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

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The work session was held at 9:02 a.m., in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Media Room. Mayor Van R. Johnson, II 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. Continuation of the FY 2026 Budget Retreat. **[PRESENTED by City Manager Melder, Office of Management & Budget Senior Director Melissa Carter, Assistant City Manager Young, and CFO David Maxwell]**
2. Stormwater Utility Update. **[PRESENTED by Chief of Water Resources Ron Feldner, Zach Hoffman, and Stormwater Utility Committee Members]**
3. ~~Adding to the Housing Toolkit Discussion.~~
4. ~~Executive Session Regarding Personnel, Real Estate and Litigation; As Needed.~~
5. ~~City Manager Updates.~~

**Mayor Johnson adjourned the work session at 2:09 p.m.**



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

The regular meeting of the City Council was held at 2:14 p.m., in Council Chambers. Following the roll call, Mayor Johnson called the meeting to order. He then recognized Ald. Nick Palumbo who introduced America's Second Harvest of Coastal Georgia representatives Comptroller/CFO Jennifer Thomas and Director of Programs Elizabeth Waters, to offer the invocation (reading the Prayer of St. Francis). The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States was recited in unison. Mayor Johnson recognized Chief Faye DiMassimo and the Planning and Economic Development Service Center for winning the canned food drive.

**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  
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:**

### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

1. Adoption of the Regular Meeting Agenda for November 25, 2025.  
**(ADOPTED/APPROVED #1 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0, with changes read by Mayor Johnson to continue agenda items #7, #8, #12, and #13)**



## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

2. Approval of the Minutes for the Work Session and City Manager's Briefing Held on November 13, 2025, at 12:00 p.m. **(APPROVED #2 & #3 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**
3. Approval of the Minutes for the Regular Meeting Held on November 13, 2025, at 2:00 p.m. **(APPROVED #2 & #3 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**

## **PRESENTATIONS**

4. Proclamation celebrating The Salvation Army's 125th Anniversary. **[PRESENTED by Mayor Johnson to Salvation Army representatives and guests, including new commanding officer Captain Chris Doborwicz and his wife Captain Elyse J. Doborwicz, Linda James, Patricia Patterson, Lt. Chelsea, and Advisory Board Chair Keith Cobb]**
5. Proclamation declaring Saturday November 29, 2025 as "Small Business Saturday" in the City of Savannah, Georgia. **[PRESENTED by Mayor Johnson to various small business associations and guests, including Savannah Downtown Business Association executive director Mia Mance, Savannah Sunset Market founder Naja Hayward, Savannah's Waterfront executive director Julie Ford Musselman, UGA Small Business Development Center advisor Liz Overstreet, Savannah Area Chamber of Commerce v.p. and in-house counsel Jennifer Davenport, Buy Local Savannah first vice president Heather Radtke, Small Business Assistance Corporation president/ceo Victoria Saxton, Greater Savannah Black Chamber of Commerce president/ceo Moncello Stewart, and Startup Savannah operations director Kewaan Drayton]**

## **PUBLIC HEARINGS**

6. First Public Hearing to Receive Comments on the 2026 Proposed Service Program and Budget.



**Mayor Johnson declared the hearing open for agenda item #6.**

**No speaker(s).**

**(CLOSED HEARING UNANIMOUSLY agenda item #6, 9-0-0)**

## **ZONING HEARINGS**

7. Petition of Nancy Maia, Victorian Neighborhood Association; Jason Combs, Thomas Square Neighborhood Association; and Bernadette Perry, Cuyler-Brownville Neighborhood Association for a Text Amendment to Section 7.13 Hotel Development Overlay District in Aldermanic Districts 1 and 2 (25-004589-ZA). At the Petitioners' request, this item has been continued to December 11, 2025. **(CONTINUED UNANIMOUSLY agenda items #7, #8, #12, and #13, 9-0-0)**
  
8. Petition of Nancy Maia, Victorian Neighborhood Association; Jason Combs, Thomas Square Neighborhood Association; and Bernadette Perry, Cuyler-Brownville Neighborhood Association for a Zoning Map Amendment to Expand the Hotel Overlay in Aldermanic Districts 1 and 2 (25-004592-ZA). At the Petitioners' request, this item has been continued to December 11, 2025. **(CONTINUED UNANIMOUSLY agenda items #7, #8, #12, and #13, 9-0-0)**
  
9. Petition of Bridget Lidy on behalf of the Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Savannah, Georgia for a Text Amendment to Sections 8.7 Accessory Structures and Uses (25-004594-ZA).  
**Mayor Johnson declared the hearing open for agenda item #9. See related agenda item #14.**  
**Speaker(s):**
  - **Edward Morrow, MPC representative****(CLOSED HEARING UNANIMOUSLY agenda item #9, 9-0-0)**
  
10. Petition of John D. Northup, III on behalf of Keigan Stacho, Southeastern Retail Development, LLC to Amend the Future Land Use Map of 2.8 acres at 11750 Abercorn Street (PIN 20755 01002) from Civic/Institutional to Commercial-Suburban in Aldermanic District 6 (25-004963-ZA).



**Mayor Johnson declared the hearings open for agenda items #10 and #11. See related agenda items #15 and #16.**

**Speaker(s):**

- **Edward Morrow, MPC representative**

**(CLOSED HEARINGS UNANIMOUSLY agenda items #10 and #11, 9-0-0)**

11. Petition of John D. Northup, III on behalf of Keigan Stacho, Southeastern Retail Development, LLC to Amend the Zoning Map of 2.8 acres at 11750 Abercorn Street (PIN 20755 01002) from OI-E (Office and Institutional - Expanded) to B-C (Community Business) in Aldermanic District 6 (25-004964-ZA).

**Mayor Johnson declared the hearings open for agenda items #10 and #11. See related agenda items #15 and #16.**

**Speaker(s):**

- **Edward Morrow, MPC representative**

**(CLOSED HEARINGS UNANIMOUSLY agenda item #10 and #11, 9-0-0)**

## **ORDINANCES**

12. Petition of Nancy Maia, Victorian Neighborhood Association; Jason Combs, Thomas Square Neighborhood Association; and Bernadette Perry, Cuyler-Brownville Neighborhood Association for a Text Amendment to Section 7.13 Hotel Development Overlay District in Aldermanic Districts 1 and 2 (25-004589-ZA). At the Petitioners' request, this item has been continued to December 11, 2025. **(CONTINUED UNANIMOUSLY #7, #8, #12, and #13, 9-0-0)**

13. Petition of Nancy Maia, Victorian Neighborhood Association; Jason Combs, Thomas Square Neighborhood Association; and Bernadette Perry, Cuyler-Brownville Neighborhood Association for a Zoning Map Amendment to Expand the Hotel Overlay in Aldermanic Districts 1 and 2 (25-004592-ZA). At the Petitioners' request, this item has been continued to December 11, 2025. **(CONTINUED UNANIMOUSLY #7, #8, #12, and #13, 9-0-0)**

14. Petition of Bridget Lidy on behalf of the Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Savannah, Georgia for a Text Amendment to Sections 8.7 Accessory Structures



and Uses (25-004594-ZA). **(After the first reading was considered the second reading, APPROVED #14 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0.)**

15. Petition of John D. Northup, III on behalf of Keigan Stacho, Southeastern Retail Development, LLC to Amend the Future Land Use Map of 2.8 acres at 11750 Abercorn Street (PIN 20755 01002) from Civic/Institutional to Commercial-Suburban in Aldermanic District 6 (25-004963-ZA). **(After the first reading was considered the second reading, APPROVED #15 UNANIMOUSLY, 8-0-0. Mayor Pro Tem Dr. Shabazz was away from the dais during the vote.)**

16. Petition of John D. Northup, III on behalf of Keigan Stacho, Southeastern Retail Development, LLC to Amend the Zoning Map of 2.8 acres at 11750 Abercorn Street (PIN 20755 01002) from OI-E (Office and Institutional - Expanded) to B-C (Community Business) in Aldermanic District 6 (25-004964-ZA). **(After the first reading was considered the second reading, APPROVED #16 UNANIMOUSLY, 8-0-0. Mayor Pro Tem Dr. Shabazz was away from the dais during the vote.)**

#### **ORDINANCES – FIRST READING**

17. Approval of the 2026 Revenue Ordinance. Each year, City Council adopts a Revenue Ordinance to authorize the collection of taxes and fees. **(HEARD for First Reading Only)**

18. Adoption of the Amendment to the 2026 Revenue Ordinance to establish a Stormwater Utility Rate Ordinance within the City of Savannah Code of Ordinances (FY 2026 Revenue Ordinance). **(HEARD for First Reading Only)**

#### **PURCHASING ITEMS**

19. Authorize the City Manager to execute Contract Modification No. 1 for construction services to Garney Companies, Inc. for the I&D Water Systems Improvements Project. This contract modification is for the Phase 1A Guaranteed Maximum Price of \$69,919,146 (GMP for Phase 1A). **(APPROVED**



**#19, 7-1-0. Ald. Lanier voted no, and Mayor Pro Tem Dr. Shabazz was away from the dais during the vote.)**

20. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for (1) Remote - Operated Tracked Slope Mower with Jet-Vac Equipment Company, LLC, c/o RC Mower, in the Amount of \$67,176. (Fleet Services) **(APPROVED #20 through #25 UNANIMOUSLY, 7-0-0. Mayor Pro Tem Dr. Shabazz and Ald. Leggett were away from the dais during the vote.)**
21. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for Services to Repair Damages on Fire Pumper with William Fire Apparatus, in the Amount of \$62,946. (Fleet Services) **(APPROVED #20 through #25 UNANIMOUSLY, 7-0-0. Mayor Pro Tem Dr. Shabazz and Ald. Leggett were away from the dais during the vote.)**
22. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for (1) Mini Excavator and Compact Track Loader from Yancey Bros. c/o Caterpillar Inc. in an Amount of \$197,716. (Fleet Services) **(APPROVED #20 through #25 UNANIMOUSLY, 7-0-0. Mayor Pro Tem Dr. Shabazz and Ald. Leggett were away from the dais during the vote.)**
23. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for (1) Valve Maintenance Truck from Alan Jay Fleet Sales, c/o National Automotive Fleet Group in an Amount of \$284,940. (Fleet Services) **(APPROVED #20 through #25 UNANIMOUSLY, 7-0-0. Mayor Pro Tem Dr. Shabazz and Ald. Leggett were away from the dais during the vote.)**
24. Authorize the City Manager to Execute Contract Modification No. 1 to Increase the Annual Contract Amount with Genuine Parts Company (NAPA Integrated Business Solutions) in the Amount of \$800,000. (Fleet Services) **(APPROVED #20 through #25 UNANIMOUSLY, 7-0-0. Mayor Pro Tem Dr. Shabazz and Ald. Leggett were away from the dais during the vote.)**
25. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for Two 4-Ton Hoist Replacement with Kone Cranes in an Amount Not to Exceed \$139,914 (Water Reclamation) **(APPROVED #20 through #25 UNANIMOUSLY, 7-0-0. Mayor**



**Pro Tem Dr. Shabazz and Ald. Leggett were away from the dais during the vote.)**

26. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for a Disaster Recovery Base and Support Services with Ashbritt (Primary), MLU Services (Secondary), and USA Upstar (Tertiary) in an Amount that Will Vary Based on the Severity of the Natural Disaster. (Emergency Management) **(APPROVED #26 UNANIMOUSLY, 8-0-0. Mayor Pro Tem Dr. Shabazz was away from the dais during the vote.)**

#### **AIRPORT COMMISSION**

27. Approval to Execute Change Order No. 11 for the Terminal Security Checkpoint Expansion Project with Collins Construction, Inc., in the Amount of \$154,634. **(APPROVED #27 through #32 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**
28. Approval of the 2026 Airports Council International – North America Premier Airport Membership Dues, in the Amount of \$37,742. **(APPROVED #27 through #32 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**
29. Approval to Fund an Additional Year of the Professional Services Agreement with Peachtree Government Relations, in the Amount of \$60,000. **(APPROVED #27 through #32 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**
30. Approval to Renew the Annual License Subscription for Secure Credentials from Tadera for One Year, in the Amount of \$76,259. **(APPROVED #27 through #32 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**
31. Approval to Execute a Contract with Hi-Lite Airfield Services, LLC for Airfield Painting and Rubber Removal, in the Amount of \$107,600. **(APPROVED #27 through #32 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**
32. Approval to Execute Amendment No. 1 to the Work-for-Hire Agreement with BenL Consulting International d/b/a Ben Lao & Associates, in the Amount of \$43,500. **(APPROVED #27 through #32 UNANIMOUSLY, 9-0-0)**

#### **AGREEMENTS**



33. Approval of a Water & Sewer Agreement with HP Ogeechee Road LLC for Pointe Grand Chatham. This is a development consisting of 411 apartment units located at 10 Patriot Drive off Highway 17 in the Gateway service area and is in Unincorporated Chatham County. (Water Resources) **(APPROVED #33 UNANIMOUSLY, 8-0-0. Mayor Pro Tem Dr. Shabazz was away from the dais during the vote.)**

#### **MISCELLANEOUS**

34. Approval to Change the Name of the Visual Arts Studio 1 in the Dr. Otis S. Johnson Cultural Arts Center to the Bill Durrence Visual Arts Studio in Aldermanic District 2 (Information & Public Affairs). **(APPROVED #34 UNANIMOUSLY, 8-0-0. Mayor Pro Tem Dr. Shabazz was away from the dais during the vote.)**
35. Authorize the City Manager to Approve a Major Subdivision, Bradley Pointe South, Phase 7 in Aldermanic District 6. (Development Services Department). **(APPROVED #35 UNANIMOUSLY, 8-0-0. Mayor Pro Tem Dr. Shabazz was away from the dais during the vote.)**

**Following announcements made by the Mayor and Aldermen, Mayor Johnson adjourned the regular meeting at 3:45 p.m.**