



SUMTER CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2023

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
James B. Blassingame	Mayor Pro Tempore, Ward 2	Present
Anthony Gibson	Councilman, Ward 1	Present
Calvin K. Hastie, Sr.	Councilman, Ward 3	Absent
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
Helen Roodman	Planning Director
Michael Geddings	Public Services Director
Danny Crowe	General Counsel
Linda Hammett	City Clerk
Shelley Kile	Communications & Tourism Director
CC Newman	Records Management Administrator

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/INVOCATION

Councilman Gibson

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Council is asked to approve the September 5, 2023, meeting minutes. **Approved**

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

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

STEAM Capstone Project, *Solving Sumter's Litter Problem*, presentation to Liberty STEAM Charter School scholars by Trevor Ivey, Executive Director.

Scholars	
Gracelyn McDougald	Audriana Brasure
Kennedy Gross	Savion Whittleton
Mason Miller	Harrison Soper
Naomi Gates	



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PUBLIC HEARING 6:00 P.M.

1. RZ-23-19, 1030 LORING MILL ROAD

Receive comments from the public and consider **First Reading** of an ordinance to rezone one (1) parcel of land totaling approximately 10.84 acres from Residential-15 (R-15) to Residential-6 (R-6). The property is located at 1030 Loring Mill Road and is identified by Tax Map Number 184-00-02-001.

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

Vote postponed until October 3, 2023.

Affirmative	Negative
Rhonda Mullis	Jeff Zell
	Chester Dinkins
	Rob Hussey
	Phillip Gilbert
	Shelton Young
	Eileen Row
	Rusty Gullede
	Carol Kirven

OLD BUSINESS

1. Boards and Commissions

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

2. Annexations – Final Reading

(a) ANN-23-07, 1560 ALICE DRIVE

Consider **Final Reading** of **Ordinance Number 2827** annexing (by 100 percent annexation petition) approximately 37.96 acres of land located at 1560 Alice Drive and is identified by Tax Map Number 203-00-02-002. **Approved**

Motion: _____ Councilman Shaw _____ Second: Mayor Pro Tempore Blassingame _____ Vote: 6-0

First reading approval was given September 5, 2023.

(b) ANN-23-08, 1030 LORING MILL ROAD

Consider **Final Reading** of **Ordinance Number 2828** annexing (by 100 percent annexation petition) approximately 11.36 acres of land located at 1030 Loring Mill Road and is identified by Tax Map Number 184-00-02-001. **Approved**

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

First reading approval was given September 5, 2023.



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3. City Code Amendment (Animals)

- (a) Consider **Final Reading** of **Ordinance Number 2829** amending 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.

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

First reading approval was given September 5, 2023.

Vote postponed until October 3, 2023.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Procurement Resolutions

- a) Consider **Resolution Number 912** authorizing a contract for the City Road Resurfacing Project for 2023.
Approved

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

- b) Consider **Resolution Number 913** authorizing a contract for the State Road Resurfacing Project for 2023.
Approved

Motion: Mayor Pro Tempore Blessingame Second: Councilman Corley Vote: 6-0

- c) Consider **Resolution Number 914** authorizing a contract for the Pocalla Lift Station Replacement and Manhole Rehabilitation Project. **Approved**

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

CITY COUNCIL REPORTS

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| Mayor Merchant | - Announced the passing of former Mayor Pro Tempore William S. Randolph. |
| Mayor Pro Tempore Blessingame | - Honored to serve in the same role of Mayor Pro Tempore as his uncle and pastor, former Mayor Pro Tempore William S. Randolph. |
| | - Requested the meeting be adjourned in memory of former Mayor Pro Tempore William S. Randolph. |
| | - Attended the Prisma Health Tuomey Hospital Emergency Department Expansion Preview with Councilman Shaw. |
| | - Thanked the community for their support of the Westend Community Association Health Fair. |
| | - Attended the South Sumter Farmers Market. |
| | - Former Mayor Pro Tempore William S. Randolph’s Public Viewing:
4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. on Sunday, September 24, 2023, at
Reuben Chapel, Morris College |
| | - Former Mayor Pro Tempore William S. Randolph’s Funeral Service:
11:00 a.m. on Monday, September 25, 2023, at
First Baptist Missionary Church |



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- Councilman Shaw
- Thanked the Mayor and City Codes Enforcement Officers for their acknowledgment of the Liberty STEAM Charter School scholars and their work to clear litter in the City.
 - Announced that ninety-one Liberty STEAM Charter School families participated in the 2023 August Community Clean-Up.

CITY MANAGER’S REPORT

- Deron McCormick
- Shared contributions of former Mayor Pro Tempore William S. Randolph to the City of Sumter.

COMMENTS BY CITY CITIZENS

Citizens		
Rusty Gulledge	Anna Martinez	E. Robert Thomas
Cara Koehler	Melissa Watts	Eileen Rowe
Christopher Koehler	Jodi West	Nicole Bailey
Rick Brownlow	Mark Williams	

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Discuss contractual matters, personnel matters, and appointments to Boards and Commissions. Receive legal advice relating to matters covered by attorney-client privilege, if necessary, in accordance with Section 30-4-70 of the South Carolina Code of Laws.

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

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:05 p.m. in memory of former Mayor Pro Tempore William S. Randolph.

Motion: Mayor Pro Tempore Blessingame Second: _____ Councilman Shaw _____ Vote: 6-0

Respectfully submitted:

Linda D. Hammett
City Clerk

September 15, 2023 Certification of Public and Media Notification