



Work Session and City Manager's Briefing

The work session was held at 11:05 a.m., in the 2nd Floor Media Room. Chairman-Ald. Nick Palumbo called the meeting to order, then recognized Ald. Kurtis Purtee to offer a prayer.

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
Assistant City Manager Taffanye Young
Chief of Staff Daphanie Williams
City Attorney Bates Lovett
Clerk of Council Mark Massey
Deputy Clerk of Council Gwendolyn Jones

AGENDA ITEMS:

1. Equity Framework. **[PRESENTED by City Manager Melder and Be Culture Co-Founder James Whitfield]**
2. Construction Manager at Risk (CMAR) Overview. **[PRESENTED by City Manager Melder, Real Estate & Capital Projects Interim Senior Director Cristy Lawrence, and Economic Development Senior Director MarRonde Lumpkin-Lotson]**
3. Urban Camping Ordinance Update. **[PRESENTED by Savannah-Chatham County Interagency Council on Homelessness Executive Director Stephanie Kaple and Assistant Chief of Police Robert Gavin]**



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4. Executive Session Regarding Personnel, Real Estate and Litigation; As Needed.

[HELD. At 1:27 p.m., Ald. Purtee moved to hold an executive session regarding real estate and litigation, seconded by Ald. Wilder-Bryan and Ald. Palumbo. The motion passed unanimously, 8-0-0. Mayor Johnson was away from the dais during the vote.

Mayor Pro Tem Dr. Shabazz recessed the work session for the executive session to be held on the 3rd Floor in the City Attorney's conference room, which began at 1:35 p.m. All members were present, except Mayor Johnson. Also attending were City Manager Jay Melder, City Attorney Bates Lovett, and Clerk of Council Mark Massey.

Ald. Palumbo moved to adjourn the executive session/workshop, seconded by Ald. Bell and Ald. Lanier. The motion passed unanimously, 8-0-0. Mayor Johnson was absent.]

5. ~~City Manager Updates.~~

Mayor Pro Tem Dr. Shabazz adjourned the work session/executive 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., in Council Chambers. Following the roll call, Mayor Johnson called the meeting to order. He then recognized Ald. Detric Leggett who introduced Pastor Claude Douglas Cheatham, St. Luke Missionary Baptist Church, to offer the invocation. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States was recited in unison.

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
Deputy Clerk of Council Gwendolyn Jones

AGENDA ITEMS:

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

1. Adoption of the Regular Meeting Agenda for October 23, 2025.
(ADOPTED/APPROVED #1 UNANIMOUSLY, 8-0-0. Ald. Bell was away from the dais during the vote.)

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

2. Approval of the Minutes for the Work Session/Executive Session Held on October 9, 2025, at 11:00 a.m. **(APPROVED #2 & #3 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**



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3. Approval of the Minutes for the Regular Meeting Held on October 9, 2025, at 2:00 p.m. **(APPROVED #2 & #3 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**

***Mayor Johnson entertained a motion to authorize Mayor Pro Tem Dr. Shabazz to sign an affidavit/resolution that an executive session regarding litigation and personnel was held following the work session (October 23, 2025), for which no action was taken. The motion passed unanimously, 9-0-0. All members, except Mayor Johnson, were present for the executive session, including the City Manager, City Attorney, and Clerk of Council.**

4. Approval of City Council Regular Meeting Schedule for the 2026 calendar year. **(APPROVED #4 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**

PRESENTATIONS

5. Appearance by the Chatham Retired Educators Association (CREA) and Proclamation Recognizing November 2, 2025, as Georgia Retired Educators Day. **[PRESENTED by Mayor Johnson to CREA Representatives]**
6. Appearance by Savannah State University to Announce the 2025 Homecoming Activities and Receive the 2025 Savannah State University Homecoming Parade Permit. **[PRESENTED by Mayor Johnson to SSU President Jermaine Whirl, Homecoming Committee Co-Chair Moncello Stewart, Government and Community Relations Assistant Vice President LeAndrea Mikell, and other alumni, students, and cheerleaders] -- APPROVED #6 (Parade Permit) UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0.**
7. Appearance by the Veterans Council of Chatham County to Introduce the 2025 Parade Grand Marshal and Receive the 2025 Veteran's Day Parade Permit. **[PRESENTED by Mayor Johnson to Veterans Council Representatives and Honorees] -- APPROVED #7 (Parade Permit) UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0.**



ORDINANCES – FIRST AND SECOND READING

8. Approval of Amendment to the Unlawful Discrimination Ordinance. **(After the first reading was considered the second reading, APPROVED #8, UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**

PURCHASING ITEMS

9. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for (1) 55–Ton Lowboy Trailer from Savannah of Freightliners, c/o Global Trailers in an Amount not to Exceed \$99,900. (Fleet Services) **(APPROVED #9 through #18, and #20 through #25 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**
10. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Modification with JHC Corporation for the Construction of a Detention Pond for Tide to Town Truman Trail Phase 2B in the Amount of \$500,000. (Capital Projects) **(APPROVED #9 through #18, and #20 through #25 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**
11. Authorize the City Manager to Execute an Annual Contract to Repair Sidewalks, Curbs, and Cobblestone/Concrete Streets with Multiple Vendors in an amount not to exceed \$3,000,000. (Transportation Services) **(APPROVED #9 through #18, and #20 through #25 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**
12. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for a Compact Excavator with National Equipment Dealers, LLC in the Amount of \$79,789. (Fleet Services) **(APPROVED #9 through #18, and #20 through #25 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**
13. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for (1) 10-Ton Boom Truck with Crane with Hardy Family Ford, in the Amount of \$284,792. (Fleet Services) **(APPROVED #9 through #18, and #20 through #25 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**
14. Authorize the City Manager to Execute Contract Modification No. 1 for ITS Temp Staff with Robert Half in the Amount of \$70,000. (ITS) **(APPROVED #9 through #18, and #20 through #25 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**



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15. Authorize the City Manager to Execute Contract Modification No. 2 to the 5-Year Equity Lease Agreement with Enterprise Fleet Management in an Amount Not to Exceed \$694,099. (Fleet Services) **(APPROVED #9 through #18, and #20 through #25 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**
16. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a contract for a Two-Year Mower Lease Agreement with John Deere c/o Beard Equipment in an amount not to Exceed \$639,405. (Fleet Services) **(APPROVED #9 through #18, and #20 through #25 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**
17. Authorize the City Manager to Execute Contract for Water, Sewer, and Stormwater Infrastructure Repair with Southern Champion Construction in the Amount not to Exceed \$8,833,000. (Water Resources) **(APPROVED #9 through #18, and #20 through #25 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**
18. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for "As-Needed" Mechanical, Electrical and Plumbing (MEP) Engineering Services to Pond and Company (LOCAL) in the Amount of \$300,000. (Capital Projects) **(APPROVED #9 through #18, and #20 through #25 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**
19. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for Holiday Tree, City Hall Decorations and Accessories with Stage Front Lighting and Theatrical Supply Company, Inc. (Local) in an Amount Not to Exceed \$59,815. (Special Events) **(APPROVED #19 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**
20. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for Broughton, River Street, and City Market Decoration Installation with True Blue Construction, LLC, (Local) in an Amount Not to Exceed \$58,760. (Special Events) **(APPROVED #9 through #18, and #20 through #25 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**
21. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for City-wide Community Holiday Decoration Installation with True Blue Construction, LLC, (Local) in an Amount Not to Exceed \$62,240. (Special Events) **(APPROVED #9 through #18, and #20 through #25 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**
22. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for a Pharmacy Benefit Manager with Maxor in an Amount Not to Exceed \$29,459,106. (Human



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Resources) **(APPROVED #9 through #18, and #20 through #25 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**

23. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for the Other Post Employee Benefits (OPEB) Medicare Advantage Plan with Part D with United Health Care (UHC) in an Amount Not to Exceed \$2,549,905. (Human Resources) **(APPROVED #9 through #18, and #20 through #25 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**
24. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for the Voluntary Employee Dental and Vision Insurance with The Standard Insurance Company at No Cost to the City. (Human Resources) **(APPROVED #9 through #18, and #20 through #25 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**
25. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract with McKnight Construction Company for Construction Manager at Risk (CMAR) Preconstruction Services for the Windsor Forest Community Center in the amount of \$7,500. (Capital Projects) **(APPROVED #9 through #18, and #20 through #25 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**

SAVANNAH AIRPORT COMMISSION

26. Approval to Ratify the Acceptance of the Airport Improvement Program Grant Offer No. 3-13-0100-083-2025 from the Federal Aviation Administration, in the Amount of \$9,904,404. **(APPROVED #26 through #35, #39, and #41 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**
27. Approval to Procure Professional Services for the Evaluation of Airfield Drainage System from Mead & Hunt, in the Amount NTE \$54,656. **(APPROVED #26 through #35, #39, and #41 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**
28. Approval to Execute a Professional Services Agreement with Woodward & Associates, in the Amount of \$144,000. **(APPROVED #26 through #35, #39, and #41 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**
29. Approval of Amendment 1, with PGAL for a ConRAC Feasibility Study, in the Amount of \$94,750. **(APPROVED #26 through #35, #39, and #41 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**



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30. Approval to Execute a Contract with Infax Inc. for the Replacement of FIDS Screens and Conversion of Static Advertising to Digital Displays, in the Amount of \$539,186. **(APPROVED #26 through #35, #39, and #41 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**
31. Approval to Procure Environmental Service Supplies from Haskins Doyle Chemical & Supply Co., in the Amount NTE \$500,000. **(APPROVED #26 through #35, #39, and #41 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**
32. Approval of a 3-Year Broadband Service Agreement with The Seimitsu Corporation, in the Amount of \$55,590. **(APPROVED #26 through #35, #39, and #41 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**
33. Approval of a 3-Year Cable Service Agreement with Comcast Business Communications, LLC, in the Amount of \$61,555. **(APPROVED #26 through #35, #39, and #41 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**
34. Approval of the Concourse Alpha Door Replacement Project, to be Completed by Founders Maintenance & Restoration, in the Amount of \$167,123. **(APPROVED #26 through #35, #39, and #41 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**
35. Approval to Purchase One Skid Steer with a Snow Blower from Hendrix Machinery, Inc., in the Amount of \$89,355. **(APPROVED #26 through #35, #39, and #41 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**
36. Approval of Task Work Order No. 16, with AECOM for the Terminal Apron Bypass Taxilane and A1, A2, A3 Fillet Widening Project, in the Amount of \$1,607,245. **(APPROVED #36, #37, #38, #40, and #42, 8-0-1. Mayor Pro Tem Dr. Shabazz abstained/recused herself from voting for business purposes.)**
37. Approval of Task Work Order No. 18 with AECOM for the Taxiway F Reconstruction Project, in the Amount of \$494,565. **(APPROVED #36, #37, #38, #40, and #42, 8-0-1. Mayor Pro Tem Dr. Shabazz abstained/recused herself from voting for business purposes.)**



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38. Approval of Task Work Order No. 4, Amendment No. 1, with AECOM for the Inline Baggage System, in the Amount of \$437,360. **(APPROVED #36, #37, #38, #40, and #42, 8-0-1. Mayor Pro Tem Dr. Shabazz abstained/recused herself from voting for business purposes.)**
39. Approval of Change Order No. 6 with Collins Construction for the Fuel Storage Facility Expansion Project, in the Amount of \$340,110. **(APPROVED #26 through #35, #39, and #41 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**
40. Approval of Task Work Order No. 34, Amendment No. 2, with AECOM for the Terminal Improvements Landside Project, in the Amount of \$202,764. **(APPROVED #36, #37, #38, #40, and #42, 8-0-1. Mayor Pro Tem Dr. Shabazz abstained/recused herself from voting for business purposes.)**
41. Approval to Execute a Contract with ECS Southeast, LLC, for the Reconstruct and Expand North Apron Project, in the Amount of \$55,625. **(APPROVED #26 through #35, #39, and #41 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**
42. Approval of Task Work Order No. 21, with AECOM for the Permanent Survey Control Monuments Project, in the Amount of \$50,000. **(APPROVED #36, #37, #38, #40, and #42, 8-0-1. Mayor Pro Tem Dr. Shabazz abstained/recused herself from voting for business purposes.)**

AGREEMENTS

43. Approval of a Water & Sewer Agreement with Savannah Harbor Owner, LLC for Savannah Harbor BTR for a development of 210 single-family homes on Hutchinson Island in the President Street Treatment Plant service area in Aldermanic District 1. (Water Resources) **(APPROVED #43 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**
44. Approval of an Intergovernmental Agreement Between Chatham County and the City of Savannah County Wide Canal Maintenance Program. **(APPROVED #44 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**



MISCELLANEOUS

45. Authorize the City Manager to Approve a Major Subdivision, Camden Crossing and Cottage Row, Phase 3. (Development Services) **(APPROVED #45 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**

Following announcements made by the Mayor and Aldermen, Mayor Johnson adjourned the regular meeting at 3:07 p.m.