



SUMTER CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 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	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
Jonathan Flinchum	Finance Director
Russell Roark	Police Chief
Michael Geddings	Director of Public Services
Helen Roodman	Planning Director
Shelley Kile	Communications and Tourism Director
Danny Crowe	General Counsel
Linda Hammett	City Clerk
CC Newman	Records Management Administrator
David Ferrell	Asset Manager and Operations Specialist

**INVOCATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Councilman Gibson

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

City Council was asked to approve the October 15, 2024, meeting minutes. **Approved**

Motion: \_\_\_\_\_ Councilman Corley \_\_\_\_\_ Second: \_\_\_\_\_ Councilman Hastie \_\_\_\_\_ Vote: 7-0

**OLD BUSINESS**

**1. BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS**

Consider appointments due to expire December 31, 2024, and other vacancies. **Approved**

Appointee	Board Assignment	Term
Ann Hastie	Litter Advisory Board	3 Years

Motion: \_\_\_\_\_ Councilman Hastie \_\_\_\_\_ Second: \_\_\_\_\_ Mayor Pro Tempore Blassingame \_\_\_\_\_ Vote: 7-0



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**2. RZ-24-17, 1475 ALICE DRIVE**

Consider **Final Reading** of **Ordinance Number 2861** rezoning approximately 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**

Motion: \_\_\_\_\_ Councilman Davis \_\_\_\_\_ Second: \_\_\_\_\_ Councilman Gibson \_\_\_\_\_ Vote: 7-0

*First Reading was given on October 15, 2024.*

**NEW BUSINESS**

**3. CITY CODE AMENDMENT (GARAGE SALES)**

Consider **First Reading** of an ordinance amending Chapter 70 (Secondhand Goods), Article II (Garage Sales), Section 70-33 (Permit required) of the City Code. **Approved**

Motion: \_\_\_\_\_ Councilman Shaw \_\_\_\_\_ Second: \_\_\_\_\_ Councilman Hastie \_\_\_\_\_ Vote: 7-0

**4. MAINTENANCE GUARANTEES/DEED OF DEDICATIONS**

a) Consider acceptance of a Maintenance Guarantee/Deed of Dedication for Phase 10A of the Heritage Bay Subdivision, consisting of lots 94-129 and tracts A, B, C, D, and E located along Curlew Circle, Oystercatcher Court, and Egret Court. **Approved**

Motion: \_\_\_\_\_ Councilman Davis \_\_\_\_\_ Second: \_\_\_\_\_ Councilman Shaw \_\_\_\_\_ Vote: 7-0

b) Consider acceptance of a Maintenance Guarantee/Deed of Dedication for Phase Three (3) A of the Southbridge Subdivision, consisting of 58 lots located along Coldsheet Drive, Vinewood Street, and Rocky Ridge Road. **Approved**

Motion: \_\_\_\_\_ Councilman Shaw \_\_\_\_\_ Second: \_\_\_\_\_ Councilman Hastie \_\_\_\_\_ Vote: 7-0

c) Consider acceptance of a Maintenance Guarantee/Deed of Dedication for Phase Three (3) C of the Timberline Meadows Subdivision, consisting of 62 lots located along Traveler Trail, Edenwood Drive, Rustic Drive, and Lespedeza Court. **Approved**

Motion: \_\_\_\_\_ Councilman Davis \_\_\_\_\_ Second: \_\_\_\_\_ Councilman Gibson \_\_\_\_\_ Vote: 7-0

**5. PROCUREMENT RESOLUTIONS**

a) Consider **Resolution Number 965** authorizing a contract for Water Treatment Plant Five (5) Upgrades. **Approved**

Motion: \_\_\_\_\_ Councilman Davis \_\_\_\_\_ Second: \_\_\_\_\_ Councilman Hastie \_\_\_\_\_ Vote: 7-0

b) Consider **Resolution Number 966** authorizing a contract for the West Oakland at Railroad/Lawton Circle Ditch Improvement Project. **Approved**

Motion: \_\_\_\_\_ Councilman Shaw \_\_\_\_\_ Second: \_\_\_\_\_ Councilman Corley \_\_\_\_\_ Vote: 7-0



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**6. COUNCIL REPORTS**

- Mayor Merchant - Expressed the importance of Election Day and encouraged everyone to vote.
- Mayor Pro Tempore Blessingame - Represented Mayor Merchant and presented a proclamation recognizing Liberty STEAM Charter School Day on Wednesday, October 23, 2024.
- Participated in a renaming ceremony at Morris College on Friday, November 1, 2024, along with Councilman Gibson, where a portion of West College Street was renamed to Dr. Luns C. Richardson Memorial Street.
- Participated in the Morris College Homecoming Parade on Saturday, November 2, 2024. Said Sewell, Ph.D., CFRM, President of Morris College, is excited about partnering with the City of Sumter on projects along the North Main Street Corridor and is enthusiastic about serving on the Sumter Development Board.
- Councilman Hastie - Will attend a funeral service later today for two (2) children who were hit by vehicles in Sumter.
- A panel discussion referred to as “The State of the Youth,” was held on Monday, November 4, 2024, at Westend Community Church to discuss issues affecting the community. A second meeting of parents also took place at Westend Community Church on November 4, 2024.
- Requested an update and completion date on the South Sumter Park and South Sumter Gymnasium Renovation Projects.
- Attended the Military Appreciation Picnic at Shaw Air Force Base on Friday, November 1, 2024.
- Councilman Corley - Will speak at Bates Middle School’s “Donuts for Dads” event on Thursday, November 7, 2024, to talk about the importance of fathers in the home.
- Councilman Shaw - Five (5) candidates are running for the Ward Four (4) Council seat. Encouraged residents to vote.
- Referenced the cost of the Water Treatment Plant Five (5) Upgrades Project and noted that the City was dependent upon alternative funding sources such as the Capital Projects (Penny) Sales Tax Referendum to complete these types of projects.
- Councilman Gibson - Extended happy birthday wishes to Mayor Pro Tempore Blessingame.

**7. CITY MANAGER’S REPORT**

- Deron McCormick - Enjoyed working with Councilman Corley over the past eight (8) years. A celebration will be held during the month of December in appreciation of his service.
- The former Community Residential Care building located at 703 Broad Street has been demolished. The cornerstone has been preserved for monument purposes.



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- The South Sumter Art Park is near completion, and a ribbon cutting will be scheduled soon.
- Expected completion dates for the South Sumter Park and Gymnasium Renovation Projects will be provided at the next Council meeting.
- An update on the Opera House Renovation Project will be provided in the near future.
- A demolition update was provided to each Councilmember.
- Funding for the Sumter Pride Program has been expended.

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at approximately 1:30 p.m.

Motion: Mayor Pro Tempore Blassingame Second: Councilman Hastie Vote: 7-0

Respectfully submitted:

Linda D. Hammett  
Linda D. Hammett  
City Clerk

November 1, 2024 Certification of Public and Media Notification