



CITY OF STATESBORO  
COUNCIL MINUTES  
JULY 01, 2025

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.

**ATTENDANCE**

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Jonathan McCollar	Mayor	Present	
Tangie Johnson	Councilmember	Present	
Paulette Chavers	Councilmember	Present	
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. Public Comments (Agenda Item): None**

**4. Consideration of a Motion to approve the Consent Agenda**

**A) Approval of Minutes**

- a) 06-17-2025 Work Session Minutes**
- b) 06-17-2025 Council Minutes**
- c) 06-17-2025 Executive Session Minutes**

A motion was made to approve the consent agenda.

<b>RESULT:</b>	Approved (Unanimous)
<b>MOVER:</b>	Councilmember Tangie Johnson
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Councilmember Ginny Hendley
<b>AYES:</b>	Johnson, Chavers, Hendley, Riggs, Barr
<b>ABSENT:</b>	

**5. Second reading and consideration of a motion to approve Ordinance 2025-01: An Ordinance amending the Unified Development Code.**

A motion was made to approve **Ordinance 2025-01**: An Ordinance amending the Unified Development Code.

<b>RESULT:</b>	Approved (Unanimous)
<b>MOVER:</b>	Councilmember Tangie Johnson
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Councilmember Ginny Hendley
<b>AYES:</b>	Johnson, Chavers, Hendley, Riggs, Barr
<b>ABSENT:</b>	

**6. Consideration of a motion to accept and approve the renewal of the partnership agreement for Retail Development and Small Business Recruitment with Georgia Southern University Research and Service Foundation, Inc., for a one (1) year term beginning July 1, 2025 and ending June 30,2026.**

A motion was made to accept and approve the renewal of the partnership agreement for Retail Development and Small Business Recruitment with Georgia Southern University Research and Service Foundation, Inc., for a one (1) year term beginning July 1, 2025 and ending June 30, 2026.

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

**7. Consideration of a motion to approve the restricted sales agreement with Hyundai Motor America.**

A motion was made to approve the restricted sales agreement with Hyundai Motor America.

<b>RESULT:</b>	Approved (Unanimous)
<b>MOVER:</b>	Councilmember Tangie Johnson
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Councilmember Ginny Hendley
<b>AYES:</b>	Johnson, Chavers, Hendley, Riggs, Barr
<b>ABSENT:</b>	

**8. Consideration of a motion to approve staff to enter into negotiations with EMC Engineering Services, Inc., to perform engineering design services for the Creek on the Blue Mile Project STM-34. This work is to be funded by GEFA State Direct Investment grant funds.**

A motion was made to approve staff to enter into negotiations with EMC Engineering Services, Inc., to perform engineering design services for the Creek on the Blue Mile Project STM-34. This work is to be funded by GEFA State Direct Investment grant funds.

<b>RESULT:</b>	Approved (Unanimous)
<b>MOVER:</b>	Councilmember Ginny Hendley
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Councilmember Paulette Chavers
<b>AYES:</b>	Johnson, Chavers, Hendley, Riggs, Barr
<b>ABSENT:</b>	

**9. Consideration of a motion to approve the purchase of 23 portable radios and all required batteries, programming, warranty and licensing in the amount of \$145,625.42.**

A motion was made to approve the purchase of 23 portable radios and all required batteries, programming, warranty and licensing in the amount of \$145,625.42.

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

**10. Consideration of a motion to approve a Mutual Aid Agreement between the City of Statesboro Fire Department and the City of Metter Fire Department.**

A motion was made to approve a Mutual Aid Agreement between the City of Statesboro Fire Department and the City of Metter Fire Department.

<b>RESULT:</b>	Approved (Unanimous)
<b>MOVER:</b>	Councilmember Tangie Johnson
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Councilmember Ginny Hendley
<b>AYES:</b>	Johnson, Chavers, Hendley, Riggs, Barr
<b>ABSENT:</b>	

### **11. Consideration of a motion to approve a Mutual Aid Agreement between the City of Statesboro Fire Department and the City of Pooler Fire Department.**

A motion was made to approve a Mutual Aid Agreement between the City of Statesboro Fire Department and the City of Pooler Fire Department.

<b>RESULT:</b>	Approved (Unanimous)
<b>MOVER:</b>	Councilmember Tangie Johnson
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Councilmember Ginny Hendley
<b>AYES:</b>	Johnson, Chavers, Hendley, Riggs, Barr
<b>ABSENT:</b>	

### **12. Consideration of a motion to approve a Mutual Aid Agreement between the City of Statesboro Fire Department and the Bulloch County Fire Department.**

A motion was made to approve a Mutual Aid Agreement between the City of Statesboro Fire Department and the Bulloch County Fire Department.

<b>RESULT:</b>	Approved (Unanimous)
<b>MOVER:</b>	Councilmember Tangie Johnson
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Councilmember Paulette Chavers
<b>AYES:</b>	Johnson, Chavers, Hendley, Riggs, Barr
<b>ABSENT:</b>	

### **13. Other Business from City Council**

Mayor Pro Tem Shari Barr stated she is proud of everybody who was able to join the delegation and go to represent Statesboro.

### **14. City Managers Comments**

City Manager Charles Penny provided updates on some initiative and upcoming events:

A groundbreaking ceremony for the Whitesville Park renovation is scheduled for tomorrow July 2, 2025 at 10:30 am and invited City Council and the public to join in on this event.

The City of Statesboro Fire Department will be transferring the Community Assistance in Fire Emergencies (C.A.F.E) fire apparatus to the Bulloch Emergency Management Agency. We believe it would serve the entire county better to be located with Bulloch EMA

Art Park rotation is coming up and installation of new art will begin August.

Mr. Penny stated that this morning Council approved the purchase of some radios for the Statesboro Police Department and that a similar request will be coming back to you for Statesboro Fire Department. We had to make a commitment with Motorola for this purchase in order prevent a price increase.

Mr. Penny announced that the Joint Development Authority had a housing study done for our region and has set up a joint meeting to share the findings. The meeting is on Wednesday, July 9, 2025 at 5:30 pm in the Jack Hill Building at Ogeechee Technical College They have invited City and County officials as well as the Board of Education to hear the report.

The last item Mr. Penny addressed was the All-America City competition that took place this past Sunday in Denver, Colorado first thanking all the sponsors, Georgia Power, Development Authority, DSDA, Statesboro Convention and Visitors Bureau, Chamber of Commerce, Ogeechee Technical College Foundation, and Georgia Southern University. Mr. Penny continued stating our city was on a national stage and even though the judges did not select Statesboro as an All-America City, we were a finalist as an All-America City. Mr. Penny appreciated the leadership of Georgia Southern, Edie Grice who led the application effort, and Candice Bodkins with the Institute of Vibrant and Engaged Communities. The work they did represented what we have been doing. Mr. Penny recognized several individuals from the Statesboro Youth Council stating that they really wowed the judges with their presentations. The judges chose cities that had more to do with environmental sustainability in their presentations. The theme changes every year and next year it may align more with the things Statesboro is doing. Mr. Penny highlighted a discussion that took place with other community leaders regarding participatory budgeting, to have citizens in the room helping to identify what is important to our community. Citizen involvement during SPLOST negotiations is one example since they are the ones who vote for it. Involving our citizenry in decision-making helps create a better community.

Mayor Jonathan McCollier stated that often our community is concerned about the change and growth taking place in our community. He continued, a city that is not growing is a city that is dying he recalled Proverbs 29:18 “Where there is no vision the people perish” This is important because in January of 2018 when I stepped into this role we talked about a vision of what our community could be. At that time, over half the people who lived in the city of Statesboro lived in poverty. Today we have reduced it by 30% and we are still working on it. This happened because we have jobs coming and more people are going to work. Unemployment was in the double digits and today it is 3%. The City of Statesboro has laid the groundwork for sustainable expansion through infrastructure, making difficult decisions, and positioning the city as a regional and national leader. The work that we do today is about our young people. Let us build a community where we continue to reduce poverty, continuing to put people to work and continue to build a brighter future for our people.

#### **15. Public Comments (General):**

Len Fatica thanked the City of Statesboro for including VOAD in the All-America City competition presentation. He announced that VOAD has opened a new office on the corner of Vine Street and South Main Street.

#### **16. 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 9:42 a.m., a motion was made to enter into Executive Session to discuss “Real Estate” in accordance with O.C.G.A. 50-14-3(b).

<b>RESULT:</b>	Approved (Unanimous)
<b>MOVER:</b>	Councilmember Tangie Johnson
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Councilmember Ginny Hendley
<b>AYES:</b>	Johnson, Chavers, Hendley, Riggs, Barr
<b>ABSENT:</b>	

At 9:52 a.m., a motion was made to exit Executive Session.

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

Mayor McCollar called the regular meeting back to order with no action taken in Executive Session.

### **17. Consideration of a Motion to Adjourn**

A motion was made to

<b>RESULT:</b>	Approved (Unanimous)
<b>MOVER:</b>	Councilmember Tangie Johnson
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Councilmember Paulette Chavers
<b>AYES:</b>	Johnson, Chavers, Hendley, Riggs, Barr
<b>ABSENT:</b>	

The meeting was adjourned at 9:53 a.m.

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Jonathan McCollar, Mayor

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Leah Harden, City Clerk