



Work Session and City Manager's Briefing

The work session and City Manager's briefing was held at 11:08 a.m., in the 2nd 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
Clerk of Council Mark Massey
Deputy Clerk of Council Margaret Fox

AGENDA ITEMS:

1. Appointments to Boards, Commissions, and Authorities. **[FACILITATED by Mayor Johnson]**
2. Annual Public Safety Update. **[PRESENTED by Police Department, Fire Department, and Community Services/ONSE]**
3. ~~City Manager's Agenda Review.~~ **[FORGONE/FORWENT]**

There was no action taken during the workshop. Mayor Johnson adjourned the pre-meeting at 1:32 p.m.



Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Aldermen

The regular meeting of the City Council was held at 2:07 p.m. Mayor Johnson recognized Alderman Bernetta B. Lanier to introduce Chief Alagba Akinsegun from the Oyotunji African Village located in the Low Country in Beaufort County, SC, to offer the invocation. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited in unison.

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
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AGENDA ITEMS:

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

1. Adoption of the Regular Meeting Agenda for February 22, 2024. **(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 February 8, 2024, at 12:00 a.m. **(APPROVED #2 and #3 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**
3. Approval of the Minutes for the Regular Meeting Held on February 8, 2024, at 2:00 p.m. **(APPROVED #2 and #3 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**



PRESENTATIONS

4. Appearance by the Girl Scouts of Historic Georgia. **[PRESENTED by CEO Sue Else, Girl Scout Ella Shaffer, and Senior Director of Program Lorena Kirschner]**
5. Proclamation Recognizing WTOC TV 70th Anniversary serving the Coastal Empire and Lowcountry. **[PRESENTED by Mayor Johnson to the WTOC General Manager Marsha Fogarty and WTOC Team, past and present]**
6. ~~Proclamation Recognizing Parent University 25th Anniversary.~~
[FORGONE/FORWENT]
7. Presentation of the Employee Engagement Team and Recognition of 4th Quarter 2023 Employee of the Quarter Winners. **[PRESENTED by City Manager Melder]**

ALCOHOL LICENSE HEARINGS

8. Approval for a Class E (Beer and Wine) (By the Package) Alcohol License to Blake Greco for Parker's #123, a Convenience Store Located at 2500 Fort Argyle Road. The establishment is located between Highgate Boulevard and Turpentine Trail in Aldermanic District 5.
Mayor Johnson opened the hearing for #8.
No speaker(s).
CLOSED PUBLIC HEARING for #8 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0.
(APPROVED #8 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)

ZONING HEARINGS

9. Recommendation from the Historic District Board of Review for a Text Amendment to Section 7.8 Savannah Downtown Historic District of the Zoning Ordinance by Adding 412 Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard (PIN 20031 36010) to the Contributing Resources Map (File No. 24-000566-ZA) in Aldermanic District 2.
Mayor Johnson opened the hearing for #9.
Speaker(s):



- **Melanie Wilson, MPC executive director**
- **Caitlin Chamberlain, MPC historic preservation representative**
- **Harold Yellin – OPPOSED**
- **Shedrick Coleman – OPPOSED**
- **James Hundsrucker – SUPPORTED HDBR recommendation**
- **Susan Adler, Historic Savannah Foundation – did not object to demolition**

CLOSED PUBLIC HEARING for #9 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0. See related agenda item #10.

ORDINANCES – FIRST AND SECOND READING

10. Recommendation from the Historic District Board of Review for a Text Amendment to Section 7.8 Savannah Downtown Historic District of the Zoning Ordinance by Adding 412 Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard (PIN 20031 36010) to the Contributing Resources Map (File No. 24-000566-ZA) in Aldermanic District 2. **(DENIED #10, 8-1-0, with Alderwoman Miller Blakely voting no, and as recommended by the City Manager, with the following conditions also recommended by the MPC:**

- **The property owner shall comply with the MPC’s demolition documentation process;**
- **Should the property be deconstructed, the historic materials shall be salvaged for reuse; and**
- **A demolition permit shall not be approved until the HDBR secures COAs for Phase I and II for both 412 and 414 MLK.)**

11. Enactment of Article B. Major Special Events of Chapter 6, Special Events, of Public Safety, of Division II of the Code of the City of Savannah. **(APPROVED #11, 8-1-0, with Alderwoman Lanier voting no)**

PURCHASING ITEMS

12. Authorize the City Manager to Execute an Annual Contract for Barracuda’s Cloud-Based Email Archive System from SHI International in the Amount of \$76,800. The Department of Innovation and Technology Services uses the Barracuda message



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archive system to provide critical service for email filtering with advanced threat protection. This service scans and protects incoming and outgoing emails to ensure that accidental or intentional malicious data is not introduced into our environment. This cloud-based service protects the integrity of the network and systems that the Innovation and Technology Services supports. (ITS) **(APPROVED #12, #13, #14, #15, #16, #17, and #18 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**

13. Authorize the City Manager to Execute an Annual Contract For Microwave Equipment and Network Upgrades with Williams Communications in the amount of \$80,101. The current microwave system that supports the Southeast Georgia Regional Radio Network (SEGARRN) co-managed by the City of Savannah and Chatham County has reached an end-of-life status for support. (ITS) **(APPROVED #12, #13, #14, #15, #16, #17, and #18 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**
14. Authorize the City Manager to Renew an Annual Contract for Software Services with Harris Govern in the Amount of \$124,318. This agreement will provide maintenance and support for the Revenue Department's Govern Software used for processing and managing property taxes, central cashiering, business licenses, and utility billing. (ITS) **(APPROVED #12, #13, #14, #15, #16, #17, and #18 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**
15. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for Computer Replacements and New Purchases with Dell Marketing LP in an Amount Not to Exceed \$1,000,000. This contract will be used by the Innovation and Technology Services Department to provide end user devices such as laptops, desktops, monitors, and rugged tablets. (ITS) **(APPROVED #12, #13, #14, #15, #16, #17, and #18 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**
16. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for a 12' Mechanical Bypass Pump with Mersino in an Amount Not to Exceed \$109,997. The pump serves as an emergency backup pump for Lift Station 193. The lift station will have increased flow due to the new Hyundai Plant requiring a much higher pumping capacity than currently available through existing bypass pumps. (Public Works and Water Resources) **(APPROVED #12, #13, #14, #15, #16, #17, and #18 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**



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17. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for Manhole Monitoring Alarm Devices with Mission Communications, LLC in an Amount Not to Exceed \$200,000. The monitoring devices will provide real-time communication in the City's sanitary sewer system when problematic issues arise. (Sewer Maintenance and Lift Station) **(APPROVED #12, #13, #14, #15, #16, #17, and #18 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**
18. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for Manhole Monitoring Equipment with Kazimer & Associates in an Amount Not to Exceed \$200,000. The monitoring equipment provides communication and monitors over 250 manhole monitoring alarm devices and 200 lift station monitoring alarms devices throughout the City sewer system. (Water Distribution and Conveyance) **(APPROVED #12, #13, #14, #15, #16, #17, and #18 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**
19. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Construction Contract for Lift Station #193 Force Main Upgrade with Ruby-Collins Inc. in the Amount of \$12,845,666. This will provide the installation approximately 26,000 linear feet of 24" sewer forcemain to convey flow from lift station #193 the west side of I-95/Chatham County Megasite. (Public Works & Water Resources) **(APPROVED #19 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**

SAVANNAH AIRPORT COMMISSION

20. Approval to Procure One Riding Mower from Jerry Pate Turf & Irrigation, in the Amount of \$53,845. **(APPROVED #20, #22, #23, #24, and #25 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**
21. Approval of Task Order No. 12 Amendment No. 3 with AECOM for Additional Design Services for the Security Checkpoint Expansion Project, in an Amount Not to Exceed \$85,000. **(APPROVED #21 and #26, 8-0-1, with Mayor Pro Tem Dr. Shabazz recusing herself for business purposes)**
22. Approval to Enter Into an Engagement with Ricondo & Associates, Inc., in an Amount Not to Exceed \$95,000. **(APPROVED #20, #22, #23, #24, and #25 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**
23. Approval to Amend the Airport's Contract with Oakview Group (OVG) Facilities/Enmarket Arena to Include a Three-Year Sponsorship of the Newly



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Installed Wifi, in the Amount of \$180,000. **(APPROVED #20, #22, #23, #24, and #25 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**

24. Approval of Task Order No. 3 Amendment No. 4 with Pond and Company for Additional Design Services for the Air Cargo Facility Project, in the Amount of \$223,141. **(APPROVED #20, #22, #23, #24, and #25 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**

25. Approval of a Two-Year Official Airport Partnership with the Hilton Head Island-Bluffton Chamber of Commerce for the Kingdom Cup, in the Amount of \$600,000. **(APPROVED #20, #22, #23, #24, and #25 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**

26. Approval of Task Order No. 34 with AECOM for Design Services for the Terminal Improvements Landside Project, in the Amount of \$880,897. **(APPROVED #21 and #26, 8-0-1, with Mayor Pro Tem Dr. Shabazz recusing herself for business purposes)**

BOARD APPOINTMENTS

27. Appointments to Boards, Commissions and Authorities.

The Mayor and Aldermen approved the following list of appointments by majority vote:

- **Miriam Munn - Chatham-Savannah Authority for the Homeless**
- **Steven C. Morgan - Cultural Affairs Commission**
- **Renee S. Rubens - Cultural Affairs Commission**
- **Brian L. Judson - Cultural Affairs Commission**
- **Sarah B. Smith - Cultural Affairs Commission**
- **Kinte K. Taylor-Steverson - Cultural Affairs Commission**
- **Gwendolyn Frazier-Smith - Cultural Affairs Commission**
- **Guy M. Minick - Downtown Savannah Authority**
- **Kevin Finley - Downtown Savannah Authority, 2nd Term**
- **Zachary H. Thomas - Downtown Savannah Authority**
- **Francis X. Hayes - Greater Savannah International Alliance, 2nd Term**
- **Montana L. Tohm - Greater Savannah International Alliance**
- **Colleen C. Cunningham - Greater Savannah International Alliance**
- **Dr. Jose de Arimateia da Cruz - Greater Savannah International Alliance**
- **Tanvi Chauhan - Greater Savannah International Alliance**
- **Sabrina Nagel - Historic District Board of Review**



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- **Katrina Hornung - Historic Preservation Commission**
- **Patricia Richardson - Historic Preservation Commission**
- **Dr. Jose de Arimateia da Cruz - Hospital Authority of Savannah, 2nd Term**
- **Austin M. Rojas - Hospital Authority of Savannah**
- **Taqwaa F. Saleem - Hospital Authority of Savannah, 2nd Term**
- **Dwayne Stephens - Metropolitan Planning Commission, 2nd Term**
- **Laureen Boles - Metropolitan Planning Commission, 2nd Term**
- **Stephen M. Plunk - Metropolitan Planning Commission**
- **Charles E. Vilushis - Park and Tree Commission, 2nd Term**
- **G Randy Tate - Park and Tree Commission, 3rd Term**
- **Jeffrey M. Notrica - Park and Tree Commission**
- **Boyer Bazelais - Park and Tree Commission**
- **Robert D. Sutter - Park and Tree Commission**
- **Paul C. Daniels - Park and Tree Commission, 1st Term**
- **Frederick Bailey – Pension Board**
- **Lowell Kronowitz – Savannah Airport Commission**
- **Stephanie D. Zeigler - Savannah-Chatham Council on Disability Issues**
- **Gia Boulos - Savannah-Chatham Council on Disability Issues**
- **Vondell Norman - Savannah-Chatham Council on Disability Issues**
- **Michael C. Willis - Savannah-Chatham Council on Disability Issues**
- **Austin M. Rojas - Savannah-Chatham Historic Sites and Monuments Commission**
- **M. (Marie) Ann Levett - Savannah Economic Development Authority (SEDA)**
- **Paul W. Mosley, Sr. - Savannah Economic Development Authority (SEDA)**
- **Joseph P. Serpa - Savannah Recreation Commission**
- **Raven George - Savannah Recreation Commission**
- **Louise D. Phelps - Savannah Recreation Commission**
- **Armand J. Turner - Savannah Recreation Commission**
- **Scott C. Anderson - Traffic Calming Committee**



AGREEMENTS

28. Approval of a Water & Sewer Agreement with Bradley Lot Development, LLC for Bradley Point Phase 10. This is for a development consisting of 32 single family homes located off Bradley Boulevard and Ogeechee Road in Aldermanic District 6. **(APPROVED #28, #29, and #30 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**

29. Approval of a Water & Sewer Agreement with Bradley Lot Development, LLC for Bradley Point Phase 11. This is for a development consisting of 33 single family homes located off Bradley Boulevard and Ogeechee Road in Aldermanic District 6. **(APPROVED #28, #29, and #30 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**

30. Approval of a Water & Sewer Agreement with Central Port Partners 11B-2, LLC for CPLC Building 11B. This is for a development consisting of a 942,800 square-foot warehouse space and a 40,000 square-foot office space. The property is located at 1000 Landmark Boulevard in Rockingham Farms off Veterans Parkway in Aldermanic District 5. **(APPROVED #28, #29, and #30 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**

31. Approval of the Emergency Shelter Facilities License Agreement with St. Joseph's and Candler Hospitals. The City of Savannah has negotiated an agreement with St. Joseph-Candler to house city critical workforce personnel during a hurricane. The agreement would allow the City to station up to 50 personnel at Candler Hospital and 30 personnel at St. Joseph's Hospital during hurricanes. **(APPROVED #31 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**

REAL ESTATE ITEMS

32. Authorize the City Manager to Approve the Lease of Space to the General Services Administration on City Telecommunication Tower at 1801 Kerry Street. **(APPROVED #32 and #33, 8-1-0, with Alderwoman Miller Blakely voting no)**

33. Authorize the City Manager to Approve the Sale of a Permanent Easement to 63 MLK, LLC for Installation of Seven Substantial Foundation Encroachments on City Right-of-Way at 63 Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard (PIN 20016 17006). **(APPROVED #32 and #33, 8-1-0, with Alderwoman Miller Blakely voting no)**



CITY ATTORNEY ITEMS

34. Settlement #1. (see below)

35. Settlement #2. (see below)

Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz moved to authorize (Settlements #1 and #2), as follows:

- **the City Attorney’s Office to settle the claim (vehicle injury) of the Estate of Dave Ronco for \$125,000.00; and,**
- **the City Attorney’s Office to settle the claim (worker’s compensation) of Robert Anderson for \$62,208.00.**

The motion was seconded by Ald. Lanier and Ald. Palumbo. The motion passed unanimously, 9-0-0.

MISCELLANEOUS

36. Approval of the Installation of a Commemorative Fountain in Honor of Mary R. Myrick in Kavanaugh Park in Aldermanic District 4. **(APPROVED #36 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**

37. Approval of an Honorary Street Designation for “Bishop C. M. Bailey Way,” on the Portion of Ogeechee Road Between West 35th Street and West 34th Street in Aldermanic District 1. **(APPROVED #37 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**

38. Approval of Petition To Place Historic Marker To Commemorate the 200th Anniversary of the Savannah St. Patrick's Day Parade at 132 Montgomery Street. **(APPROVED #38 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**

Following announcements, Mayor Johnson adjourned the meeting at 4:30 p.m.