



Work Session and City Manager's Briefing

The work session and City Manager's briefing was held at 1:00 p.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
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 – Vice Chair
Alderman Nick Palumbo, District 4 – 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 Fox

AGENDA ITEMS:

1. City Manager's Agenda Review. [**PRESENTED by City Manager Melder**]

There was no action taken during the workshop. Mayor Johnson adjourned the work session at 1:54 p.m.



Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Aldermen

The regular meeting of the City Council was held at 2:05 p.m. Mayor Johnson recognized Vice Chair and District 3 Alderwoman Linda Wilder-Bryan to introduce The Right Reverend Frank Logue, Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Georgia, 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 – Vice Chair
Alderman Nick Palumbo, District 4 - 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 Fox

AGENDA ITEMS:

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

1. Adoption of the Regular Meeting Agenda for March 28, 2024. **(APPROVED #1 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0, as amended)**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

2. Approval of the Minutes for the Work Session and City Manager's Briefing Held on March 14, 2024, at 12:00 p.m. **(APPROVED #2 and #3 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**
3. Approval of the Minutes for the Regular Meeting Held on March 14, 2024, at 2:00 p.m. **(APPROVED #2 and #3 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**



PRESENTATIONS

***Mayor Johnson recognized special guests in the audience, including the City Manager’s wife Kimberly, and their guest Belva Fonquay from Washington, D.C. He also recognized Connor, Carson, and Julian, students participating in St. Andrew School’s Civic Leadership program.**

- 4. An Appearance by the Savannah Music Festival to Provide a Preview of the 2024 Savannah Music Festival. [INTRODUCED by Mayor Johnson, Savannah Music Festival Executive Director Gene Dobbs Bradford appeared, along with the SMF Jazz Academy who performed “Lift Every Voice and Sing”]**

ALCOHOL LICENSE HEARINGS

- 5. Approval to Add a Class C (Liquor, Beer, Wine) (By the Drink) and a Class A (Liquor, Beer, Wine) (Caterer) Alcohol License with Sunday Sales to Christian Santiago for Orale Tacos & Tequila, a Restaurant Located at 36 Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard. The establishment is located between Congress and Broughton Streets in Aldermanic District 2.**

Mayor Johnson opened the hearing for #5.

No speaker(s).

CLOSED PUBLIC HEARING for #5 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0.

(APPROVED #5 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)

ZONING HEARINGS

- 6. Petition of Robert L. McCorkle, Agent for Travis Stringer of Foram Development, LLC on Behalf of 621 Gwinnett, LLC for a Zoning Map Amendment to Rezone 810 E. Broad Street, 613-623 E. Gwinnett Street, and 610-614 E. Bolton Street (PIN 20043 07001, -04, -05, -06, -13, -15, -18, -19, and -20) from TC-2 to DX. The item was recommended as a PD (Small Planned Development) in Aldermanic District 2 (File No. 23-001408-ZA). (Recommendation pending.)**

REMANDED/RETURNED #6 and #8 UNANIMOUSLY to the MPC for reconsideration (Continued to the April 25, 2024, City Council Meeting), 9-0-0. See related agenda item #8.

See also public comment below.



Speaker card(s) completed:

- Ed Pynch – OPPOSED
- Andrew Jones – OPPOSED
- Jim Hundsruker – OPPOSED
- Ellie Isaacs – may have comments

Written comment(s):

- Ed Pynch – OPPOSED
- Lane Shorkey – OPPOSED
- Nancy Maia – IN SUPPORT
- Karen Jarrett – OPPOSED
- Jim Hundsruker – OPPOSED
- Andree Patterson – OPPOSED
- Denise Flojo – OPPOSED
- Clara Greig – OPPOSED
- Big Balkcom – OPPOSED

7. Petition of Robert L. McCorkle, Agent for Ramsey Khalidi, LLC for a Text Amendment to Section 5.4 to Add the Indoor Amusement Use as a Limited Use in the I-L (Light Industrial) Zoning Districts (File No. 24-000624-ZA).
REMANDED/RETURNED #7 and #9 UNANIMOUSLY to the MPC for reconsideration (Continued to the April 25, 2024, City Council Meeting), 9-0-0. See related agenda item #9.

ORDINANCES – FIRST AND SECOND READING

8. 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.
REMANDED/RETURNED #6 and #8 UNANIMOUSLY to the MPC for reconsideration (Continued to the April 25, 2024, City Council Meeting), 9-0-0. See related agenda item #6.
9. Petition of Robert L. McCorkle, Agent for Travis Stringer of Foram Development, LLC on Behalf of 621 Gwinnett, LLC for a Zoning Map Amendment to Rezone



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810 E. Broad Street, 613-623 E. Gwinnett Street, and 610-614 E. Bolton Street (PIN 20043 07001, -04, -05, -06, -13, -15, -18, -19, and -20) from TC-2 to DX.

The item was recommended as a PD (Small Planned Development) in Aldermanic District 2 (File No. 23-001408-ZA). (Recommendation pending.)

REMANDED/RETURNED #7 and #9 UNANIMOUSLY to the MPC for reconsideration (Continued to the April 25, 2024, City Council Meeting), 9-0-0. See related agenda item #7.

PURCHASING ITEMS

10. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for the Purchase of an Automated Solid Phase Extractor with Biotage in the Amount of \$55,070. This equipment will be used to analyze over 250 compounds by the Cross Roads Treatment Facility to maintain compliance with the Environmental Protection Division. (Water Reclamation) (ITS) **(APPROVED #10, #11, #12, and #15 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**
11. Authorize the City Manager to Execute an Annual Contract for Tactical Emergency Casualty Care (TECC) Training with Rescue Training, Inc. (LOCAL) in an Amount Not to Exceed \$99,750. The Savannah Fire Department will utilize this contract to teach and train personnel in TECC to improve active shooter and mass casualty responses. (Fire) **(APPROVED #10, #11, #12, and #15 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**
12. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for Design and Construction Administration for the Savannah Police Department Headquarters with Raymond Engineering, Inc. (LOCAL) in the Amount of \$120,000. The services will cover additional scope to upgrade all areas of the building to current codes and improve accessibility. (Capital Projects) **(APPROVED #10, #11, #12, and #15 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**
13. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for Employee Classification and Compensation Study with Baker Tilly US, LLP in an Amount Not to Exceed \$235,000. The purpose of the study is to review and revise the existing compensation and classification structures for all positions to align with organizational resources. (Human Resources) **(APPROVED #13 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**



14. Authorize the City Manager to Execute Contract Modification No. 2 For Sidewalk, Curb, and Cobblestone Repair with Savannah River Utilities (Primary)(LOCAL) and Savannah Paving (Secondary) in an Amount Not to Exceed \$350,000. The proposed increase will help account for the accelerated rate of permanent traffic table installations as part of the residential traffic calming efforts and allow the contractors to stay on schedule with ongoing sidewalk repairs. (Transportation Services) **(APPROVED #14 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**
15. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for Grounds Maintenance for Public Right of Ways with J. Corbett Enterprises, Inc. (LOCAL)(DBE) in an Amount not to Exceed \$1,525,000. This contract will be used to maintain public right of ways of 170 miles. (Park & Tree) **(APPROVED #10, #11, #12, and #15 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**

AGREEMENTS

16. Development Agreement with Forsyth Commons, LLC for an Underground Public Parking Structure. **(APPROVED #16, with Alderwoman Miller Blakely voting no, 8-1-0)**

Speaker card(s) completed:

- **Ellie Isaacs – will have comments**
- **Tana Fileccia-Flagg – OPPOSED**
- **Clara Greig – OPPOSED**

REAL ESTATE ITEMS

17. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Purchase and Sale Agreement and Closing Documents for the Sale of a 0.84-acre Portion of City Property on Louisville Road to the Georgia Ports Authority in the Amount of \$1,341,000. **(APPROVED #17 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**

CITY ATTORNEY ITEMS

18. Settlement #1.

Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Shabazz moved to approve #18, authorizing the City Attorney's Office to settle the claim (worker's compensation) of Jerry Sanders



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in the amount of \$59,267.00, seconded by Ald. Lanier, Ald. Purtee and Ald. Wilder-Bryan. The motion passed unanimously, 9-0-0.

MISCELLANEOUS

19. Approval of the Installation of a Historical Marker Adjacent to the World War II Memorial "A World Apart" on River Street to Provide Interpretive Context to the Memorial. **(APPROVED #19 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**

Speaker card(s) completed:

- **Harriet Meyerhoff, petitioner – IN SUPPORT**

20. Approval of a Major Subdivision: Edgewater Phase 1B New Hampstead. The proposed property totals 27.176 acres and will consist of 52 lots with varying lot sizes. The property is located at the intersection of Little Neck Road and Bottlebrush Drive in Alderman District 5. **(APPROVED #20 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**

BOARD APPOINTMENTS

21. (ADD-ON) Traffic Calming Committee appointment of Brian Heyward, representing District 1. **(APPROVED #21 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**

Following announcements, Mayor Johnson adjourned the meeting at 2:45 p.m.