



SUMTER CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2023

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. by Mayor Merchant.

Attendee Name	Title	Status
David P. Merchant	Mayor	Present
Anthony Gibson	Councilman, Ward 1	Present
James B. Blessingame	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
Mark Partin	Organizational Improvement Director
Russell Roark	Chief of Police
Staci Johnson	Administrative Services Director
Beth Reames	Finance Director
Helen Roodman	Planning Director
Michael Geddings	Public Services Director
John Macloskie	Codes Enforcement Director
Danny Crowe	General Counsel
Linda Hammett	City Clerk
Carter James	Communications Coordinator
CC Newman	Records Management Administrator

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

INVOCATION

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Council is asked to approve the August 15, 2023, meeting minutes. **Approved**



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OLD BUSINESS

Boards and Commissions

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

Rezoning – Final Reading

1. **RZ-23-14, 1256 Hastings Drive**

Consider **Final Reading** of **Ordinance Number 2823** rezoning one (1) parcel of land totaling approximately 0.4 acres from Residential-15 to General Commercial (GC). The property is located at 1256 Hastings Drive and is represented identified by Tax Map Number 203-12-01-006.

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

First reading approval was given August 15, 2023.

Business License Ordinance

1. Consider **Final Reading** of **Ordinance Number 2824** 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 revocations of a business license.

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

First reading approval was given August 15, 2023.

Abandoned Building Ordinance

1. Consider **Final Reading** of **Ordinance Number 2825** providing certifications of 215 North Magnolia Street as an abandoned building site under the South Carolina Abandoned Building Revitalization Act for the purpose of allowing the developer to qualify for State Income Tax Credits.

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

First reading approval was given August 15, 2023.

Sale of Property

1. Consider **Final Reading** of **Ordinance Number 2826** 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.

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

First reading approval was given August 15, 2023.



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NEW BUSINESS

1. Election of Mayor Pro Tempore

Councilman James B. Blessingame was elected Mayor Pro Tempore. **Approved**

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

Councilman Hastie abstained.

PROCUREMENT RESOLUTIONS

1. Resolution Number 906 – Authorizing the purchase of one (1) Front Load Garbage Truck. **Approved**

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

2. Resolution Number 907 – Authorizing a contract for Professional Services for an Elevated Tank for Water Plant Number 5. **Approved**

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

3. Resolution Number 908 – Authorizing a contract for Shem Cove and West Gloucester Drainage Improvement Project. **Approved**

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

4. Resolution Number 909 – Authorizing a contract for the South Sumter Art Park. **Approved**

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

5. Resolution Number 910 – Authorizing a contract for Riley Park Facility Upgrades, Phase 1 (Field Safety and Playing Surface Renovation). **Approved**

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

ANNEXATIONS – FIRST READING

1. ANN-23-07, 1560 ALICE DRIVE

Consider **First Reading** of an ordinance to annex (by 100 percent annexation petition) approximately 37.96 acres of land located at 1560 Alice Drive identified by Tax Map Number 203-00-02-002. **Approved**

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

2. ANN-23-08, 1030 LORING MILL ROAD

Consider **First Reading** of an ordinance to annex (by 100 percent annexation petition) approximately 11.36 acres of land located at 1030 Loring Mill Road identified by Tax Map Number 184-00-02-001.

Approved

Motion: _____ Councilman Shaw _____ Second: _____ Councilman Davis _____ Vote: 6-1

Councilman Corley opposed.



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3. MAINTENANCE GUARANTEE

Consider **First Reading** of a Maintenance Guarantee/Deed of Dedication for four (4) lots (54F, 55F, 56F, and 65F) located on Aberlour Drive of Pocalla Springs Subdivision. **Approved**

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

4. FIRST AMENDMENT AUDITS

Consider **Resolution Number 911** adopting a First Amendment Policy for the City of Sumter. **Approved**

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

5. CITY CODE AMENDMENTS (ANIMALS)

Consider **First Reading** of an ordinance to amend Chapter 14 (“Animals”) of the City Code by repealing the current Section 14-2 and substituting a new Section 14-2 to allow only for the keeping of domesticated female chickens under certain conditions and to make unlawful the keeping of other fowl except as provided. **Approved**

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

CITY COUNCIL REPORTS

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Mayor Merchant | - Announced the news of Sumter High School alumnus, Marla Frederick, being named as the new Dean of Harvard Divinity School. Her father, L. C. Frederick, passed away on Wednesday, August 30, 2023. |
| Mayor Pro Tempore Blassingame | - Attended the most recent Pinedale Neighborhood Association Meeting. Members were pleased with the improvements in their neighborhood.
- Encouraged the community to attend the Westend Community Association Health Fair on Saturday, September 16, 2023, from 11:00 a.m. until 4 p.m. at Birnie Hope Center. |
| Councilman Hastie | - Expressed concern regarding numerous gunshots fired on Harvin Street on Friday, September 1, 2023, while he and others attended the Farmers Market on Manning Avenue. Requested additional police presence in the area.
- Requested an update on the status of the funding to demolish dilapidated homes in the community. |



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CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

John Macloskie
(in response to Councilman Hastie)

- Reported that Santee-Lynches Regional Council of Governments had submitted everything to the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and were awaiting HUD's approval of the submission before funds could be released to Sumter County, the fiscal agency for the funding.

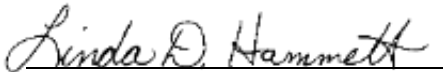
Deron McCormick

- Reported that an email was sent to Council with additional information regarding time guidelines for environmental reviews and funding.
- Mr. L. C. Frederick served as a City-appointed member of the Zoning Board of Appeals from 2002 until 2010 and as a County-appointed member from 2015 until 2022. He also served as a mentor to a number of young men in the community.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 1:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:



Linda D. Hammett
City Clerk

09/01/2023 Certification of Public and Media Notification