



SUMTER CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 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. 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
Mark Partin	Chief of Staff
Staci Johnson	Administrative Services Director
Russell Roark	Police Chief
Helen Roodman	Planning Director
Michael Geddings	Public Services Director
Susan Wild	Director of Partnerships
Carter James	Communications Manager
Linda Hammett	City Clerk
CC Newman	Records Management Administrator

**INVOCATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor Pro Tempore Blassingame

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

City Council was asked to approve the August 20, 2024, meeting minutes. **Approved**

Motion: \_\_\_\_\_ Councilman Hastie      Second: \_\_\_\_\_ Councilman Corley      Vote: 7-0

**SPECIAL RECOGNITION**

Carter James recognized AmeriCorps volunteers who have been serving the community alongside Sumter United Ministries during their month-long stay.



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**OLD BUSINESS**

**1. BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS**

Consider appointments expired June 30, 2024, and other vacancies. **Approved**

Appointee	Board Assignment	Term
Sanedra Staley	City Housing and Economic Development Corporation	3 Years

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

**2. RZ-24-11, 1460 CAMDEN HIGHWAY**

Consider **Final Reading** of **Ordinance Number 2860** rezoning 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**

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

*Councilman Corley expressed concern regarding the loss of the barrier between the site and the adjacent residential neighborhood and how this would be addressed within future site plans.*

*First Reading approval was given August 20, 2024.*

**NEW BUSINESS**

**3. PROCUREMENT RESOLUTIONS**

a) Consider **Resolution Number 957** authorizing a contract for an Elevated Water Tank Care Service Plan. **Approved**

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

b) Consider **Resolution Number 958** authorizing a contract for the Westend Park Project (320 West Oakland Avenue). **Approved**

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

c) Consider **Resolution Number 959** authorizing a contract for the Memorial Park Playground Upgrades. **Approved**

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

**4. PROPERTY TRANSFER RESOLUTION**

Consider **Resolution Number 960** approving and accepting the transfer of property from Alice Drive Developers to the City of Sumter. **Approved**

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



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**5. COUNCIL REPORTS**

- Councilman Hastie
- Inquired about the schedule for street sweeping.
  - Expressed concern about violence in the South Sumter community and noted the need for a police substation in the area as well as a plan, to include the entire community, to address violence.
- Councilman Corley
- Attended the Fourth Fridays Concert Series on Friday, August 23, 2024, featuring Second Nature. Too Much Sylvia will perform on Friday, September 27, 2024.
- Councilman Shaw
- Invited Council and the public to attend Liberty STEAM Charter School's Junior Academy groundbreaking ceremony at the Sumter Mall on Tuesday, September 10, 2024, at 1:00 p.m. The school will be expanding nearly 70,000 square feet over the next three (3) years to accommodate an additional 600 students.
- Councilman Gibson
- Thanked the Mayor for the opportunity to present a proclamation to Mrs. Anna Scriven Green at her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration on Saturday, August 31, 2024, at St. Mark Four Bridges Baptist Church.

**6. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

- Deron McCormick
- Gave a brief update on the following accessible playground projects:
    - South Sumter Art Park
    - South Sumter Park
    - Broad Street Trailhead (Shot Pouch Greenway)
    - Swan Lake Iris Gardens
    - Westend Park
  - Administration will soon meet with City employees to provide information and education regarding the Capital Projects (Penny) Sales Tax Referendum. Copies of the question are available to the public.

**7. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The meeting adjourned for Executive Session.

Motion: \_\_\_\_\_ Councilman Davis \_\_\_\_\_ Second: \_\_\_\_\_ Councilman Shaw \_\_\_\_\_ 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



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**8. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at approximately 1:45 p.m.

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

Respectfully submitted:

*Linda D. Hammett*

Linda D. Hammett  
City Clerk

  August 30, 2024   Certification of Public and Media Notification