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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 11:07 a.m., in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Media Room. Mayor Johnson called the meeting to order and recognized Alderman Purtee to offer a prayer.

**PRESENT:** Mayor Van R. Johnson, II, Presiding  
Alderman Carolyn H. Bell, 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 – Vice Chair  
Alderman Nick Palumbo, District 4 – 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 Jennifer Herman  
Clerk of Council Mark Massey  
Deputy Clerk of Council Margaret Fox

**AGENDA ITEMS:**

1. Closed Executive Session Regarding Personnel, Real Estate, and Litigation. **[Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz moved to recess the workshop and hold a closed executive session (4<sup>th</sup> Floor conference room) regarding personnel, real estate, and litigation, seconded by Aldermen Leggett and Alderman Wilder-Bryan. The motion passed unanimously, 7-0-2, with Alderman Miller Blakely and Alderman Lanier being not present for the vote.**

The executive session began at 11:14 a.m. and ended at 12:38 p.m.

**Alderman Wilder-Bryan moved to end the executive session and recess until 1:30 p.m. for the City Manager's review of the agenda (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Media Room), seconded by Alderman Leggett. The motion passed unanimously, 9-0-0.]**



**SAVANNAH CITY COUNCIL**  
**(Preliminary)**  
**ACTION MEETING MINUTES**  
**JANUARY 25, 2024**

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~~2. City Manager's Update.~~

3. Agenda Review. [**PRESENTED** by City Manager Melder]

**At 1:32 p.m., Mayor Johnson reconvened the workshop for the agenda review.**

**There was no action taken during the workshop, agenda review, and executive session. Mayor Johnson adjourned the pre-meetings at 1:52 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 2:02 p.m. Mayor Johnson recognized Reverend Dr. Carolyn H. Bell, Alderwoman, to offer the invocation. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited in unison.

**PRESENT:** Mayor Van R. Johnson, II, Presiding  
Alderwoman Carolyn H. Bell, 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  
Alderwoman Dr. Estella Edwards Shabazz, District 5  
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:**

**Mayor Johnson exercised a point of personal privilege to recognize Amazon Head of Community Affairs (Atlanta Region) Terreta Rodgers and Regional Public Relations Manager Shemeeka Johnson for working with him to deliver school supplies at local elementary schools, Haven, Brock, Gadsden, and A.B. Williams.**

### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

1. Adoption of the Regular Meeting Agenda for January 25, 2024. **(APPROVED #1 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**



**SAVANNAH CITY COUNCIL**  
**(Preliminary)**  
**ACTION MEETING MINUTES**  
**JANUARY 25, 2024**

2. Approval of the Minutes for the Work Session and City Manager's Briefing Held on January 11, 2024, at 11:00 a.m. **(APPROVED #2 and #3 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**
3. Approval of the Minutes for the Regular Meeting Held on January 11, 2024, at 2:00 p.m. **(APPROVED #2 and #3 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**

**PRESENTATIONS**

4. An appearance by the Savannah Interagency Diversity Council (SIDC) to receive a proclamation declaring January 2024 as Human Trafficking Awareness Month in Savannah and to announce the 9th Annual Traffick Jam which will be held on January 26-27, 2024. **[PRESENTED by Mayor Johnson to SIDC Chairman William Gettis and USDOJ representative Barry Paschal]**
5. Appearance by and Recognition of the Second City Manager's Emerging Leaders Academy Participants. **[PRESENTED by City Manager Melder]**

**ALCOHOL LICENSE HEARINGS**

6. 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). (APPLICATION WITHDRAWN BY PETITIONER)  
**(Mayor Johnson announced that the petitioner withdrew their application.)**
7. Approval to Add a Class C (Liquor) (By the Drink) to an Existing Class C (Beer and Wine) Alcohol License with Sunday Sales to Pijit Healy for PJ's Thai Corner, a Restaurant Located at 147 Abercorn Street. The establishment is located on the Northwestern Corner of East Oglethorpe Avenue and Abercorn Street in Aldermanic District 2.  
**Mayor Johnson opened the hearings for #7 and #9.**  
**No speaker(s).**  
**CLOSED PUBLIC HEARINGS for #7 and #9 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0.**  
**(APPROVED #7 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**



8. Approval of a Class C (Beer, Liquor, and Wine) (By the Drink) Alcohol License with Sunday Sales to Brittany O’Neal for B. Nicole’s Bistro, a Restaurant Located at 1639 East Victory Drive. The establishment is located between Wicklow and Grenoble Streets in Aldermanic District 3.

**Mayor Johnson opened the hearing for #8.**

**No speaker(s).**

**CLOSED PUBLIC HEARING for #8 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0.**

**(Following a motion to approve, DENIED LICENSE for #8, 6-3-0, with Mayor Johnson, Alderwoman Miller Blakely, and Alderwoman Lanier voting against the motion to deny.)**

**Written comment(s):**

- **B.J. Lowenthal/Danielle Murray – Expressed concerns with parking and the potential for loitering.**

9. Approval of a Class C (Liquor, Beer, and Wine) (By the Drink) Alcohol License with Sunday Sales to Pijit Healy for Klom Klom, a Restaurant Located at 7201 Hodgson Memorial Drive. The establishment is located between Mall Boulevard and Eisenhower Drive in Aldermanic District 4.

**Mayor Johnson opened the hearings for #7 and #9.**

**No speaker(s).**

**CLOSED PUBLIC HEARINGS for #7 and #9 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0.**

**(APPROVED #9 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**

## **ORDINANCES – SECOND READING**

10. Petition of John D. Northup III, Agent for Capital Development Partners, for a Comprehensive Plan Future Land Use Map (FLUM) Amendment from Residential - Suburban Single Family to Industry Light for ~52.86 Acres Located at 343 and 339 Buckhalter Road (10942 01003 & -01002A), 335 Buckhalter Road (10942 01002B), 331 Buckhalter Road (10942 01002C), 325 Buckhalter Road (10942 01002D), 323 Buckhalter Road (10942 01002F), 315 Buckhalter Road (10942 01002E), 309 Buckhalter Road (10942 01007 & -01008), and 311 Buckhalter Road (10942 01009). (File No. 23-002328-ZA). **(APPROVED #10**



**UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0, to include updated recommendations made by the City Manager, as follows:**

- **Provide a 100-foot buffer along the northern border of phase 1 to include a vegetated earthen berm at least eight (8) feet in height, and/or a combination vegetated earthen berm/sound wall at least eight feet in height;**
- **Provide a 100-foot buffer along the eastern border of phase 1 to include temporary sound, light, and visibility mitigation devices, which can include a vegetate earthen berm at least eight (8) feet in height. AND, if phase 2 properties are not purchased by the petitioner within 24 months of the completion of the CPPI's capital construction of building, the petitioner must install permanent treatments identical to those required along the northern border;**
- **A Mitigation Agreement will be finalized within 30 days; and,**
- **A recombination plat would be required.)**

11. Petition of John D. Northrup III, Agent for Capital Development Partners, for a Zoning Map Amendment to Rezone ~52.86 Acres Located at 343 and 339 Buckhalter Road (10942 01003 & -01002A), 335 Buckhalter Road (10942 01002B), 331 Buckhalter Road (10942 01002C), 325 Buckhalter Road (10942 01002D), 323 Buckhalter Road (10942 01002F), 315 Buckhalter Road (10942 01002E), 309 Buckhalter Road (10942 01007 & -01008), and 311 Buckhalter Road (10942 01009) from R-A-CO (Residential Agricultural) to IL (Light Industrial) with Conditions (File No. 23-000304-ZA). **(APPROVED #11 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0, to include updated recommendations made by the City Manager, as follows:**

- **Provide a 100-foot buffer along the northern border of phase 1 to include a vegetated earthen berm at least eight (8) feet in height, and/or a combination vegetated earthen berm/sound wall at least eight feet in height;**
- **Provide a 100-foot buffer along the eastern border of phase 1 to include temporary sound, light, and visibility mitigation devices, which can include a vegetate earthen berm at least eight (8) feet in height. AND, if phase 2 properties are not purchased by the petitioner within 24 months of the completion of the CPPI's capital**



construction of building, the petitioner must install permanent treatments identical to those required along the northern border;

- A Mitigation Agreement will be finalized within 30 days; and,
- A recombination plat would be required.)

## **PURCHASING ITEMS**

12. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for a Certified Nursing Assistant Program with King Training Center, LLC in an Amount Not to Exceed \$55,548. The Certified Nursing Assistant job training program is hosted by the Human Services Department at the Moses Jackson Center and will provide 40 scholarships for high-demand and high-wage entry-level employment opportunities for income eligible residents. (Human Services) **(APPROVED #12 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**
13. Authorize the City Manager to Execute an Annual Maintenance Agreement for the Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition System (SCADA) with Emerson Process Management (LOCAL) in an Amount Not to Exceed \$123,719. The annual maintenance agreement will be used by the Public Works and Water Resources Department to provide hardware repair, software updates, technical support, and other repair services associated with the SCADA network. (Water Supply & Treatment Department) **(APPROVED #13, #14, #15, and #16 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**
14. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Two-Year Contract for State and Federal Legislative Services from Holland & Knight in an Amount Not to Exceed \$222,000 per year. The two-year contract will provide both state and federal legislative assistance with the Georgia General Assembly, State Agencies, United States Congress, and Federal Agencies on behalf of the City of Savannah. (Office of the City Manager) **(APPROVED #13, #14, #15, and #16 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**
15. Authorize the City Manager to Execute Contract Modification No. 1 for Splash Pads with Great Southern Recreation in the Amount of \$48,086. This contract modification is for site grading and additional plumbing connections that are needed for the Victory Heights and Avondale Neighborhoods splash pads. (Capital Projects) **(APPROVED #13, #14, #15, and #16 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**



**SAVANNAH CITY COUNCIL**  
**(Preliminary)**  
**ACTION MEETING MINUTES**  
**JANUARY 25, 2024**

16. Notification of an Emergency Purchase For Bar Screens with Cornerstone H2O in the Amount of \$146,500. These bar screens consist of stationary inclined bars, which are cleaned by motor-driven rakes that are used to remove debris from incoming stormwater flows. The debris includes floatable plastics and organic materials, which may damage the pumps. (Stormwater) **(APPROVED #13, #14, #15, and #16 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**
17. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for the Design of the New Hampstead Public Safety Facility with Greenline Architecture (LOCAL)(DBE) in an Amount Not to Exceed \$582,500. The consultant's services will be used for developing and implementing design and construction documents for a 25,000+ square foot joint police and fire facility that also includes shared space for department and community use, as well as training and storage. (Capital Projects) **(APPROVED #17 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**

**RESOLUTIONS**

18. A Resolution In Support of the Okefenokee Swamp. **(APPROVED #18, 7-2-0, with Alderwoman Miller Blakely and Alderwoman Lanier voting no)**

**Written comment(s):**

- **Jen Hilburn – IN SUPPORT (Thank you)**
- **Ben Prater – IN SUPPORT**
- **Rena Ann Peck – IN SUPPORT**
- **Monica Thornton/Bailey Izard – IN SUPPORT**

19. Approval of a Resolution to Authorize the City Manager to Request Defederalization the City's Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) Award #04-39-04101 and execute an "Agreement to Release" the Economic Development Administration (EDA) Federal Interest in the Revolving Loan Fund. **(APPROVED #19 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**
20. Approval of a Resolution to Authorize the City Manager to execute a contract modification with Chatham-Savannah Authority for the Homeless in the amount of \$155,000 to provide Street Outreach and Transportation Services for an additional year. **(APPROVED #20 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**



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**AGREEMENTS**

21. Approval of a Water & Sewer Agreement with Parkway & 17 Hotel Partners, LLC for Woodsprings Suites, a development consisting of a 4-story, 99 room hotel at 115 Woodsprings Drive off Chatham Parkway in the President Street Treatment Plant service area located in Aldermanic District 5. **(APPROVED #21 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**

**REAL ESTATE ITEMS**

22. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Third Amendment to Extend the Lease Agreement for the Property at 602 East Lathrop Avenue (Savannah Police Department Northwest Precinct) in the Amount of \$410,524.51. **(APPROVED #22 UNANIMOUSLY, 8-0-1, with Alderwoman Wilder-Bryan being away from the dais)**
23. Authorize the City Manager to Approve Second Amendment to the Lease for Eastside Police Precinct at 2250 East Victory Drive in the Amount of \$176,436 Escalating at 4% per year. **(APPROVED #23 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**
24. Authorize the City Manager to Approve the Purchase of Easements Across Seven Parcels to Facilitate a Sewer Project in the Southwest Quadrant at an Amount of \$33,761. **(APPROVED #24 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**

**CITY ATTORNEY ITEMS**

25. Settlement #1.  
**Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz moved to authorize the City Attorney's Office to settle the claim (worker's compensation matter) of Amanda Brooner for \$80,000.00, seconded by Ald. Palumbo. The motion passed unanimously, 9-0-0.**

**MISCELLANEOUS**

26. Approval of a Major Subdivision: Bradley Pointe South Phase 11, a portion of Parcel 1A of the Vallambrosa Plantation. This proposed property totals 6.145 acres and will consist of 32 lots with varying lot sizes. The property is in Alderman District 6 at Street Location: Flager Drive and Stetson Drive. **(APPROVED #26 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**



**SAVANNAH CITY COUNCIL**  
**(Preliminary)**  
**ACTION MEETING MINUTES**  
**JANUARY 25, 2024**

Following announcements, Mayor Johnson adjourned the meeting at 3:02  
p.m.