CITY OF STATESBORO
COUNCIL MINUTES
NOVEMBER 03, 2026

Regular Meeting | 50 E. Main St. City Hall Council Chambers | 9:00 AM

1. Call to Order

Mayor Jonathan McCollar called the meeting to order

2. Invocation and Pledge

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

ATTENDENCE

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Jonathan McCollar	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, Senior IT Support Specialist Alan Schleder, City Attorney Cain Smith and City Clerk Leah Harden

3. Public Comments (Agenda Item): None

4. Consideration of a Motion to approve the Consent Agenda

A) Approval of Minutes

a) **10-20-2026 Work Session Minutes**
b) **10-20-2026 Council Minutes**
c) **10-20-2026 Executive Session Minutes**
d) **10-23-2026 Called Council Meeting Minutes**
e) **10-23-2026 Executive Session Minutes**

A motion was made to approve consent agenda.

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

5. **Consideration of a motion to approve <u>Resolution 2026-41</u>: A Resolution to adopt the first amendment to the Fiscal Year 2026 budget for each fund of the City of Statesboro, Georgia, appropriating the amounts shown in each budget as expenditures/expenses, adopting the several items of revenue anticipations, and prohibiting expenditures or expenses from exceeding the actual funding appropriated.**

A motion was made to approve **<u>Resolution 2026-41</u>**: A Resolution to adopt the first amendment to the Fiscal Year 2026 budget for each fund of the City of Statesboro, Georgia, appropriating the amounts shown in each budget as expenditures/expenses, adopting the several items of revenue anticipations, and prohibiting expenditures or expenses from exceeding the actual funding appropriated.

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

6. **Consideration of a motion to award a three-year contract with the option to renew for two additional years on a year-to-year basis for health insurance brokerage service to NFP.**

A motion was made to approve an award of a three-year contract with the option to renew for two additional years on a year-to-year basis for health insurance brokerage service to NFP.

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

7. **Consideration of a motion to approve the purchase of 34 Motorola V700 body worn cameras, 10 battery chargers, 34 batteries, and five-year warranties from Motorola Solutions in the amount of $70,516.60. This purchase will be funded from 2025 SPLOST.**

A motion was made to approve the purchase of 34 Motorola V700 body worn cameras, 10 battery chargers, 34 batteries, and five-year warranties from Motorola Solutions in the amount of $70,516.60. This purchase will be funded from 2025 SPLOST.

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

8. **Consideration of a motion to approve Task Order #7 with Atlas Technical Consultants, LLC, for right of way negotiation services for the ENG-115B Blue Mile Phase 2 Project in the amount of $197,950, to be funded by 2023 TSPOLST funds.**

A motion was made to approve Task Order #7 with Atlas Technical Consultants, LLC, for right of way negotiation services for the ENG-115B Blue Mile Phase 2 Project in the amount of $197,950, to be funded by 2023 TSPOLST funds.

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

9. **Public Comments (General):**

Karon Williams addressed Council regarding the public library. He introduced himself as a traveling missionary who does campus ministry at Georgia Southern and has lived in Statesboro for about two years. He described a recent incident at the library in which the head librarian spoke to him rudely. He said he addressed the librarian about it, and the librarian then called police to have him removed for what he called criminal trespass. When Mr. Williams went to the police station, he found no record of the incident. He later spoke with the Police Chief, whom he described as having been great to him, and said they had "a great conversation." He had not heard from the head librarian in the roughly one month since.

Sandra Bohlen, a 71-year-old resident of Eastview Apartments, said she and the few remaining residents were being displaced due to a tax and water-service issue involving the property. She said she had paid rent for 15 years and had not received written documentation of the move. She described difficulty finding affordable housing, particularly because she has no vehicle and relies on a home aide and nearby family. She said only eight residents remained, and she was speaking for some who were too old to speak for themselves. She stated that her daughter would not leave her in the street, but that she did not want to impose. Ms. Bowden concluded: "All I want is a place to live and pay my bills like I've been paying them."

City Manager Charles Penny asked a staff member, Olympia, to meet with Ms. Bohlen following the meeting, noting that Leah had already been helping her. He stated that this was a private matter that could not be resolved at the dais, but that staff would try to contact Union Mission and other resources. He said he could not make any promises.

Mayor McCollar shared that Bryant's Landing was building another 50 apartments, but that this would not solve the problem immediately. He said the City had been aggressively pursuing more senior housing but "probably" had a two-year waiting list, which "doesn't fix right now." He asked Mr. Penny, to provide Council with additional insight into the foreclosure situation.

10. **Other Business from City Council**

Mayor Pro Tem Barr announced several upcoming community events:

- **Tractors and Tunes:** Friday evening at 6:00 PM downtown. It had been postponed twice due to rain and will proceed rain or shine.
- **Greener Boro:** Meets the first Thursday of each month at 6:00 PM in the Council chamber and is open to the public.

- **Town Hall:** Thursday evening at 6:00 PM at Pittman Park. It is a City and college partnership using a three-question survey, also available on the City website, to gather input on community priorities.
- **Recycle Fest:** Saturday, November 14, at 10:00 AM behind City Hall.

11. City Managers Comments

City Manager Charles Penny reported that Council had received an email from Michael Taylor about the Statesboro Stag, a proposed semi-professional football team. He had met with Mr. Taylor, who said a coach had already been engaged and the staff was being assembled. The team would still need a place to play, and its season would run from about March to the end of May. Mr. Taylor hopes to launch the team in 2028, not 2027, to allow time to secure sponsors.

Mr. Penny also addressed public statements about the City's role in a proposed data center. He stated that the only actions the City had taken were these:
Council adopted an ordinance in June setting parameters for data centers.

Property owners on Burkhalter approached the City about a year ago and asked whether the property could be zoned to allow a data center. Staff researched the request and recommended office zoning, and the Mayor and Council approved it.

The ordinance requires a special use permit, and the application submitted was incomplete. He said the Planning Director's work is the same as for any developer, identifying appropriate land uses, and that recommendations go to the Planning Commission and then to Council. The City has not run water, sewer, or gas to the site, is not recruiting a data center, and is not meeting behind closed doors. He compared the process to that followed for Kroger. He defended staff against claims of impropriety and stated that if a complete special use application is received, adequate public notice will be given before it goes to the Planning Board and then to Council.

12. 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 "Personnel Matters" in accordance with O.C.G.A. 50-14-3(b).

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

At 9:52 am a motion was made to exit executive session.

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

13. 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 9:53 a.m.

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Jonathan McCollar, Mayor

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Leah Harden, City Clerk