



Work Session and City Manager's Briefing

The work session and City Manager's briefing was held at 4:32 p.m. Mayor-Pro Tem Dr. Shabazz recognized Alderman Purtee to offer a prayer.

PRESENT: Mayor Van R. Johnson, II, Presiding
Alderman Keshia 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. Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Update. **[PRESENTED by City Manager Melder and Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Officer F. Takeshia Brown]**
2. ~~City Manager's Update.~~

Following questions and comments from members of the City Council, Mayor Johnson adjourned the Work Session at 5:57 p.m.



Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Aldermen

The regular meeting of the City Council was held at 6:32 p.m. Mayor Johnson recognized Bishop James Gregory Rodges, Senior Pastor of Jonesville Baptist Church of the PAW 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 Fox

AGENDA ITEMS:

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

1. Adoption of the Regular Meeting Agenda for May 25, 2023. **(APPROVED #1 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0, as amended by request of Mayor Johnson to add a special recognition)**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

2. Approval of the Minutes for the Work Session and City Manager's Briefing Held on May 11, 2023, at 12:00 p.m. **(APPROVED #2 and #3 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**
3. Approval of the Minutes for the Regular Meeting Held on May 11, 2023, at 2:00 p.m. **(APPROVED #2 and #3 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**



PRESENTATIONS

4. A Proclamation Declaring the Month of May as National Historic Preservation Month. It is important to celebrate the role of historic preservation in our lives and the contributions made by dedicated individuals in helping to safeguard the tangible aspects of the heritage that has shaped us as a people. **(PRESENTED by Mayor Johnson to the Historic Savannah Foundation and the Metropolitan Planning Commission-MPC Executive Director Melanie Wilson)**
Alderwoman Lanier and Alderwoman Miller Blakely stated for purposes of the record they are excusing themselves from this presentation. They indicated they do not support this recognition due to the city's previous position and lack of attention given to The Weeping Time property and other properties located in District 1.

***ADDED:** Proclamation Recognizing April 27, 2023, and May 25, 2023, as Colonel Hank Reed Day in the City of Savannah. **(PRESENTED by Mayor Johnson)**

ALCOHOL LICENSE HEARINGS

5. Approval of a Class C (Liquor, Beer, Wine) (By the Drink) Alcohol License with Sunday Sales to C. Ansley Williams for Boar's Head Grill and Tavern, a Restaurant, Located at 1 N. Lincoln Street Ramp Between East Bay and East River Streets in Aldermanic District 2.
Mayor Johnson declared the hearing open for #5.
No speaker(s).
CLOSED HEARING for #5 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0.
(APPROVED #5 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)

ZONING HEARINGS

6. Approval of a Zoning Text Amendment to Permit "Pharmacy for Medical Cannabis Dispensary or Medical Marijuana Dispensary" as a Limited and Special Use in Certain Zoning Districts. (File No. 22-003953-ZA)
Mayor Johnson declared the hearing open for #6.
Speaker(s):



- **Bridget Lidy, Urban Planning & Design Director**
CLOSED HEARING for #6, 8-1-0, with Alderwoman Gibson-Carter voting no.
See related agenda item #9.

7. Approval of a Zoning Text Amendment for Bridget Lidy on Behalf of the Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Savannah to Revise Sections 4.1.7 Building Measurements, 8.7.2 Generally, 8.7.4 Accessory Dwelling Units, 8.7.5 Caretaker Dwelling Unit as well as 13.2 and 13.5 Definitions of the Zoning Ordinance. Citywide. (File No. 22-005883)

Mayor Johnson declared the hearing open for #7.

Speaker(s):

- **Marcus Lotson, MPC representative**
- **Whitney Shephard – IN SUPPORT**

CLOSED HEARING for #7 UNANIMOUSLY, 8-0-1, with Alderman Purtee being not present for the vote. See related agenda item #10.

Written comment(s):

- **Tim Weber – OPPOSED**

8. Approval of a Zoning Text Amendment for Bridget Lidy on Behalf of the Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Savannah to Revise Section 3.2, Public Notice Procedures, to Comply with the Georgia Zoning Procedures Law. Citywide. (File No. 23-001583)

Mayor Johnson declared the hearing open for #8.

Speaker(s):

- **Marcus Lotson, MPC representative**

CLOSED HEARING for #8 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0. See related agenda item #11.

ORDINANCES – FIRST AND SECOND READINGS

9. Approval of a Zoning Text Amendment to Permit “Pharmacy for Medical Cannabis Dispensary or Medical Marijuana Dispensary” as a Limited and Special Use in Certain Zoning Districts. (File No. 22-003953-ZA) **(After the first reading was considered the second reading, APPROVED #9, 6-3-0, with Alderwoman Gibson-Carter, Alderwoman Miller Blakely, and Alderwoman Lanier voting no)**



10. Approval of a Zoning Text Amendment for Bridget Lidy on Behalf of the Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Savannah to Revise Sections 4.1.7 Building Measurements, 8.7.2 Generally, 8.7.4 Accessory Dwelling Units, 8.7.5 Caretaker Dwelling Unit as well as 13.2 and 13.5 Definitions of the Zoning Ordinance. Citywide. (File No. 22-005883) **(After the first reading was considered the second reading, APPROVED #10 UNANIMOUSLY, 8-0-1, with Alderman Purtee being not present for the vote)**
11. Approval of a Zoning Text Amendment for Bridget Lidy on Behalf of the Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Savannah to Revise Section 3.2 Public Notice Procedures to Comply with the Georgia Zoning Procedures Law. Citywide. File No. 23-001583. **(After the first reading was considered the second reading, APPROVED #11 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**
12. Approval to Amend Article E. 'Hotel Motel Tax' of the 2023 Revenue Ordinance to Adjust the Hotel Motel Tax Rate from Six Percent to Eight Percent and Establish an Effective Collection Date of September 1, 2023.
Mayor Johnson declared the 1st and 2nd reading of agenda item #12 open for public comment.
Speaker(s):
- Deidre Grim – **OPPOSED**
 - Bodua Gordon – **OPPOSED**
- (After the first reading was considered the second reading, APPROVED #12, 6-3-0, with Alderwoman Gibson-Carter, Alderwoman Miller Blakely, and Alderwoman Lanier voting no). See related agenda item #22.**

PURCHASING ITEMS

13. Authorize the City Manager to Execute Contract Modification No. 1 for Energy Performance Owner's Representative Services with 2KB Energy Services in an Amount Not to Exceed \$199,654. The modification covers the additional responsibilities related to the investment grade energy audit (IGEA) activities and the negotiation and execution of a GESPC, if pursued, specifically for water resources facilities. (Sustainability) **(APPROVED #13, #15, #17, and #20, UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**



SAVANNAH CITY COUNCIL
(Preliminary)
ACTION MEETING MINUTES
May 25, 2023

14. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract with Stantec Consulting Services, LLC in an Amount Not to Exceed \$492,500. The contract will encompass a range of services, including environmental assessments of properties, development of cleanup plans, grant management support, and reporting. The geographic focus of this grant-funded project includes the area between Habersham and Pennsylvania Ave north of Victory Drive, portions of the 37th St. / Victory Drive corridor, and neighborhoods in the west side of Savannah along Bay Street. (Sustainability) **(APPROVED #14 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**
15. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for Temporary Traffic Table Installation and Removal Services with SABE, Inc. (Primary)(LOCAL)(DBE) and AWP, Inc. (Secondary) in the Amount of \$206,720. The Transportation Services Department will use this service in an effort to expedite the installation of temporary traffic calming devices on approved residential streets. (Transportation) **(APPROVED #13, #15, #17, and #20, UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**
16. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract to Procure Various Playground Renovations, Multi-Station Play Structures, and Site Amenities with GameTime c/o Dominica Recreation Products, Inc. in an Amount Not to Exceed \$539,024. This equipment will replace aging park and playground features at 21 playgrounds as part of the Recreation Reimagined Initiative. (Parks & Recreation) **(APPROVED #16 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**
17. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for PLX PenLink Software from PenLink in the Amount of \$57,371. PLX PenLink will allow for the capability to aggregate and analyze the digital evidence the Savannah Police Department captures from mobile devices, social media, and other third-party systems. (Innovation + Technology) **(APPROVED #13, #15, #17, and #20, UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**
18. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for Recorder's Court AV Solution with NetPlanner Systems, Inc. (LOCAL) in the Amount of \$340,905. The Recorder's Court will use this project to implement a robust, cloud-based, audio-video conferencing and recording solution to three courtrooms allowing multiple parties reliable remote access to court proceedings. (Innovation + Technology) **(APPROVED #18 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**



19. Authorize the City Manager to Procure a Contract for New and Replacement Mobile Data Terminals (MDT) with Law and Order Technology, LLC in an Amount Not to Exceed \$920,000. The mobile data terminals will provide the Savannah Police Department (SPD) and Savannah Fire Department (SFD) real time GPS locations and information for current tasks. (IT) **(APPROVED #19 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**

20. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for Modernization of the Elevators in the Savannah Police Department (SPD) Headquarters Building with TK Elevator (LOCAL) in an Amount Not to Exceed \$886,035. The scope of the contract encompasses various updates and enhancements to the elevators, including the controller, motor, governor, car, hoist way, doors, car fixtures, and pit. (Capital Projects) **(APPROVED #13, #15, #17, and #20, UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**

SAVANNAH AIRPORT COMMISSION

21. Approval of Change Order No. 2 with Barnett Southern Corporation for the Southeast Quadrant Stormwater Drainage Improvements Project, in the Amount of \$51,175. **(APPROVED #21 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**

RESOLUTIONS

22. Approval of a Resolution to Authorize the City Manager to Execute the Hotel/Motel Excise Tax under O.C.G.A. 48-13-51(b) by Amending the City of Savannah's Hotel Motel Tax Rate from 6% to 8%; to Allow All Necessary Acts to Accomplish the Intent of this Resolution; and to Provide an Effective Date for the Execution of September 1, 2023. **(APPROVED #22, 6-3-0, with Alderwoman Gibson-Carter, Alderwoman Miller Blakely, and Alderwoman Lanier voting no). See related agenda item #12.**

AGREEMENTS

23. Approval of a Water & Sewer Agreement with Ann Street Property Owner, LLC for Kehoe Assemblage, a Development Consisting of a 215 Hotel Rooms, 232 Apartments and 2 Restaurants in the President Street Service Area.



(APPROVED #23, #24, and #25, 8-1-0, with Alderwoman Gibson-Carter voting no)

24. Approval of a Water & Sewer Agreement with Godley Station Enterprises, LLC for Brookline Subdivision Phases 3 & 4. This is for a development consisting of 109 single family homes in the Godley West service area. **(APPROVED #23, #24, and #25, 8-1-0, with Alderwoman Gibson-Carter voting no)**

25. Approval of a Water & Sewer Agreement with Marion Lake Owner, LLC for Marion Lake, a Development Consisting of a 305 Unit Multi-family Development in the Godley West Service Area. **(APPROVED #23, #24, and #25, 8-1-0, with Alderwoman Gibson-Carter voting no)**

REAL ESTATE ITEMS

26. Authorize the City Manager to Approve Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Effecting a Second Extension of Facilities Use Agreement with the Savannah-Chatham County Public School System Board of Education. **(APPROVED #26 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**

CITY ATTORNEY ITEMS

27. Settlement #1. **Authorized the City Attorney's Office to resolve the (settlement agreement) claim of Jamia Beaton for \$35,000.00 (APPROVED #27 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

28. Added Item on 05/22 - Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for Network Maintenance Services, Equipment, and Security Annual Renewal with Layer 3 Communications (LOCAL) in an Amount Not to Exceed \$1,075,000. The Innovation+Technology Services Department will use the service for hardware and software maintenance for designated Juniper, Aruba, and Palo Alto Networks equipment. (IT) **(APPROVED #28 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**

Following some announcements, Mayor Johnson adjourned the meeting at 10:27 p.m.