



Work Session and City Manager's Briefing

The work session and City Manager's briefing was held at 12:01 p.m. Mayor Johnson called the meeting to order and 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 Fox

AGENDA ITEMS:

1. 100% Savannah Plan Annual Update.
[PRESENTED by City Manager Melder, Sustainability Director Nick Deffley, and Program Manager Alicia Brown, with Denise Cheeseman also present]
2. Fairgrounds Update.
[PRESENTED by City Manager Melder and City Attorney Lovett]
- ~~3. City Manager Update.~~

Following questions and comments from members of the City Council, Mayor Johnson adjourned the Work Session at 1:40 p.m.



Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Aldermen

The regular meeting of the City Council was held at 2:01 p.m. Mayor Johnson recognized Alderman Nick Palumbo who introduced Clinton Edminster, recently ordained by the Universal Life Church to offer the invocation. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited in unison.

PRESENT: Mayor Van R. Johnson, II, Presiding
Alderwoman Kesha Gibson-Carter, Post 1 – At-Large
Alderwoman Alicia Miller Blakely, Post 2 – At-Large
Alderwoman Bernetta B. Lanier, District 1
Alderman Detric Leggett, District 2
Alderwoman Linda Wilder-Bryan, District 3
Alderman Nick Palumbo, District 4, Vice Chairman
Alderwoman 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. Agenda for April 13, 2023. **(APPROVED #1 and #2 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

2. Approval of the Minutes for the Regular Meeting Held on March 23, 2023, at 6:30 p.m. **(APPROVED #1 and #2 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**

***Mayor Johnson recognized NLC CEO and Executive Director Clarence Anthony, along with senior staff members of the National League of Cities (NLC) who were in town conducting a Retreat**



PRESENTATIONS

3. Appearance by and Recognition of First Chatham Bank's \$7,500 Donation into the Savannah Affordable Housing Fund. **(PRESENTED by CHSA Executive Director Anita Smith-Dixon. Also present were Housing Savannah Executive Director Laura Lane McKinnon, Pastor Marsha Buford, and City Manager Jay Melder)**

4. A Proclamation Declaring April as National Child Abuse Prevention Month. National Child Abuse Prevention Month recognizes the importance of families and communities working together to strengthen families to prevent child abuse and neglect. Through this collaboration, prevention services and support help protect children and produce thriving families. **(PRESENTED by Mayor Johnson to Coastal Children's Advocacy Center Admin. Asst. Gloria Greer, Intake Specialist Kristen Waters, Family Victim Advocate Jordan Fields, Intern Brooke Benton, and Board of Directors Member Megan Edwards)**

5. ~~Appearance by and Recognition of Brittini Evans, the Miss Savannah 2023 Competition Winner. (Previously postponed from March Council Meeting)~~ **(Not Presented/Present)**

6. A Proclamation Declaring April as Safe Digging Month. Georgia 811 is utilized not only by municipalities, but homeowners and contractors as well. Calling 811 before digging helps locate vital utilities during construction so damage does not occur to those utilities. When a utility is damaged, it not only costs money, but sometimes property damage and, in some cases, even people's lives. **(PRESENTED by Mayor Johnson and Alderman Palumbo to Water/Sewer/Engineering Department team members)**

ZONING HEARINGS

7. Petition for a Map Amendment from Joshua Yellin, Agent for J. Elder Studio, on Behalf of 2613 Montgomery LLC (owner) to Rezone ~0.09 Acres at West 42nd Street (PIN 20073 31009) from TN-2 (Traditional Neighborhood-2) to TC-1 (Traditional Commercial-1) Aldermanic District 2 (File No. 23-001036-ZA). **Mayor Johnson opened the hearing for #7. See #8.**
Speaker(s):
 - **Melissa Paul-Leto, MPC representative**



- Joshua Yellin, representing the applicant

(CLOSED HEARING for #7 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)

ORDINANCES – FIRST AND SECOND READINGS

8. Petition for a Map Amendment from Joshua Yellin, Agent for J. Elder Studio, on Behalf of 2613 Montgomery LLC (owner) to Rezone ~0.09 Acres at West 42nd Street (PIN 20073 31009) from TN-2 (Traditional Neighborhood-2) to TC-1 (Traditional Commercial-1) Aldermanic District 2 (File No. 23-001036-ZA). **(After the first reading was considered the second reading, APPROVED #8, 6-3-0, with Alderwoman Gibson-Carter, Alderwoman Miller Blakely, and Alderwoman Lanier voting no.)**

PURCHASING ITEMS

9. Authorize the City Manager to Execute an Annual Contract for Grounds Maintenance at Facilities City-wide with SamJay Services (LOCAL) in the Amount of \$162,322. This contract will be used by the Facilities Department to provide grounds maintenance at 24 City properties. (Facilities Maintenance) **(APPROVED #9, #10, #11, #12, #15, #16, and #18 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**
10. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for the Purchase of Wastewater Sludge Disposal Chemicals for the City's Water Reclamation Facility on President Street in an Amount Not to Exceed \$200,000. This system adds chemicals to the treated wastewater to solidify sludge so it can be removed from the water treatment process for disposal. The chemicals will be used by the Water Reclamation Department to assist with the sludge processing and disposal process. (Water Reclamation) **(APPROVED #9, #10, #11, #12, #15, #16, and #18 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**
11. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for the Purchase of Wastewater Sludge Disposal Chemicals for the City's Water Reclamation Facility on President Street in an Amount Not to Exceed \$200,000. This system adds chemicals to the treated wastewater to solidify sludge so it can be removed from the water treatment process for disposal. The chemicals will be used by the Water Reclamation



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Department to assist with the sludge processing and disposal process. (Water Reclamation) **(APPROVED #9, #10, #11, #12, #15, #16, and #18 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**

12. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Final Closeout Modification for 2155 West Gwinnett Street, Fire Support and Code Compliance Building with Johnson-Laux Construction, LLC in the Amount of \$220,330.75. This final modification is needed to cover additional costs associated with unforeseen conditions. (Capital Projects) **(APPROVED #9, #10, #11, #12, #15, #16, and #18 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**
13. Authorize the City Manager to Execute the Final Closeout Modification for the Broughton Streetscape Project with Astra Construction Company in an Amount Not to Exceed \$1,250,000. The final closeout modification is needed to cover additional costs associated with unforeseen conditions. (Capital Projects) **(APPROVED #13, with Alderwoman Gibson-Carter and Alderwoman Miller Blakely voting no, UNANIMOUSLY, 7-2-0)**
14. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for Civil Design Engineering Services with CHA Consulting (LOCAL) in an Amount Not to Exceed \$1,300,000. The services will be used on an as-needed basis to include preparation of design plans, specifications, cost estimates, permitting, and construction documents for projects. (Capital Projects) **(APPROVED #14, with Alderwoman Gibson-Carter and Alderwoman Miller Blakely voting no, 7-2-0)**
15. Authorize the City Manager to Execute Contracts for Investment Grade Energy Audit for City buildings with NORESKO, LLC and Johnson Controls, Inc in an Amount Not to Exceed \$1,510,000. These audits will analyze energy, water, and material use and operational practices at City facilities and identify improvements that can be made to increase efficiency and generate cost savings. (Sustainability) **(APPROVED #9, #10, #11, #12, #15, #16, and #18 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**
16. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract Welding, Fabrication, and Machine Shop Services with Coastal Sunbelt Associates, Inc. (LOCAL) in an Amount not to Exceed \$141,600. These services will be utilized by the Stormwater Department and miscellaneous maintenance for various departments throughout the City to perform machine shop repairs, welding, and fabrication services.



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(Stormwater Management Division) **(APPROVED #9, #10, #11, #12, #15, #16, and #18 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**

17. Authorize the City Manager to Execute Contract Modification No. 1 for Late Night Alternative Transportation with Downtowner in an Amount Not to Exceed \$534,840. These transport services are for workers who park and live outside of the central business district who want safe, reliable transportation to and from their homes. (Parking & Mobility) **(APPROVED #17 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**
18. Authorize the City Manager to Execute Contract Modification No. 1 for Additional Mowers with John Deere c/o Beard Equipment Co. (formally Greenville Turf & Tractor) in an Amount Not to Exceed \$177,972. The additional mowers will consist of three (3) John Deere 60" zero turn mowers, one (1) 54" zero turn mower, two (2) 48" zero turn mowers, two (2) 54" zero turn mowers with material collection systems, five (5) 7.5' pull behind finishing mowers, and one (1) 10.5' pull behind finishing mower. (Park and Tree Department) **(APPROVED #9, #10, #11, #12, #15, #16, and #18 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**

SAVANNAH AIRPORT COMMISSION

19. Approval to Renew the 2023-2024 Annual Maintenance Agreement with Kone, Inc., in the Amount of \$159,692. **(APPROVED #19, #20, and #22 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**
20. Approval of an Agreement with CHA Consulting, Inc., for Design and Construction Administration Services for the Construct Auxiliary Parking Lots Project, in the Amount of \$118,840. **(APPROVED #19, #20, and #22 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**
21. Approval of Task Work Order No. 24 with AECOM for an Access Control System Assessment, in the Amount of \$52,538. **(APPROVED #21, with Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz abstaining/recusing herself due to business reasons, 8-0-1)**
22. Approval to Procure One Transit Commercial ADA, Full Size Wheelchair Van, in the Amount of \$87,018. **(APPROVED #19, #20, and #22 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**



RESOLUTIONS

23. Authorize the City Manager to Transfer a Vacant Lot at 0 Crescent Drive (PIN 20039 02087) in Savannah Gardens to the Chatham County/City of Savannah Land Bank Authority (LBA) to Facilitate its Transfer to CHSA Development, Inc. for the Construction of Two 3-Bedroom Dwellings for Families Experiencing Homelessness Utilizing CDBG-CV Funding Previously Approved by City Council. **(APPROVED #23 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**
24. Authorize Community Housing Services Agency, Inc. (CHSA) to Make a \$1,260,000 Loan from the Savannah Affordable Housing Fund in Support of a 2023 LIHTC Application to Develop 42 Affordable Housing Apartments on Vacant Land at 1700 Drayton Street and 104 E. 34th Street. **(APPROVED #24 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**
25. Authorize Community Housing Services Agency, Inc. (CHSA) to Make a \$1,920,000 Loan from the Savannah Affordable Housing Fund in Support of a 2023 LIHTC Application to Develop up to 64 Affordable Housing Apartments for Senior Citizens on About 3.8 Acres of Land on the Former Fairgrounds Property Located at 4801 Meding Street. **(APPROVED #25, with Alderwoman Gibson-Carter, Alderwoman Miller Blakely, and Alderwoman Lanier voting no, 6-3-0)**

AGREEMENTS

26. Approval of Modification No. 1 to the PY2022 Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Ross IES Youth Services Sub-awards (Bryan, Liberty, Long and Chatham) in the Amount of \$43,456.51. **(APPROVED #26 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**
27. Authorize the City Manager to Accept a Rapid Response Grant Award in the Amount of \$95,000. The award will be used to implement general Dislocated Worker workforce/training activities. The City serves as the fiduciary agent for the ten-county region. **(APPROVED #27 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**

CITY ATTORNEY'S ITEMS



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28. Settlement #1. **Authorized the City Attorney's Office to resolve the (worker's compensation) claim of Lawrence Chaplin for \$75,000.00 (APPROVED #28 and #29 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**
29. Settlement #2. **Authorized the City Attorney's Office to resolve the (worker's compensation) claim of Alfred Butler for \$40,000.00 (APPROVED #28 and #29 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**

MISCELLANEOUS

30. Approval of a Major Subdivision - Teal Lake Phase 2 Situated in Aldermanic District 5 at the Ends of Teal Lake Drive and Tar Creek Drive. The subject property is the second phase of an established subdivision. The proposed phase totals 10.86 acres and consists of 43 lots. **(APPROVED #30 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**
31. Authorize Supplemental Budget Appropriations to Fiscal Year 2023 Operating and Capital Improvement Program. **(APPROVED #31, with Alderwoman Gibson-Carter voting no, 8-1-0)**
32. Added Item (Agreements): Approval of a Purchasing and Sale Agreement for the Fairgrounds. **(APPROVED #32, with Alderwoman Gibson-Carter, Alderwoman Miller Blakely, and Alderwoman Lanier voting no, 6-3-0)**

Following a few announcements, Mayor Johnson adjourned the meeting at 4:44 p.m.