



SUMTER CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, JUNE 4, 2024

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. by Mayor Pro Tempore James B. Blessingame.

City Council	Title	Status
David P. Merchant	Mayor	Absent
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	Chief of Staff
Staci Johnson	Administrative Services Director
Beth Reames	Finance Director
Jeffery Jackson	Assistant Police Chief
Jonathan Flinchum	Assistant Finance Director
Helen Roodman	Planning Director
Michael Geddings	Director of Public Services
Carter James	Communications Coordinator
Clarence Gaines	Community Development Director
Larry McFadden	HOPE Centers Coordinator
Susan Wild	Director of Partnerships
Danny Crowe	General Counsel
Linda Hammett	City Clerk
CC Newman	Records Management Administrator
Emily Holladay	Administration Summer Intern

INVOCATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Councilman Hastie

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

City Council was asked to approve the May 21, 2024, and May 28, 2024, meeting minutes. **Approved**
 Motion: _____ Councilman Shaw _____ Second: _____ Councilman Davis _____ Vote: 6-0



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OLD BUSINESS

1. BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Consider appointments expiring on June 30, 2024, and other vacancies. **No action taken**

NEW BUSINESS

2. BUDGET – FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024

Consider **First Reading** of an ordinance to amend the budget for Fiscal Year 2023-2024. **Approved**

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

3. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Consider **First Reading** of an ordinance to amend the Community Development Block Grant Entitlement Budget for Fiscal Year 2024-2025. **Approved**

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

4. PROCUREMENT RESOLUTIONS

(a) Consider **Resolution Number 943** authorizing a change order to the contract for professional services for the Water Plant Number 5 Expansion Project Construction Administration. **Approved**

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

(b) Consider **Resolution Number 944** authorizing a contract for professional services for the Dixon Subdivision Pump Station and Force Main Project. **Approved**

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

5. COUNCIL REPORTS

- Mayor Pro Tempore Blessingame - Attended the following events:
- Funeral service for the late Reverend George Windley, Sr. in Manning, South Carolina on May 27, 2024.
 - 15th Annual Memorial Day Celebration held at Wilder Elementary School and sponsored by the Veterans Appreciation Committee and Neighborhood Watch Associations.
 - Westend Community Association meeting on June 3, 2024.
 - Groundbreaking Ceremony for Manning Avenue Free Studio on May 31, 2024.
 - Received requests for City Council meetings to be livestreamed on social media.
 - Expressed thanks to Mayor Merchant for holding the Recent Events Forum on May 29, 2024, at the Birnie HOPE Center.
 - Reported that Westend Community residents would be submitting a petition to City Council requesting the closure of a business in the area due to illegal activities.



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- Announced that the South Carolina Department of Transportation would soon be installing four-way stops on several streets in the Westend Community including Purdy Street, Bartlette Street, and Dingle Street.
- Meeting with Spaulding Heights residents June 6, 2024, concerning the reorganization of their neighborhood association.
- The Woman’s Baptist Educational and Missionary Convention of South Carolina will be held in Sumter at Morris College June 10 - 15, 2024.
- Recognized South Carolina Regional Director Al Jenkins from United States Senator Tim Scott’s office for attending the City Council meeting.

Councilman Hastie

- Thanked Mayor Pro Tempore Blassingame for attending the 15th Annual Memorial Day Celebration sponsored by the Veterans Appreciation Committee and Neighborhood Watch Associations. Thanked the City Manager and City staff for their hard work in preparation for the event.
- Received calls from citizens and the media regarding the need for City Council meetings to be livestreamed.
- Requested an update on the following projects at the June 18, 2024, City Council meeting:
 - Manning Avenue Bridge
 - South Sumter Park Renovations
 - South Sumter Art Park
 - Manning Avenue
 - North Main Street.

Councilman Corley

- Palmetto Pro Open is underway at the Palmetto Tennis Center June 3-9, 2024.

6. CITY MANAGER’S REPORT

Deron McCormick

- Provided an update regarding the proposed Capital Projects Penny Sales Tax projects.
- Stated that John Macloskie, Codes Enforcement Director, will give an update at the City Council meeting on June 18, 2024, regarding the housing demolition program since the funding has been released.

7. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Meeting adjourned for Executive Session.

Motion: Councilman Davis Second: Councilman Corley Vote: 6-0



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8. PUBLIC SESSION

City Council made a motion to return to Public Session.

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

9. BOARD OF ZONING APPEAL SETTLEMENT

Council made a motion to approve the settlement of the appeal to the Circuit Court from the Board of Zoning Appeals by Eugene and Kenyetta McKnight on the terms as reached by the parties in mediation on May 30, 2024, and as discussed with the City Council by its General Counsel in Executive Session.

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

10. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at approximately 2:04 p.m.

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

Respectfully submitted:



Linda D. Hammett
City Clerk

May 31, 2024 Certification of Public and Media Notification