



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

The work session was held at 12:02 p.m., in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Media Room. Mayor Johnson called the meeting to order, then recognized Alderman Kurtis Purtee to offer a prayer. Mayor Johnson asked for a moment of silence in remembrance of 9/11.

**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 Dr. Estella Edwards Shabazz, District 5 – Mayor Pro Tem  
Alderman Kurtis Purtee, District 6

**ABSENT:** Alderman Nick Palumbo, District 4 – Chairman

**ALSO, PRESENT:**

City Manager Jay Melder  
Assistant City Manager Taffanye Young  
Chief of Staff Daphanie Williams  
City Attorney Bates Lovett  
Deputy Clerk of Council Gwendolyn Jones  
Assistant to the Clerk of Council Renee Osborne

**AGENDA ITEMS:**

1. 100 Days of Summer Recap. **[PRESENTED by City Manager Melder, Assistant City Manager Young, Police Chief Lenny Gunther, Assistant Police Chief Robert Gavin, Senior Director of Office of Neighborhood Safety and Engagement (ONSE) Jimmie Johnson, and Senior Director of Recreation & Leisure Nick Roberts]**
2. Closed Executive Session Regarding Real Estate, Personnel and Litigation.

**[HELD. Mayor Pro Tem Dr. Shabazz moved to hold an executive session regarding litigation, seconded by Ald. Lanier. The motion passed unanimously, 8-0-0. Ald. Palumbo was absent.]**



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Mayor Johnson recessed the work session for the executive session to be held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor in the City Attorney's conference room at 1:36 p.m.

Ald. Wilder-Bryan moved to adjourn the executive session/workshop, seconded by Mayor Por Tem Dr. Shabazz. The motion passed unanimously, 8-0-0. Ald. Palumbo was absent.

3. ~~City Manager Updates.~~

Mayor Johnson adjourned the work session/executive session at 2:06 p.m.



## **Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Aldermen**

The regular meeting of the City Council was held at 2:13 p.m., in Council Chambers. Mayor Johnson called the meeting to order and called for the colors presented by Savannah's Police Department Color Guard. He then recognized Ald. Carolyn H. Bell who introduced Rabbi Zalman Refson, founder of Chabad of Savannah, to offer the invocation. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States was recited in unison. Mayor Johnson asked for a moment of silence in remembrance of 9/11, followed by a rendition of "God Bless America" by Ms. Huxsie Scott.

**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 Dr. Estella Edwards Shabazz, District 5 – Mayor Pro Tem  
Alderman Kurtis Purtee, District 6

**ABSENT:** Alderman Nick Palumbo, District 4 – Chairman

**ALSO, PRESENT:**  
City Manager Jay Melder  
Assistant City Manager Taffanye Young  
Chief of Staff Daphanie Williams  
City Attorney Bates Lovett  
Deputy Clerk of Council Gwendolyn Jones  
Assistant to the Clerk of Council Renee Osborne

### **AGENDA ITEMS:**

#### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

1. Adoption of the Regular Meeting Agenda for September 11, 2025.  
**(ADOPTED/APPROVED #1 UNANIMOUSLY, 8-0-0. Ald. Palumbo was absent.)**



## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

2. Approval of the Minutes for the Work Session/Executive Session Held on August 28, 2025, at 12:00 p.m. **(APPROVED #2 and #3 UNANIMOUSLY, 8-0-0. Ald. Palumbo was absent.)**
3. Approval of the Minutes for the Regular Meeting Held on August 28, 2025, at 2:00 p.m. **(APPROVED #2 and #3 UNANIMOUSLY, 8-0-0. Ald. Palumbo was absent.)**

**\*Mayor Johnson entertained a motion to authorize the Mayor to sign an affidavit/resolution that an executive session regarding litigation was held following the work session (September 11, 2025), for which no action was taken. The motion passed unanimously, 8-0-0. All members, except Ald. Palumbo, were present for the executive session, including the City Manager, City Attorney, Deputy City Attorney, Deputy Clerk of Council, and Chief of Water Resources.**

## **PRESENTATIONS**

Mayor Johnson first took a moment for points of privilege by recognizing the following:

- City Manager Jay Melder's four (4) year anniversary with the City of Savannah.
  - Deputy Clerk of Council Gwendolyn Jones receiving her Georgia Certified Clerks Certification.
4. An appearance by the members of the 912 Day Steering Committee in honor of Savannah Day 2025 on September 12, 2025. **[PRESENTED by Mayor Johnson, City Manager Melder, and members of the 912 Day Steering Committee.]**
  5. An appearance by Hispanic Outreach Leadership and Advocacy (HOLA) Savannah Task Force Members in observance of National Hispanic Heritage Month, September 15 – October 15, 2025, honoring the contributions of



Hispanic Americans throughout our nation's history and recognizing their continued service and impact within the Savannah community. **[PRESENTED by Mayor Johnson to the Hispanic Outreach Leadership and Advocacy (HOLA) Savannah Task Force and members of Savannah's Hispanic community.**

## **ZONING HEARINGS**

6. Petition of Robert McCorkle on behalf of 1800 East 63rd, Property Owner, LLC for a Future Land Use Map (FLUM) Amendment of 14.28 acres from Conservation and Residential General to Residential General at 1800 East 63rd Street (PIN 20104 30014) in Aldermanic District 3 (25-002852-ZA).

**Mayor Johnson declared the hearings open for agenda items #6 and #7. See related item #8 and #9.**

**Speaker(s):**

- **Edward Morrow, MPC Representative**
- **Robert McCorkle, represents the Petitioner**
- **Robin Wright Gunn – Conditional support**
- **Whitney Shepard joined by Rabbi Robert Haas—IN SUPPORT**
- **Oliver Casson-Gary – Concerned with Flood Risk**

**CLOSED PUBLIC HEARINGS for agenda items #6 and #7 UNANIMOUSLY, 8-0-0. Ald. Palumbo was absent.**

7. Petition of Robert McCorkle on behalf of 1800 East 63rd Property Owner LLC for a Zoning Map Amendment of 14.28 acres from RSF-6 (Residential Single Family-6) to RMF-2-16 (Residential Multifamily-2-16) with Conditions at 1800 East 63rd Street (PIN 20104 30014) in Aldermanic District 3 (25-002851-ZA).

**Mayor Johnson declared the hearings open for agenda items #6 and #7. See related item #8 and #9.**

**Speaker(s):**

- **Edward Morrow, MPC Representative**
- **Robert McCorkle, representing the petitioner**
- **Robin Wright Gunn – Conditional support**



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- Whitney Shepard joined by Rabbi Robert Haas—IN SUPPORT
- Oliver Casson-Gary – Concerned with Flood Risk

**CLOSED PUBLIC HEARINGS for agenda items #6 and #7 UNANIMOUSLY, 8-0-0. Ald. Palumbo was absent.**

**ORDINANCES – FIRST AND SECOND READING**

8. Petition of Robert McCorkle on behalf of 1800 East 63rd Property Owner LLC for a Future Land Use Map (FLUM) Amendment of 14.28 acres from Conservation and Residential General to Residential General at 1800 East 63rd Street (PIN 20104 30014) in Aldermanic District 3 (25-002852-ZA).  
**(APPROVED #8, UNANIMOUSLY, 8-0-0. Ald. Palumbo was absent.)**
9. Petition of Robert McCorkle on behalf of 1800 East 63rd Property Owner LLC for a Zoning Map Amendment of 14.28 acres from RSF-6 (Residential Single Family-6) to RMF-2-16 (Residential Multifamily-2-16) with Conditions at 1800 East 63rd Street (PIN 20104 30014) in Aldermanic District 3 (25-002851-ZA).  
**(APPROVED #9 UNANIMOUSLY, 8-0-0. Ald. Palumbo was absent.)**

**PURCHASING ITEMS**

10. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for Piping for Lift Stations 193 and 194 with Mersino Dewatering, LLC in an Amount Not to Exceed \$58,591. (Sewer Maintenance) **(APPROVED #10 through #16 UNANIMOUSLY, 7-0-0. Ald. Wilder-Bryan was away from the dais during the vote, and Ald. Palumbo was absent.)**
11. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for Delinquent Fee Collections for Code Compliance with Midwest Municipal Services, LLC in an Amount not to Exceed \$77,400. (Code Compliance) **(APPROVED #10 through #16 UNANIMOUSLY, 7-0-0. Ald. Wilder-Bryan was away from the dais during the vote, and Ald. Palumbo was absent.)**



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12. Authorize the City Manager to Execute an Annual Contract for Ready-Mix Concrete to Diamond Construction and Renovation in an Amount not to Exceed \$190,000. (Transportation Services) **(APPROVED #10 through #16 UNANIMOUSLY, 7-0-0. Ald. Wilder-Bryan was away from the dais during the vote, and Ald. Palumbo was absent.)**
13. Authorize the City Manager to Execute an Annual Contract for Concrete & Asphalt Crushing Services to United Grounds Maintenance Services in an Amount not to Exceed \$85,000. (Transportation Services) **(APPROVED #10 through #16 UNANIMOUSLY, 7-0-0. Ald. Wilder-Bryan was away from the dais during the vote, and Ald. Palumbo was absent.)**
14. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for (2) Combination Sewer Cleaner trucks and (2) Sewer Jetter trucks, in the amount of \$1,793,644. (Fleet Services) **(APPROVED #10 through #16 UNANIMOUSLY, 7-0-0. Ald. Wilder-Bryan was away from the dais during the vote, and Ald. Palumbo was absent.)**
15. Authorize the City Manager to Execute an Annual Contract with Delinquent Tax Service, Inc., for the collection of Delinquent Property Tax, in an amount not to Exceed \$162,000. (Revenue) **(APPROVED #10 through #16 UNANIMOUSLY, 7-0-0. Ald. Wilder-Bryan was away from the dais during the vote, and Ald. Palumbo was absent.)**
16. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for the Dredging of Alum Sludge Pond with D and DJ Carrier Group, LLC (LOCAL)(DBE) in the Amount of \$2,370,000. (Industrial & Domestic Water Plant) **(APPROVED #10 through #16 UNANIMOUSLY, 7-0-0. Ald. Wilder-Bryan was away from the dais during the vote, and Ald. Palumbo was absent.)**

**SAVANNAH AIRPORT COMMISSION**

17. Approval of a Corporate Partnership with Georgia Southern University for the Three-Year Period of 2025-2028, in the Amount of \$157,500. **(APPROVED #17 through #28 UNANIMOUSLY, 8-0-0. Ald. Palumbo was absent.)**



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18. Approval to Fund an Additional Year of the Professional Services Agreement with Carol Holladay & Associates, in the Amount of \$96,000. **(APPROVED #17 through #28 UNANIMOUSLY, 8-0-0. Ald. Palumbo was absent.)**
19. Approval to Execute a Contract with TK Airport Solutions for the Purchase and Installation of Five Passenger Boarding Bridges for the Terminal Expansion Project, in the Amount of \$8,496,166. **(APPROVED #17 through #28 UNANIMOUSLY, 8-0-0. Ald. Palumbo was absent.)**
20. Approval to Execute Task Work Order No. 13 with Mead & Hunt, Inc. for Design Services for the Economy Parking Garage Restoration Project, in the Amount of \$250,193. **(APPROVED #17 through #28 UNANIMOUSLY, 8-0-0. Ald. Palumbo was absent.)**
21. Approval to Procure 44 Dell Pro Slim Plus Desktop Computers from Howard Technology Solutions, in the Amount of \$44,440. **(APPROVED #17 through #28 UNANIMOUSLY, 8-0-0. Ald. Palumbo was absent.)**
22. Approval to Execute Task Work Order No. 10 with Mead & Hunt, Inc. for the Taxilane GA-V Reconstruction Project, in the Amount of \$306,835. **(APPROVED #17 through #28 UNANIMOUSLY, 8-0-0. Ald. Palumbo was absent.)**
23. Approval of Task Work Order No. 3 Amendment 6 with Pond & Company for the Air Cargo Building Project, in the Amount of \$60,627. **(APPROVED #17 through #28 UNANIMOUSLY, 8-0-0. Ald. Palumbo was absent.)**
24. Approval of Change Order No. 3 with C.W. Matthews Contracting Co., Inc. for the Taxiway G and Bridge Project, in the Amount of \$51,107. **(APPROVED #17 through #28 UNANIMOUSLY, 8-0-0. Ald. Palumbo was absent.)**
25. Approval to Execute a Contract with Cooper Construction, for All Services Associated with the Replacement of Three Boilers, in the Amount of \$918,800. **(APPROVED #17 through #28 UNANIMOUSLY, 8-0-0. Ald. Palumbo was absent.)**



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26. Approval to Execute a Professional Maintenance Service Agreement with Johnson Controls for Years 2025-2030 for Three Chillers, in the Amount of \$524,405. **(APPROVED #17 through #28 UNANIMOUSLY, 8-0-0. Ald. Palumbo was absent.)**
27. Approval for the Procurement of Services from ALTEL Systems Group for the Public Address Titan Upgrade Project, in the Amount of \$134,959. **(APPROVED #17 through #28 UNANIMOUSLY, 8-0-0. Ald. Palumbo was absent.)**
28. Approval to Procure One Heavy Duty Trailer with Electric Brakes from All American Trailer Connection, in the Amount of \$32,995. **(APPROVED #17 through #28 UNANIMOUSLY, 8-0-0. Ald. Palumbo was absent.)**

**AGREEMENTS**

29. Approval of a Water & Sewer Agreement with River Marsh-GSL, LLC for River Marsh for development consisting of 24 townhomes at 7719 Johnny Mercer Boulevard near Hwy 80. **(APPROVED #29 and #30 UNANIMOUSLY, 7-0-0. Ald. Wilder-Bryan was away from the dais during the vote, and Ald. Palumbo was absent.)**
30. Approval of a Water & Sewer Agreement with Starland Bull, LLC for 2517 Bull Street for a development consisting of restaurant, office and retail space on Bull Street near West 42nd Street located in Aldermanic District 2. **(APPROVED #29 and #30 UNANIMOUSLY, 7-0-0. Ald. Wilder-Bryan was away from the dais during the vote, and Ald. Palumbo was absent.)**

**REAL ESTATE ITEMS**

31. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a First Amendment to Lease Agreement for the use of office space located at 6600 Abercorn Street (The Landmark Building) (Real Estate Services) **(APPROVED #31 UNANIMOUSLY, 8-0-0. Ald. Palumbo was absent.)**
32. Authorize the City Manager to Execute an Intergovernmental Agreement with Chatham County governing construction of a new gymnasium on City property



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next to the Carver Village Community Center (Real Estate Services)  
**(APPROVED #32 UNANIMOUSLY, 8-0-0. Ald. Palumbo was absent.)**

**MISCELLANEOUS**

33. Authorize the Approval of a Major Subdivision named 'Parcel C-8, Eastern Wharf, Phase 5'. The property will create 10 individual parcel lots located in Aldermanic District 2. (Development Services) **(APPROVED #33 through #35 UNANIMOUSLY, 7-0-0. Ald. Lanier was away from the dais during the vote, and Ald. Palumbo was absent.)**
  
34. Authorize the Approval of a Major Subdivision named 'Parcel C-8, Eastern Wharf, Phase 6'. The property will create 10 individual parcel lots located in Aldermanic District 2. (Development Services) **(APPROVED #33 through #35 UNANIMOUSLY, 7-0-0. Ald. Lanier was away from the dais during the vote, and Ald. Palumbo was absent.)**
  
35. Authorize the Approval of a Major Subdivision development for two existing properties, named 'Parcel C-1B and C-1C, Eastern Wharf, Phase 7 totaling 0.841 acres located in Aldermanic District 2. (Development Services) **(APPROVED #33 through #35 UNANIMOUSLY, 7-0-0. Ald. Lanier was away from the dais during the vote, and Ald. Palumbo was absent.)**

**Following announcements made by the Mayor and Aldermen, Mayor Johnson adjourned the regular meeting at 3:48 p.m.**