



CITY OF STATESBORO
COUNCIL MINUTES
JULY 07, 2026

Regular Meeting

50 E. Main St. City Hall Council Chambers

9:00 AM

1. Call to Order

Mayor Jonathan McColiar called the meeting to order

2. Invocation and Pledge

Mayor Pro Tem Shari Barr gave the Invocation and Councilmember John Riggs led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ATTENDANCE

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Jonathan McColiar	Mayor	Present	
Tangie Johnson	Councilmember	Present	
Vacant	Councilmember	Vacant	
Ginny Hendley	Councilmember	Present	
John Riggs	Councilmember	Present	
Shari Barr	Mayor Pro Tem	Present	

Other staff present: City Manager Charles Penny, Assistant City Manager Jason Boyles, Public Affairs Manager Layne Phillips, City Attorney Cain Smith and City Clerk Leah Harden

3. Recognitions/Public Presentations:

A) Presentation of an award of Recognition to Paulette Chavers honoring her six years of dedicated service to the citizens of District 2 and the City of Statesboro.

4. Public Comments (Agenda Item): None

5. Consideration of a Motion to approve the Consent Agenda

A) Approval of Minutes

a) 06-16-2026 Work Session Minutes

b) 06-16-2026 Council Minutes

c) 06-16-2026 Executive Session Minutes

A motion was made to approve consent agenda.

RESULT:	Approved (Unanimous)
MOVER:	Councilmember John Riggs
SECONDER:	Councilmember Ginny Hendley
AYES:	Johnson, Hendley, Riggs, Barr
ABSENT:	

6. Public hearing and first reading of Ordinance 2026-02: An Ordinance amending Chapter 82 Section 82.101 (a), (c) and (d) to allow for enhanced sewer lateral repair assistance to include work performed to improved services within the public right of way.

A motion was made to open the public hearing.

RESULT:	Approved (Unanimous)
MOVER:	Councilmember John Riggs
SECONDER:	Councilmember Tangie Johnson
AYES:	Johnson, Hendley, Riggs, Barr
ABSENT:	

City Manager Charles Penny explained that staff conducted extensive research and found that other communities similarly struggle with this issue. The recommended approach, presented to council at a prior work session, involved eliminating the existing grant assistance program and replacing it with direct city responsibility for opening the street right-of-way and performing the associated repair work. This change is intended to substantially reduce the financial burden on property owners. The prior grant program was limited to owner-occupied single-family properties, which meant tenant-occupied single-family homes received no assistance. The proposed ordinance extends coverage to all single-family properties, regardless of occupancy status. Staff recommends approval of the first reading.

No one spoke for or against the proposed Ordinance.

A motion was made to close the public hearing.

RESULT:	Approved (Unanimous)
MOVER:	Councilmember John Riggs
SECONDER:	Councilmember Ginny Hendley
AYES:	Johnson, Hendley, Riggs, Barr
ABSENT:	

A motion was made to approve the first reading and to move forward for second reading **Ordinance 2026-02: An Ordinance amending Chapter 82 Section 82.101 (a), (c) and (d) to allow for enhanced sewer lateral repair assistance to include work performed to improved services within the public right of way.**

RESULT:	Approved (Unanimous)
MOVER:	Councilmember Ginny Hendley
SECONDER:	Councilmember Tangie Johnson
AYES:	Johnson, Hendley, Riggs, Barr
ABSENT:	

Councilmember Ginny Hendley recused herself from agenda item # 7.

7. Public Hearing & Consideration of a Motion to approve an application for an alcohol license in accordance with The City of Statesboro alcohol ordinance Sec. 6-13 (a)

El Maguey II
Owner: Seleste Carmona
Location: 1100 Brampton Ave., Ste E
License Type: Restaurant

A motion was made to open the public hearing.

RESULT:	Approved (Unanimous)
MOVER:	Mayor Pro Tem Shari Barr
SECONDER:	Councilmember Tangie Johnson
AYES:	Johnson, Riggs, Barr
ABSENT:	

No one spoke for or against the application.

A motion was made to close the public hearing.

RESULT:	Approved (Unanimous)
MOVER:	Councilmember John Riggs
SECONDER:	Councilmember Tangie Johnson
AYES:	Johnson, Riggs, Barr
ABSENT:	

A motion was made to approve an application for an alcohol license in accordance with The City of Statesboro alcohol ordinance Sec. 6-13 (a) issued to El Maguey II, Owner: Seleste Carmona, Location: 1100 Brampton Ave., Ste E, for License Type: Restaurant.

RESULT:	Approved (Unanimous)
MOVER:	Councilmember Tangie Johnson
SECONDER:	Councilmember John Riggs
AYES:	Johnson, Riggs, Barr
ABSENT:	

8. Consideration of a motion to approve Resolution 2026-32: A Resolution approving a FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant Program Recipient-Subrecipient Agreement for a hydrologic and hydraulic study of Little Lotts Creek basin.

A motion was made to approve **Resolution 2026-32**: A Resolution approving a FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant Program Recipient-Subrecipient Agreement for a hydrologic and hydraulic study of Little Lotts Creek basin.

RESULT:	Approved (Unanimous)
MOVER:	Councilmember Tangie Johnson
SECONDER:	Councilmember John Riggs
AYES:	Johnson, Hendley, Riggs, Barr
ABSENT:	

9. Consideration of a motion to approve Resolution 2026-33: A Resolution accepting the street rights of way of Pasture Lane and Branded Way within the Westside Townhomes Subdivision as public streets to be owned and maintained by the City of Statesboro.

A motion was made to approve **Resolution 2026-33**: A Resolution accepting the street rights of way of Pasture Lane and Branded Way within the Westside Townhomes Subdivision as public streets to be owned and maintained by the City of Statesboro.

RESULT:	Approved (Unanimous)
MOVER:	Mayor Pro Tem Shari Barr
SECONDER:	Councilmember Tangie Johnson
AYES:	Johnson, Hendley, Riggs, Barr
ABSENT:	

10. Consideration of a motion to approve a lease with Federal Aviation Administration to lease a roughly 1.4 acre parcel on W.W. Mann Center Road in unincorporated Bulloch County jointly owned with Bulloch County for continued use as a non-directional beacon site.

A motion was made to approve a lease with Federal Aviation Administration to lease a roughly 1.4 acre parcel on W.W. Mann Center Road in unincorporated Bulloch County jointly owned with Bulloch County for continued use as a non-directional beacon site.

RESULT:	Approved (Unanimous)
MOVER:	Councilmember Tangie Johnson
SECONDER:	Councilmember Ginny Hendley
AYES:	Johnson, Hendley, Riggs, Barr
ABSENT:	

11. Consideration of a motion to approve a \$15,700 change order with Underground Excavating, Inc. for additional work on ENG-130A Fire Station 3 Access Road, funded by TSPLOST.

A motion was made to approve a \$15,700 change order with Underground Excavating, Inc. for additional work on ENG-130A Fire Station 3 Access Road, funded by TSPLOST.

RESULT:	Approved (Unanimous)
MOVER:	Councilmember Ginny Hendley
SECONDER:	Councilmember Tangie Johnson
AYES:	Johnson, Hendley, Riggs, Barr
ABSENT:	

12. Consideration of a motion to approve an amended contract to renew the Master Services Agreement with Atlas Technical Consultants, LLC to provide Capital Improvement Program Management Services and Construction Engineering and Inspection services for FY 2027 in a not-to-exceed amount of \$645,552.50 funded by TSPLOST, SPLOST, and Stormwater Funds.

A motion was made to approve an amended contract to renew the Master Services Agreement with Atlas Technical Consultants, LLC to provide Capital Improvement Program Management Services and Construction Engineering and Inspection services for FY 2027 in a not-to-exceed amount of \$645,552.50 funded by TSPLOST, SPLOST, and Stormwater Funds.

RESULT:	Approved (Unanimous)
MOVER:	Councilmember John Riggs
SECONDER:	Councilmember Ginny Hendley
AYES:	Johnson, Hendley, Riggs, Barr
ABSENT:	

13. Consideration of a motion to approve a contract with Pape-Dawson Consulting Engineers, LLC, for \$256,750 to provide engineering design services for the ENG-130 Brannen Street to US Hwy 80 Transportation Improvements project, funded by 2023 TSPLOST funds.

A motion was made to approve a contract with Pape-Dawson Consulting Engineers, LLC, for \$256,750 to provide engineering design services for the ENG-130 Brannen Street to US Hwy 80 Transportation Improvements project, funded by 2023 TSPLOST funds.

RESULT:	Approved (Unanimous)
MOVER:	Councilmember John Riggs
SECONDER:	Councilmember Tangie Johnson
AYES:	Johnson, Hendley, Riggs, Barr
ABSENT:	

14. Public Comments (General):

Sue Palmer addressed the council regarding ongoing concerns about garbage can compliance on city streets, specifically citing East Main Street from Zetterower Avenue to the bypass, as well as conditions observed on July 4th in her neighborhood. She noted that some residents leave their garbage cans on sidewalks and in driveways well beyond pickup days, sometimes for multiple weeks, and expressed frustration that code compliance enforcement does not appear to be consistently applied. She stated that the issue detracts from the appearance of otherwise well-maintained streets such as Savannah Avenue and Zetterower Avenue, and asked council for a workable solution. Mayor McCollar and council members acknowledged her continued advocacy and indicated the matter would be addressed.

15. Other Business from City Council

Mayor Pro Tem Barr requested that staff reach out to the various boards and commissions to which council appoints members—including the Tree Council and Planning Commission to deliver status reports to council. She suggested these briefings take place during work sessions to allow adequate time for updates and questions from council.

Mayor McCollar introduced the topic of the upcoming city manager search, following City Manager Penny's announced retirement. Human Resources Director Demetrius Bynes presented a proposal from Developmental Associates, the firm that assisted the city in the last city manager search. The cost is \$31,900 and will involve a nationwide recruitment process open to both internal and external candidates.

A motion was made to approve and agreement with Developmental Associates to conduct the city manager search.

RESULT:	Approved (Unanimous)
MOVER:	Councilmember Tangie Johnson
SECONDER:	Councilmember Ginny Hendley
AYES:	Johnson, Hendley, Riggs, Barr
ABSENT:	

16. City Managers Comments

City Manager Charles Penny reviewed a number of items from the FYI packet:

- The city was awarded a grant from GDOT in the amount of \$1.4 million for the Creek on the Blue Mile Project. The award does require a local match and will be brought before you at a future council meeting to accept the grant.
- Mr. Penny acknowledged Layne Phillips and the team of staff that worked so hard on the new city website. The new website is more interactive and looks great.
- A memo from Fire Chief Tim Grams with an update of the new Sutphen aerial apparatus. Staff recently traveled to the Sutphen manufacturing plant in Ohio to perform the final inspection on apparatus. The truck will be delivered to Williams Fire in Alabama within the next week or two to have it mounted with the necessary equipment and final preparations before being delivered to here. Delivery to the city is anticipated in late August or early September, timed to coincide with the anticipated opening of Fire Station 3.
- The last item Mr. Penny addressed was an email received from the county regarding FLOST distributions. The amount we had projected during the budget process of \$1.4 million is in line with the amount we will be receiving. Currently the millage rate increase remains at 2.13 mills, but with further refinement expected once tax digest information is received in August, could potentially reduce the required millage increase if the digest comes in higher than what is projected.

17. Consideration of a Motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss “Personnel Matters” “Real Estate” and/or “Potential Litigation” in accordance with O.C.G.A 50-14-3(b).

At 9:32 am motion was made to enter into executive session to discuss “Potential Litigation” in accordance with O.C.G.A. 50-14-3(b).

RESULT:	Approved (Unanimous)
MOVER:	Councilmember Tangie Johnson
SECONDER:	Councilmember John Riggs
AYES:	Johnson, Hendley, Riggs, Barr
ABSENT:	

At 9:42 am a motion was made to exit executive session.

RESULT:	Approved (Unanimous)
MOVER:	Councilmember John Riggs
SECONDER:	Councilmember Tangie Johnson
AYES:	Johnson, Hendley, Riggs, Barr
ABSENT:	

Mayor Jonathan McCollar called the regular meeting back to order.

A motion was made to join in a class action lawsuit involving PFAS contamination with Grossman Kelly.

RESULT:	Approved (Unanimous)
MOVER:	Mayor Pro Tem Shari Barr
SECONDER:	Councilmember Tangie Johnson
AYES:	Johnson, Hendley, Riggs, Barr
ABSENT:	

18. Consideration of a Motion to Adjourn

A motion was made to adjourn.

RESULT:	Approved (Unanimous)
MOVER:	Councilmember Tangie Johnson
SECONDER:	Councilmember John Riggs
AYES:	Johnson, Hendley, Riggs, Barr
ABSENT:	

The meeting was adjourned at 9:44 a.m.

Jonathan McCollar, Mayor

Leah Harden, City Clerk