



Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Aldermen

The regular meeting of the City Council was held at 2:03 p.m. Mayor Johnson recognized Alderman Bernetta Lanier who introduced Pastor Samuel Pointer of Bethel Apostolic 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
Deputy City Attorney Jen Herman
Clerk of Council Mark Massey
Deputy Clerk of Council Margaret Fox

***Mayor Johnson announced today marked the beginning of Hannukah (at sundown), and he acknowledged and requested a moment of silence in remembrance of the recent passing of two city employees: Ronnie Hopkins, Jr.; and Debbie Miles Fields**

AGENDA ITEMS:

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

1. Adoption of the Regular Meeting Agenda for December 7, 2023. **(APPROVED #1 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**



APPROVAL OF MINUTES

2. Approval of the Minutes for the Work Session and City Manager's Briefing Held on November 21, 2023, at 12:00 p.m. **(APPROVED #2 & #3 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**
3. Approval of the Minutes for the Regular Meeting Held on November 21, 2023, at 2:00 p.m. **(APPROVED #2 & #3 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**

ORGANIZATIONAL ITEMS

4. Adoption of the 2024 Meeting Calendar for the Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Savannah. **(APPROVED #4 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**

ALCOHOL LICENSE HEARINGS

5. Approval of a Class C (Liquor, Beer, and Wine) (By the Drink) Alcohol License with Sunday Sales to Christopher Clarke for Orale Tacos, a Restaurant Located at 36 Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard. The establishment is located between West Congress and West Broughton Streets in Aldermanic District 2. (Item was continued from the November 21, 2023, City Council Meeting at the Petitioner's Request).
(CONTINUED/POSTPONED #5 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0, to the January 11, 2024, City Council Meeting, as requested by the petitioner)
6. Approval of a Class C (Liquor, Beer, and Wine) (By the Drink) Alcohol License to Alexander Bender for The Hawthorn Minibar and Lounge, a Bar Located at 524 Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard. The establishment is located between West Huntingdon and West Gaston Streets in Aldermanic District 2.
Mayor Johnson opened the hearings for #6, #7, #8, #9, and #10.
No speaker(s).
CLOSED HEARINGS for #6, #7, #8, #9, and #10 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0.
(APPROVED #6 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)
7. Approval of a Class C (Beer, and Wine) (By the Drink) Alcohol License to Alessandro Marra for Frali Gourmet, a Restaurant Located at 217 West Liberty



Street. The establishment is located between Tattnall and Barnard Streets in Aldermanic District 2.

Mayor Johnson opened the hearings for #6, #7, #8, #9, and #10.

No speaker(s).

CLOSED HEARINGS for #6, #7, #8, #9, and #10 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0.
(APPROVED #7 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)

Written comment(s):

- **Matt and Linda Fryer – IN SUPPORT**

8. Approval to Add a Class E (Wine) (By the Package) to Existing Class C (Liquor, Beer, and Wine) Alcohol License with Sunday Sales to Michael Vaudrin for Ordinary Pub, a Restaurant Located at 217 ½ West Broughton Street. The establishment is located between Jefferson and Barnard Streets in Aldermanic District 2.

Mayor Johnson opened the hearings for #6, #7, #8, #9, and #10.

No speaker(s).

CLOSED HEARINGS for #6, #7, #8, #9, and #10 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0.
(APPROVED #8 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)

9. Approval of a Class C (Liquor, Beer, and Wine) (By the Drink) and a Class K (Transitional) Alcohol License with Sunday Sales to Fred Stringer for Rack 'Em Up Bar & Lounge, a Restaurant Located at 2411 Skidaway Road. The establishment is located between East 40th and East 41st Streets in Aldermanic District 3.

Mayor Johnson opened the hearings for #6, #7, #8, #9, and #10.

No speaker(s).

CLOSED HEARINGS for #6, #7, #8, #9, and #10 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0.
(APPROVED #9 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)

10. Approval of a Class G (Wine) (Complimentary) (By the Drink) Alcohol License to Shanay Frazier for Studio 18 Salon, a Nail Salon Located at 4410 Ogeechee Road. The establishment is located between Chatham Parkway and Salt Creek Road in Aldermanic District 5.

Mayor Johnson opened the hearings for #6, #7, #8, #9, and #10.

No speaker(s).

CLOSED HEARINGS for #6, #7, #8, #9, and #10 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0.
(APPROVED #10 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)



PUBLIC HEARINGS

11. Final Public Hearing to Receive Comments on the 2024 Service Program and Budget.

Mayor Johnson opened the public hearing for #11.

Speaker(s):

- **Bob Eason – retirees**
- **Stanley Mosley – retirees**
- **Mike Nichols – retirees**
- **Warren Andrews – retirees**
- **William Black - retirees**

CLOSED HEARING for #11 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0. See related agenda items #22 and #33.

Written comment(s):

- **Virginia Mobley – splash pad/pool concerns**

ZONING HEARINGS

12. First Petition of Bridget Lidy on Behalf of Mayor and Aldermen for the City of Savannah for the Historic Savannah Foundation to Change the Future Land Use Map Category of the 0.11-Acre Property Located at 505 West 36th Street (20066 48011) from Traditional Neighborhood to Traditional Commercial in Aldermanic District 1 (File No. 23-005400-ZA).

Mayor Johnson opened the hearing for #12.

Speaker(s):

- **Edward Morrow, representing MPC**

CLOSED HEARING for #12 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0. See related agenda item #17.

Written comment(s):

- **Gloria William, Cuyler Brownville Neighborhood Association President – IN SUPPORT**

13. Second Petition of Bridget Lidy on Behalf of Mayor and Aldermen for the City of Savannah for the Historic Savannah Foundation (Owner) to Change the Zoning



for the 0.11-Acre Property Located at 505 West 36th Street (20066 48011) from Traditional Residential-1 (TR-1) to Traditional Commercial-1 (TC-1) in Aldermanic District 2 (File No. 23-005399-ZA).

Mayor Johnson opened the hearing for #13.

Speaker(s):

- Edward Morrow, representing MPC

CLOSED HEARING for #13 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0. See related agenda item #18.

Written comment(s):

- Gloria William, Cuyler Brownville Neighborhood Association Present
– IN SUPPORT

14. First Petition of Fiddler Investments, LLC on Behalf of Andrew Johnson and Richard Rodenberg to Change the Future Land Use Map Category for the 0.241-Acre Property Located at 2025 Texas Avenue (20060 20010) from Residential-Suburban Single-family to Residential-Single family in Aldermanic District 3. (File No. 23-005385-ZA).

Mayor Johnson opened the hearings for #14 and #15.

Speaker(s):

- Edward Morrow, representing MPC

CLOSED HEARINGS for #14 and #15 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0. See related agenda items #19 and #20.

15. Second Petition of Fiddler Investments, LLC on Behalf of Andrew Johnson and Richard Rodenberg to Rezone the 0.241-Acre Property Located at 2025 Texas Avenue (20060 20010) from Residential Single Family-6 (RSF-6) to Residential Single Family-5 (RSF-5) in Aldermanic District 3 (File No. 23-005383-ZA).

Mayor Johnson opened the hearings for #14 and #15.

Speaker(s):

- Edward Morrow, representing MPC

CLOSED HEARINGS for #14 and #15 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0. See related agenda items #19 and #20.

16. Petition of Bridget Lidy on Behalf of Mayor and Aldermen for the City of Savannah to Amend Article G, Design Standards of the Subdivision Regulations, Article 3.0, Application and Review Procedures, and Article 7.0, Overlay Districts of the Zoning Ordinance to Require a Certificate of Appropriateness for



Subdivisions within the Savannah Downtown Historic Overlay District in Aldermanic District 2 (File No. 23-005697-ZA).

Mayor Johnson opened the hearing for #16.

Speaker(s):

- **Bridget Lidy, Planning & Urban Design Senior Director – petitioner**
- **Andrew Jones – IN SUPPORT**
- **Ellie Isaacs – IN SUPPORT**
- **Ryan Jarles – IN SUPPORT**
- **David McDonald – IN SUPPORT**
- **Karen Jarrett – OPPOSED by requesting it to be continued**
- **Richard “Dicky” Mopper - OPPOSED**

CLOSED HEARING for #16 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0. See related agenda item #21.

Written comment(s):

- **Paul & Caren Cobet – IN SUPPORT**
- **Mariah Ringhoff – IN SUPPORT**
- **Regina Roney – IN SUPPORT**
- **Don Steinberg – IN SUPPORT**
- **Rick Roney – IN SUPPORT**
- **A. Cory Highland – IN SUPPORT**
- **Andrew Jones – IN SUPPORT**
- **Justin A. Godchaux – IN SUPPORT**
- **Martha A. Barnes – IN SUPPORT**
- **Eleanor Rhangos – IN SUPPORT**
- **Birgit and Kurt Reiff – IN SUPPORT**
- **Teresa Jo Styles – Concerned re: how this may affect her property**
- **Katie Glusica – IN SUPPORT**
- **Arthur Scinta & Catherine Campbell – IN SUPPORT**

ORDINANCES – FIRST AND SECOND READING

17. First Petition of Bridget Lidy on Behalf of Mayor and Aldermen for the City of Savannah for the Historic Savannah Foundation to Change the Future Land Use Map Category of the 0.11-Acre Property Located at 505 West 36th Street (20066 48011) from Traditional Neighborhood to Traditional Commercial in Aldermanic District 1 (File No. 23-005400-ZA).



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(After the first reading was considered the second reading, APPROVED #17 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)

18. Second Petition of Bridget Lidy on Behalf of Mayor and Aldermen for the City of Savannah for the Historic Savannah Foundation (Owner) to Change the Zoning for the 0.11-Acre Property Located at 505 West 36th Street (20066 48011) from Traditional Residential-1 (TR-1) to Traditional Commercial-1 (TC-1) in Aldermanic District 2 (File No. 23-005399-ZA).

(After the first reading was considered the second reading, APPROVED #18 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)

19. First Petition of Fiddler Investments, LLC on Behalf of Andrew Johnson and Richard Rodenberg to Change the Future Land Use Map Category for the 0.241-Acre Property Located at 2025 Texas Avenue (20060 20010) from Residential-Suburban Single-family to Residential-Single family in Aldermanic District 3. (File No. 23-005385-ZA).

(After the first reading was considered the second reading, APPROVED #19 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)

20. Second Petition of Fiddler Investments, LLC on Behalf of Andrew Johnson and Richard Rodenberg to Rezone the 0.241-Acre Property Located at 2025 Texas Avenue (20060 20010) from Residential Single Family-6 (RSF-6) to Residential Single Family-5 (RSF-5) in Aldermanic District 3 (File No. 23-005383-ZA).

(After the first reading was considered the second reading, APPROVED #20 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)

21. Petition of Bridget Lidy on Behalf of Mayor and Aldermen for the City of Savannah to Amend Article G, Design Standards of the Subdivision Regulations, Article 3.0, Application and Review Procedures, and Article 7.0, Overlay Districts of the Zoning Ordinance to Require a Certificate of Appropriateness for Subdivisions within the Savannah Downtown Historic Overlay District in Aldermanic District 2 (File No. 23-005697-ZA).

(HEARD for First Reading Only, as ordered by Mayor Johnson)

ORDINANCES – SECOND READING

22. Approval of the 2024 Revenue Ordinance. Each year, City Council adopts a Revenue Ordinance to authorize the collection of taxes and fees.

(APPROVED #22, 8-1-0, with Alderwoman Gibson-Carter voting no)



23. Zoning Map Amendment for Bryan Wardlaw from Landmark 24 on Behalf of William Fawcett (Owner) to Rezone ~105 Acres on Wild Heron Road (PIN 21003 03001) from A-1 (Agriculture-1) to RSF-5 (Residential Single Family-5) and RMF-1 (Residential Multifamily-1) with Conditions in Aldermanic District 6 (File No. 22-002692-ZA). (Item continue to the December 19, 2023 City Council meeting at the Petitioner's Request).

(CONTINUED/POSTPONED #23, as announced by Mayor Johnson) Written comment(s):

- **Petra Echauri – OPPOSED**

PURCHASING ITEMS

24. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for Truman Parkway Vegetation Maintenance with Sabe, Inc. (LOCAL)(DBE) in an Amount Not to Exceed \$161,850. These services are used for on and off- ramp debris removal, tree pruning, and all vegetation undergrowth within the City limits. (Park & Tree) **(APPROVED #24, #25, #26, #27, #29, #30 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**

25. Notification of an Emergency Purchase to Replace the Failing Uninterrupted Power Supply (UPS) for the Kerry Street Radio Tower from Eaton in the Amount of \$82,950. The Innovation + Technology Services Department used Eaton's services to replace the malfunctioning UPS at the Kerry Street Tower, which facilitates Savannah's radio network. (ITS) **(APPROVED #24, #25, #26, #27, #29, #30 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**

26. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for AssetWorks Enterprise Asset Management (EAM) Upgrade and Renewal from AssetWorks in the Amount of \$208,089. AssetWorks EAM would be an expansion of the FleetFocusFA system currently being used by Fleet Services. It will allow Fleet Services to upgrade the outdated FleetFocusFA software and, migrate and store the existing data on a cloud platform supported by AssetWorks. (ITS) **(APPROVED #24, #25, #26, #27, #29, #30 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**

27. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract Modification No. 1 and Renewal for Medical and Pharmacy Stop Loss with International Assurance of Tennessee, Inc. in the Amount of \$884,082. This is a contract to provide for catastrophic claims



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reinsurance coverage for the City's self-funded medical and pharmacy plans. (Human Resources) **(APPROVED #24, #25, #26, #27, #29, #30 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**

28. Authorize the City Manager to Execute the Final Close-out Modification for Dundee Cottages Infrastructure with Johnson-Laux (LOCAL) in the Amount of \$127,473. This modification is needed for the removal of additional unsuitable debris found at the site over the contract allowance, revisions to the site plans to accommodate an updated building footprint including additional grading and the installation of a knee wall, and additional utility underground work for electrical, water, and sewer. (Capital Projects) **(APPROVED #28, 8-1-0, with Alderwoman Gibson-Carter voting no)**
29. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for President Street Plant Structural Repairs with Midwest Maintenance in the Amount of \$229,635. The President Street Reclamation Plant requires numerous repairs which include cracks and spalls in the ceiling, floor, and walls. The work also includes removing lead-based paint in the affected areas and repainting the repaired areas. (Capital Projects) **(APPROVED #24, #25, #26, #27, #29, #30 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**
30. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for Fire Station 6 and 8 Restoration with Lynn Construction in an Amount Not to Exceed \$336,392. This project will address deferred maintenance throughout Fire Station 6 located at 3000 Liberty Parkway in Aldermanic District 5, and Fire Station 8 located at 2824 Bee Road in Aldermanic District 3, to include the common areas, living quarters, restrooms, and offices. The work will include interior improvements such as new flooring, paint, and lighting throughout the facility and improvements to the restrooms. (Facilities Maintenance) **(APPROVED #24, #25, #26, #27, #29, #30 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**
31. Authorize the City Manager to Execute the Final Close-out Modification for the Travis Field Force Main with Ruby-Collins, Inc. in the Amount of \$263,835. This modification includes re-mobilization of driller, deeper excavation due to unexpected deep existing utilities, and revised fitting connections. (Public Works & Water Resources) **(APPROVED #31, 8-1-0, with Alderwoman Gibson-Carter voting no)**



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32. Authorize the City Manager to Execute the Final Close-out Modification for Travis Field Water Reclamation Facility Project with Ruby-Collins, Inc in the Amount of \$1,314,538. This modification is needed due to changes, additional buildings/enclosures to protect equipment, electrical control changes for added monitoring capabilities, and site safety improvements (Public Works & Water Resources) **(APPROVED #32, 8-1-0, with Alderwoman Gibson-Carter voting no)**

RESOLUTIONS

33. Resolution to Approve the FY 2024 Proposed Service Program and Budget. **(APPROVED #33, 8-1-0, with Alderwoman Gibson-Carter voting no)**
34. Approval of a Resolution Making Available an Amount Not to Exceed \$12.5 Million from the Water and Sewer Fund for the Purpose of Funding the Acquisition and Construction of Public Improvements on Hutchinson Island Pursuant to a Development Agreement Between The Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Savannah and Savannah Harbor Partners, LLC. **(APPROVED #34, 8-0-1, with Alderwoman Gibson-Carter abstaining)**

AGREEMENTS

35. Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) Between the Georgia Department of Transportation and the City of Savannah to Proceed with Preliminary Engineering Commitments Related to the I-16 at Montgomery Street and Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard Ramp and Overpass Removal (PI No. 0011744). **(APPROVED #35, 7-2-0, with Alderwoman Gibson-Carter and Alderwoman Miller Blakely voting no)**

MISCELLANEOUS

36. Approval of a Major Subdivision: Flannery Ward Lots 65, 66 & 67. The subject property is the first phase and only anticipated phase of the Flannery Ward Subdivision. This proposed subdivision is located on West 38th Street between Montgomery Street and Jefferson Street, totals 0.403 acres, and will consist of seven (7) single family lots to be occupied by single family attached buildings in Aldermanic District 2. (This item was postponed from the November 21, 2023,



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37. Approval of a Major Subdivision: Oakwood at New Hampstead Phase 1A. The subject property is the first phase of a subdivision named Oakwood at New Hampstead located on Highgate Boulevard off Little Neck Road. This proposed phase totals 12.953 acres and will consist of 42 single family lots with varying lot sizes. Oakwood Phase 1A has its own dedicated entrance located off Highgate Boulevard. **(APPROVED #37, 7-2-0, with Alderwoman Gibson-Carter and Alderwoman Miller Blakely voting no)**

38. Approval of a Major Subdivision: Portion of Lot 1, Savannah Economic Development Authority. This proposed property totals 576.21 acres and will consist of 10 lots with varying lot sizes located in the New Hampstead Area at cross streets Old River Road and Four Lakes Parkway. Savannah Chatham Manufacturing Center is a major subdivision plat for the Savannah Economic Development Authority, platted as future manufacturing development sites for prospective clients looking to invest in the Savannah Area. **(CONDITIONALLY APPROVED #38 so all parties can conduct a traffic study, 8-1-0, with Alderwoman Gibson-Carter voting no)**

Following announcements, Mayor Johnson adjourned the meeting at 3:54 p.m.