



SUMTER CITY COUNCIL – MINUTES
Tuesday, August 15, 2023 – 5:30 p.m.
Sumter Opera House – City Council Chambers
21 N. Main Street | Sumter, South Carolina

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Mayor Merchant.

COUNCIL	Title	Status
David P. Merchant	Mayor	Present
Anthony Gibson	Council-Elect, Ward 1	Present
James B. Blassingame	Councilman, Ward 2	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

Attendee Name	Title
Deron McCormick	City Manager
Howie Owens	Assistant City Manager
Staci Johnson	Administrative Services Director
Linda Hammett	City Clerk
Carter James	Communications Coordinator
Michael Geddings	Director of Public Services
Beth Reames	Finance Director
Danny Crowe	General Counsel
Helen Roodman	Planning Director
Russell Roark	Chief of Police
CC Newman	Records Management Administrator

INVOCATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Councilman Davis

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – August 1, 2023 – Regular Meeting - **Approved**

Motion: Councilman Hastie Second: Councilman Blassingame Vote: 6-0



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SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Jenny Boulware,
Municipal Association of
South Carolina’s Main Street
South Carolina Program

- Presented *Inspiration Award* to Jay Davis, a dedicated small business owner in Downtown Sumter.

PUBLIC HEARING 6:00 P.M.

RZ-23-14, 1256 HASTINGS DRIVE

Receive comments from the public and consider **First Reading** of an ordinance to rezone one (1) parcel of land totaling approximately 0.4 acres from Residential-15 (R-15) to General Commercial (GC). The property is located at 1256 Hastings Drive and is represented by (Tax Map Number 203- 12-01-006). **Approved**

Comments from the public:

Affirmative

Richard Scott, Interplan LLC, Representative
Scott Ricardson, Chick-fil-A, Owner

Opposing

None

Motion: Councilman Shaw Second: Councilman Blessingame Vote: 6-0

OLD BUSINESS

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Consider appointments expired June 30, 2023, and other vacancies. **No action taken**

ANNEXATION – FINAL READING

ANN-23-06, 799 LANG JENNINGS DRIVE

Consider **Final Reading** of **Ordinance Number 2822** annexing (by 100 percent annexation petition) one (1) parcel of land approximately 0.93 acres and located at 799 Lang Jennings Drive (Tax Map Number 203-11-03-018). **Approved**

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



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NEW BUSINESS

PROCUREMENT RESOLUTION

- (a) Consider **Resolution Number 903** authorizing the purchase of a Camel Max Model 1200, 12-Yard Combination Sewer Cleaner. **Approved**

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

- (b) Consider **Resolution Number 904** authorizing the purchase of one (1) PB BC-3SM PB Slip-In Patcher. **Approved**

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

- (c) Consider **Resolution Number 905** authorizing a contract for the Opera House Renovation, Phase 1 Project (Annex Building Roof Replacement). **Approved**

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

BUSINESS LICENSE ORDINANCE

Consider **First Reading** of an ordinance amending Sections 22-32 and 22-33 of the Business License Provisions of the City Code to include an additional ground for denial or suspension or revocation of a business. **Approved**

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

ABANDONED BUILDING ORDINANCE

Consider **First Reading** of an ordinance to provide certification of 215 North Magnolia Street as an abandoned building site under the South Carolina Abandoned Buildings Revitalization Act for the purpose of allowing the developer to qualify for State Income Tax credits. **Approved**

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



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SALE OF PROPERTY

Consider **First Reading** of an ordinance authorizing a sale or conveyance by way of a Quit Claim Deed in property in which the City may have an ownership interest known or formerly known as the Police Social Club of Sumter near U.S. Highway 15-A. **Approved**

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

COUNCIL REPORTS

- | | |
|------------------------|--|
| Mayor Merchant | <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Stressed the importance of volunteering with the Sumter School District. |
| Councilman Hastie | <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Encouraged the community to attend the following events:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Community Clean-Up Day, August 19, 2023○ Manning Avenue Farmers Market, August 19, 2023 |
| Councilman Blassingame | <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Attended and presented a proclamation to Tandem Health in honor of National Health Center Week.● Appreciated the City’s response to the cleanup efforts in Ward Two.● Accepted a part-time position with Morris College in Church Relations. The new position will not interfere with council duties.● Requested status of funding previously awarded to Sumter County for building demolition.● Encouraged the community to attend the 132nd Session of the Northeast Annual Conference to be held September 28-30, 2023 at Mt. Pisgah AME Church. |
| Councilman Corley | <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Thanked City Staff for the weekly event updates.● Expressed appreciation from the community for the new intersection signs.● Encouraged the community to attend the following event:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Community Clean-Up Day, August 19, 2023 |



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CITY MANAGER’S REPORT

Deron McCormick

- Announced that the P-51 Dedication Ceremony date would be forthcoming.
- Received bids for the South Sumter Art Park which will be located at the corner of Orange Street and Manning Avenue. Presented rendering and reported that this will be placed on the next Council agenda for consideration.
- Presented update on plans for South Sumter Park improvements (renderings included), Westend Park (old Jenkins Center), Shot Pouch Trailheads (Broad Street and Swan Lake).
- Thanked Council, Legislative Delegation, and private donors for support of various City projects.
- Presented update on demolition funding – environmental reviews have been submitted and waiting for funding availability.

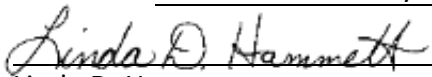
COMMENTS BY CITY CITIZENS

Ruth McKinney
Julie Balduf
Pastor Marion Newton
Lottie Spencer
Michelle Ross
Thoney Williams
Rashad Hilton
Brandon Stukes
Daniel Prescott

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at approximately 6:56 p.m.

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


Linda D. Hammett
City Clerk