



CITY OF STATESBORO
COUNCIL MINUTES
JUNE 07, 2022

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

Councilmember John Riggs called on Marcus Toole to give the Invocation and Councilmember John Riggs led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ATTENDANCE

| Attendee Name | Title | Status | Arrived |
|-------------------|---------------|----------|---------|
| Jonathan McCollar | Mayor | Present | |
| Phil Boyum | Councilmember | Absent | |
| Paulette Chavers | Councilmember | Present | |
| Venus Mack | Councilmember | Present | |
| John Riggs | Councilmember | Present | |
| Shari Barr | Mayor Pro Tem | Via Zoom | |

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. Public Comments (Agenda Item): None

4. Consideration of a Motion to approve the Consent Agenda

A) Approval of Minutes

a) **05-10-2022 Budget Work Session Minutes**

b) **05-17-2022 Work Session Minutes**

c) **05-17-2022 Council Minutes**

d) **05-17-2022 Executive Session Minutes**

B) Consideration of a Motion to approve Surplus and Disposition of three 2011 Dodge Chargers, one 2011 Chevrolet Tahoe, one 2012 Dodge Charger and one 2014 Dodge Charger in the Police Department that are past their service life.

C) Consideration of a motion to approve surplus of equipment in the Central Services Department that is past its service life.

D) Consideration of grant of license for the package sale of distilled spirits, beer, and wine to Clarke Beverages II located at 607 Brannen Street in accordance with City Ordinance 6-23(h).

A motion was made to approve the consent agenda.

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

5. Public Hearing to solicit input on the proposed FY2023 Budget for the City of Statesboro.

A Motion was made to open the public hearing.

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

City Manager Charles Penny reviewed the proposed FY 2023 Budget for the City of Statesboro. The proposed budget is \$87,296,800.00 which includes expenditures and transfers and internal service funds. This budget is set to continue to provide the same level of services. It is also designed to take care of our employees and to keep pace with the rising inflation rate. The budget proposal includes a 4% across the board adjustment for our employees, continued pay for performance, increase of the annual bonus, addition of personnel, two police officers, and eight dispatchers. The proposed budget presented is balanced with the use of fund balance in the amount of \$2 million. Fund balance is a savings for our city and it also provides cash flow for the city before revenues start coming in it is also a non-recurring fund. This budget can be adopted without a tax increase however it would be irresponsible of me as a manager to say you should not consider a millage rate increase. The budget includes a 1.5 millage rate increase that would provide about a million dollars to the help balance the budget. Mr. Penny thanked Jason Boyles, Cindy West and all the department heads for putting together a responsible budget.

No one spoke for the request.

Anthony Waters, co-owner of LA Waters Furniture and ISAVE More Furniture urges Council to be thoughtful of how a tax increase will impact local retailers.

Mike Anderson, co-owner of Bulloch Fertilizer and Anderson's General Store stated he agrees with Mr. Waters. Citizens are feeling the impact of inflation and asked that Council consider the impact a millage rate increase will be on local retailers and individuals.

RJ Pope, owner of RJ Pope Menswear suggested that a group of business and property owners get together and give feedback to Mayor and Council where they are coming from and give suggestions on how to raise extra money for the city without property taxes. Mr. Pope stated he appreciates what the city does, fund the police, fund the fire department, fund the employees of the city but let's find some other ways to do it besides property taxes

Carlton Crenshaw a Bulloch County resident stated he believes there are other ways to increase revenue than tax increases. He spoke on behalf individuals who are on fixed incomes and the impact it will have on them.

A Motion was made to close the public hearing.

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

6. Consideration of contract with Georgia Southern University and Service Foundation, Inc. (GSURSF) regarding provision of mental health and wellness services to Statesboro Police Department personnel.

A motion was made to approve a contract with Georgia Southern University and Service Foundation, Inc. (GSURSF) regarding provision of mental health and wellness services to Statesboro Police Department personnel.

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

7. Other Business from City Council: None

Mayor Jonathan McCollar stated since the last time we gathered there have been multiple shootings throughout the country in addition our country is experiencing a lot of inflation. As difficult as these moments may be there is nothing that we can't get through together. We have more in common with our neighbors than we think, let us always stay focused on being good neighbors and good stewards of the communities that we've inherited.

8. City Managers comments

City Manager Charles Penny announced a ribbon cutting will take place on June 18, 2022 at 10:00 am for the Community Garden on Parker Street.

It is time to renew TSPLOST and Bulloch County would like to include the TSPLOST renewal on the November 8, 2022 ballot. It is recommended for Mayor and City Council to support placing this item on the November ballot for consideration by the citizens of Statesboro and Bulloch County. In doing so it will ensure we don't have a gap in funding provided the citizens approve it.

The business recruiter proposal we received from BIG to provide that service for us will be on the next work session. Lastly we have a Council meeting on July 5th it is the day after the 4th of July holiday and if Council would be so inclined to consider canceling that meeting we should announce that today. If Council is interested in canceling that meeting we would need a vote to do so.

A motion was made to cancel the July 5, 2022 Regular Council Meeting.

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

9. Public Comments (General):

Scott Marchbanks with the Boys and Girls Club stated they need the City's help with more funding and that they are the least funded Boys and Girls Club in terms of funds received from the city. Mr. Marchbanks invited Mayor and Council to come and see their program in action, to see what they do and to see their workforce development program.

10. Consideration of a Motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss "Personnel Matters" and "Real Estate" in accordance with O.C.G.A. 50-14-3(b).

At 9:44 am a motion was made to enter into executive session.

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

At 10:00 am a motion was made to exit Executive Session.

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

Mayor McCollar called the regular meeting back to order stating there are two items that are ready for a vote.

A motion was made to approve a Quit Claim deed at 55 Brannen Street.

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

A motion was made to approve the City Managers recommendation for an administrative judge to Jennifer Campbell Mock.

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

11. Consideration of a Motion to Adjourn

A motion was made to adjourn.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 10:01 am.

Jonathan McCollar, Mayor

Leah Harden, City Clerk