



Work Session and City Manager's Briefing

The work session was held at 12:02 p.m., in the SCCPSS Board of Education Room located at the Whitney Administrative Complex, 2 Laura Avenue, Building G. Mayor Johnson called the meeting to order, then recognized Alderman Kurtis Purtee to offer a prayer.

PRESENT: Mayor Van R. Johnson, II, Presiding
Alderman Carolyn H. Bell, Post 1 – 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

ABSENT:
Alderman Alicia Miller Blakely, Post 2 – At-Large

ALSO, PRESENT:
City Manager Jay Melder
Chief of Staff Daphanie Williams
City Attorney Bates Lovett
Clerk of Council Mark Massey
Assistant Clerk of Council Renee Osborne

AGENDA ITEMS:

1. Flood Prevention Education and Outreach Initiative. **[PRESENTED by City Manager Melder, Chief of Government Operations Gene Prevatt, Special Projects Manager Carliss Bates, and Public Communications Specialist Ashley Shirley]**
2. Affordable Housing Policy Discussion. **[PRESENTED by City Manager Melder, Senior Director of Housing & Neighborhood Services Martin Fretty, Senior Director of Planning & Urban Design Bridget Lidy, Housing Advocate Briana Paxton, and Planning Manager John Anagnost]**
3. Closed Executive Session: Litigation, Personnel, and Real Estate.



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[At 1:32 p.m., Ald. Palumbo moved to hold a closed executive session regarding litigation, personnel, and real estate, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Dr. Shabazz and Ald. Bell. The motion passed unanimously, 9-0-0.]

The closed executive session began at 1:39 p.m. Mayor Pro Tem Dr. Shabazz moved to adjourn the closed executive session, seconded by Ald. Palumbo. The motion passed unanimously, 9-0-0. [NO ACTION WAS TAKEN.]

~~4. City Manager's Agenda Review.~~

Mayor Johnson adjourned the executive session at 2:03 p.m. No action was taken.



Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Aldermen

The regular meeting of the City Council was held at 2:08 p.m., in the SCCPSS Board of Education Room located at the Whitney Administrative Complex, 2 Laura Avenue, Building G. Mayor Johnson called the meeting to order, then introduced Dr. Darron Alvord, representing The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Savannah, to offer the invocation. Mayor Johnson asked for attendees to remember in their private time of reflection, the lives of the people lost on Sapelo Island and their families. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited in unison.

Mayor Johnson recognized two of his predecessors who were present in the audience, our 64th Mayor Dr. Otis Johnson and our 66th Mayor Eddie Wayne DeLoach.

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
Assistant to Clerk of Council Renee Osborne

AGENDA ITEMS:

* Mayor Johnson announced that the Mayor and Aldermen conducted a closed executive session dealing with litigation, personnel, and real estate for which no votes were taken. Mayor Johnson entertained a motion to that effect, thereby granting him authority to sign the required resolution and affidavit. The motion passed unanimously, 9-0-0. (APPROVED)



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APPROVAL OF AGENDA

1. Adoption of the Regular Meeting Agenda for October 24, 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 October 11, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. **(APPROVED #2 and #3 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**
3. Approval of the Minutes for the Regular Meeting Held on October 11, 2024, at 10:30 a.m. **(APPROVED #2 and #3 UNANIMOUSLY)**

ORGANIZATIONAL ITEMS

4. Amend the 2024 City Council Regular Meeting Schedule Changing the December 12, 2024, Meeting to December 19, 2024, at 2 p.m. **(APPROVED #4 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**

PRESENTATIONS

5. An Appearance by Survivors, Supporters and Advocates, in Observance of National Breast Cancer Awareness Month. **[PRESENTED by Mayor Johnson, followed a moment of silence.]**
6. Proclamation Recognizing the Work of Bernard Polite Related to Housing Improvements within the City of Savannah. **[PRESENTED by Mayor Johnson. Also speaking were former Mayor Otis Johnson, former Mayor Eddie DeLoach, Mr. Bernie Polite, Mayor Pro Tem Dr. Shabazz, Ald. Wilder-Bryan, and Ald. Bell.]**
7. Appearance by Savannah State University to Announce the 2024 Homecoming Parade and Activities. **[INTRODUCED by Mayor Johnson. Also speaking were SSU Interim President Cynthia Robinson Alexander and Homecoming Committee Chair Moncello Stewart.]**



8. Appearance by the Veterans Council of Chatham County to Introduce the 2024 Parade Grand Marshal and Receive the 2024 Veterans Day Parade Permit. **[PRESENTED by Mayor Johnson. Also speaking was Veterans Council Chairman Joe Higgins who introduced the Parade Grand Marshal Mike Brady (not present) and other members and associates of the Veterans Council. Ald. Miller Blakely moved to grant the parade permit for the Veterans Day Parade, seconded by Ald. Wilder-Bryan. The motion passed unanimously, 9-0-0.]**
9. Presentation and Recognition of the Savannah Fire Department's 2024 Camp Ignite Participants. **[PRESENTED by Mayor Johnson. Also speaking were Camp Ignite Director Tyler Barrett, fellow female firefighters/instructors, and female campers.)**
10. Presentation of the Employee Engagement Team (New & Retiring Members) and Recognition of the Third Quarter 2024 Employee of the Quarter Winners. **[INTRODUCED by Mayor Johnson, and PRESENTED by City Manager Melder to: Tameka Hutchinson, Management Services; Daniel Cowart, Savannah Fire; David Alexander, Government Operations; Travis Green, Planning & Economic Development; Nyheem Robinson, Savannah Police; Troy Gladwell, Water Resources; Christine McLendon, Community Services; and Chandler Crawford, Information & Public Affairs.**

ALCOHOL LICENSE HEARINGS

11. Approval of a Class C (Liquor, Beer, Wine) (By the Drink) Alcohol License to Joshua Allen for 201 Lounge, a Bar Located at 201 James B. Blackburn Drive. The establishment is located between Airways Avenue and Sylvester C. Formey Drive in Aldermanic District 1.
Mayor Johnson declared the hearings open for #11, #12, and #13.
No speaker(s).
CLOSED PUBLIC HEARINGS for #11, #12, and #13 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0.
(APPROVED #11, 8-1-0. Ald. Miller Blakely voted no.)



12. Approval to Add a Class A (Liquor, Beer, Wine) (Caterer) to an Existing Class C (Liquor, Beer, Wine) (By the Drink) Alcohol License with Sunday Sales to Anthony Scarpulla for Vici, a Restaurant Located at 340 Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard. The establishment is located between West Jones and West Charlton Streets in Aldermanic District 2.

Mayor Johnson declared the hearings open for #11, #12, and #13.

No speaker(s).

CLOSED PUBLIC HEARINGS for #11, #12, and #13 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0.
(APPROVED #12 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)

13. Approval of a Class E (Beer, Wine) (By the Package) Alcohol License to Avanish Patel for Jim's Quick Stop, a Convenience Store Located at 922 Pennsylvania Avenue. The establishment is located between Mississippi and Kinzie Avenues in Aldermanic District 3.

Mayor Johnson declared the hearings open for #11, #12, and #13.

No speaker(s).

CLOSED PUBLIC HEARINGS for #11, #12, and #13 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0.
(APPROVED #13 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)

PUBLIC HEARINGS

14. Second Public Hearing to Receive Comments Concerning the City's 2025 One Year Action Plan (OYAP). The 2025 One Year Action Plan serves as the blueprint for how the City of Savannah will use federal entitlement funds and other resources to address the needs of low- and moderate-income individuals and improve housing, economic, and other conditions within predominantly low-income neighborhoods. Entitlement funds include: Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG), and HOME Investment Partnership (HOME) funds.

Mayor Johnson declared the hearing open for #14.

No speaker(s).

(CLOSED PUBLIC HEARING for #14 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0.)

ZONING HEARINGS



15. Petition of Josh Yellin, Agent for FWK Collective, LLC, on Behalf 17 West Park LLC for a Zoning Map Amendment to Rezone 0.15 Acres at 17 West Park Avenue (PIN 20044 31008) from TN-1 (Traditional Neighborhood-1) to TC-2 (Traditional Commercial-2) in Aldermanic District 2. Note, the initial zoning petition was submitted as a text amendment to Sections 5.4, 8.7.24, and 8.4.32 of the Zoning Ordinance to permit restaurants and accessory alcohol sales in the TN-1 zoning district adjoining Park Avenue between Whitaker and Drayton Streets. When the Planning Commission considered the petition, their recommendation was for the rezoning of the property (File No. 24-004304-ZA).

Mayor Johnson declared the zoning hearing open for #15.

Speaker(s):

- **Edward Morrow, representing the MPC**
- **Josh Yellin, representing the petitioner**

(CLOSED HEARING for #15 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0). See the related agenda item #18.

16. Petition of Pam Miller on Behalf of the Kensington Park Neighborhood Association for a Zoning Map Amendment to Establish the Kensington Park-Groveland Conservation Overlay District in Aldermanic District 4 (File No. 24-004608-ZA).

Mayor Johnson declared the zoning hearings open for #16 and #17.

Speaker(s):

- **Edward Morrow, representing the MPC**
- **Pam Miller, representing the petitioner**

(CLOSED HEARINGS for #16 and #17 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0). See the related agenda items #19 and #20.

17. Petition of Pam Miller on Behalf of the Kensington Park Neighborhood Association to Amend Sec. 7.15 Conservation Overlay of the Zoning Ordinance to Establish the Kensington Park-Groveland Conservation Overlay District in Aldermanic District 4 (File No. 24-004607-ZA).

Mayor Johnson declared the zoning hearings open for #16 and #17.

Speaker(s):

- **Edward Morrow, representing the MPC**
- **Pam Miller, representing the petitioner**



(CLOSED HEARINGS for #16 and #17 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0). See the related agenda items #19 and #20.

ORDINANCES – FIRST AND SECOND READING

18. Petition of Josh Yellin, Agent for FWK Collective, LLC, on Behalf 17 West Park LLC for a Zoning Map Amendment to Rezone 0.15 Acres at 17 West Park Avenue (PIN 20044 31008) from TN-1 (Traditional Neighborhood-1) to TC-2 (Traditional Commercial-2) in Aldermanic District 2. Note, the initial zoning petition was submitted as a text amendment to Sections 5.4, 8.7.24, and 8.4.32 of the Zoning Ordinance to permit restaurants and accessory alcohol sales in the TN-1 zoning district adjoining Park Avenue between Whitaker and Drayton Streets. When the Planning Commission considered the petition, their recommendation was for the rezoning of the property (File No. 24-004304-ZA). **(After the first reading was considered the second reading, APPROVED #18, 9-0-0)**

19. Petition of Pam Miller on Behalf of the Kensington Park Neighborhood Association for a Zoning Map Amendment to Establish the Kensington Park-Groveland Conservation Overlay District in Aldermanic District 4 (File No. 24-004608-ZA). **(After the first reading was considered the second reading, APPROVED #19, 9-0-0)**

20. Petition of Pam Miller on Behalf of the Kensington Park Neighborhood Association to Amend Sec. 7.15 Conservation Overlay of the Zoning Ordinance to Establish the Kensington Park-Groveland Conservation Overlay District in Aldermanic District 4 (File No. 24-004607-ZA). **(After the first reading was considered the second reading, APPROVED #20, 9-0-0)**

21. Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance (FDPO) Amendment. The City is proposing an amendment to its Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance (FDPO) to align with a new U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) standard that mandates more rigorous determination of design flood elevations for new construction. **(After the first reading was considered the second reading, APPROVED #21, 9-0-0)**



PURCHASING ITEMS

22. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for a Multi-Station Play Structure with GameTime c/o Dominica Recreation Products, Inc. in an Amount Not to Exceed \$75,049. The multi-station play structure will be located at 11011 Largo Drive and will be the City's first playground unit located in the Wilshire Community. (Recreation and Leisure Services) **(APPROVED #22 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**
23. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for 165 Single Gun Racks with West Chatham Warning Devices in the Amount of \$104,404. The Savannah Police Department has expanded its patrol rifle program to ensure officers carry adequate responsive weaponry. This requires that officers have efficient access to patrol rifles within their assigned vehicles. (SPD) **(APPROVED #23 through #27 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**
24. Authorize the City Manager to Execute an Annual Contract with PAS Consulting Group for Promotional Testing in an Amount Not to Exceed \$118,600. The Savannah Police Department will use this contract for promotional testing for the ranks of Corporal, Sergeant, Lieutenant, and Captain. (SPD) **(APPROVED #23 through #27 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**
25. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for Well Maintenance with Woodrow Sapp Well Drilling in an Amount Not to Exceed \$148,210. The Water Supply and Treatment Division will use this contract for the maintenance of 44 wells to provide safe, potable water at pressures and flows that accommodate residential, commercial, and industrial needs and fire protection services. (I&D) **(APPROVED #23 through #27 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**
26. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for Swimming Pool Fencing Installation with ASAP Landscape Management Group in an Amount Not to Exceed \$214,298. The Recreation and Leisure Services Department will utilize the services to replace the damaged fencing that is more than 20 years old and have begun to rust and bow along the top and bottom portions. (Recreation & Leisure Services) **(APPROVED #23 through #27 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**
27. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for Class II Service and Additional Spare Parts Necessary to Maintain the Operation of Three (3) Blowers



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with Howden in an Amount Not to Exceed \$229,352. The blowers are used to provide air to the aeration basins at the Water Reclamation Plant. (Water Reclamation) **(APPROVED #23 through #27 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**

RESOLUTIONS

28. Resolution Ratifying the Mayor's October 9, 2024, Emergency Declaration Order Related to Hurricane Milton. **(APPROVED #28 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**
29. Resolution Ratifying Actions of Mayor and Alderman During Meeting Held on October 11, 2024. **(APPROVED #29 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**
30. Resolution Adopting the City's 2025 One Year Action Plan (OYAP), and Authorize the City Manager to Submit the Plan to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), and to Enter into Grant Agreements with Subrecipients. Entitlement funds include: Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG), and HOME Investment Partnership (HOME) funds. **(APPROVED #30 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**

AGREEMENTS

31. First Amendment to the Water and Sewer Agreement Dated July 19, 2004, Between Southern Woods Development LLC and the Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Savannah to (a) Insert Drapac LLC as the Owner and (b) Provide for the City's Provision of Water and Sewer Services to the Proposed Development Project Consisting of 134 Equivalent Residential Units (ERUs). **(APPROVED #31 and #33 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**
32. Approval of a Development Agreement with 1940 East President Street, LLC for the Development of 1940 East President Street. This is for a development consisting of a 115-room hotel and a self-storage building in Aldermanic District 3. Staff requests this item be withdrawn. **(WITHDRAWN, as requested by staff)**
33. Approval of a Water & Sewer Agreement with Camden Crossing, LLC for Camden Crossing Phase 3. This is for a development consisting of 88 single family homes in Aldermanic District 5. **(APPROVED #31 and #33 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**



REAL ESTATE ITEMS

34. Authorize the City Manager to Acquire Required Property Interests to Facilitate the Second Phase of Stiles Avenue Road Widening Project. **(APPROVED #34 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**

CITY ATTORNEY ITEMS

35. Settlement #1. **[Authorize the City Attorney's Office to settle the claim (worker's compensation) of Marsha Young for \$94,926.00]**
36. Settlement #2. **[Authorize the City Attorney's Office to settle the claim (worker's compensation) of Tony Bristow for \$45,000.00]**
37. Settlement #3. **[Authorize the City Attorney's Office to settle the claim (worker's compensation) of William Greenwood for \$80,237.00]**
38. Settlement #4. **[Authorize the City Attorney's Office to settle the claim (worker's compensation) of Cedric Laurel for \$30,000.00]**

Mayor Pro Tem Dr. Shabazz moved to approve settlements #35, #36, #37, and #38, seconded by Ald. Palumbo and Ald. Wilder-Bryan. The motion passed unanimously, 9-0-0.

Following the announcements made by members of the City Council, Mayor Johnson adjourned the meeting at 4:03 p.m.