



SUMTER CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, APRIL 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	Absent
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
Jonathan Flinchum	Assistant Finance Director
Michael Geddings	Director of Public Services
Lefford Fate	Support Services Director
Jeffery Jackson	Assistant Police Chief
Norvell Jackson	Community Improvement Director
Jeff Derwort	Zoning Administrator
Kyle Kelly	Senior Planner/Transportation
Shelley Kile	Communications and Tourism Director
Danny Crowe	General Counsel
Linda Hammett	City Clerk
CC Newman	Records Management Administrator

INVOCATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Councilman Hastie

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

City Council was asked to approve the March 19, 2024, meeting minutes. **Approved**

Motion: _____ Councilman Corley _____ Second: Mayor Pro Tempore Blessingame Vote: 6-0

EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION

Recognized Norvell “Big Jack” Jackson, Sr. for twenty-three years of distinguished service as Community Improvement Director.



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TUESDAY, APRIL 2, 2024

OLD BUSINESS

1. BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Consider appointments expired on December 31, 2023, and other remaining vacancies. **No action taken**

2. REZONINGS

a) RZ-24-02, 718 NORTH MAIN STREET

Consider **Final Reading** of **Ordinance Number 2844** rezoning an approximate 0.73-acre split-zoned parcel of land from Residential-6 (R-6) and Limited Commercial (LC) to Light Industrial-Warehouse (LI-W). The property is located at 718 North Main Street and is identified by Tax Map Number 229-13-01-030. **Approved**

Motion: _____ Councilman Shaw _____ Second: _____ Councilman Gibson _____ Vote: 6-0
First Reading approval was given March 19, 2024.

b) RZ-24-03, 9 AND 11 SOUTH BLANDING STREET

Consider **Final Reading** of **Ordinance Number 2845** rezoning an approximate 0.37-acre portion of a larger 1.01-acre parcel of land from Residential-6 (R-6) and General Commercial (GC) to General Commercial (GC). The property is located at 9 and 11 South Blanding Street and is identified by Tax Map Number 228-14-05-001. **Approved**

Motion: _____ Councilman Corley _____ Second: _____ Councilman Shaw _____ Vote: 6-0
First Reading approval was given March 19, 2024.

c) RZ-24-04, 365 BARNEY LANE

Consider **Final Reading** of **Ordinance Number 2846** rezoning two (2) parcels of land totaling approximately 10.95-acres from General Residential (GR) to Residential Multi-Family (RMF). The property is located at 365 Barney Lane and is identified by Tax Map Numbers 250-03-02-004 and 250-03-02-025. **Approved**

Motion: _____ Councilman Hastie _____ Second: _____ Mayor Pro Tempore Blassingame _____ Vote: 6-0
First Reading approval was given March 19, 2024.

3. OA-22-04, UPDATES TO STREET DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS

Consider **Final Reading** of **Ordinance Number 2847** amending Article 8.d. of the City of Sumter Zoning and Development Standards Ordinance to update the standards for street design and associated transportation network standards. **Motion to defer**

Motion: _____ Councilman Shaw _____ Second: _____ Mayor Pro Tempore Blassingame _____ Vote: 6-0
First Reading approval was given March 19, 2024.
Deferred until next meeting.



SUMTER CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, APRIL 2, 2024

4. LEASE AGREEMENTS

- a) Consider **Final Reading of Ordinance Number 2848** authorizing a lease agreement with respect to certain real property. The property is located at 1077 Alice Drive and is identified by Tax Map Number 204-11-04-008. **Approved**

Motion: _____ Councilman Hastie _____ Second: _____ Councilman Shaw _____ Vote: 6-0
First Reading approval was given March 19, 2024.

- b) Consider **Final Reading of Ordinance Number 2849** authorizing a lease agreement with respect to certain real property. The property is located in the Pocatoligo Industrial Park. **Approved**

Motion: _____ Councilman Hastie _____ Second: _____ Mayor Pro Tempore Blessingame _____ Vote: 6-0
Motion to amend First Reading

Motion: _____ Councilman Shaw _____ Second: _____ Councilman Blessingame _____ Vote: 6-0
Motion for Final Approval (as amended).

NEW BUSINESS

5. BUDGET – FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025

Receive preliminary draft for fiscal year 2025. **No action taken.**

6. ANNEXATION

ANN-24-01, 1950 CAMDEN HIGHWAY

Consider **First Reading** of an ordinance to annex (by 100 percent annexation petition) approximately 7.00 acres of property located at 1950 Camden Highway and is identified by Tax Map Numbers 202-08-03-001 and 202-00-01-035. **Approved**

Motion: _____ Councilman Corley _____ Second: _____ Councilman Hastie _____ Vote: 6-0

7. MAINTENANCE GUARANTEE/DEED OF DEDICATION

Consider acceptance of a Maintenance Guarantee/Deed of Dedication for Phase Three of Bradford Meadows Subdivision, consisting of lots 30-33, 56-72, 73-75, and 76-80 located along Lacebark Drive and Sawtooth Drive. **Approved**

Motion: _____ Councilman Hastie _____ Second: _____ Councilman Corley _____ Vote: 6-0

8. SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (SCDOT) PROJECT RESOLUTIONS

a) BROAD STREET AND NORTH SAINT PAUL CHURCH ROAD INTERSECTION

Consider **Resolution Number 935** authorizing the Broad Street and North Saint Paul Church Road intersection improvements. **Approved**

Motion: _____ Councilman Shaw _____ Second: _____ Councilman Gibson _____ Vote: 6-0



SUMTER CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, APRIL 2, 2024

b) BROAD STREET AND LORING MILL ROAD INTERSECTION

Consider **Resolution Number 936** authorizing the Broad Street and Loring Mill Road intersection improvements. **Approved**

Motion: _____ Councilman Shaw _____ Second: _____ Councilman Gibson _____ Vote: 6-0

c) MILLER ROAD BRIDGE OVER SHOT POUCH CREEK IMPROVEMENTS

Consider **Resolution Number 937** authorizing construction and improvements to the Miller Road bridge over Shot Pouch Creek. **Approved**

Motion: _____ Councilman Corley _____ Second: _____ Councilman Shaw _____ Vote: 6-0

d) MANNING AVENUE BRIDGE OVER CSX RAILROAD IMPROVEMENTS

Consider **Resolution Number 938** authorizing construction and improvements to the Manning Avenue bridge over CSX Railroad. **Approved**

Motion: _____ Councilman Hastie _____ Second: _____ Mayor Pro Tempore Blessingame _____ Vote: 6-0

9. COUNCIL REPORTS

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|-------------------------------|---|
| Mayor Merchant | - Thanked Councilman Shaw and the Mayor’s Prayer Breakfast Committee for their hard work and dedication in planning the event. |
| Mayor Pro Tempore Blessingame | - Received questions regarding the status of demolition funding, the Community Hospital, and the Jenkins Center Park.
- Thanked Council and staff for street resurfacing projects throughout the City.
- Announced that the Morris College Annual Scholarship Luncheon was canceled. Charter Day is on April 12, 2024. |
| Councilman Hastie | - Expressed concern regarding recent gun violence and gunshots in South Sumter and other areas of the City.
- Asked that Council develop a strategy to address the missing persons’ endeavor.
- Announced that the Festival on the Avenue is scheduled for April 11-13, 2024.
- Inquired about the expected completion date for the South Sumter Park renovations and the possibility of a drive-thru event on Memorial Day.
- Noted the need for resurfacing Broad Street due to potholes. |
| Councilman Corley | - Announced that Art in the Park will be held on April 20, 2024, from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. at Memorial Park.
- Reported that site work is underway at the corner of Hampton and Washington Streets for the expansion of the Sumter County Museum. |
| Councilman Shaw | - Announced that the Mayor’s Prayer Breakfast will be held on May 2, 2024, at Alice Drive Baptist Church, with keynote speaker, Judi Gatson of WIS-TV. |



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10. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Deron McCormick

- Provided the following responses to Council:
 - Demolition funding is not yet available. Information will be provided once received.
 - Bids have been requested for the demolition of the Community Hospital.
 - Waiting for South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) encroachment permit for parking at Jenkins Center before bids will be requested.
 - The South Sumter Park renovation project should take approximately eight (8) months.
 - Requested additional details from Councilman Hastie regarding a drive-thru event at South Sumter Park.
 - Will request a list of road resurfacing projects from SCDOT regarding to address the request to resurface Broad Street.

13. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at approximately 1:51 p.m.

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

Respectfully submitted:

Linda D. Hammett
City Clerk

March 28, 2024 Certification of Public and Media Notification