



SUMTER CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 15, 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	Absent
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
Russell Roark	Police Chief
Michael Geddings	Director of Public Services
Jeff Derwort	Zoning Administrator
Danny Crowe	General Counsel
Linda Hammett	City Clerk
CC Newman	Records Management Administrator
Carter James	Communications Manager

INVOCATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Councilman Corley

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

City Council was asked to approve the October 1, 2024, meeting minutes. **Approved**

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

PUBLIC HEARING – 6:00 P.M.

1. RZ-24-17, 1475 ALICE DRIVE

Receive comments from the public and consider **First Reading** of an ordinance to rezone an approximate 31.85 acres from Agricultural Conservation (AC) to General Commercial (GC). The property is located at 1475 Alice Drive and identified by Tax Map Number 203-00-03-001. **Approved**

Affirmative	Negative
None	None

Motion: _____ Councilman Shaw _____ Second: Mayor Pro Tempore Blassingame _____ Vote: 5-0



SUMTER CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2024

OLD BUSINESS

2. BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

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

NEW BUSINESS

3. PROCUREMENT RESOLUTION

Consider **Resolution Number 964** authorizing a contract for the Riley Park Facility Upgrades Phase Two (2) (dugouts and exterior upgrades). **Approved**

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

4. COUNCIL REPORTS

- Mayor Pro Tempore Blessingame - Will be attending an Advanced Municipal Elected Officials Institute training on Wednesday October 16, 2024.
- Councilman Corley - Invited the public to the groundbreaking ceremony for the Sumter Military Museum, Wednesday, October 16, 2024, at 10:00 a.m., 122 North Washington Street.
- Councilman Shaw - Attended on behalf of Mayor Merchant, Brother’s Inc. “A Time to Heal” discussion panel addressing violence in the Sumter community. The event was held at Jehovah Missionary Baptist Church on Tuesday, October 8, 2024.

5. CITY MANAGER’S REPORT

- Deron McCormick
 - SEM Wafertech Inc. plans to build a world-class wafer slicing facility in Sumter County. City officials will be working with the Santee-Lynches Regional Council of Governments and Sumter Economic Development for further discussions.
 - Demolition project update:
 - Bee Street (scheduled for demolition)
 - Community Hospital (project currently underway)
 - 15 properties out for bid on the following streets: Harris, Cleveland, Patricia, Monroe, East Newberry, East Red Bay, Atlantic, Franklin, Belmont, Earle, and Manning Avenue.
- Chief Roark
 - Community engagement update:
 - Organized law enforcement strategies with state and local agencies to target several Sumter neighborhoods that have experienced an increase in gun violence.



SUMTER CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2024

- Distributed educational materials regarding crime prevention and provided anti-theft wheel locks for vehicles.
- Implemented roadway safety check points.
- Performed compliance checks for bars and clubs that serve alcohol.
- Technology Update:
 - 61 Flock Safety cameras installed to help improve response time when solving crime.
 - 31 Sharp View cameras installed at random businesses throughout the city.
- Stressed the importance of community engagement and how it helps to reduce criminal activity.

6. COMMENTS BY CITY CITIZENS

Citizens
Colette Jones
Frederick Galloway
Willie Washington
Linda Hasty

7. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at approximately 6:07 p.m.

Motion: Mayor Pro Tempore Blassingame Second: Councilman Davis Vote: 5-0

Respectfully submitted:

Linda D. Hammett
City Clerk

October 11, 2024 Certification of Public and Media Notification