



SUMTER CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, MAY 21, 2024

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 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 |
| Beth Reames | Finance Director |
| Russell Roark | Police Chief |
| Jonathan Flinchum | Assistant Finance Director |
| Staci Johnson | Administrative Services Director |
| Michael Geddings | Director of Public Services |
| Shelley Kile | Communications & Tourism Director |
| Clarence Gaines | Community Development Director |
| Larry McFadden | HOPE Centers Coordinator |
| Danny Crowe | General Counsel |
| Linda Hammett | City Clerk |
| CC Newman | Records Management Administrator |

INVOCATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Councilman Davis

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

City Council was asked to approve the May 7, 2024, meeting minutes.

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



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PUBLIC HEARINGS – 6:00 P.M.

1. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Receive comments from the public regarding the Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) for the period from April 1, 2023, to March 31, 2024. The CAPER is a report on the City’s utilization of the Entitlement Funds in the amount of \$350,085 for the period from April 1, 2023, to March 31, 2024.

No action taken

| Affirmative | Negative |
|-------------|----------|
| None | None |

2. BUDGET- FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025

Receive comments from the public on the proposed budget for the Fiscal Year 2024-2025. **No action taken**

| Affirmative | Negative |
|-------------|----------|
| None | None |

OLD BUSINESS

3. BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

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

| Appointee | Board Assignment | Term |
|-----------------|---------------------------------------|---------|
| Christina Davis | Accommodations Tax Advisory Committee | 2 Years |

Motion: Councilman Hastie Second: Councilman Gibson Vote: 7-0

4. BUDGET

Continue discussion on budget for the Fiscal Year 2024-2025. **No action taken**

NEW BUSINESS

5. ABANDONED BUILDING RESOLUTION

Consider **Resolution Number 942** authorizing certification of 611 West Oakland Avenue as an abandoned building site. **Approved**

Motion: Councilman Shaw Second: Councilman Hastie Vote: 7-0

6. COUNCIL REPORTS

Mayor Merchant

- Wished Councilman Hastie a happy birthday.
- Congratulated Councilman Gibson for his recent acceptance into the 2023-2024 South Carolina Port Ambassador Program.

Councilman Hastie

- Encouraged the community to attend the following events:
 - Iris Festival, May 24-26, 2024.



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- Memorial Day Celebration, Monday, May 27, 2024, Wilder Elementary School, 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- Councilman Gibson
- Provided information about the yearlong South Carolina Port Ambassador Program.

7. CITY MANAGER’S REPORT

- Deron McCormick
- Working to balance the budget for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 and working to finalize the budget for the current fiscal year. Information will be presented at the Tuesday, May 28, 2024, Special Called City Council meeting.

8. COMMENTS BY CITY CITIZENS


| Citizens |
|-----------------|
| Lewis Watkins |
| Bruce Knoblock |
| Ida Milton |
| Thoney Williams |
| Rashad Hilton |

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at approximately 6:23 p.m.

Motion: Councilman Davis Second: Mayor Pro Tempore Blassingame Vote: 6-0
Councilman Hastie left the meeting early due to another engagement.

Respectfully submitted:


Linda D. Hammett
City Clerk

 May 17, 2024 Certification of Public and Media Notification