



CITY OF STATESBORO  
COUNCIL MINUTES  
AUGUST 3, 2021

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 Paulette Chavers gave the Invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ATTENDANCE**

| Attendee Name     | Title         | Status  | Arrived |
|-------------------|---------------|---------|---------|
| Jonathan McCollar | Mayor         | Present |         |
| Phil Boyum        | Councilmember | Present |         |
| Paulette Chavers  | Mayor Pro Tem | Present |         |
| Venus Mack        | Councilmember | Absent  |         |
| John Riggs        | Councilmember | Present |         |
| Shari Barr        | Councilmember | 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. Public Comments (Agenda Item):** None

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

**A) Approval of Minutes**

**a) 07-20-2021 Council Minutes**

**b) 07-20-2021 Executive Session Minutes**

A motion was made to approve the consent agenda.

**RESULT:**

Approved (Unanimous)

**MOVER:**

Councilmember John Riggs

**SECONDER:**

Mayor Pro Tem Paulette Chavers

**AYES:**

Boyum, Chavers, Riggs, Barr

**ABSENT**

Councilmember Venus Mack

**5. Public Hearing and Consideration of a Motion to approve application for an alcohol license Sec. 6-5.**

**A. Cracker Barrel Old Country Store DBA Cracker Barrel #685  
216 Henry Blvd  
Statesboro Ga, 30458  
Owner: Cracker Barrel Old Country Store**

A Motion was made to open the Public Hearing.

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|------------------|--------------------------------|
| <b>RESULT:</b>   | Approved (Unanimous)           |
| <b>MOVER:</b>    | Councilmember John Riggs       |
| <b>SECONDER:</b> | Mayor Pro Tem Paulette Chavers |
| <b>AYES:</b>     | Boyum, Chavers, Riggs, Barr    |
| <b>ABSENT</b>    | Councilmember Venus Mack       |

No one spoke for or against the request.

A Motion was made to close the Public Hearing.

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| <b>RESULT:</b>   | Approved (Unanimous)           |
| <b>MOVER:</b>    | Councilmember John Riggs       |
| <b>SECONDER:</b> | Mayor Pro Tem Paulette Chavers |
| <b>AYES:</b>     | Boyum, Chavers, Riggs, Barr    |
| <b>ABSENT</b>    | Councilmember Venus Mack       |

A Motion was made to approve the alcohol application for Cracker Barrel Old Country Store DBA Cracker Barrel #685 located at 216 Henry Blvd.

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| <b>RESULT:</b>   | Approved (Unanimous)           |
| <b>MOVER:</b>    | Councilmember John Riggs       |
| <b>SECONDER:</b> | Mayor Pro Tem Paulette Chavers |
| <b>AYES:</b>     | Boyum, Chavers, Riggs, Barr    |
| <b>ABSENT</b>    | Councilmember Venus Mack       |

**B. Sneaux La La**  
**408 S Main St.**  
**Statesboro, Ga 30458**  
**Owner: Anne Natson**

A Motion was made to open the Public Hearing.

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| <b>RESULT:</b>   | Approved (Unanimous)           |
| <b>MOVER:</b>    | Councilmember John Riggs       |
| <b>SECONDER:</b> | Mayor Pro Tem Paulette Chavers |
| <b>AYES:</b>     | Boyum, Chavers, Riggs, Barr    |
| <b>ABSENT</b>    | Councilmember Venus Mack       |

Police Chief Mike Broadhead stated an alcohol license for this establishment is outside the business model of what we have seen before. A couple of years ago Council established a more specific list of licenses for serving alcohol and alcohol being served at a shaved ice establishment does not fit into that mold. Some specific concerns to take into consideration include wondering where would the alcohol dispensing area be relative to where the children would be, if someone takes an alcohol infused ice away from the location and it not be an open container violation or how could we have any hope of trying to enforce those kinds of rules.

City Attorney Cain Smith seconded Chief Broadhead's concerns regarding this application, furthermore there is no way a beverage could be removed from there and it not be an open container violation. Even with the State's new cocktail law it would not be applicable because it would not have a prepared meal served along with it. So there's the question of the open container issues. Under 6-13(d) Council is allowed to impose conditions on licenses. If you are to approve this license it is recommended that any alcoholic snow cone served be in a different colored cup at a minimum and any other conditions you would deem fit and proper under these circumstances.

Annie and Jonathan Natson spoke in favor of the request. Mrs. Natson stated the container would not be open. Any to go alcoholic snow cone would be sold in a Styrofoam cup with a lid and with a piece of tape over the top. She also stated they would use a different cup for alcoholic snow cones and the alcohol would not be served all day but begin at 6 pm.

Joyce Stubbs representing Bulloch Alcohol and Drug Council stated their main focus is underage drinking and we are very much opposed to something that is normally associated with kids.

Mayor Jonathan McCollar stated maybe we should table this item and have Mr. and Mrs. Natson work with city staff about their business plan and how it will work. That way we all know exactly what to expect.

A motion was made to close the Public Hearing.

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| <b>RESULT:</b>   | Approved (Unanimous)           |
| <b>MOVER:</b>    | Councilmember John Riggs       |
| <b>SECONDER:</b> | Mayor Pro Tem Paulette Chavers |
| <b>AYES:</b>     | Boyum, Chavers, Riggs, Barr    |

**ABSENT**

|                          |
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| Councilmember Venus Mack |
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Councilmember John Riggs stated he would like to see the business model before a vote is made. I hate to put it off for two weeks but if we have to vote today, I will have to vote against it until I have seen the business model. Mayor Pro Tem Paulette Chavers asked for verification of what times of the day alcohol would be served. Annie Natson stated alcohol sales would begin after 6 pm on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday. Councilmember Shari Barr asked that City Attorney Cain Smith address what we've heard about open container. City Attorney Cain Smith state the business model the Natson's discussed is not possible under Statesboro Code of Ordinances. The "Low Volume" license is an on premises consumption license and under 6-8(d) prohibits the removal of alcoholic beverages from the licensed premises.

After further discussion a motion was made to table this application until the 08-17-2021 Council Meeting.

**RESULT:**

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| Approved (Unanimous) |
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**MOVER:**

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| Councilmember Phil Boyum |
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**SECONDER:**

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| Councilmember Shari Barr |
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**AYES:**

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| Boyum, Chavers, Riggs, Barr |
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**ABSENT**

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| Councilmember Venus Mack |
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**6. Consideration of a motion to approve Resolution 2021-29: A Resolution to accept certain real property donation from William P. Britt, for parks and recreation purposes.**

A motion was made to approve Resolution 2021-29 to accept certain real property donation from William P. Britt for parks and recreation purposes.

**RESULT:**

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| Approved (Unanimous) |
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**MOVER:**

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| Councilmember Shari Barr |
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**SECONDER:**

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| Councilmember Phil Boyum |
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**AYES:**

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| Boyum, Chavers, Riggs, Barr |
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**ABSENT**

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| Councilmember Venus Mack |
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**7. Consideration of a motion to give local government approval to Citizens Against Violence, Inc. in its application to receive \$36,900 from Emergency Solutions Grant Program (ESG) for continued operation of Safe Haven Emergency Shelter.**

A motion was made to give local government approval to Citizens Against Violence, Inc. in its application to receive \$36,900 from Emergency Solutions Grant Program (ESG) for continues operations of Safe Haven Emergency Shelter.

**RESULT:**

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| Approved (Unanimous) |
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**MOVER:**

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| Councilmember Shari Barr |
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| <b>SECONDER:</b> | Mayor Pro Tem Paulette Chavers |
| <b>AYES:</b>     | Boyum, Chavers, Riggs, Barr    |
| <b>ABSENT</b>    | Councilmember Venus Mack       |

**8. Consideration of a motion to approve insurance renewals for property/casualty/general liability insurance and workers compensation insurance to be awarded to the following carriers for the upcoming year with the policies commencing on August, 14, 2021:**

- A. Travelers Insurance to provide property/casualty/general liability insurance in the amount of \$632,071.00.**
- B. Bitco Insurance to provide workers compensation insurance in the amount of \$377,389.00.**
- C. VFIS insurance to provide property and equipment insurance in the amount of \$64,821.00.**

A motion was made to approve insurance renewals for property/casualty/general liability insurance and workers compensation insurance to be awarded to Travelers Insurance for property/casualty/general liability insurance, Bitco Insurance to provide workers compensation insurance and VFIS insurance to provide property and equipment insurance.

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| <b>RESULT:</b>   | Approved (Unanimous)           |
| <b>MOVER:</b>    | Councilmember John Riggs       |
| <b>SECONDER:</b> | Mayor Pro Tem Paulette Chavers |
| <b>AYES:</b>     | Boyum, Chavers, Riggs, Barr    |
| <b>ABSENT</b>    | Councilmember Venus Mack       |

**9. Consideration of a motion to award a contract for probation services to Judicial Alternatives of Georgia (JAG) for a one year term with the option to renew for two additional one year terms.**

A motion was made to award a contract for probation services to Judicial Alternatives of Georgia (JAG) for a one year term with the option to renew for two additional one year terms.

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| <b>RESULT:</b>   | Approved (Unanimous)           |
| <b>MOVER:</b>    | Councilmember Shari Barr       |
| <b>SECONDER:</b> | Mayor Pro Tem Paulette Chavers |
| <b>AYES:</b>     | Boyum, Chavers, Riggs, Barr    |
| <b>ABSENT</b>    | Councilmember Venus Mack       |

**10. Consideration of a motion to approve change order 18 with Lavender & Associates, Inc. in the amount of \$37,129.00 for the Luetta Moore Park and Grady Street Park improvements project and authorize the Mayor to execute contract document amendments.**

A motion was made to approve change order 18 with Lavender & Associates, Inc. in the amount of \$37,129.00 for the Luetta Moore and Grady Street Park Improvements project and authorize the Mayor to execute contract document amendments.

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| <b>RESULT:</b>   | Approved (Unanimous)           |
| <b>MOVER:</b>    | Councilmember John Riggs       |
| <b>SECONDER:</b> | Mayor Pro Tem Paulette Chavers |
| <b>AYES:</b>     | Boyum, Chavers, Riggs, Barr    |
| <b>ABSENT</b>    | Councilmember Venus Mack       |

### **11. Other Business from City Council:**

Councilmember Shari Barr announced pop-up vaccination clinics will be on August 14<sup>th</sup> at the Chamber of Commerce and on August the 21<sup>st</sup> with a follow up clinic on September 11<sup>th</sup>.

Councilmember John Riggs inquired about how often SPD does alcohol compliance checks.

Chief Mike Broadhead stated alcohol compliance checks are conducted quarterly.

Mayor Jonathan McCollar thanked Lavender and Associates, Inc. for their work on the Luetta Moore and Grady Street Parks project.

Mayor McCollar stated that COVID-19 is effecting us all and the best thing you can do is get vaccinated. He also stated that anyone coming into City Hall will be required to wear a mask, your temperature will be taken and you will be asked to state your business.

Councilmember Phil Boyum asked if the City could contract with a provider and set up a place for vaccinations to be given that would be open to the public.

### **12. City Managers Comments**

City Manager Charles Penny stated as far as the number of City employees impacted by COVID, not just those that have tested positive but any exposure they may have had resulted in \$154,000 in lost labor. Therefore, we are requiring City employees to wear a mask in the building and when they are meeting with folks even if they have been vaccinated. Bulloch County is at twenty-six percent fully vaccinated and twenty-nine percent that have had one vaccination. Currently we have a COVID testing location on Railroad Street and they have extended the testing period through the end of the year

Mr. Penny informed Mayor and City Council that last week a letter of intent was submitted for the purchase of two fire trucks, which is part of our CIP. The City was able to piggyback with another community to lock in the current prices avoiding a price increase. The acquisition for these trucks will be on the next Council agenda.

Grady Street Park completion date is slated for the end of August and we will have a ribbon cutting once it is done.

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

Marcus Toole with Habitat for Humanity stated that a survey was done in 2017 by Bulloch Habitat in partnership with DSDA and the Blue Mile Committee. The survey was regarding downtown neighborhoods starting just west of South Main Street, between South Main Street and Institute Street and between Mikel Street and Bulloch Street. The survey asked for citizen concerns of the area and what issues they want the City to address. The listed concerns were narrowed down to six actionable items. Mr. Toole thanked Mayor and City Council for doing what the neighborhood asked. Since 2017 the City of Statesboro, particularly City Council has acted on every single item and most of them are nearing completion, including the removal of dilapidated structures, clean up and beautification of the area, a public pool at Luetta Moore Park, play grounds and youth activities, additional sidewalks and street lights, lastly public transportation which is on its way.

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

At 9:59 am a Motion was made to enter into Executive Session.

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| <b>RESULT:</b>   | Approved (Unanimous)        |
| <b>MOVER:</b>    | Councilmember Shari Barr    |
| <b>SECONDER:</b> | Councilmember John Riggs    |
| <b>AYES:</b>     | Boyum, Chavers, Riggs, Barr |
| <b>ABSENT</b>    | Councilmember Venus Mack    |

At 10:13 am, a motion was made to exit Executive Session.

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| <b>RESULT:</b>   | Approved (Unanimous)        |
| <b>MOVER:</b>    | Councilmember Shari Barr    |
| <b>SECONDER:</b> | Councilmember John Riggs    |
| <b>AYES:</b>     | Boyum, Chavers, Riggs, Barr |
| <b>ABSENT</b>    | Councilmember Venus Mack    |

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

Councilmember Shari Barr requested staff to look into the possibility of the City sponsoring pop up vaccination clinics and would also like a proposal on how the City can incentivize individuals to get the vaccination by possibly using some Cares Act funding.

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

A motion was made to adjourn.

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| <b>RESULT:</b> | Approved (Unanimous)     |
| <b>MOVER:</b>  | Councilmember John Riggs |

**SECONDER:**

Mayor Pro Tem Paulette Chavers

**AYES:**

Boyum, Chavers, Mack, Riggs, Barr

**ABSENT**

Councilmember Venus Mack

The meeting was adjourned at 10:14 am.

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Jonathan McCollar, Mayor

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Leah Harden, City Clerk