



CITY OF STATESBORO
COUNCIL MINUTES
October 20, 2020

Regular Meeting

50 E. Main St. City Hall Council Chambers

5:30 PM

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Jonathan McCollar called the meeting to order

2. **INVOCATION AND PLEDGE**

Councilman John Riggs called on Reverend Sam Jones to give the Invocation and Councilmember John Riggs led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ATTENDENCE

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

Other staff present was: City Manager Charles Penny, Assistant City Manager Jason Boyles, City Attorney Cain Smith, Public Information Officer Layne Phillips, and City Clerk Leah Harden

3. **Recognitions/Public Presentations:**

A) Recognition of Representative Jan Tankersley as a Champion of Georgia's Cities

Mayor Jonathan McCollar recognized Representative Jan Tankersley as a GMA Champion of Georgia Cities. Representative Jan Tankersley was not able to attend the meeting to receive the award in person.

B) Presentation of a Proclamation to Safe Haven for Domestic Violence awareness month.

Mayor Jonathan McCollar read and presented a proclamation to Lisa Brannen with Safe Haven for the month of October being Domestic Violence awareness month.

4. **Public Comments (Agenda Item):** None

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

A) Approval of Minutes

a) **10-06-2020 Council Minutes**

b) **10-06-2020 Executive Session Minutes**

A motion was made to approve the consent agenda.

RESULT:

Approved (Unanimous)

MOVER:

Councilmember John Riggs

SECONDER:	Councilmember Paulette Chavers
AYES:	Boyum, Chavers, Mack, Riggs, Barr
NAYS:	

6. **Public Hearing, Second reading and Consideration of a motion to approve Ordinance 2020-07: An ordinance creating Chapter 80: Non Discrimination and Equity. Chapter 80 consists of three articles: Non-Discrimination, Non Discrimination in Purchasing and Contracting, and Equity Provision.**

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
NAYS:	

The following individuals spoke in favor of the proposed ordinance Nathan Palmer, Greg Brock, Diana Botnaru, Nancy Malcom, Jessica Orvis, Marcus Toole, Katherine Finch, Joe Rocheleau, Holly Freeman, Ann Henderson, Jacek Lubecki and Ted Brimeyer.

Sophie Bunce, spoke in opposition of the proposed ordinance.

A motion was made to close the public hearing.

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

Councilmember John Riggs stated the City has not practiced any form of discrimination in purchasing or other actions he further stated this ordinance has many wonderful things I am in favor of but I cannot vote for this ordinance because it discriminates.

A motion was made to approve Ordinance 2020-07 to include wording in section II that this section will be revisited every four years starting June 2025.

RESULT:	Approved 4-1
MOVER:	Councilmember Phil Boyum
SECONDER:	Councilmember John Riggs

AYES:	Boyum, Chavers, Mack, Barr
NAYS:	Councilmember John Riggs

7. Second reading and Consideration of a Motion to approve Ordinance 2020-10: An ordinance revising Chapter 58-9 to require public hearings to be held before renaming of existing roads by Mayor and Council.

A motion was made to approve Ordinance 2020-10.

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

8. Second reading and Consideration of a motion to approve Ordinance 2020-11: an ordinance revising Chapter 6-17(d) to allow City Manager or designee to review and approve applications for open container applications.

Councilmember John Riggs stated he would like these applications brought to council for approval.

A motion was made to approve Ordinance 2020-11.

RESULT:	Approved 4-1
MOVER:	Councilmember Paulette Chavers
SECONDER:	Councilmember Venus Mack
AYES:	Boyum, Chavers, Mack, Riggs, Barr
NAYS:	Councilmember John Riggs

9. Public Hearing and Consideration of a Motion to Approve: APPLICATION CUV 20-09-01: James Melton requests a Conditional Use Variance from Article VIII of the Statesboro Zoning Ordinance for 0.17 acres of property located at 22 Bulloch Street to utilize a shipping container for additional storage and refrigeration facilities for a catering business in the CBD (Central Business) zoning district (Tax Parcel S19 000060 000).

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
NAYS:	

No one spoke for or against the request.

A motion was made to close the public hearing.

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

A motion was made to approve **Application CUV 2020-09-01**: a Conditional Use Variance from Article VIII of the Statesboro Zoning Ordinance for 0.17 acres of property located at 22 Bulloch Street to utilize a shipping container for additional storage and refrigeration facilities for a catering business in the CBD (Central Business) zoning district (Tax Parcel S19 000060 000).

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

10. **Public Hearing and Consideration of a Motion to Approve Application SE 20-09-02: Joseph Kropp request a Special Exception from Article V of the Statesboro Zoning Ordinance for 0.52 acres of property located at 108 South Zetterower Avenue to utilize the entire structure as a mental health practice in the R15 (Single-Family Residential) zoning district (Tax Parcel S40 000006 000).**

A motion was made to open the public hearing.

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

Joseph Kropp 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 Shari Barr
SECONDER:	Councilmember John Riggs
AYES:	Boyum, Chavers, Mack, Riggs, Barr
NAYS:	

A motion was made to approve **Application SE 2020-09-02**: a Special Exception from Article V of the Statesboro Zoning Ordinance for 0.52 acres of property located at 108 South Zetterower Avenue to utilize the entire structure as a mental health practice in the R15 (Single-Family Residential) zoning district (Tax Parcel S40 000006 000).

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

- 11. Public Hearing and Consideration of a Motion to approve: Application RZ 20-09-04: Jerry Jennings request a Zoning Map Amendment for 13 acres of property located on Highway 301 North (aka East Parrish Street) to construct two 56,000 square foot warehouse buildings for commercial use on property currently in the HOC (Highway Oriented Commercial) and R-4 (High-Density Residential) zoning districts (Tax Parcel S47 000025 000).**

A motion was made to open the public hearing.

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

Jeremy Hart and Steve Rushing 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 Shari Barr
SECONDER:	Councilmember Paulette Chavers
AYES:	Boyum, Chavers, Mack, Riggs, Barr
NAYS:	

A motion was made to approve **Application RZ 2020-09-04**: a Zoning Map Amendment for 13 acres of property located on Highway 301 North (aka East Parrish Street) to construct two 56,000 square foot warehouse buildings for commercial use on property currently in the HOC (Highway Oriented Commercial) and R-4 (High-Density Residential) zoning districts (Tax Parcel S47 000025 000).

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

12. Consideration of a Motion to approve the purchase of six new patrol cars including “upfitting” with required equipment.

A motion was made to approve the purchase of six new patrol cars including “upfitting” with required equipment.

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

13. Consideration of a Motion to reject all bids for the West Main Street Drainage Improvements project.

A motion was made to reject all bids for the West Main Street drainage improvements project.

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

14. Consideration of a Motion to award the East Main Street and Packinghouse Road Sidewalk Improvements contract to McLendon Enterprises, Inc. in the amount of \$1,701,253.50. The project will be paid from 2018 TSPLOST funds.

A motion was made to award the East Main Street and Packinghouse Road sidewalk improvements contract to McLendon Enterprises, Inc. in the amount of \$1,701,253.50.

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

15. Consideration of a Motion to award the Akins Boulevard construction contract to Mill Creek Construction in the amount of \$1,398,401.27.

A motion was made to award the Akins Boulevard construction contract to Mill Creek Construction in the amount of \$1,398,401.27.

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

16. Other Business from City Council

Police Chief Mike Broadhead presented crime statistics spanning over the past ten years. The statistics included violent crime, property crime, and burglary. Currently in 2020, robbery is down forty percent over 2019 and aggravated assault is down twenty-two percent so far this year. Due to COVID and lockdown, we had a span of two months with very little crime. Calls for service stayed up but serious crime really dropped. Chief Broadhead showed a graph of violent crime by rate based on a hundred thousand population of cities in the Sunbelt Conference to see how we are doing. We are

second lowest on the chart. Property crime rates compared to the same cities we fall in at third to the lowest. Chief Broadhead explained his philosophy on policing, quoting Sir Robert Peel “The police are the public and the public are the police; the police being only members of the public who are paid to give full time attention to duties which are incumbent on every citizen in the interest of community welfare and existence.” Chief Broadhead continued stating the Bill of Rights was designed to protect the citizens from an overreaching, oppressive government, the police, as the visible representation of the government, always needs to be cognizant that the Constitution protects the people from the police, and it is our responsibility to always ensure that we are following Constitutional principles as we provide the policing service to our community. The police in our communities are in the best position to protect the people’s rights. Lastly the Statesboro Police Department’s credo, Duty, Honor, and Community. These are not just words we put on the wall and business cards, this is a philosophy of how we conduct business.

City Manager Charles Penny presented information from United Way and DFCS regarding the increase of community assistance. We have been talking in the past about using some of the CARES Act funding from the state to help the community. We did receive the first draw of funding however; the second draw is not available. Mr. Penny recommended taking \$250,000.00 from the first draw to create COVID-19 relief assistance. The distribution of funds would be \$75,000.00 for utility assistance, \$75,000.00 for mortgage/rent assistance and \$75,000.00 for small business assistance and \$25,000.00 for administrative support. Mr. Penny presented a proposed resolution that would start the assistance process with local assistance programs providers such as United Way and Action Pac to process applications for assistance.

After some discussion, there was a consensus to move the funds set aside for administrative support to mortgage/rental assistance. The funds are now as follows, \$100,000.00 for mortgage/rental assistance, \$75,000.00 for utility assistance, and \$75,000.00 for small business assistance.

A motion was made to approve Resolution 2020-30: A resolution authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk to execute documents with third party administrators to execute city funded COVID-19 relief.

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

17. City Managers Comments

City Manager Charles Penny reminded everyone about the Great American Clean-up this Saturday.

18. Public Comments (General)

Ann Gleason introduced herself and stated she is running for state representative district 158.

19. 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 8:02 pm a motion was made to enter into executive session.

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

Mayor Jonathan McCollar called the regular meeting back to order with no action taken.

At 8:10 pm a motion was made to exit executive session.

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

20. Consideration of a Motion to Adjourn

A motion was made to adjourn.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 pm