



SUMTER CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17, 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	Absent
Calvin K. Hastie, Sr.	Councilman, Ward 3	Present
Steven H. Corley	Councilman, Ward 4	Present
Colin C. Davis	Councilman, Ward 5	Absent
Gifford M. Shaw	Councilman, Ward 6	Present

City Staff	Title
Deron McCormick	City Manager
Staci Johnson	Administrative Services Director
Beth Reames	Finance Director
Karl Ford	Fire Chief
Helen Roodman	Planning Director
Michael Geddings	Public Services Director
Linda Hammett	City Clerk
Shelley Kile	Communications & Tourism Director
CC Newman	Records Management Administrator

INVOCATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Councilman Corley

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Council is asked to approve the October 3, 2023, meeting minutes. **Approved**

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

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Habitat for Humanity

Name	Title
Julie Lockhart	Director of Development and Communications



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PUBLIC HEARINGS 6:00 P.M.

1. RZ-23-18, 9 PHILLIPS STREET

Receive comments from the public and consider **First Reading** of an ordinance to rezone five (5) parcels of land totaling approximately 1.83 acres from Residential-6 (R-6) and General Commercial (GC) to Professional Office (PO). The properties are located at 9 Phillips Street and are identified by Tax Map Numbers 229-12-02-020, 229-12-02-019, 229-12-02-018, 229-12-02-017, and 229-12-02-016. **Approved**

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

Affirmative	Negative
None	None

2. RZ-23-20, 122 NORTH WASHINGTON STREET AND 201 WEST HAMPTON AVENUE

Receive comments from the public and consider **First Reading** of an ordinance to rezone two (2) parcels of land totaling approximately 3.75 acres from Professional Office (PO) to Central Business District (CBD). The properties are located at 122 North Washington Street and 201 West Hampton Avenue and are identified by Tax Map Numbers 228-12-02-014 and 228-12-02-017, respectively. **Approved**

Motion: _____ Councilman Corley _____ Second: _____ Mayor Pro Tempore Blessingame _____ Vote: _____ 5-0

Affirmative	Negative
None	None

3. OA-22-13, RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS

Receive comments from the public and consider **First Reading** of an ordinance to amend Articles 3, 4, 5, 6, and 10 of the City Zoning and Development Standards Ordinance to revise certain City residential development standards.

Approved as presented by the Planning Director to include additional requirements for single-family attached dwellings.

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

Affirmative	Negative
None	None



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4. OA-23-03, AMENDMENT TO SIGN REQUIREMENTS

Receive comments from the public and consider **First Reading** of an ordinance to amend Article 8 (Section H), Exhibit 8-5, and Exhibit 8-6 of the City Zoning and Development Standards Ordinance pertaining to sign requirements. **Approved**

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

Affirmative	Negative
None	None

OLD BUSINESS

1. BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

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

2. REZONING – FINAL READING

RZ-23-19, 1030 LORING MILL ROAD

Consider **Final Reading** of **Ordinance Number 2830** rezoning one (1) parcel of land totaling approximately 10.83 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.

Partial approval of RZ-23-19, with the 2.86-acre portion of the tract located north of Loring Mill Road to be rezoned from Residential-15 (R-15) to Residential-6 (R-6).

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

First reading approval was given October 3, 2023.

3. SALE OF PROPERTY

Consider **Final Reading** of **Ordinance Number 2831** authorizing the sale of portions of certain City-owned properties to South Carolina Department of Transportation for the right-of-way acquisition for three (3) SCDOT projects. **Approved**

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

First reading approval was given October 3, 2023.

4. BUDGET AMENDMENT – FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024

Consider **Final Reading** of **Ordinance Number 2832** amending the Budget for Fiscal Year 2023-2024. **Approved**

Motion: _____ Councilman Corley _____ Second: _____ Councilman Hastie _____ Vote: 5-0

First reading approval was given October 3, 2023.



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NEW BUSINESS

1. PROCUREMENT RESOLUTIONS

- a) Consider **Resolution Number 916** authorizing the purchase of one (1) 2025 Pumper Fire Truck.
Approved

Motion: _____ Councilman Hastie _____ Second: _____ Councilman Corley _____ Vote: 5-0

- b) Consider **Resolution Number 917** authorizing a contract for the Water Plant Number Five Expansion.
Approved

Motion: _____ Councilman Corley _____ Second: _____ Mayor Pro Tempore Blessingame _____ Vote: 5-0

2. COUNCIL REPORTS

- Mayor Merchant
- Visited Jehovah Missionary Baptist Church on Sunday, October 15, 2023. The church will be providing a safe alternative to Trick-or-Treating on Halloween night.
- Mayor Pro Tempore Blessingame
- Walked in the eSTEAM Festival Parade and gave the invocation for the eSTEAM Festival Opening Ceremony.
 - Attended the State Conference of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People on behalf of Mayor Merchant and the City of Sumter. Brought greetings at the banquet on Saturday, October 14, 2023, at Trinity Missionary Baptist Church.
 - Attended the Municipal Association of South Carolina Advanced Municipal Elected Officials Institute held on October 11, 2023, in Columbia. The training was very informative.
 - Invited the community to attend the President's Lecture Series held at Morris College on Thursday, October 26, 2023, at 10:00 a.m. Mayor Merchant will be the guest speaker.
- Councilman Hastie
- The South Sumter Farmers Market ended on Friday, October 13, 2023. The market will reopen in May.
 - Encouraged residents to start community gardens. Asked the City for support with this effort which can be used as an opportunity to educate youth in gardening.
 - Asked the City to address the missing persons efforts in the Sumter community in the near future.
- Councilman Corley
- Attended the memorial service for Grady Locklear, long-time English teacher from Sumter High School and community leader.
- Councilman Shaw
- Thrilled about a former resident of Ward 6, Jordan Montgomery, currently pitching for the Texas Rangers.



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3. CITY MANAGER’S REPORT

Deron McCormick

- The eSTEAM Festival was well attended and very successful. Thanked the City staff for their involvement in the eSTEAM Festival.
- At the request of Mayor Merchant, an Environmental One Study was conducted for the Community Residential Care facility located on Broad Street. The study was conducted to establish safety protocols prior to clearing the site. Results from the study should be received in the coming week.
- Information on the North Main Street and Manning Avenue Projects was provided on Councilmembers’ desks and will be presented on the screen during the next meeting.

4. COMMENTS BY CITY CITIZENS


Citizens
Linda Hasty
Amy James
Rashad Hilton

5. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at approximately 6:54 p.m.

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

Respectfully submitted:


 Linda D. Hammett
 City Clerk

October 13, 2023 Certification of Public and Media Notification