



Work Session and City Manager's Briefing

The work session and City Manager's briefing was held at 11:01 a.m. Mayor Johnson recognized Alderman Purtee to offer an invocation.

PRESENT: Mayor Van R. Johnson, II, Presiding
Alderman Kesha Gibson-Carter, Post 1 – At-Large
Alderman Alicia Miller Blakely, Post 2 – At-Large
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:
City Manager Jay Melder
Chief of Staff Daphanie Williams
City Attorney Bates Lovett
Clerk of Council Mark Massey
Deputy Clerk of Council Margaret F. Fox

AGENDA ITEMS:

1. Savannah Police Department Public Safety Update (Continued from February 24, 2022 Meeting). **[PRESENTED by Police Chief Roy Minter]**
2. Housing Savannah Update: The City's Investment in Affordable Housing at Work. **[PRESENTED by Housing & Neighborhood Services Director Martin Fretty and Planning & Urban Design Director Bridget Lidy. Also present were Chatham County Board of Assessors representatives, including Chief Appraiser Roderick Conley, Supervisor Carol Osborne, Deputy Chief Appraiser - Administration Corey Gillenwater, and Deputy Chief Appraiser - Operations Stacey Scott.]**

Mayor Johnson adjourned the Work Session at 1:06 p.m.



Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Aldermen

The regular meeting of the City Council was held at 2:00 p.m. Mayor Johnson recognized Alderman Leggett who introduced Pastor Thomas Sills, senior pastor at Connor's Temple Baptist Church, to offer the invocation. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited in unison.

PRESENT: Mayor Van R. Johnson, II, Presiding
Alderman Kesha Gibson-Carter, Post 1 – At-Large
Alderman Alicia Miller Blakely, Post 2 – At-Large
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:
City Manager Jay Melder
Chief of Staff Daphanie Williams
City Attorney Bates Lovett
Clerk of Council Mark Massey
Deputy Clerk of Council Margaret F. Fox

AGENDA ITEMS:

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

1. Adoption of the Regular Meeting Agenda for March 10, 2022. **(APPROVED #1 UNANIMOUSLY, as amended by adding agenda item #27)**

Mayor Johnson wished a Happy International Woman's Day, Month and Year to Team Savannah and to the five (5) female Alderman (colleagues).



APPROVAL OF MINUTES

2. Approval of the Minutes for the Work Session and City Manager's Briefing Held on February 24, 2022 at 4:00 p.m. **(APPROVED #2 and #3 UNANIMOUSLY)**
3. Approval of the Minutes for the Regular Meeting Held on February 24, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. **(APPROVED #2 and #3 UNANIMOUSLY)**

PRESENTATIONS

4. Presentation of the 2022 St. Patrick's Day Parade Permit to Members of the St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee by Mayor Van R. Johnson II. **(PRESENTED by Mayor Johnson to Parade Committee members, including General Chairman John P. Fogarity, 2022 Grand Marshal Daniel T. Powers, Adjutant Michael W. Roush, Jr., and others)**

Alderman Palumbo moved to approve the parade permit (Item #4), seconded by Alderman Leggett. The motion passed unanimously.

5. A Proclamation Recognizing Community Services Department Staff (Pennsylvania Avenue Resource Center (PARC) and Savannah Youth Ambassadors (SYA)) for Receiving Youth Collaboration Awards from the Mediation Center of Savannah. The department provides several programs that support youth, seniors, and families. **(PRESENTED by Mayor Johnson to Human Services Director Kerri Reid, Assistant Director Margaret Williams, Outreach Coordinator & SYA Team Leader Kadatra Ortiz, Program Coordinator, 21st Century & Youth Council Coordinator Caleb Abernathy, Outreach Coordinators Darlene Jackson, Chandler Crawford, Willie Mae Knight and Philip Kalogitonas, PARC Manager Kareem Hill, and Youth Program Coordinator Natasha Johnson)**
6. A Proclamation Recognizing the Department of Refuse Disposal for Receiving a Score of 100 from the Georgia Environmental Protection Division on their Last Routine Environmental Compliance Inspection on January 25, 2022 at the Dean Forest Road Landfill. **(PRESENTED by Mayor Johnson to Sanitation Director Gene Prevatt and Refuse Disposal staff, including Charles Spaulding, Jacqueline Smith, Emory Martin, Deanna Dudley, and Quhannah Andrews, Assistant Sanitation Director & head of the Refuse Disposal Unit)**



7. A Proclamation Recognizing March 6-12, 2022 as National Women in Construction Week. **(PRESENTED by Mayor Johnson and READ by Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz on behalf of the City Council to Ms. Rebecca Fenwick, National Association of Women in Construction - NAWIC)**
8. Recognition of Two Savannah Police Department Officers Who Jumped into the River to Save a Person. **(PRESENTED by Mayor Johnson and READ by Alderman Purtee on behalf of the City Council to Sergeant Sharif Lockett and Officer William Fitzpatrick)**

ALCOHOL LICENSE HEARINGS

9. Approval of a Class C (Liquor, Beer, Wine) (By the Drink) Alcohol License with Sunday Sales to Anthony Debreceeny for Ukiyo, A Restaurant at 2224 Bull Street Between East 39th and East 40th Streets in District 2. (New Owner/New Request)
Mayor Johnson declared the hearings for #9 and #10 open.
No speaker(s).
CLOSED HEARINGS for #9 and #10 UNANIMOUSLY
(APPROVED #9 UNANIMOUSLY)
10. Approval of a Class C (Liquor, Beer, Wine) (By the Drink) Alcohol License with Sunday Sales to Mohamed Eldibany for Troupial, a Restaurant at 9 W. 43rd Street Between Bull and Whitaker Streets in District 2. (New Owner/New Request)
Mayor Johnson declared the hearing for #9 and #10 open.
No speaker(s).
CLOSED HEARINGS for #9 and #10 UNANIMOUSLY
(APPROVED #10 UNANIMOUSLY)

ZONING HEARINGS

11. Petition of L. Robert Isaacson of Savannah Core, LLC (Owner) on behalf of Natasha Gaskill & Matthew Palmerlee of Be Careful What You Think About, LLC (Petitioner) for a Special Use Permit with Conditions to Establish a Restaurant



with Onsite Alcohol Consumption at 527 East 39th Street (PIN 20075 05010) in District 2. (File No. 22-000150-ZA).

Mayor Johnson declared the hearing for #11 open.

Speaker(s):

- **Marcus Lotson, MPC representative**

CLOSED HEARING for #11 UNANIMOUSLY.

(APPROVED #11 UNANIMOUSLY – Special Use Permit)

Written comment(s) received:

- **Brent & Heather Buice – SUPPORT**
- **Elizabeth Schminke (The Baldwin Park Neighborhood Association Board of Directors) – SUPPORT**
- **Rais Hendrix – SUPPORT**
- **Jesse Blanco – SUPPORT**
- **Brianne – SUPPORT**
- **Gina Berchin – SUPPORT**
- **Chris Hathcock – SUPPORT**
- **Lane and Patrick Huerta – SUPPORT**
- **Kate Daley – SUPPORT**
- **Kristin Harward-Grant - SUPPORT**
- **Andrew J. Ripley & Tom Worley – SUPPORT**
- **Coco Papy – SUPPORT**
- **Smith Matthews – SUPPORT**
- **Jared Jackson – SUPPORT**
- **Tatiana Cabral Smith – SUPPORT**
- **Kevin Ryan – SUPPORT**
- **Melissa DeLynn – SUPPORT**
- **Brandon Carter – SUPPORT**
- **Mark Lebos – SUPPORT**
- **Garrett Zajac – SUPPORT**
- **Libbie and Joshua Summers – SUPPORT**
- **Jovan Sage - SUPPORT**



12. Petition of Neil McKenzie from Coleman Company on Behalf of Sweetwater Land Developers, LLC for a Zoning Map Amendment to Revise from RA-CO (Residential Agriculture-County) to RSF-5 (Residential Single Family-5) at Sweetwater Station and Clubhouse Drive. (File No. 21-003991-ZA)

Mayor Johnson declared the hearing for #12 open.

Speaker(s):

- **Marcus Lotson, MPC representative**

CLOSED HEARING for #12 UNANIMOUSLY. See #13 for a vote.

ORDINANCES – FIRST AND SECOND READING

13. Petition of Neil McKenzie from Coleman Company on Behalf of Sweetwater Land Developers, LLC for a Zoning Map Amendment to Revise from RA-CO (Residential Agriculture-County) to RSF-5 (Residential Single Family-5) at Sweetwater Station and Clubhouse Drive. (File No. 21-003991-ZA) **(After the first reading was considered the second reading, APPROVED #13 UNANIMOUSLY)**

PURCHASING ITEMS

14. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract Renewal for St. Patrick's Day Catering Services for Police and City Staff with Barnes Catering (Local) in an Amount up to \$32,662. The City will use these services to provide breakfast, lunch, and dinner for on-duty SPD officers and City staff working the St. Patrick's Day festival and parade from Thursday through Saturday. **(APPROVED #14 UNANIMOUSLY)**

15. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Maintenance Agreement for the City of Savannah Phone System with CNP Technologies, LLC in the Amount of \$88,000. **(APPROVED #15 UNANIMOUSLY)**

16. Authorize the City Manager to Execute Contract Amendment No. 3 for the President Street Bio-Solids Dryer Facility with Reynolds Construction in a Reduced Amount of \$108,081. **(APPROVED #16 UNANIMOUSLY)**



17. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract Modification for Sewer Lift Station Parts and Pumps with Xylem Water Solutions USA in an Amount up to \$600,000. This contract is for sewage-lifting, wet well submersible pumps and component parts in the City lift stations. **(APPROVED #17 UNANIMOUSLY)**
18. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for Portable Toilets with Porta Potty Dogs in the Amount of \$76,992. The St. Patrick's Day Parade requires portable toilets and handwashing stations to maintain a sanitary environment for those attending the event. **(APPROVED #18 UNANIMOUSLY)**
19. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for Barricades with Area Wide Protection (AWP) in the Amount of \$59,285. The St. Patrick's Day Parade requires traffic and crowd control barricades to proceed safely on the streets of Savannah. **(APPROVED #19 UNANIMOUSLY)**

RESOLUTIONS

20. Approval of a Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Submit a Substantial Amendment for the FY2019 One Year Action Plan to HUD for the Use of CDBG-CV Funds and Enter into Grant Agreements with Eligible Small Businesses Impacted by COVID-19 and Construction of Six New Single-family Homes at Savannah Gardens for Families Experiencing Homelessness and Impacted by COVID-19 (total \$2,595,044). **(APPROVED #20 UNANIMOUSLY)**

AGREEMENTS

Heard after Agenda Item #4

21. Council Approval of an Agreement for Establishing a City/County Relationship between the City of Savannah and County Wexford (Ireland). **(APPROVED #21 UNANIMOUSLY)**

REAL ESTATE ITEM

22. Authorize the City Manager to Execute an Agreement with Riverview President Street, LLC. This is a comprehensive agreement/settlement reached between both



SAVANNAH CITY COUNCIL
(Preliminary)
ACTION MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 10, 2022

parties to resolve litigation and development related issues associated with two parcels comprising approximately 16 acres (the "PS Property") located at 925 E. President Street and 1303 E. President Street. **(APPROVED #22 UNANIMOUSLY)**

23. Authorize the City Manager to Approve the Third Amendment to a Lease with T-Mobile at 29 Sapelo Road. T-Mobile will pay an increase of \$500 per month for the modifications, staff resources providing access, and time and effort of this amendment. **(APPROVED #23 UNANIMOUSLY)**

CITY ATTORNEY ITEMS

24. Settlement #1.

Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz moved to authorize the City Attorney to resolve the claim of Jonathan Reyes for \$37,000.00, seconded by Alderman Palumbo and Alderwoman Lanier. The motion passed unanimously.

25. Settlement #2.

Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz moved to authorize the City Attorney to resolve the claims of Allisha Eady and Zacore Royal for \$52,500.00 each, seconded by Alderwoman Lanier and Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan. The motion passed unanimously.

MISCELLANEOUS

26. Approval of the Petition to Rename Yamacraw Art Park to Yamacraw Square. **(APPROVED #26 UNANIMOUSLY)**

ADD-ON

27. A Resolution (Savannah, Georgia) Opposing HB 1093 And SB 494 and Opposing Limitations on a City's Authority to Make Housing, Land Use and Zoning Decisions Within a Local Government's Geographical Boundaries. **(APPROVED #27, with Alderwoman Gibson-Carter, Alderwoman Miller Blakely, and Alderwoman Lanier voting no, 6-3-0.)**
Speaker(s):



- LaRay J. Benton – SUPPORT
- Bob Spell - SUPPORT

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan thanked all of the departments for their help with the walk-through at Avondale, including Amy, Anthony, and Alice.

Alderwoman Miller Blakely requested Assistant City Manager Heath Lloyd to give an update on Tribble Park drying up, with people living on the island in the middle of the lake. Mr. Lloyd advised there was a recent breach with the wall at Tribble Park and this issue occurred in the past. Staff is analyzing the area to determine a short-term and a long-term solution to get the park back up and the water restored. They are using ground penetrating radar to assess the damage, develop a design for repairs and then make those repairs. Mayor Johnson asked the City Manager to make sure the public communications team produces some focused messaging on the issue.

Alderman Palumbo announced the Federal budget has passed the US House of Representatives and for the first time ever a member of our Senate secured funding for the City of Savannah. Senator Warnock committed \$3 million in the federal budget for Tide to Town and the Truman Linear Park Trail. Alderman Palumbo thanked Senator Warnock's office, Caila Brown (Tide to Town), Brent Buice (East Coast Greenway).

Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz congratulated a young man who plays on the Woodville-Thompkins Basketball Team, Wesley West Walker, Jr. She also stated that we are so proud of Woodville-Thompkins and her alma mater Windsor Forest Knights who are playing in the championships.

Mayor Johnson extended congratulations to the Beach Bulldogs who were runners-up, and to Windsor Forest who will play tomorrow in Macon, GA for the 3A State Championship. He also offered a big shout-out to the Savannah State Tigers and the Lady Tigers for phenomenal seasons. Both teams received a number eight bid to the NCAA Tournament and the number one teams they are playing better watch out.



SAVANNAH CITY COUNCIL
(Preliminary)
ACTION MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 10, 2022

Alderwoman Gibson-Carter announced Happy Birthday to her sister, Kia.

Mayor Johnson announced National League of Cities (NLC) is in Washington, D.C. next week, so hopefully they will be bringing back some good news from meetings being held there.

Following announcements made by City Council members, Mayor Johnson adjourned the meeting at 4:30 p.m.