



Work Session and City Manager's Briefing

The work session was held at 10:38 a.m., in the SCCPSS Board of Education Room located at the Eli Whitney Administrative Complex, 2 Laura Avenue, Building G. Mayor Johnson called the meeting to order, then recognized Ald. Purtee to offer 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
Interim Deputy Clerk of Council Gwendolyn Jones
Assistant to the Clerk of Council Renee Osborne

AGENDA ITEMS:

1. Westside Surface Lot. **[PRESENTED by City Manager Melder]**
2. 2025 Strategic Plan Update. **[PRESENTED by City Manager Melder and Chief of Staff Daphanie Williams]**
3. Closed Executive Session Regarding Litigation and Personnel. **[Started at 1:39 p.m., FACILITATED by Mayor Johnson. Ald. Purtee moved to close the meeting for an Executive Session regarding Litigation and Personnel, seconded by Ald. Miller Blakely. The motion passed unanimously, 9-0-0. All City Council members were present. Staff were excused for the personnel discussion. The executive session was adjourned at 2:05 p.m.]**



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The workshop and executive session concluded at 2:05 p.m. No action was taken.



Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Aldermen

The regular meeting of the City Council was held at 2:00 p.m., in the SCCPSS Board of Education Room located at the Eli Whitney Administrative Complex, 2 Laura Avenue, Building G. Mayor Johnson called the meeting to order, then recognized Ald. Detric Leggett who recognized Pastor James King Sr. of Mt. Hermon Baptist Church (911 Atlantic Ave) who offered the invocation.

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
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 the Clerk of Council Renee Osborne

AGENDA ITEMS:

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

1. Adoption of the Regular Meeting Agenda for May 22, 2025. **(ADOPTED/APPROVED #1, 9-0-0, as amended to add agenda item #48, a settlement from the City Attorney)**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

2. Approval of the Minutes for the Work Session and City Manager's Briefing Held on May 8, 2025, at 11:00 a.m. **(APPROVED #2 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**



3. Approval of the Minutes for the Regular Meeting Held on May 8, 2025, at 2:00 p.m. **(APPROVED #3, 8-1-0, as amended. Ald. Lanier voted no. Regarding an action taken at the previous meeting [approval of an alcohol license for B. NiCole's Bistro], Ald. Miller Blakely advised that at the time of the vote she was told by the City Attorney that the owners were in agreement with the motion to approve the license contingent upon dismissal of the pending lawsuit against the City of Savannah. After the meeting, the owners told her that they were not okay with that motion. Mayor Johnson summarized that the City Attorney relayed what their authorized legal counsel shared with him/Council. Ald. Lanier asked that she be added to the notation made by Ald. Miller Blakely within the May 8, 2025, meeting minutes.)**

ORGANIZATIONAL ITEMS

4. City Council Consideration of Personnel Evaluations. **(POSTPONED/TABLE TO THE NEXT AGENDA, June 12, 2025)**

*** Mayor Johnson entertained a motion that an executive session regarding personnel and litigation was held earlier, following the work session presentation for which no action was taken. The motion passed unanimously, 9-0-0. All the members were present, including the City Manager, City Attorney, and Interim Deputy Clerk of Council Gwendolyn Jones. The staff were dismissed during the personnel portion of the executive session.**

ALCOHOL LICENSE HEARINGS

5. Approval of a Class C (Beer, Wine) (By the Drink) Alcohol License with Sunday Sale to Andria Canella for Sweet Patricia's, a Restaurant at 1722 Habersham Street. The Establishment is Located Between East 33rd and East 34th Streets in Aldermanic District 2. (Continue to June 26, 2025 City Council Meeting at the request of staff.) **(CONTINUED/POSTPONED #5 UNANIMOUSLY to June 26, 2025, City Council Meeting, 9-0-0)**
6. Approval of a Class E (Beer, Wine) (By the Package) Alcohol License to Vinay Patel for CBD+ at 802 Montgomery Street, a Convenience Store. The



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Establishment Is Located Between West Bolton and West Gwinnett Streets in Aldermanic District 2. (Continued to June 12, 2025 City Council Meeting at the request of the applicant.) **(CONTINUED/POSTPONED #6 UNANIMOUSLY to June 12, 2025, City Council Meeting, 9-0-0)**

7. Approval of a Class C (Liquor, Beer, Wine) (By the Drink) Alcohol License with Sunday Sale to Ryan Diggins for The Municipal Grand, a Hotel at 132 East Broughton Street. The Establishment is Located Between Abercorn and Drayton Streets in Aldermanic District 2.

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

No speaker(s).

CLOSED PUBLIC HEARINGS for #7, #8, #9, #10 and #11 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0.

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

8. Approval of a Class C (Liquor, Beer, Wine) (By the Drink) with Sunday Sale to Loan Tran for Sunday Sunday, Restaurant Located at 116 Whitaker Street. The Establishment is Located Between West Broughton and West State Streets in Aldermanic District 2.

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

No speaker(s).

CLOSED PUBLIC HEARINGS for #7, #8, #9, #10 and #11 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0.

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

9. Approval of a Class C (Liquor, Beer, Wine) (By the Drink) Alcohol License with Sunday Sale to Kyle Jacovino for Lucia Pasta Bar, a Restaurant at 2425 Bull Street. The Establishment is Located Between West 41st and West 42nd Streets in Aldermanic District 2.

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

No speaker(s).

CLOSED PUBLIC HEARINGS for #7, #8, #9, #10 and #11 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0.

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



10. Approval of a Class C (Liquor, Beer, Wine) (By the Drink) Alcohol License with Sunday Sale to Teresa Ortega for Cantina 69, a Restaurant at 4307 Ogeechee Road Unit 207. The Establishment is Located Between Mersy Way and Chatham Parkway in Aldermanic District 5.

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

No speaker(s).

CLOSED PUBLIC HEARINGS for #7, #8, #9, #10 and #11 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0.

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

11. Approval of a Class E (Beer, Wine) (By the Package) Alcohol License to Binit Amin for Bay Stop, a Convenience Store at 1028 West Bay Street. The Establishment Is Located Between East Lathrop Avenue and Lehwald Street in Aldermanic District 1.

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

No speaker(s).

CLOSED PUBLIC HEARINGS for #7, #8, #9, #10 and #11 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0.

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

ZONING HEARINGS

12. Petition of Harold Yellin on Behalf of Forino Co., LLP to Amend the Future Land Use Map from Residential Suburban Single Family to Planned Development for 159.7 acres at 605 Old River Road and Sandhill Road (11046 01001A, 11046 01001B and 11047 01018) to Support an Annexation (File No. 25-001356-ZA)
Mayor Johnson declared the zoning hearings open for #12 and #13. See related agenda items #16, #17, and #18.

Speaker(s):

- **Edward Morrow, MPC Representative**
- **Ben Kirsch – OPPOSED**
- **Harold Yellin, representing the petitioner**
- **Jim Collins, engineer from Thomas & Hutton**

CLOSED PUBLIC HEARINGS #12 and #13 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0.



Written comment(s):

- **Kerrie Bieber - OPPOSED**

13. Petition of Harold Yellin on Behalf of Forino Co., LLP to Amend the Zoning Map from R-A (Residential Agriculture – Chatham County) and P-R-C (Protected River Corridor – Chatham County) to PD (Planned Development – City) for 159.7 acres at 605 Old River Road and Sandhill Road (11046 01001A, 11046 01001B and 11047 01018) to Support an Annexation. (File No. 25-001312-ZA)
Mayor Johnson declared the zoning hearings open for #12 and #13. See related agenda items #16, #17, and #18.

Speaker(s):

- **Edward Morrow, MPC Representative**
- **Ben Kirsch – OPPOSED**
- **Harold Yellin, representing the petitioner**
- **Jim Collins, engineer from Thomas & Hutton**

CLOSED PUBLIC HEARINGS #12 and #13 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0.

Written comment(s):

Kerrie Bieber - OPPOSED

14. Petition of Robert Brannen, Jr. on Behalf of New Hampstead Holdings, LLC to Amend 35.5 acres of the New Hampstead Master Plan for the parcels located at 2100 and 2501 Little Neck Road (PINs 21024 01007 and 21047 03024) and New Hampstead Planned Development Text within Aldermanic District 5. (File No. 23-004262-ZA)

Mayor Johnson declared the zoning hearing open for #14. See related agenda item #15.

Speaker(s):

- **Edward Morrow, MPC Representative**

ORDINANCES – FIRST AND SECOND READING

15. Petition of Robert Brannen, Jr. on Behalf of New Hampstead Holdings, LLC to Amend 35.5 acres of the New Hampstead Master Plan for the parcels located at 2100 and 2501 Little Neck Road (PINs 21024 01007 and 21047 03024) and



New Hampstead Planned Development Text within Aldermanic District 5. (File No. 23-004262-ZA) **(After the first reading was considered the second, APPROVED #15 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0.)**

ORDINANCES – FIRST READING

16. Petition to Annex ~159.7 Acres Located at 605 Old River Road and Sandhill Road (11045 01001A, 11046 01001B and 11047 01018) from Chatham County to the City of Savannah. **(HEARD for First Reading Only)**
17. Petition of Harold Yellin on Behalf of Forino Co., LLP to Amend the Future Land Use Map from Residential Suburban Single Family to Planned Development for 159.7 acres at 605 Old River Road and Sandhill Road (11046 01001A, 11046 01001B and 11047 01018) to Support an Annexation (File No. 25-001356-ZA). **(HEARD for First Reading Only)**
18. Petition of Harold Yellin on Behalf of Forino Co., LLP to Amend the Zoning Map from R-A (Residential Agriculture – Chatham County) and P-R-C (Protected River Corridor – Chatham County) to PD (Planned Development – City) for 159.7 acres at 605 Old River Road and Sandhill Road (11046 01001A, 11046 01001B and 11047 01018) to Support an Annexation (File No. 25-001312-ZA). **(HEARD for First Reading Only)**
19. An Ordinance to Amend Chapter 1, Personal Conduct, Of Part 9, Offenses, Of the Code of The City of Savannah, Georgia; to Regulate Urban Camping and Improper Use of Public Places; to Repeal All Ordinances in Conflict Herewith; and for Other Purposes. **(HEARD for First Reading Only)**

Speaker(s):

- **City Manager Melder**
- **Miranda Brawner – OPPOSED**
- **Chase Rosen – OPPOSED**
- **Quinn McHugh Fluet – OPPOSED**
- **Stephanie Kaple, representing Interagency Council on Homelessness (ICH) – IN SUPPORT**

Written Comment(s):



- Reverend Dr. Ben Gosden – OPPOSED
- Jessie Jordan – IN SUPPORT
- Susan J. Gorecki – IN SUPPORT
- Rebecca Watts – IN SUPPORT
- Nancy Baker – IN SUPPORT
- Cory Highland – IN SUPPORT
- Jamie (James) L. Maury – OPPOSED
- Julie Ford Musselman & Ansley Williams – IN SUPPORT
- Kimberly & Mark Sutton – IN SUPPORT
- Regina Roney – IN SUPPORT
- Rick Roney – IN SUPPORT
- Connie & Mark Hiott – IN SUPPORT
- Joseph & Susan Dockman – IN SUPPORT
- Mary Ellen Wegman – IN SUPPORT
- Savannah Democratic Socialists of America (DSA) with a list of 301 signatures – OPPOSED
- Katy Skelton Acuff – IN SUPPORT
- Peter & Gail Connolly – IN SUPPORT
- Michael T. Owens – IN SUPPORT
- David McDonald – IN SUPPORT
- Kristin Lee – OPPOSED
- Deborah Morcott – IN SUPPORT
- Kay Regan – IN SUPPORT
- Jessica Glenn – OPPOSED

PURCHASING ITEMS

20. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for the Plant Riverside Public Garage Wayfinding with Moseler, LLC dba Founders Maintenance & Restoration in an Amount not to Exceed \$71,835. The Mobility and Parking Service Department will use the signage to guide visitors to the recently built public garage at Plant Riverside. This is part of a larger wayfinding update that will eventually include the recently built public garage at Eastern Wharf and parking at Enmarket



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Arena. (Mobility and Parking Services) **(APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY #20 through #26, #28, and #29, 9-0-0)**

21. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for Carrier HVAC Equipment with Mingledorff's (LOCAL) in an Amount Not to Exceed \$100,000. The Facilities Maintenance Department will utilize this contract for HVAC equipment throughout the City facilities. (Facilities Maintenance) **(APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY #20 through #26, #28, and #29, 9-0-0)**
22. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for Mobile Data Terminals from Law and Order Technology, LLC in an Amount Not to Exceed \$585,000. The Mobile Data Terminals (MDT), will be used for the Police Department and the Fire Department. (ITS) **(APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY #20 through #26, #28, and #29, 9-0-0)**
23. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for Six Wood Chippers and One Stump Grinder from Bandit Industries c/o Mason Tractor Company in an Amount of \$402,866. The wood chippers will be used to dispose of brush and debris collected during routine tree pruning and removal operations. The stump grinder will be used for hazardous stump removal service. (Fleet) **(APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY #20 through #26, #28, and #29, 9-0-0)**
24. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for Microsoft Enterprise Software with Insight Public Sector, Inc. in an Amount not to exceed \$1,515,000. This contract will be used by the Innovation & Technology Department to provide to support the usage of Microsoft products by all City Departments. (ITS) **(APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY #20 through #26, #28, and #29, 9-0-0)**
25. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract to Procure the Savannah Police Department's Annual Ammunition from Gulf States Distributors in an Amount not to Exceed \$130,951. This contract will be used by the Savannah Police Department to facilitate its firearms training for new hires, in-service training for current officers, and training for its specialized units, including SWAT. (SPD) **(APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY #20 through #26, #28, and #29, 9-0-0)**



26. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for One Compact Track Loader from Bobcat of Savannah in an Amount of \$60,316. The Compact Track Loader will be used by Park & Tree Greenscapes Maintenance Division to remove illegal dumps and discarded tires from Right-of-Ways, canals, ditch lines, FEMA lots, and alleys impacted by illegal dumping. (Fleet) **(APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY #20 through #26, #28, and #29, 9-0-0)**
27. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for Forsyth Fountain Restoration and Conservation with Landmark Preservation, LLC (LOCAL) in an Amount not to Exceed \$650,000. These services will be used by the Park and Tree Department to provide restoration services to include: disassembly, stripping, recasting, repair, and reassembly of the fountain; masonry repair of the basin; repair of the pumphouse building; repair of the electrical systems; and replumbing. (Park and Tree) **(APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY #27, 9-0-0)**
28. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for a Single Vent Containment Vessel from Hurd's Custom Machinery in an Amount of \$79,199. The single vent containment vessel will allow Explosive Ordinance Disposal (EOD) units to respond to hazardous materials and threats to the City of Savannah and surrounding areas. (SPD) **(APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY #20 through #26, #28, and #29, 9-0-0)**
29. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract Modification No. 2 for Thomas Gamble Building Renovation Design with Greenline Architecture (LOCAL) in an amount of \$274,600. This modification includes additional services to address program revisions, value engineering, and extended construction administration support. These services are necessary to maintain project continuity and ensure timely delivery of the project through completion. (Capital Projects) **(APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY #20 through #26, #28, and #29, 9-0-0)**
30. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract Modification No. 2 for the Arena Surface Lot with APAC-Atlantic, Inc. (LOCAL) in the amount of \$8,000,000. This contract will cover soil contamination quantities anticipated to be needed for the completion of remediation of the site and paving of the lot and Cohen Road multimodal infrastructure. The primary cause of cost overruns to date was determined to be the excavation and hauling of soil based upon visual



cues rather than iterative sampling. (Office of Planning and Economic Development) **(APPROVED #30, 6-3-0. Ald. Miller Blakely, Ald. Lanier, and Ald. Palumbo voted no.)**

SAVANNAH AIRPORT COMMISSION

31. Approval of the Commission's Agreement Share for Cityworks License Renewal with Azteca Systems, LLC, in the Amount of \$57,400. **(APPROVED #31 through #38 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**
32. Approval to Reimburse Enterprise Leasing Company – Southeast, LLC, for Additional Security Enhancements to the Ready/Return Lot Using Customer Facility Charges (CFC) Funds, in the Amount of \$184,378. **(APPROVED #31 through #38 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**
33. Approval to Purchase 2 QX Torque Systems from Allen Enterprises, in the Amount of \$82,865. **(APPROVED #31 through #38 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**
34. Approval to Procure Fuel Storage Tank Interior Cleaning and Coating Services from Markley's Precision Company, in the Amount of \$284,000. **(APPROVED #31 through #38 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**
35. Approval of Change Order No. 4 with Collins Construction for the Fuel Storage Facility Expansion Project, in an Amount NTE \$420,265. **(APPROVED #31 through #38 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**
36. Approval to Execute a Contract with Shamrock Concrete Construction Inc. for Construction Services for the Demo Air Cargo Apron Phase 1B and Road Project, in the Amount of \$3,392,400. **(APPROVED #31 through #38 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**
37. Approval of an Agreement with PGAL Inc., for Design Services for the New Parking Garage Expansion Project, in the Amount of \$2,205,100. **(APPROVED #31 through #38 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**



38. Approval to Execute Task Work Order No. 7 with Mead & Hunt for the Airways Avenue Intersections Alternatives Analysis, in the Amount of \$54,000. **(APPROVED #31 through #38 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**

Mayor Johnson asked the public to avoid using Gulfstream Road from 6:00 p.m. to 4:00 a.m., during construction of the new runway causing extensive road work in the area.

AGREEMENTS

39. Approval to Renew the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Sub-Recipient Award to In The Door, LLC for \$220,000 to Support the “One-Stop Delivery System” to Ensure Mandated Partners Comply with Agency Policies as it Pertains to Job Training, Preparation, and Placement Services in Bryan, Bulloch, Camden, Chatham, Effingham, Glynn, Liberty, Long, McIntosh and Screven Counties. **(APPROVED #39 through #43 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**
40. Approval to Renew the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Sub-Recipient Award with Eckerd Connects-Paxen up to \$893,223 for Career, Case Management, and Training Services for Adults (Ages 18 and Older) and Dislocated Workers (Unemployed or Laid Off) in Bryan, Bulloch, Camden, Chatham, Effingham, Glynn, Liberty, Long, McIntosh, and Screven Counties. **(APPROVED #39 through #43 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**
41. Approval to Renew the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Sub-Recipient (WIOA) Awards to Ross IES, Inc. and Eckerd Connects-Paxen d/b/a Eckerd Youth Alternatives, Inc., totaling up to \$1,033,383 respectively for Academic, Career Development, and Training Services for Youth (Ages 16-24) in Bryan, Bulloch, Camden, Chatham, Effingham, Glynn, Liberty, Long, McIntosh, and Screven Counties. **(APPROVED #39 through #43 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**
42. Approval of the First Amendment to the 2020 Sewer Service Agreement with Bryan County to Provide Necessary Updates. **(APPROVED #39 through #43 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**



43. Approval of Memorandum of Agreement with Mercer University Macon Campus for the Provision of Critical Workforce Shelter Space. **(APPROVED #39 through #43 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**

REAL ESTATE ITEMS

44. Authorize the City Manager to Declare Surplus and Available for Sale to the Adjoining Property Owner a 0.123-Acre of Brazil Street Right-of-Way. **(APPROVED #44 and #46 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**
45. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Development Agreement with Hutchinson Island Apartments, LLC. **(APPROVED #45 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**
46. Authorize the City Manager to Declare Surplus and Available for Sale 0 Ambos Street (PIN 20100 07001A) – Petition #25-156. **(APPROVED #44 and #46 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**

MISCELLANEOUS

47. Authorize Supplement Budget Appropriations for the Westside Surface Lot. **(APPROVED #47, 6-3-0. Ald. Miller Blakely, Ald. Lanier, and Ald. Palumbo voted no.)**
48. Settlement #1. **[APPROVED #48 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0. Authorized the City Attorney's Office to settle the claim (car wreck matter) of Genice Grant for \$40,000.00.]**

Following announcements made by members of the City Council, Mayor Johnson adjourned the regular meeting at 4:42 p.m.