



SUMTER CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, AUGUST 20, 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. Blassingame	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
Staci Johnson	Administrative Services Director
Jonathan Flinchum	Finance Director
Helen Roodman	Planning Director
Michael Geddings	Director of Public Services
Jeffery Jackson	Assistant Police Chief
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 August 6, 2024, meeting minutes. **Approved**

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



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PUBLIC HEARINGS – 6:00 P.M.

1. RZ-24-11, 1460 CAMDEN HIGHWAY

Receive comments from the public and consider **First Reading** of an ordinance to rezone approximately 7.44 acres of land from Planned Development (PD) to General Commercial (GC). The property is located at 1460 Camden Highway and is identified by Tax Map Number 203-03-02-020. **Approved**

Affirmative	Negative
Scott Rumph	None
Dave Curry	

Motion: _____ Councilman Davis _____ Second: _____ Councilman Gibson _____ Vote: 7-0

OLD BUSINESS

2. BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Consider and ratify appointments expired on June 30, 2024, and other remaining vacancies. **No action taken**

3. ANN-24-03, 2045 JEFFERSON ROAD

Consider **Final Reading** of **Ordinance Number 2859** annexing (by 100 percent annexation petition) approximately 36.79 acres of property located at 2045 Jefferson Road and identified by Tax Map Numbers 203-00-03-001 and 203-00-03-002. **Approved**

Motion: _____ Councilman Shaw _____ Second: _____ Councilman Davis _____ Vote: 7-0

NEW BUSINESS

4. PROCUREMENT RESOLUTIONS

a) Consider **Resolution Number 952** authorizing the purchase of two (2) Automated Garbage Trucks. **Approved**

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

b) Consider **Resolution Number 953** authorizing the purchase of one (1) Bonnell Olympian II Chassis Mounted Leaf Pro Plus Combination Sewer Cleaner. **Approved**

Motion: _____ Councilman Corley _____ Second: _____ Councilman Davis _____ Vote: 7-0

c) Consider **Resolution Number 954** authorizing a change order to the current contract for a design build airnasium and basketball courts for the South Sumter Park Project. **Approved**

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



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d) Consider **Resolution Number 955** authorizing a contract for the Sumter High School Stadium Ditch Expansion Project. **Approved**

Motion: Councilman Hastie Second: Mayor Pro Tempore Blassingame Vote: 7-0

e) Consider **Resolution Number 956** authorizing the purchase of one (1) Global M4 Mechanical Sweeper. **Approved**

Motion: Councilman Davis Second: Councilman Corley Vote: 7-0

5. COUNCIL REPORTS

- Mayor Merchant
- Shared a statement from the Mayor's office regarding the recent acts of violence and the need to work together to bring resolve to the issues in our community.
- Mayor Pro Tempore Blassingame
- Attended the Pinedale Neighborhood Association meeting held at the South Hope Center on Thursday, August 15, 2024. Residents are appreciative of the current road resurfacing projects. City staff has been made aware of recurring issues with standing water in several neighborhoods.
 - Thankful for members from the Guignard Park community being present for tonight's City Council meeting.
- Councilman Hastie
- Attended with Mayor Pro Tempore Blassingame, the South Sumter Neighborhood Association meeting held at the South Sumter Gym on Monday, August 19, 2024. Citizens expressed concerns about the recent shootings in the area. Representative David Weeks was in attendance to share updates and future events happening within the Sumter community.
- Councilman Corley
- Signs have been placed throughout the city to bring attention to the Capital Projects Penny Sales Tax Referendum. Hoping that the City of Sumter and Sumter County will consider improving the verbiage used to describe the projects before the November elections.
- Councilman Shaw
- Members of City Council were provided a copy of the 2024 Liberty STEAM Charter School Annual Report. Highlighted the following items from the report:
 - Parents served 5,625 volunteer hours with a 99% family engagement satisfaction rate.
 - 71% of scholars were eligible for free or reduced-price meals.
 - Currently 731 scholars enrolled.
 - Leased an additional 70,000 square feet of the Sumter Mall for future school expansion.



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6. CITY MANAGER’S REPORT

- Deron McCormick
- Copies of the Capital Projects Penny Sales Tax Referendum projects are available for the public.
 - First of many demolition projects in the Sumter community started today. Updates will be provided as the projects occur.
 - Each member of City Council was given a copy of the August 2024 financials.

7. COMMENTS BY CITY CITIZENS

Citizens
Ruth McKinney

8. EXECUTIVE SESSION

The meeting adjourned for Executive Session.

Motion: Councilman Davis Second: Mayor Pro Tempore Blassingame Vote: 7-0

No action was taken during Executive Session.

PUBLIC SESSION

City Council made a motion to return to Public Session.

Motion: Councilman Shaw Second: Mayor Pro Tempore Blassingame Vote: 7-0

9. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:10 p.m.

Motion: Councilman Davis Second: Councilman Corley Vote: 7-0

Respectfully submitted:

Linda D. Hammett
City Clerk

 August 16, 2024 Certification of Public and Media Notification