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## **Work Session and City Manager's Briefing**

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The work session was held at 11:05 a.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, asked the Clerk to call the roll, then recognized Ald. Purtee to offer prayer. Mayor Johnson requested Council members to hold an executive session regarding personnel, real estate, and litigation, immediately following the work session.

**PRESENT:** Mayor Van R. Johnson, II, Presiding  
Alderwoman Carolyn H. Bell, Post 1 – At-Large  
Alderwoman Bernetta B. Lanier, District 1  
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

**ABSENT:** Alderwoman Alicia Miller Blakely, Post 2 – At-Large  
Alderman Detric Leggett, District 2

**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. SPLOST Projects Update. **[Overview provided by Mayor Johnson. Also speaking were City Manager Melder, Chief Information and Public Affairs Officer Joe Shearouse, and Chief Community Services Officer Taffanye Young]**

**\*At 12:19 p.m., Mayor Pro Tem Dr. Shabazz moved to hold an executive session regarding real estate, litigation, and personnel, seconded by Ald. Lanier. The motion passed unanimously, 9-0-0.**

2. Closed Executive Session Regarding Personnel, Real Estate, and Litigation. **[HELD at 12:35 p.m. All members were present, including the City**



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**Manager, City Attorney, and Clerk of Council. The executive session was adjourned at 1:27 p.m.]**

~~3. City Manager's Agenda Review.~~

**The workshop was adjourned upon conclusion of the executive session. No action was taken.**



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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 2:00 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 Pastor J. Michael Culbreth, founding pastor of ConneXion Church 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 – 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  
Assistant to Clerk of Council Renee Osborne

### **AGENDA ITEMS:**

#### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

1. Adoption of the Regular Meeting Agenda for March 27, 2025.  
**(ADOPTED/APPROVED #1 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**



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**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

2. Approval of the Minutes for the Work Session and City Manager's Briefing Held on March 13, 2025, at 11:00 a.m. **(APPROVED #2 and #3 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**
3. Approval of the Minutes for the Regular Meeting Held on March 13, 2025, at 2:00 p.m. **(APPROVED #2 and #3 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**

**\*Mayor Johnson entertained a motion that an executive session regarding personnel, litigation, and real estate was held earlier, following the work session (March 27, 2025), for which no action was taken. The motion passed unanimously, 9-0-0. All members were present, including the City Manager, City Attorney, and Clerk of Council.**

**PRESENTATIONS**

4. An appearance by THE Savannah State Tigers Men's Basketball Team, the 2025 Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (SIAC) Men's Basketball Champions. **(PRESENTED by Mayor Johnson to Coach Clevan Thompson, Director of Athletics Opio Mashariki, and players)**
5. A Proclamation Celebrating the 100th Anniversary of The Byrd Cookie Company. **(PRESENTED by Mayor Johnson to Stephanie Lindley and Byrd family members)**
6. An Appearance by the Savannah Music Festival (SMF) to Announce the 2025 SMF Festival. **(PRESENTED by Mayor Johnson to Executive Director Gene Dobbs Bradford)**

**\*ADD-ON: Mayor Johnson presented Ald. Linda Wilder-Bryan with the Environmental Justice Pioneer Award from the Harambee House and Dr. Mildred McClain for her valuable contributions to the fight and protection of mother earth.**



**ALCOHOL LICENSE HEARINGS**

7. Approval of a Class C (Beer, Wine) (By the Drink) Alcohol License with Sunday Sales to Christopher Moody of Baby's General Store a Restaurant at 410 East 37th Street. The Establishment is Located Between Plant and Price Streets in Aldermanic District 2.

**Mayor Johnson declared the hearings open for #7, #8, #9, #10, #11, and #12.**

**No speaker(s).**

**CLOSED PUBLIC HEARINGS for #7, #8, #9, #10, #11, and #12**

**UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0.**

**(APPROVED #7 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**

8. Approval of a Class C (Liquor, Beer, Wine) (By the Drink) Alcohol License with Sunday Sales to Richard Kessler of Foley House Inn, an Inn at 14 W Hull Street. The Establishment is Located Between Whitaker and Bull Streets in Aldermanic District 2.

**Mayor Johnson declared the hearings open for #7, #8, #9, #10, #11, and #12.**

**No speaker(s).**

**CLOSED PUBLIC HEARINGS for #7, #8, #9, #10, #11, and #12**

**UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0.**

**(APPROVED #8 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**

9. Approval of a Class B (Beer) (Manufacturer) Alcohol License to Elizabeth Massey for The Laundry Diner, a Restaurant Located at 1401 Paulsen Street. The Establishment is Located Between East Anderson and East 31st Street in Aldermanic District 2.

**Mayor Johnson declared the hearings open for #7, #8, #9, #10, #11, and #12.**

**No speaker(s).**

**CLOSED PUBLIC HEARINGS for #7, #8, #9, #10, #11, and #12**

**UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0.**

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



10. Approval of a Class C (Liquor, Beer, Wine) (By the Drink) Alcohol License to Michael Watts for Joe & Vera's at 23 West Broughton Street, a Restaurant. The Establishment is Located Between Whitaker and Bull Streets in Aldermanic District 2.

**Mayor Johnson declared the hearings open for #7, #8, #9, #10, #11, and #12.**

**No speaker(s).**

**CLOSED PUBLIC HEARINGS for #7, #8, #9, #10, #11, and #12**

**UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0.**

**(APPROVED #10 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**

11. Approval of a Class C (Liquor, Beer, Wine) (By the Drink) and Class E (Beer, Wine) (By the Package) Alcohol License with Sunday Sales to Bryan Cornelius for AC Hotel Savannah Historic District, a Hotel Located at 601 East River Street. The Establishment is Located Between East Broad Street Ramp and East River Street Ramp in Aldermanic District 2.

**Mayor Johnson declared the hearings open for #7, #8, #9, #10, #11, and #12.**

**No speaker(s).**

**CLOSED PUBLIC HEARINGS for #7, #8, #9, #10, #11, and #12**

**UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0.**

**(APPROVED #11 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**

12. Approval of a Class C (Beer, Wine) (By the Drink) Alcohol License with Sunday Sales to Jian Ren for Shu Hot Pot and Korean BBQ, a Restaurant at 20 East DeRenne Avenue. The Establishment is Located Between Bull and Abercorn Streets in Aldermanic District 4.

**Mayor Johnson declared the hearings open for #7, #8, #9, #10, #11, and #12.**

**No speaker(s).**

**CLOSED PUBLIC HEARINGS for #7, #8, #9, #10, #11, and #12**

**UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0.**

**(APPROVED #12 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**



**ZONING HEARINGS**

13. Petition of Warner Moore, Agent, on Behalf of Wjmoore Properties, LLC, and Joakima Davis-Moore, Jwmoore Properties, LLC, to Amend the Future Land Use Map from Residential Single-Family to Traditional Commercial for ~0.21 Acres at 1421 W. Gwinnett Street and 1425 W. Gwinnett Street (PINs 20050 16021 and 20050 16022) in Aldermanic District 1 (File No. 24-001813-ZA).

**Mayor Johnson declared the hearings open for #13 and #14.**

**Speaker(s):**

- Subhashi Karunaratne, MPC representative
- Rose Cody – asked a question regarding impact to her property on Bowden Street
- Warner Moore, representing the petitioner (did not speak)

**CLOSED PUBLIC HEARINGS for #13 and #14 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0. See related agenda items #15 and #16.**

14. Petition of Warner Moore, Agent, on Behalf of Wjmoore Properties, LLC, and Joakima Davis-Moore, Jwmoore Properties, LLC, to Amend the Zoning Map from TR-2 (Traditional Residential-2) to Traditional Commercial-1 (TC-1) with Conditions for ~0.21 acres at 1421 W. Gwinnett Street and 1425 W. Gwinnett Street (PINs 20050 16021 and 20050 16022) in Aldermanic District 1 (File No. 24-001759-ZA).

**Mayor Johnson declared the hearings open for #13 and #14.**

**Speaker(s):**

- Subhashi Karunaratne, MPC representative
- Rose Cody – asked a question regarding impact to her property on Bowden Street
- Warner Moore, representing the petitioner (did not speak)

**CLOSED PUBLIC HEARINGS for #13 and #14 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0. See related agenda items #15 and #16.**

**ORDINANCES – FIRST AND SECOND READING**

15. Petition of Warner Moore, Agent, on behalf of Wjmoore Properties, LLC, and Joakima Davis-Moore, Jwmoore Properties, LLC, to Amend the Future Land Use Map from Residential Single-Family to Traditional Commercial for ~0.21



Acres at 1421 W. Gwinnett Street and 1425 W. Gwinnett Street (PINs 20050 16021 and 20050 16022) in Aldermanic District 1 (File No. 24-001813-ZA).  
**(After the first reading was considered the second reading, APPROVED #15 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**

16. Petition of Warner Moore, Agent, on behalf of Wjmoore Properties, LLC, and Joakima Davis-Moore, Jwmoore Properties, LLC, to Amend the Zoning Map from TR-2 (Traditional Residential-2) to Traditional Commercial-1 (TC-1) with Conditions for ~0.21 acres at 1421 W. Gwinnett Street and 1425 W. Gwinnett Street (PINs 20050 16021 and 20050 16022) in Aldermanic District 1 (File No. 24-001759-ZA). **(After the first reading was considered the second reading, APPROVED #16 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**

#### **ORDINANCES – SECOND READING**

17. A Joint Petition of Bridget Lidy on Behalf of the Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Savannah, Georgia and Brianna Paxton for a Zoning Text Amendment to Sections 3.12 Special Exceptions, 3.21 Variances, 5.4 Principal Use Table, 5.9 Traditional Residential Districts, 5.12 Traditional Neighborhood Districts, 5.13 Traditional Districts, 8.1 Residential Use Standards for Limited and Special Uses (File No. 24-004284-ZA). (Postponed from the March 13, 2025 City Council Meeting.)

**Mayor Johnson declared the hearing open for #17.**

**Speaker(s):**

- **Rev. Claire Marich – IN SUPPORT (Received written comments too)**
- **Pastor J. Michael Culbreth – IN SUPPORT**

**(APPROVED #17, as amended by removing the RSF-6 uses, 7-2-0. Ald. Palumbo and Ald. Purtee voted no.)**

#### **PURCHASING ITEMS**

18. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for West Victory Drive Medians Irrigation and Planting with Tidewater Landscape Management, Inc., in An Amount not to Exceed \$272,385. This contract will be utilized by the Park and Tree Department for the installation of landscape and irrigation along West Victory



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Drive from Martin Luther King Jr Boulevard to Ogeechee Road. (Park & Tree)  
**(APPROVED #18 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**

19. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for Two (2) X-Ray Systems from Logos Imaging, LLC in the Amount of \$86,281. The Police Department will utilize this equipment for their Bomb Unit. Acquiring these systems are essential for our Bomb Unit to respond to terror events or threats. (SPD) **(APPROVED #19 through #24 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**
20. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for Third Party Administrative Services with Gallagher Bassett Services, Inc. in an Amount Not to Exceed \$292,341. The Risk Management Department will use the Third-Party Administrative Services for adjusting services for workers' compensation and auto liability claims. (Risk Management). **(APPROVED #19 through #24 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**
21. Authorize the City Manager to Execute Contract Modification No. 1 for HVAC Maintenance for Water Treatment Facilities to Boan Mechanical (LOCAL) in the amount not to exceed \$120,000. The contract will be used to provide preventative maintenance and emergency services 85 HVAC systems provide adequate cooling for variable frequency drives (VFDs) which control the pumps and equipment needed to distribute and treat water/wastewater. (Water Reclamation and I & D Plant) **(APPROVED #19 through #24 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**
22. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) with Emerson Power & Water Solutions, Inc., in an Amount Not to Exceed \$103,924. This contract will be used by the Water Supply and Treatment Plant to provide software updates, technical support, and other repair services associated with the SCADA network. (Public Works). **(APPROVED #19 through #24 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**
23. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for Computer Replacement and New Purchases from Dell Marketing LP in the Amount Not to Exceed \$1,067,000. This contract will be used by the Innovation and Technology Services Department to provide end-user devices such as laptops, desktops,



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monitors, and rugged tablets. (ITS) **(APPROVED #19 through #24 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**

24. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for Smartsheet Enterprise Software Licenses from Smartsheet in the Amount Not to Exceed \$214,414. The Innovation and Technology Services Department will use the software throughout the City as a project management center that allows city staff to assign tasks, track the progress of projects and tasks, manage calendars, and share and edit documents. (ITS) **(APPROVED #19 through #24 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**

25. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for a Geographic Information System (GIS) Assessment and Roadmap with Woolpert in the Amount of \$100,161. The proposed GIS Assessment and Roadmap project is a critical investment in modernizing and optimizing the City of Savannah's GIS. (ITS) **(APPROVED #25 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**

**SAVANNAH AIRPORT COMMISSION**

26. Approval of Catering Services by the SERG Group at the 2025 RBC Heritage, in the Amount of \$35,037. **(APPROVED #26 through #41 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**

27. Approval to Purchase Two All-Terrain Vehicles from Verde, Inc. in the Amount of \$79,990. **(APPROVED #26 through #41 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**

28. Approval to Procure Emergency Vehicle Equipment and Installation from ProLogic ITS, LLC, in an Amount Not To Exceed \$55,000. **(APPROVED #26 through #41 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**

29. Approval to Procure Taxiway Light Fixtures and Connection Kits from Allen Enterprises, Inc., in the Amount of \$37,240. **(APPROVED #26 through #41 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**

30. Approval to Execute a Contract with Rite Lite Signs, Inc., for All Services Associated with the Terminal Roadway Signage Project, in the Amount of \$372,553. **(APPROVED #26 through #41 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**



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31. Approval of a Three-Year Frequent Parker Program Service Agreement with R-Solutions, in the Amount of \$360,000. **(APPROVED #26 through #41 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**
32. Approval to Purchase One Garbage Truck from Roberts Truck Center, in the Amount of \$93,599. **(APPROVED #26 through #41 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**
33. Approval of a Three-Year License Subscription for M-Files Document Management System from Laminin Solutions, in the Amount of \$83,226. **(APPROVED #26 through #41 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**
34. Approval to Purchase Four Portable Message Boards from K&K Systems Inc., in the Amount of \$60,000. **(APPROVED #26 through #41 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**
35. Approval to Purchase One Pavement Line Striping System, Ride on Driver and Scarifier System from Chaves Brothers Management, LLC, in the Amount of \$37,904. **(APPROVED #26 through #41 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**
36. Approval to Purchase One Commercial Lawn Spray Rig from SiteOne Landscape Supply, in the Amount of \$27,433. **(APPROVED #26 through #41 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**
37. Approval of Change Order No. 3 with EE Reed Construction for Design Modifications to Building 2, the Air Cargo Facility, in the Amount of \$1,605,000. **(APPROVED #26 through #41 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**
38. Approval of the 2025-2026 Airport Liability Insurance Program with Sterling Seacrest Pritchard, Inc., in the Amount of \$1,132,941. **(APPROVED #26 through #41 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**
39. Approval to Execute an Elevator and Escalator Preventative Maintenance Agreement with Elevated Facility Services, in the Amount of \$758,869. **(APPROVED #26 through #41 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**



40. Approval to Procure Services from Brooks Building Solutions to Upgrade the Building Automation Software (BAS) & Global Controllers, in the Amount of \$250,000. **(APPROVED #26 through #41 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**
41. Approval to Execute a Contract for Professional Services with Club Choice Ireland Limited, in an Amount Not To Exceed \$40,000. **(APPROVED #26 through #41 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**

**CITY ATTORNEY ITEMS**

42. Settlement #1. **(APPROVED #42 and #43 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0, authorizing the City Attorney's Office to resolve the worker's compensation claim of Grayling Parker for \$211,401.00)**
43. Settlement #2. **(APPROVED #42 and #43 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0, authorizing the City Attorney's Office to resolve the claim of Lawrence Harris for \$50,000.00)**

**Following the announcements made by members of the City Council, Mayor Johnson adjourned the regular meeting at 4:08 p.m.**