



SUMTER CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 1, 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	Absent
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
Russell Roark	Police Chief
Shelley Kile	Communications and Tourism Director
Susan Wild	Director of Partnerships
Danny Crowe	General Counsel
Linda Hammett	City Clerk
CC Newman	Records Management Administrator
Anukkah Chandler	Communications Specialist

INVOCATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Councilman Gibson

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

City Council was asked to approve the September 17, 2024, meeting minutes. **Approved**

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

OLD BUSINESS

1. BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

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

Appointee	Board Assignment	Term
Said Sewell, Ph.D., CFRM	Sumter Development Board	3 Years
Christian Horton	Historic Preservation Design Review Committee	4 Years

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



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2. APPEAL HEARING – DECISION AND ORDER

Consider approval of written order on revocation of a business license. **Approved**

Motion: Councilman Shaw Second: Councilman Davis Vote: 5-0

Councilman Gibson continued his refusal.

NEW BUSINESS

3. COUNCIL REPORTS

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Mayor Merchant | <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Proud to be a part of a community willing to donate supplies to those devastated by Hurricane Helene.- Jessica Kaneft, Program Support and Development Coordinator for Crosswell Home for Children, spoke at the Mayor’s Compassionate City Committee meeting on Tuesday, September 24, 2024, regarding the need for organizations to work together to develop a one-stop shop for citizens in need. |
| Mayor Pro Tempore Blassingame | <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Represented Mayor Merchant at the Student Council Induction Ceremony at Lemira Elementary School on Wednesday, September 25, 2024.- Attended the State of the District Partnership Breakfast, along with Mayor Merchant and Councilman Gibson, on Thursday, September 26, 2024, at Sumter First Church of the Nazarene.- Attended the Mayor’s Compassionate City Committee meeting. |
| Councilman Hastie | <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Lieutenant Selena Smith of the Sumter Fire Department recently gave an informative demonstration on fire safety at the South Sumter Farmers Market. |

4. CITY MANAGER’S REPORT

- | | |
|---------------------|---|
| Deron McCormick | <ul style="list-style-type: none">- The Sumter Fire Department is sending a pumper truck and a four-person crew to Upstate South Carolina for a few days to assist in the aftermath of Hurricane Helene. |
| Howie Owens | <ul style="list-style-type: none">- The South Sumter Art Park is near completion. Local artists Marie Grady, Rosetta Davis, Ernest Hampton, and Walter McNeil are currently painting four separate murals at the park. Basketball goals will then be installed, and a ribbon cutting will be scheduled. |
| Chief Russell Roark | <ul style="list-style-type: none">- The Sumter Police Department is sending 43 cases of MREs (Meal, Ready to Eat) to Laurens County for hurricane victims. |
| Shelley Kile | <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Introduced Anukkah Chandler, new employee with the Communications and Tourism Department. |



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- Shared the schedule for Community Development Block Grant budget preparation meetings during the month of October. The public hearing will be held before City Council on Tuesday, November 19, 2024, at 6:00 p.m.
- Presented a flyer with Capital Projects (Penny) Sales Tax Referendum information including a sample ballot.
- Provided material from Sumter EDGE (Economic Development Growth Engine) regarding upcoming Penny for Progress informational sessions to be held at various locations in the City and County from October 1-10, 2024.
- Provided a brief overview of Section 8-13-1346 of the South Carolina Code of Laws (Use of public funds, property, or time to influence election prohibited; exceptions).

Danny Crowe

5. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at approximately 1:20 p.m.

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

Respectfully submitted:

Linda D. Hammett
City Clerk

September 27, 2024 Certification of Public and Media Notification