



SUMTER CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2025

**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. Blasingame	Mayor Pro Tempore, Ward 2	Present
Anthony Gibson	Councilman, Ward 1	Absent
Calvin K. Hastie, Sr.	Councilman, Ward 3	Present
Rebecca Lynn Kennedy	Councilwoman, Ward 4	Present
Colin C. Davis	Councilman, Ward 5	Present
Gifford M. Shaw	Councilman, Ward 6	Present

City Staff	Title
Deron McCormick	City Manager
Staci Johnson	Administrative Services Director
Jonathan Flinchum	Finance Director
Russell Roark	Police Chief
Michael Geddings	Director of Public Services
Shelley Kile	Communications & Tourism Director
Susan Wild	Director of Partnerships
Clarence Gaines	Community Development/Housing Director
David Ferrell	Asset Manager & Operations Specialist
Larry McFadden	HOPE Centers Coordinator
Danny Crowe	General Counsel
Linda Hammett	City Clerk
CC Newman	Records Management Administrator

**INVOCATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Councilwoman Kennedy

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

City Council was asked to approve the January 7, 2025, regular meeting minutes and the January 28, 2025, special called meeting minutes. **Approved**

Motion: \_\_\_\_\_ Councilwoman Kennedy \_\_\_\_\_ Second: \_\_\_\_\_ Councilman Davis \_\_\_\_\_ Vote: 6-0

**OLD BUSINESS**

**1. BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS**

Consider appointments expired December 31, 2024, and other vacancies. **No action taken.**



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**2. SALE OF PROPERTY**

Consider **Final Reading of Ordinance Number 2869** authorizing the sale of a 0.013-acre strip of property from two (2) parcels of property owned by the City of Sumter to the South Carolina Department of Transportation. The properties are located at 847 and 849 North Main Street and identified by Tax Map Numbers 229-05-05-035 and 229-05-05-022, respectively. **Approved**

Motion: \_\_\_\_\_ Councilman Shaw \_\_\_\_\_ Second: \_\_\_\_\_ Councilman Hastie \_\_\_\_\_ Vote: 6-0

*First Reading approval was given January 7, 2025.*

**NEW BUSINESS**

**3. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

Consider **First Reading** of an ordinance to adopt the Community Development Entitlement Budget for Federal Fiscal Year 2025-2026. **Approved**

Motion: \_\_\_\_\_ Councilman Hastie \_\_\_\_\_ Second: \_\_\_\_\_ Mayor Pro Tempore Blassingame \_\_\_\_\_ Vote: 6-0

**4. ANNUAL EVENTS RESOLUTION**

Consider **Resolution Number 975** authorizing the sale and consumption of alcoholic beverages (beer and wine only) at annual events. **Approved**

Motion: \_\_\_\_\_ Councilwoman Kennedy \_\_\_\_\_ Second: \_\_\_\_\_ Councilman Davis \_\_\_\_\_ Vote: 6-0

*Councilman Hastie opposed.*

**5. PROCUREMENT RESOLUTIONS**

a) Consider **Resolution Number 976** authorizing the purchase of a Stageline SL100 Portable Stage. **Approved**

Motion: \_\_\_\_\_ Councilman Shaw \_\_\_\_\_ Second: \_\_\_\_\_ Councilman Hastie \_\_\_\_\_ Vote: 6-0

b) Consider **Resolution Number 977** authorizing a contract for the Memorial Park Bathroom Renovation Project. **Approved**

Motion: \_\_\_\_\_ Councilman Hastie \_\_\_\_\_ Second: \_\_\_\_\_ Councilwoman Kennedy \_\_\_\_\_ Vote: 6-0

**6. MAINTENANCE GUARANTEE/DEED OF DEDICATION**

Consider acceptance of a Maintenance Guarantee/Deed of Dedication for Phase One (1)-B of Sibley Village Subdivision, consisting of lots 15-26, 53-62, and 113-126, located along Bellflower Street, Salvia Street, and Sibley Street. **Approved**

Motion: \_\_\_\_\_ Councilman Shaw \_\_\_\_\_ Second: \_\_\_\_\_ Councilman Davis \_\_\_\_\_ Vote: 6-0



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**7. COMMUNITY SAFETY INITIATIVES**

Consider **Resolution Number 978** authorizing certain community safety special initiatives. **Approved**

Motion: Councilwoman Kennedy Second: Mayor Pro Tempore Blessingame Vote: 6-0

**8. COUNCIL REPORTS**

- Mayor Merchant
- Thanked Councilmembers for participating in the workshop on strategic visioning for the future of the City of Sumter on Tuesday, January 28, 2025.
- Mayor Pro Tempore Blessingame
- Attended the following events with Mayor Merchant and fellow Councilmembers:
    - Prisma Health Shot Pouch Greenway press event on Tuesday, January 28, 2025.
    - Westend Community Park Groundbreaking Ceremony on Tuesday, January 28, 2025.
- Councilman Hastie
- Requested information on the number of people utilizing homeless shelters in the City of Sumter.
  - Inquired about the possibility of a camera being installed at the intersection of South Main Street and Hoyt Street.
  - Invited Councilmembers and citizens to attend the Doris Hastie-Fulwood Scholarship Foundation Heart Health Luncheon and Scholarship Drive on Saturday, February 22, 2025 from 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. at New Bethel Missionary Baptist Church.
- Councilman Shaw
- Encouraged citizens to vote in the upcoming Sumter School District Board Election for District 8 on February 11, 2025.
- Councilwoman Kennedy
- Attended the American Legion Post 15 Annual Sumter Public Safety Awards Ceremony held on Monday, February 3, 2025.

**9. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

- Deron McCormick
- Each member of Council was given a copy of the December 2024 financials.
  - A date will soon be announced for the Swan Lake Iris Gardens Trailhead Ribbon Cutting Ceremony.

