



SUMTER CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
TUESDAY, JANUARY 2, 2024

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. by Mayor David P. Merchant.

| City Council          | Title                     | Status  |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|---------|
| David P. Merchant     | Mayor                     | Present |
| James B. Blessingame  | Mayor Pro Tempore, Ward 2 | Present |
| Anthony Gibson        | Councilman, Ward 1        | Present |
| Calvin K. Hastie, Sr. | Councilman, Ward 3        | Present |
| Steven H. Corley      | Councilman, Ward 4        | Present |
| Colin C. Davis        | Councilman, Ward 5        | Present |
| Gifford M. Shaw       | Councilman, Ward 6        | Present |

| City Staff       | Title                               |
|------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Deron McCormick  | City Manager                        |
| Howie Owens      | Assistant City Manager              |
| Mark Partin      | Organizational Improvement Director |
| Staci Johnson    | Administrative Services Director    |
| Beth Reames      | Finance Director                    |
| Helen Roodman    | Planning Director                   |
| Michael Geddings | Director of Public Services         |
| Shelley Kile     | Communications & Tourism Director   |
| Danny Crowe      | General Counsel                     |
| Linda Hammett    | City Clerk                          |
| CC Newman        | Records Management Administrator    |

**INVOCATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Councilman Shaw

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

City Council was asked to approve the December 19, 2023, regular meeting minutes and special called meeting minutes. **Approved**

Motion: \_\_\_\_\_ Councilman Corley      Second: Mayor Pro Tempore Blessingame      Vote: 7-0



SUMTER CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
TUESDAY, JANUARY 2, 2024

**OLD BUSINESS**

**1. BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS**

Consider and ratify appointments expired on December 31, 2023, and other remaining vacancies. **Approved**

| Appointee        | Board Assignment                      | Term    |
|------------------|---------------------------------------|---------|
| Vannessa Almeida | Accommodations Tax Advisory Committee | 2 years |

Motion: \_\_\_\_\_ Councilman Corley \_\_\_\_\_ Second: \_\_\_\_\_ Councilman Hastie \_\_\_\_\_ Vote: 7-0

**2. RZ-23-25, 605 BOULEVARD ROAD**

Consider **Final Reading** of **Ordinance Number 2841** rezoning two (2) parcels of land totaling approximately 0.68 acres from General Residential (GR) to Limited Commercial (LC). The property is located at 605 Boulevard Road and identified by Tax Map Numbers 250-03-02-024 and 225-03-02-029. **Approved**

Motion: \_\_\_\_\_ Councilman Hastie \_\_\_\_\_ Second: Mayor Pro Tempore Blassingame \_\_\_\_\_ Vote: 7-0

*First reading approval was given December 19, 2023.*

**3. CONSERVATION EASEMENT**

Consider **Final Reading** of **Ordinance Number 2842** granting the Congaree Land Trust a conservation easement in certain real property owned by the City of Sumter. **Approved**

Motion: \_\_\_\_\_ Councilman Davis \_\_\_\_\_ Second: \_\_\_\_\_ Councilman Gibson \_\_\_\_\_ Vote: 7-0

*Prior to the final motion, a motion to amend the original Ordinance to reflect the version included in City Council’s packets in Section 1. **Approved as amended***

Motion: \_\_\_\_\_ Councilman Hastie \_\_\_\_\_ Second: Mayor Pro Tempore Blassingame \_\_\_\_\_ Vote: 7-0

*First reading approval was given December 19, 2023.*

**NEW BUSINESS**

**4. PROCUREMENT RESOLUTIONS**

(a) Consider **Resolution Number 926** authorizing a contract for the Wastewater Administration and Belt Press Building Roof. **Approved**

Motion: \_\_\_\_\_ Councilman Corley \_\_\_\_\_ Second: \_\_\_\_\_ Councilman Davis \_\_\_\_\_ Vote: 7-0

(b) Consider **Resolution Number 927** authorizing a contract for the Live Oak Industrial Park Water Improvements New 1 MG Elevated Tank Project. **Approved**

Motion: \_\_\_\_\_ Councilman Davis \_\_\_\_\_ Second: \_\_\_\_\_ Councilman Gibson \_\_\_\_\_ Vote: 7-0



SUMTER CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
TUESDAY, JANUARY 2, 2024

---

(c) Consider **Resolution Number 928** authorizing a contract for professional services for the Live Oak Industrial Park Water Improvements Project (including Elevated Tank). **Approved**

Motion: \_\_\_\_\_ Councilman Davis \_\_\_\_\_ Second: \_\_\_\_\_ Councilman Hastie \_\_\_\_\_ Vote: 7-0

**COUNCIL REPORTS**

- Councilman Corley
- Expressed appreciation for how well downtown Sumter is maintained after a recent visit to downtown New Orleans.
  - The community is responding positively regarding the January 22-26, 2024, curbside junk removal service.
- Councilman Hastie
- Shared information about an upcoming Veterans and Healthcare Claims Clinic. This event will be held on January 17, 2024, at the South Sumter Resource Center. As a part of the event, veterans will have access to onsite filing of various veteran related claims. Sumter is being used as a pilot site for this program.
- Councilman Shaw
- Conveyed gratitude to City Council members and the city staff for the care shown towards his family during the recent death of his mother.

**CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**


- Deron McCormick
- The January 22-26, 2024, curbside junk removal service is an opportunity to educate the public as to where various items should be disposed of and how to keep our community clean.
  - Thanked Mayor Merchant and City Council for approving the start of the "Love Where You Live Campaign." Recognized The Sumter Item for recent articles about the initiative.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at approximately 1:20 p.m.

Motion: \_\_\_\_\_ Councilman Davis \_\_\_\_\_ Second: Mayor Pro Tempore Blassingame \_\_\_\_\_ Vote: 7-0

Respectfully submitted:



Linda D. Hammett  
City Clerk

December 29, 2023 Certification of Public and Media Notification