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## **Work Session and City Manager's Briefing**

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The work session and City Manager's briefing was held at 12:01 p.m. Mayor Johnson recognized Alderman Purtee to offer a prayer.

**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. Boards, Commissions, and Authorities.  
**[PRESENTED by Mayor Johnson, the City Council reviewed applicants to various City Boards which had expired terms or vacancies.]**
2. FY22 Mid-Year Financial Update. **[PRESENTED by City Manager Jay Melder, Finance Director David Maxwell, and Management and Budget Director Melissa Carter]**

Following questions and comments from members of the City Council, Mayor Johnson adjourned the Work Session at 1:42 p.m.



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## **Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Aldermen**

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The regular meeting of the City Council was held at 2:10 p.m. Mayor Johnson recognized Alderman Lanier who introduced Pastor Alan Manor, 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 July 14, 2022. **(APPROVED #1 UNANIMOUSLY)**

**After #2 and #3, Mayor Johnson entertained a motion to Add the Board Appointments discussed during the Work Session to the Agenda. (APPROVED amendment to #1 UNANIMOUSLY)**

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**



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2. Approval of the Minutes for the Work Session and City Manager's Briefing Held on June 23, 2022, at 4:00 p.m. **(APPROVED #2, and #3 UNANIMOUSLY)**
3. Approval of the Minutes for the Regular Meeting Held on June 23, 2022, at 6:30 p.m. **(APPROVED #2 and #3 UNANIMOUSLY)**

**PRESENTATIONS**

4. Recognition of Mashama Bailey, Executive Chef and Partner of The Grey Restaurant, Winner of the 2022 James Beard Award for Outstanding Chef. **(PRESENTED by Mayor Johnson)**
5. Recognition of the Office of Management and Budget Department for Receiving the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for the City's Annual Budget for the Fiscal Year Beginning January 01, 2022. **(PRESENTED by Mayor Johnson and City Manager Melder to Management & Budget Director Melissa Carter and Finance Director David Maxwell – for receiving this award 39 years in a row)**

**ALCOHOL LICENSE HEARINGS**

6. Approval of a Class C (Liquor, Beer, Wine) (By the Drink) Alcohol License with Sunday Sales to Brittany O'Neal for Cru Lounge, a Restaurant at 1639 E. Victory Drive between Wicklow and Glenoble Streets in Aldermanic District 3. (Continued from June 9, 2022).  
**Mayor Johnson declared the hearing open for #6.**  
**CLOSED HEARINGS for #6 UNANIMOUSLY.**  
**(FAILED/DENIED #6, with Alderwoman Gibson-Carter, Alderwoman Miller Blakely and Alderwoman Lanier voting yea, all other members voting nay.)**
7. Approval of a Class E (Beer, Wine) (By the Package) Alcohol License to Ankur Patel for 41 Rocks Market, a Convenience Store at 1220 Habersham Street between E. Henry and E. Duffy Streets in Aldermanic District 2.  
**Mayor Johnson declared the hearings open for #7, #8, #9, #10, and #11.**  
**CLOSED HEARINGS for #7, #8, #9, #10, and #11 UNANIMOUSLY.**  
**(APPROVED #7, #8, #9, and #10 UNANIMOUSLY)**



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8. Approval of a Class E (Beer, Wine) (By the Package) Alcohol License to Narcessia M. George for T & P Market Store & More, a Convenience Store at 1820 Montgomery Street in Aldermanic District 2.

**Mayor Johnson declared the hearings open for #7, #8, #9, #10, and #11.**  
**CLOSED HEARINGS for #7, #8, #9, #10, and #11 UNANIMOUSLY.**  
**(APPROVED #7, #8, #9, and #10 UNANIMOUSLY)**

9. Approval of a Class C (Liquor, Beer, Wine) (By the Drink) Alcohol License with Sunday Sales to Christopher Robert for Poe's Tavern, a Restaurant at 7 Martin L. King Jr. Boulevard in Aldermanic District 2.

**Mayor Johnson declared the hearings open for #7, #8, #9, #10, and #11.**  
**CLOSED HEARINGS for #7, #8, #9, #10, and #11 UNANIMOUSLY.**  
**(APPROVED #7, #8, #9, and #10 UNANIMOUSLY)**

10. Approval of a Class C (Liquor, Beer, Wine) (By the Drink) Alcohol License with Sunday Sales to Edward W. Martin for Mansion on Forsyth Park, a Hotel at 700 Drayton Street in Aldermanic District 2.

**Mayor Johnson declared the hearings open for #7, #8, #9, #10, and #11.**  
**CLOSED HEARINGS for #7, #8, #9, #10, and #11 UNANIMOUSLY.**  
**(APPROVED #7, #8, #9, and #10 UNANIMOUSLY)**

11. Approval of a Class C (Liquor, Beer, Wine) (By the Drink) Alcohol License to Shannon L. Blaney for The Neener Neener Tiki Lounge, a Bar/Lounge at 13015 Abercorn Street between Apache Avenue and Middleground Road in Aldermanic District 6.

**Mayor Johnson declared the hearings open for #7, #8, #9, #10, and #11.**  
**CLOSED HEARINGS for #7, #8, #9, #10, and #11 UNANIMOUSLY.**  
**(CONTINUED/POSTPONED #11 UNANIMOUSLY to the August 11, 2022, City Council Meeting)**

**PUBLIC HEARING**

12. Public Hearing to Receive Comments on the 2022 Property Tax Millage Rate. The proposed millage rate of 12.20 mills is 4.23% lower than the final rate for 2021.

**Mayor Johnson declared the hearing open for #12.**



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**No speaker(s) were present.**  
**CLOSED HEARING for #12 UNANIMOUSLY.**

### **ZONING HEARING**

13. Petition of John Knox Porter, Jr. on Behalf of April Diana Griffin to Zone the Annexed Parcels Located at 6305 Garrard Avenue Ext and Buckhalter Road near Garrard Avenue (PINs 10866 01001 and 10866 01002) from P-M (Planned Manufacturing) to P-M-CO (Planned Manufacturing – County) and M (Manufacturing) to M-CO (Manufacturing – County).

**Mayor Johnson declared the hearing open for #13.**

**Speaker(s):**

- **Bridget Lidy, representing the city**

**CLOSED HEARING for #13 UNANIMOUSLY.**

14. Petition of Josh Yellin on Behalf of S & R Savannah Partners and Its Principal Richard C. Smith III to Zone the Annexed Parcel Located off Chatham Parkway near Ogeechee Road (PIN 10837 01001) from PUD-BC (Planned Unit Development - Community Business) to PUD-BC-CO (Planned Unit Development - Community Business-County). Annexation District 1.

**Mayor Johnson declared the hearing open for #14.**

- **Bridget Lidy, representing the city**

**CLOSED HEARING for #14 UNANIMOUSLY.**

### **ORDINANCES – FIRST AND SECOND READING**

15. Amendment to the 2018 Plumbing Code. Code section 405.3.4 concerning the level of privacy required for the water closets is very vague and gives no guidance on privacy requirements, thereby leaving it to the design professionals to determine what constitutes privacy. To help alleviate some of the concerns about this vague privacy requirement, we propose that a new section be added to the code to better define the level of privacy required for non-separated facilities. **(After the first reading was considered the second reading, APPROVE #15, with Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz, Alderwoman Gibson-Carter, Alderwoman Miller Blakely, and Alderwoman Lanier voting no.)**



**ORDINANCES – FIRST READINGS**

16. Petition of John Knox Porter, Jr. on Behalf of April Diana Griffin to Zone the Annexed Parcels Located at 6305 Garrard Avenue Extension and Buckhalter Road near Garrard Avenue (PINs 10866 01001 and 10866 01002) from P-M (Planned Manufacturing) to P-M-CO (Planned Manufacturing – County) and M (Manufacturing) to M-CO (Manufacturing – County). **(HEARD FIRST READING ONLY for #16)**
  
17. Approval for the Annexation of 18.989 Acres Located off Buckhalter Road near Garrard Avenue. The property is currently vacant land and the owner plans to incorporate these into the Rockingham Farms Warehouse Development Project. **(HEARD FIRST READING ONLY for #17)**
  
18. Petition of Josh Yellin on Behalf of S & R Savannah Partners and Its Principal Richard C. Smith III to Zone the Annexed Parcel Located off Chatham Parkway near Ogeechee Road (PIN 10837 01001) from PUD-BC (Planned Unit Development - Community Business) to PUD-BC-CO (Planned Unit Development - Community Business-County) - Annexation Aldermanic District 1. **(HEARD FIRST READING ONLY for #18)**
  
19. Approval for the Annexation of 30.425 Acres Located off Chatham Parkway near Ogeechee Road. The property is currently vacant land and the owner plans to develop multi-family residential housing on the property. **(HEARD FIRST READING ONLY for #19)**
  
20. Approval to Amend the 2022 Revenue Ordinance, Adopt the 2022 Property Tax Millage Rate, and Adopt the Special Service District Tax Rate for the Water Transportation District. The proposed millage rate of 12.20 mills is 4.23% lower than the final rate for 2021. **(FIRST READING ONLY for #20)**

**PURCHASING ITEMS**

21. Authorize the City Manager to Execute Contract Modification No. 1 and Renewal not to Exceed \$37,405 with G11 Security, Inc. for Security Services at City Cemeteries. Security services are used in municipal cemeteries to protect visitors



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and assets by mitigating the risks of various crimes and violations. (Cemeteries) **(APPROVED #21 through #27, #29, #34, #35, #37, #39, #42, #43 and #44 UNANIMOUSLY)**

22. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract to Repair a Bucket Truck from Roberts Truck Center in the Amount of \$25,056 for the Park & Tree Department Urban Forestry Division. This is for the repair of unit no. 1211, a 2011 International Bucket Truck. (Fleet) **(APPROVED #21 through #27, #29, #34, #35, #37, #39, #42, #43 and #44 UNANIMOUSLY)**
23. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for Rebuilding a Fire Truck Engine with Cummins Sales and Service in the Amount of \$26,221. This is to repair fire truck unit 9503 which requires an engine rebuild in order to return the vehicle to service for the City of Savannah Fire Department. (Fleet) **(APPROVED #21 through #27, #29, #34, #35, #37, #39, #42, #43 and #44 UNANIMOUSLY)**
24. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for One Stump Grinder from Bandit Industries in C/O Bobcat of Savannah in the Amount of \$55,373. The Park and Tree Department will utilize the stump grinder for hazardous tree removal services. (Fleet) **(APPROVED #21 through #27, #29, #34, #35, #37, #39, #42, #43 and #44 UNANIMOUSLY)**
25. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract to Rent One Knuckle Boom Truck from Environmental Products Group for 10 Months not to Exceed \$86,680. This will allow the Residential Refuse Division to provide weekly curbside pickup of bulk items and large debris removal following an emergency event until the two knuckle boom trucks come in that were previously ordered. (Fleet) **(APPROVED #21 through #27, #29, #34, #35, #37, #39, #42, #43 and #44 UNANIMOUSLY)**
26. Authorize the City Manager to Rescind Award for Two Dump Trucks with Stainless Steel Dump Bodies from Roberts International Trucks, Inc. and Re-Award to Freightliner of Savannah in the Amount of \$361,248 for Two 2024 Model Year Freightliner Dump Trucks with Stainless Steel Dump Bodies. (Fleet) **(APPROVED #21 through #27, #29, #34, #35, #37, #39, #42, #43 and #44 UNANIMOUSLY)**
27. Authorize the City Manager to Rescind Award for Three Dump Trucks from Roberts International Trucks, Inc. and Re-Award to Freightliner of Savannah in



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the Amount of \$497,817 for Three (3) 2024 Model Year Freightliner Dump Trucks. (Fleet) **(APPROVED #21 through #27, #29, #34, #35, #37, #39, #42, #43 and #44 UNANIMOUSLY)**

28. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for Fiber Optic Implementation, Support, Service Repairs, and Advanced Services/Projects with Seimitsu Corporation (LOCAL) not to Exceed \$275,000. This will produce a comprehensive mapping of all-fiber paths and connection points for the City's entire fiber infrastructure and provide documented infrastructure with the data needed for planning of future utilization, as well as accurate data for support and response. (ITS) **(APPROVED #28, with Alderman Purtee being not present for the vote, 8-0-1)**
29. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for City-Wide HVAC Maintenance and Repairs with Boan Mechanical (LOCAL) not to Exceed \$524,250. The Real Estate Department will use the contract to service and provide emergency repairs to all HVAC systems, chiller systems, ice machines, commercial refrigerators, and larger replacements in City facilities. (Real Estate) **(APPROVED #21 through #27, #29, #34, #35, #37, #39, #42, #43 and #44 UNANIMOUSLY)**
30. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for Traffic Management Control Services with Area Wide Protection Services, Inc. (LOCAL) not to Exceed \$960,000 for Several Departments Including, but Not Limited to, the Traffic Department, the Special Events Film and Tourism Department, the Arena, and the Civic Center. This contract will include traffic control for large events. (Real Estate) **(APPROVED #30, with Alderman Palumbo being not present for the vote, 8-0-1)**
31. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for Brokerage Services with NAI Mopper Benton Commercial Real Estate Sales & Leasing (LOCAL) not to Exceed 3% of Property Sales Revenue. These services will be valuable given the extensive networks, contacts, and resources of professional brokerages, and will potentially lead to higher exposure of the property sales. (Real Estate) **(APPROVED #31 UNANIMOUSLY)**
32. Authorize the City Manager to Execute Contract Modification No. 1 for Portable Toilet and Hand-Washing Stations with Porta Potty Dogs in the Amount of \$12,000. The Special Events, Film, and Tourism Department is requesting



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approval of this modification to pay for additional port-a-potty services incurred during the 2022 Saint Patrick's Day event. (Special Events) **(APPROVED #32 UNANIMOUSLY)**

33. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for Office Furniture with Mason, Inc. in the Amount of \$130,670. The furniture will be installed to support the administrative and programming functions of the Savannah Impact Program (SIP) which will be located at 2005 Waters Avenue. (Capital Projects) **(APPROVED #33 UNANIMOUSLY)**
34. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for Trenchless Rehabilitation of a Sewer Main and Vault Junction Boxes at the President Street Water Reclamation Plant with Vortex Companies in the Amount of \$701,065. These services prevent massive sewage spills from entering the Savannah River. (Conveyance and Distribution) **(APPROVED #21 through #27, #29, #34, #35, #37, #39, #42, #43 and #44 UNANIMOUSLY)**
35. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for Grounds Maintenance of Public Parks & Greenspaces to Garcia Services, LLC. (LOCAL, DBE), Kathy Robinson DBA Doc's Lawn Care Services (LOCAL, DBE), and Simon Landscape, Inc. (LOCAL) not to Exceed \$200,188. This contract will be used for grounds maintenance for 40 parks and green spaces and will be split up between the three vendors. (Park & Tree) **(APPROVED #21 through #27, #29, #34, #35, #37, #39, #42, #43 and #44 UNANIMOUSLY)**
36. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for Grounds Maintenance Services on Opened and Unopened Lanes within City Limits with SABE (LOCAL, DBE) (Primary) and Russell Landscape (LOCAL) (Secondary) not to Exceed \$225,000 for the Park & Tree Department. This contract will include litter and trash removal, leaf and debris removal, and pruning of vegetation, as well as turf maintenance on approximately 84 miles of City right of way. (Park & Tree) **(APPROVED #36 UNANIMOUSLY)**
37. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for Heavy Equipment Rental with Savannah River Utilities (LOCAL) not to Exceed \$912,830. The contract will allow Sanitation to continue to temporarily rent heavy equipment, as needed, to support central operations that are critical to the Dean Forest Road Landfill permitting compliance. (Sanitation) **(APPROVED #21 through #27, #29, #34, #35, #37, #39, #42, #43 and #44 UNANIMOUSLY)**



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38. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for a Casey North Basin Study Model with Hussey Gay Bell (LOCAL) in the Amount of \$105,000. The services will provide an updated model of multiple year rain event peak water elevations to assist development site designs and flood prevention programs. (Stormwater) **(APPROVED #38 UNANIMOUSLY)**
39. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for Electronic Control Upgrades at Three Stormwater Pumping Stations with Control Instruments in the Amount of \$1,419,287. Upgrades at the Lathrop Avenue, Fell Street, and Springfield and Kayton stations will allow all pumping stations to communicate and staff to remotely monitor them. (Stormwater) **(APPROVED #21 through #27, #29, #34, #35, #37, #39, #42, #43 and #44 UNANIMOUSLY)**
40. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a 25 Year Contract for Solar Energy Services with Cherry Street Energy not to Exceed \$6,230,000. This contract will provide the City with net savings each year of the next 25 years. The agreement is for solar panels, installation, operation, maintenance, and decommissioning. Cherry Street Energy has presented a minority participation of 56.1% with Pat Mathis at 35.3% and Power Solutions Inc at 20.8%. As part of the agreement, Cherry Street Energy will also replace three roofs valued at over \$300,000. (Sustainability) **(APPROVED #40 UNANIMOUSLY)**
41. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for Small Meter Calibration and Test Bench Software Subscription with Mars Company not to Exceed \$56,078. The contract is for software subscription for calibration accuracy of the City's water meters. (Water Distribution) **(APPROVED #41 UNANIMOUSLY)**
42. Authorize the City Manager to Execute Contract Modification No. 1 for Overhead Door Maintenance and Repair with Action Overhead Door in the Amount of \$35,000. The Savannah Fire Department will be able to provide prompt emergency services to citizens and visitors of Savannah by ensuring overhead/bay doors operate properly. (Fire) **(APPROVED #21 through #27, #29, #34, #35, #37, #39, #42, #43 and #44 UNANIMOUSLY)**
43. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for Personal Protective Equipment with Bennet Fire Products Company in the Amount of \$708,000. This purchase is for a second set of personal protective equipment for Savannah Fire



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firefighters under the Assistance of Firefighters Grant (AFG). (Fire) **(APPROVED #21 through #27, #29, #34, #35, #37, #39, #42, #43 and #44 UNANIMOUSLY)**

44. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for Ballistic Vests with Patrick's Uniforms not to Exceed \$61,000. This contract is for specific ballistic vests that the Savannah Police Department Officers use and are not available elsewhere locally. (Police) **(APPROVED #21 through #27, #29, #34, #35, #37, #39, #42, #43 and #44 UNANIMOUSLY)**

45. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for Digital Advertisement from The Current Agency/Red Eye Film Productions (LOCAL) not to Exceed \$64,100. The Savannah Police Department will use the digital advertisement to provide a wide variety of tactics, strategies, and online tools for recruitment to fill vacancies, media planning, branding, and search engine advertising. (Police) **(APPROVED #45 UNANIMOUSLY)**

**SAVANNAH AIRPORT COMMISSION**

46. Approval of the Commission's Share of the Agreement for City Works License Renewal with the City of Savannah in the Amount of \$40,000. **(APPROVED #46, #47, and #48 UNANIMOUSLY)**

47. Approval to Execute a Professional Services Agreement with Peachtree Government Relations for Local and State Governmental Affairs in the Amount of \$180,000. **(APPROVED #46, #47, and #48 UNANIMOUSLY)**

48. Approval to Execute a Construction Contract with Collins Construction Services, Inc. for the Security Checkpoint Expansion in the amount of \$19,655,000. **(APPROVED #46, #47, and #48 UNANIMOUSLY)**

**BOARD APPOINTMENTS**

**Mayor Johnson presided over the following Board Appointments being made by majority consent, as a result of discussions held earlier during the work session.**

**Chatham County – City of Savannah Land Bank Authority (four-year term)**

- **Tomeca McPherson**



**Coastal Region Metropolitan Planning Organization Citizens Advisory Committee [CAC] (two-year term)**

- Armand Turner
- Yolandra Shipp

**Keep Savannah Beautiful (three-year term)**

- Patricia C. McLeod
- Cheri Dean
- Steven C. Morgan
- Debra Caldwell
- Kelly Morris

**Savannah Airport Commission (five-year term)**

- Stephen Green

**Savannah-Chatham Council on Disability Issues (two-year term)**

- Darnell L. Johnson
- Montana L. Tohm
- Stanley M. Walthour II
- Jessica Auner

**Traffic Calming Committee (three-year term)**

- Pastor Marsha Buford (Mayor Johnson's appointee)
- David Minor (Alderman Miller Blakely's appointee – Post 2)

**RESOLUTIONS**

49. Update of the Chatham County Service Delivery Strategy (SDS) which is Part of the Chatham County - Savannah Comprehensive Plan 2040. **(APPROVED #49 UNANIMOUSLY)**

50. Approval of a Resolution to Support Reproductive Rights in Savannah. **(READ by Alderman Wilder-Bryan from the podium and APPROVED #50 UNANIMOUSLY)**

**AGREEMENTS**

51. Approval of an Intergovernmental Agreement between the County and all Municipalities that will Allow TSPLOST to be Voted on by the Public. **(APPROVED**



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**#51, with Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz, Alderwoman Gibson-Carter,  
Alderwoman Miller Blakely voting no)**

**Mayor Johnson adjourned the meeting at 6:05 p.m.**