



CITY OF STATESBORO
COUNCIL MINUTES
APRIL 18, 2023

Regular Meeting

50 E. Main St. City Hall Council Chambers

5:30 PM

1. Call to Order

Mayor Pro Tem Shari Barr called the meeting to order

2. Invocation and Pledge

Councilmember Venus Mack gave the Invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ATTENDENCE

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Jonathan McCollar	Mayor	Absent	
Phil Boyum	Councilmember	Present	
Paulette Chavers	Councilmember	Present	
Venus Mack	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 Information Officer Layne Phillips, City Attorney Cain Smith and City Clerk Leah Harden

3. Recognitions/Public Presentations

A) Recognition of Statesboro Police Officers APO Arion Waters and Corporal Josh Harris along with two citizens Bailee Brown and Whitney Dame for their life saving actions on March 29, 2023.

Statesboro Police Chief Mike Broadhead recognized Advance Patrol Officer Arion Waters and Corporal Josh Harris for their life saving efforts on March 29, 2023 in addition Chief Broadhead recognized two citizens Bailee Brown and Whitney Dame who were also involved in saving that life.

4. Public Comments (Agenda Item): None

5. Consideration of a Motion to approve the Consent Agenda

A) Approval of Minutes

a) 04-04-2023 Council Minutes

b) 04-04-2023 Executive Session Minutes

A motion was made to approve the consent agenda.

RESULT:	Approved (Unanimous)
MOVER:	Councilmember Venus Mack
SECONDER:	Councilmember John Riggs
AYES:	Boyum, Chavers, Mack, Riggs, Barr

ABSENT

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6. Public Hearing and Consideration of a motion to approve APPLICATION RZ-23-03-04: Long Company Limited requests a Zoning Map Amendment from the CR (Commercial Retail) zoning district to the R-3 (Medium-Density Residential) zoning district on approximately 2.65 acres of property in order to construct approximately 7 triplexes at 310 Myrtle Crossing Drive.

A motion was made to open the public hearing.

RESULT:	Approved (Unanimous)
MOVER:	Councilmember John Riggs
SECONDER:	Councilmember Paulette Chavers
AYES:	Boyum, Chavers, Mack, Riggs, Barr
ABSENT	

Joseph Stucky with TR Long Engineering representing the applicant spoke in favor of the request. Mr. Stucky stated that under the current commercial/retail zoning the developer could place commercial there with residential lofts above it. The developer is requesting R-3 zoning which is multifamily which would allow for up to 32 units and we are proposing to have 18 to 21 units depending on how the site lays out. Mr. Stucky presented a preliminary layout of proposed development. In addition he presented a traffic evaluation they compiled which showed the current zoning of C-3 would produce roughly 1000 entering and exiting trips daily where as a R-3 would produce 121 entering and exiting trips.

Vincent Borkowski owner of 407 Myrtle Crossing and representing the Myrtle Crossing Home Owners Association spoke against the request. Mr. Borkowski stated that residents of Myrtle Crossing subdivision made an investment when moving there and that they understood that this piece of land would be developed as commercial retail and would add a dimension of convenience. He pointed out on page seven of the staff report it states, new taxes will be created for the city but the property values for Myrtle Crossing may not increase. Mr. Borkowski asked that council vote against the proposed rezoning.

Trent Mauer owner of 450 Myrtle Crossing Way spoke against the request. Mr. Mauer stated that they chose Myrtle Crossing subdivision because of the safety of the neighborhood, with quiet residential streets. He stated that since moving in they have discovered that Myrtle Crossing neighborhood is a sanctuary from the high-speed traffic in the surrounding neighborhoods and parents from those neighborhood bring their kids to our neighborhood to play and ride their bikes. Mr. Mauer stated this safety would be endangered by this proposed rezoning and it's for that reason neighbors asked me to speak against this proposal. He also pointed out on page eight of the staff report the location of the proposed development relative to highway 80 and exit out of their neighborhood is a divided highway and would cause increased traffic through the subdivision to the other exit on Zetterower Road.

Alice Holloway turned in a petition signed by the residents of Myrtle Crossing Subdivision requesting denial

A motion was made to close the public hearing.

RESULT:	Approved (Unanimous)
MOVER:	Councilmember John Riggs
SECONDER:	Councilmember Venus Mack
AYES:	Boyum, Chavers, Mack, Riggs, Barr

ABSENT

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Joseph Stucky requested this item be tabled until the next meeting so the applicant could work with the Myrtle Crossing Home Owners Association addressing their concerns.

Councilmember Phil Boyum asked why staff recommended denial.

Planning and Development Director Kathy Field stated the future land use map show this to be in a commercial redevelopment area. The reason for commercial redevelopment area is because it fronts a major highway. It is staff's position that the proposed use is inconsistent with the City's Comprehensive Plan.

Councilmember Paulette Chavers stated her concerns with the proposed development being so close to the highway.

After some council discussion a motion was made to table this request until the May 16, 2023 Council meeting.

RESULT:	Approved (Unanimous)
MOVER:	Councilmember John Riggs
SECONDER:	Councilmember Venus Mack
AYES:	Boyum, Chavers, Mack, Riggs, Barr
ABSENT	

Councilmember Phil Boyum left the meeting.

7. Public hearing and Consideration of a motion to approve an alcohol license in accordance with the City of Statesboro alcohol ordinance section 6-13 (a):
PSH Stadium Development
100 Tormenta Way
Statesboro, Ga 30458
License Type: Event Venue

A motion was made to open the public hearing.

RESULT:	Approved (Unanimous)
MOVER:	Councilmember Venus Mack
SECONDER:	Councilmember John Riggs
AYES:	Chavers, Mack, Riggs, Barr
ABSENT	

Darrin VanTassel spoke in favor of the request.

No one spoke against the request.

A Motion was made to close the public hearing.

RESULT:	Approved (Unanimous)
MOVER:	Councilmember Venus Mack
SECONDER:	Councilmember John Riggs
AYES:	Chavers, Mack, Riggs, Barr
ABSENT	

Councilmember Phil Boyum rejoined the meeting.

A Motion was made to approve an alcohol license in accordance with the City of Statesboro alcohol ordinance section 6-13 (a): to PSH Stadium Development located at 100 Tormenta Way Statesboro, Ga 30458; License Type: Event Venue.

RESULT:	Approved (Unanimous)
MOVER:	Councilmember John Riggs
SECONDER:	Councilmember Paulette Chavers
AYES:	Boyum, Chavers, Mack, Riggs, Barr
ABSENT	

8. Consideration of a motion to approve Resolution 2023-18: A resolution to the City of Statesboro Mayor and Council to permanently change the polling place for the Statesboro One voting precinct from William James Educational Complex to Luetta Moore building.

Mayor Pro Tem Shari Barr recognized Lawton Sack who is on the Bulloch County Board of Elections and Registration and invited him to come forward to share his comments regarding this item.

Lawton Sack stated that at last Monday’s meeting of the Board of Elections they made the decision to table this item in order to make sure this is the best location for the permanent change. He stated that he has been looking at different locations for this polling place change and asked that this item be tabled for a month in order to work together to come up with a joint location for this precinct. Mr. Sack stated the Board has no desire for the city to vote in one location and the county to vote in another.

Mayor Pro Tem recognized Len Fatica and invited him forward to share his comments as well.

Len Fatica stated that we have been working with the Board of Elections and the Mayor and stated that Luetta Moore Park has plenty of parking and is handicap accessible. Mr. Fatica asked that council vote on this change tonight.

Councilmember Phil Boyum asked what other locations are being considered.

Lawton Sack stated there are several locations they are looking at which include the Statesboro Magistrate Court on West Grady, the Bulloch County Commissioners Complex, the old William James gym, the Old Julia P Bryant site, and the Bell House.

After further council discussion a motion was made to table this item until May 16, 2023 and to get a recommendation from the Elections Supervisor.

RESULT:	Approved 3-2
MOVER:	Councilmember John Riggs
SECONDER:	Councilmember Phil Boyum
AYES:	Boyum, Riggs, Barr
NAYS	Chavers & Mack

9. Consideration of a motion to approve Resolution 2023-19: A Resolution to award a contract to Gilbert & Associates to provide grant writing and administration service for the FY2023 Community Development Block Grant.

A motion was made to approve Resolution 2023-19 to award a contract to Gilbert & Associates to provide grant writing and administration service for the FY2023 Community Development Block Grant.

RESULT:	Approved (Unanimous)
MOVER:	Councilmember Paulette Chavers
SECONDER:	Councilmember Phil Boyum
AYES:	Boyum, Chavers, Mack, Riggs, Barr
ABSENT	

10. Consideration of a motion to approve Resolution 2023-20: A Resolution to award a contract to WSP to provide engineering services for the FY 2023 Community Development Block Grant.

A motion was made to approve Resolution 2023-20 to award a contract to WSP to provide engineering services for the FY 2023 Community Development Block Grant.

RESULT:	Approved (Unanimous)
MOVER:	Councilmember
SECONDER:	Councilmember
AYES:	Boyum, Chavers, Mack, Riggs, Barr

ABSENT

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11. Consideration of a motion to allow the Statesboro Fire Department to purchase three (3) Self-contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA), eighteen (18) SCBA Cylinders and ten (10) SCBA face pieces for an amount of \$44,768.42 from Fisher Scientific.

A motion was made to allow the Statesboro Fire Department to purchase three (3) Self-contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA), eighteen (18) SCBA Cylinders and ten (10) SCBA face pieces for an amount of \$44,768.42 from Fisher Scientific.

RESULT:

Approved (Unanimous)

MOVER:

Councilmember Venus Mack

SECONDER:

Councilmember Paulette Chavers

AYES:

Boyum, Chavers, Mack, Riggs, Barr

ABSENT

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12. Consideration of a motion to award a contract for professional engineering and right-of-way services of the West Main Street Intersection Improvements project to Atlas Technical Consultants LLC (Atlas) in the not to exceed amount of \$399,800.00. The project work will be paid from TSPLOST funds.

A motion was made to award a contract for professional engineering and right-of-way services of the West Main Street Intersection Improvements project to Atlas Technical Consultants LLC (Atlas) in the not to exceed amount of \$399,800.00. The project work will be paid from TSPLOST funds.

RESULT:

Approved (Unanimous)

MOVER:

Councilmember Paulette Chavers

SECONDER:

Councilmember Venus Mack

AYES:

Boyum, Chavers, Mack, Riggs, Barr

ABSENT

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13. Consideration of a motion to award a contract to Y-Delta Inc. in the amount of \$225,667.17 for the Briarwood Road Water Project. The project will be paid from Water Sewer Enterprise Fund Revenues.

A motion was made to award a contract to Y-Delta Inc. in the amount of \$225,667.17 for the Briarwood Road Water Project. The project will be paid from Water Sewer Enterprise Fund Revenues.

RESULT:

Approved (Unanimous)

MOVER:

Councilmember Paulette Chavers

SECONDER:	Councilmember Venus Mack
AYES:	Boyum, Chavers, Mack, Riggs, Barr
ABSENT	

**14. Other
Business from City Council:**

Councilmember Venus Mack announced the Statesboro Business Commission will hold a listening session on Monday April 24, 2023 at 6:00 pm in the Council Chambers and encourages current and potential business owners to come participate.

Councilmember Phil Boyum voiced his concern about the five shootings that took place last week. We have some bad actors as business owners saying they do one thing but doing something else. We cannot allow them to continue.

Mayor Pro Tem Shari Barr stated the Police Department just had on-site certification and scored 100% on all measures. She also announced that the Longest Table event will take place on Saturday April 29, 2023 from 4:00 pm – 7:00 pm in the BIG alley way.

15. City Managers Comments

City Manager Charles Penny stated the FYI packets will get a little thicker from now on as they will now include the minutes from Board and Commission meetings. In addition this time the FYI packet contains a draft policy for boards and commissions for your review.

Mr. Penny stated the city received an email from Virginia Anne Franklin Waters with the Historical Society requesting the placement of a historical marker for the old train depot.

16. Public Comments (General):

Marshall Webster signed up to speak to Mayor and Council about the lack of funding for the police.

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

At 6:57 pm a motion was made to enter into executive session.

RESULT:	Approved (Unanimous)
MOVER:	Councilmember Venus Mack
SECONDER:	Councilmember John Riggs
AYES:	Boyum, Chavers, Mack, Riggs, Barr
ABSENT	

At 7:18 pm a motion was made to exit executive session.

RESULT:	Approved (Unanimous)
MOVER:	Councilmember Paulette Chavers
SECONDER:	Councilmember Venus Mack

AYES:	Boyum, Chavers, Mack, Riggs, Barr
ABSENT	

Mayor Pro Tem Shari Barr called the meeting back to order with no action taken in executive session.

18. Consideration of a Motion to Adjourn

A motion was made to adjourn.

RESULT:	Approved (Unanimous)
MOVER:	Councilmember John Riggs
SECONDER:	Councilmember Venus Mack
AYES:	Boyum, Chavers, Mack, Riggs, Barr
ABSENT	

The meeting was adjourned at 7:18 pm

Jonathan McCollar, Mayor

Leah Harden, City Clerk