum Sludge from a Pond at the I &



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D Plant, with C & M Dredging, Inc. in the Amount of \$131,250. Sludge is Dried On-site and Transported to the Dean Forest Landfill. Dredging is Required to Meet Georgia Environmental Protection Division Requirements. **(APPROVED #23, with Alderman Purtee not present)**

24. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract Close-Out Modification for City Hall Third Floor Renovations with Landmark Preservation in the Amount of \$38,107. Project Includes Flooring Replacement and Restoration, Window and Ceiling Replacement, Cabinet Installation, and Electrical, Mechanical and Plumbing Upgrades. Modification was for Additional HVAC, Electrical, Mechanical and Plumbing Work. **(APPROVED #24, with Alderwoman Gibson-Carter voting no and Alderman Purtee not present)**

SAVANNAH AIRPORT COMMISSION

25. Recommend Approval to Procure Three Replacement Self-Contained Compactors from Reaction Distributing, Inc., \$67,467 **(APPROVED #25, with Alderman Purtee not present)**

BOARD APPOINTMENTS

26. Nomination of Mr. Rob Hessler to the Cultural Affairs Commission for a Three-Year Term ending December 31, 2023, as recommended by Alderman Palumbo. There are a total of three (3) vacancies. **(APPROVED #26, #27 and #28, with Alderman Purtee not present)**
27. Consideration to Appoint Ms. Yolandra Shipp (D3) and Ms. Chrissy Flemming (D2) to the Savannah Development and Renewal Authority (SDRA) for Four-Year Terms ending December 31, 2024. This request was made by SDRA member, Hunter Hall, to ensure a quorum for meetings. There are a total of four (4) vacancies. **(APPROVED #26, #27 and #28, with Alderman Purtee not present)**
28. Nomination of Mr. Shane Lawson (District 6) to the Traffic Calming Committee, as recommended by Alderman Purtee for a Three-Year Term ending December 31, 2023. **(APPROVED #26, #27 and #28, with Alderman Purtee not present)**

RESOLUTIONS



29. Approval of a Resolution to Re-Designate the Pennsylvania Avenue, Martin Luther King, Jr./Montgomery Street Enterprise Zones as Qualifying Enterprise Zones Pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 36-88-6 for a Period of Ten Years. **(APPROVED #29, with Alderwoman Gibson-Carter voting no and Alderman Purtee not present)**

Written comment(s):

- **John R. Bennett, SDRA – SUPPORTED**

30. Approval of a Resolution to Transfer Title to Property known as 225 Cumming Street to the Land Bank Authority for the Renovation of an Affordable Home. **(APPROVED #30 through #32, with Alderwoman Gibson-Carter voting no and Alderman Purtee not present)**

31. Approval of a Resolution to Transfer Title to Property known as 618 Magazine Avenue to the Land Bank Authority for the Renovation of an Affordable Home. **(APPROVED #30 through #32, with Alderwoman Gibson-Carter voting no and Alderman Purtee not present)**

32. Approval of a Resolution to Transfer Title to Property known as 1202 Graydon Street to the Land Bank Authority for the Renovation of an Affordable Home. **(APPROVED #30 through #32, with Alderwoman Gibson-Carter voting no and Alderman Purtee not present)**

33. Approval of a Resolution Accepting a \$15,000 Donation from Community Housing Services Agency, Inc. into the Savannah Affordable Housing Fund. **(APPROVED #33 through #37 UNANIMOUSLY)**

Speaker(s):

- **Anita Smith-Dixon, Community Housing Services Agency, Inc.**
- **Patton Dugas, Truist**

34. Approval of a Resolution Accepting a \$7,000 Donation from Community Housing Services Agency, Inc. into the Savannah Affordable Housing Fund. **(APPROVED #33 through #37 UNANIMOUSLY)**

Speaker(s):

- **Anita Smith-Dixon, Community Housing Services Agency, Inc.**
- **Sheri Butler, Wells Fargo**
- **Aprill Springfield-Blanco, Wells Fargo**



35. Approval of a Resolution Accepting a \$20,000 Donation from Community Housing Services Agency, Inc. into the Savannah Affordable Housing Fund. **(APPROVED #33 through #37 UNANIMOUSLY)**

Speaker(s):

- **Anita Smith-Dixon, Community Housing Services Agency, Inc.**
- **Nola Johnson, United Way**

36. Approval of a Resolution Accepting a \$10,000 Donation from Community Housing Services Agency, Inc. into the Savannah Affordable Housing Fund. **(APPROVED #33 through #37 UNANIMOUSLY)**

Speaker(s):

- **Anita Smith-Dixon, Community Housing Services Agency, Inc.**
- **Swann Seiler, Georgia Power**

37. Approval of a Resolution Accepting a \$2,000 Donation from Community Housing Services Agency, Inc. into the Savannah Affordable Housing Fund. **(APPROVED #33 through #37 UNANIMOUSLY)**

Speaker(s):

- **Anita Smith-Dixon, Community Housing Services Agency, Inc.**
- **George Bowen (unable to attend)**

38. Approval of the Mayor's Emergency Declaration Requiring Face Coverings or Masks be Worn in the City of Savannah During the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency. **(APPROVED #38 UNANIMOUSLY)**

AGREEMENTS

39. Approval of an Employment Contract for the City Manager Appointee. **(APPROVED #39 UNANIMOUSLY)**

MISCELLANEOUS



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40. Approval of a Major Subdivision, The Remaining Portion of Parcel R-1, Eastern Wharf. **(APPROVED #40, with Alderwoman Gibson-Carter and Alderwoman Miller Blakely voting no)**
41. Approval of a Major Subdivision, The Pines at New Hampstead Phase 2, Being a Portion of Parcel 1A. **(APPROVED #41, with Alderwoman Gibson-Carter voting no)**

Mayor Johnson adjourned the meeting at 5:47 p.m.