



**PUBLIC HEARING & REGULAR MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL**

**APRIL 20, 2023 – 5:30 PM**

**MUNICIPAL COURTROOM**

**2222 HIGHMARKET STREET**

**GEORGETOWN, SOUTH CAROLINA**

**AND LIVESTREAM:**

**<https://www.facebook.com/cityofgtown/>**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Notice of this meeting has been made in accordance with the South Carolina Code of Laws as amended.

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Mayor Carol Jayroe

Mayor Pro Tempore Jim Clements

Council Member Hobson H. Milton

Council Member Jimmy Morris

Council Member Tamika Williams-Obeng

Council Member Clarence C. Smalls

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Council Member Jonathan Angner

**ALSO PRESENT**

Mrs. Elise Crosby, City Attorney

Dr. Sandra E. Yúdice, City Administrator

Mrs. Cindy Thompson, Public Information Officer

Mr. Nick Ard, IT Technician

Ms. Amy Skidmore, Georgetown Fire Department Office Manager

Chief William Pierce, Georgetown Police Department

Chief Charlie Cribb, Georgetown Fire Department

Mr. Robert Cox, Interim Director of Planning and Community Development

Mrs. Kathy Vermeland, Director of Finance

Mrs. Natrona Simmons, Public Works Streets and Sanitation Manager

Mr. Isaac Williams, Fleet Superintendent

Mr. Scott Whittier, Deputy City Administrator

**ABSENT**

Ms. Stephanie Buccione, City Clerk

**MEDIA**

Mr. Scott Harper, GAB News

**2. ANNOUNCEMENT CONCERNING ELECTRONIC DEVICES**

Mayor Carol Jayroe called the Regular Meeting of City Council to order at 5:30pm and requested all cell phones or electronic devices be turned off or placed on mute, with the exception of first responders, so as to not interrupt the meeting.

**3. INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Rev. Kenny Johnson from Ringel Heights Baptist Church led the invocation and Mr. Shelton Butts led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**4. PUBLIC HEARING**

**The purpose of the Public Hearings will be to receive citizen input concerning the following item.**

- A. An ordinance to amend fiscal year 2022/2023 [FY 2023] budget for the City of Georgetown, South Carolina, to prescribe purposes for which certain earmarked funds shall be expended; said funds total Three Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$300,000.00) from the \$3,500,000 Committed Funds for Capital Projects in the Fund Balance of the General Fund for the new City Hall building.**

Mayor Carol Jayroe recognized Brother Willie. Brother Willie stated he is not in favor of transferring funds because of the utility increases.

**5. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON CURRENT AGENDA ITEMS**

Mayor Jayroe recognized Mr. Wesley Gibson. Mr. Gibson stated he is in support of moving the general public speaking section back to the beginning of the meeting. Mr. Gibson stated every voice should be heard.

Mayor Jayroe recognized Mr. Marvin Neal. Mr. Neal stated he served in the military for 21 years for America and Council should serve all the residents in the City. He stated it only takes one person's voice to make a difference.

Mayor Jayroe recognized Ms. Janette Graham. Ms. Graham stated she is in favor of moving the general public comment section back to the front of the meeting.

Mayor Jayroe recognized Mr. Sheldon Butts. Mr. Butts stated as he sat on City Council for four years he understands the importance of hearing citizens' concerns. He stated citizens should be given the right to speak their concerns at the beginning meeting.

**6. INTRODUCTION OF NEW EMPLOYEES**

None

**7. PROCLAMATION**

- A. Motion to approve a proclamation declaring April 28, 2023, as Arbor Day in the City of Georgetown.**

Mayor Pro Tempore Clements moved, seconded by Council Member Obeng.

Mayor Jayroe called for the vote.

|                  |                                                 |
|------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| <b>RESULT:</b>   | <b>APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]</b>                     |
| <b>MOVER:</b>    | Jim Clements, Mayor Pro Tempore                 |
| <b>SECONDER:</b> | Tamika Williams Obeng, Council Member           |
| <b>AYES:</b>     | Clements, Morris, Obeng, Jayroe, Milton, Smalls |
| <b>ABSENT:</b>   | Angner                                          |

**8. PLANNING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

- A. Motion to approve second reading of an ordinance amending the City of Georgetown Flood Damage Prevention and Control ordinance in its entirety and replacing said ordinance with a newly revised ordinance.**

Mayor Pro Tempore Clements moved, seconded by Council Member Obeng.

Mayor Jayroe called for the vote.

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|------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| <b>RESULT:</b>   | <b>ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]</b>                      |
| <b>MOVER:</b>    | Jim Clements, Mayor Pro Tempore                 |
| <b>SECONDER:</b> | Tamika Williams Obeng, Council Member           |
| <b>AYES:</b>     | Clements, Morris, Obeng, Jayroe, Milton, Smalls |
| <b>ABSENT:</b>   | Angner                                          |

**9. FINANCE**

- A. Motion to approve second reading of an ordinance to amend fiscal year 2022/2023 [FY 2023] budget for the City of Georgetown, South Carolina, to prescribe purposes for which certain earmarked funds shall be expended; said funds total Three Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$300,000.00) from the \$3,500,000 Committed Funds for Capital Projects in the Fund Balance of the General Fund for the new City Hall building.**

Council Member Milton moved to have this agenda item tabled until next month's regular meeting, seconded by Council Member Obeng.

Mayor Jayroe called for the vote.

|                  |                                                   |
|------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| <b>RESULT:</b>   | <b>TABLED [UNANIMOUS] Next: 5/18/2023 5:30 PM</b> |
| <b>MOVER:</b>    | Hobson H. Milton, Council Member                  |
| <b>SECONDER:</b> | Tamika Williams Obeng, Council Member             |
| <b>AYES:</b>     | Clements, Morris, Obeng, Jayroe, Milton, Smalls   |
| <b>ABSENT:</b>   | Angner                                            |

- B. Motion to approve first reading to adopt an ordinance authorizing and directing the City of Georgetown to enter into an intergovernmental agreement relating to South Carolina Local Revenue Services; to participate in one or more Local Revenue Service Programs; to execute and deliver one or more Participant Program Supplements; and other matter relating thereto.**

Council Member Smalls moved, seconded by Mayor Pro Tempore Clements.

Mayor Jayroe called for the vote.

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|------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| <b>RESULT:</b>   | <b>APPROVED [UNANIMOUS] Next: 5/18/2023 5:30 PM</b> |
| <b>MOVER:</b>    | Clarence C. Smalls, Council Member                  |
| <b>SECONDER:</b> | Jim Clements, Mayor Pro Tempore                     |
| <b>AYES:</b>     | Clements, Morris, Obeng, Jayroe, Milton, Smalls     |
| <b>ABSENT:</b>   | Angner                                              |

- C. Motion to approve first reading of an ordinance amending Appendix "A" of Chapter 13, Article II, "Business Licenses" of the Code of Ordinance for the City of Georgetown**

Mayor Pro Tempore Clements moved, seconded by Council Member Morris.

Mayor Jayroe called for the vote.

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|------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| <b>RESULT:</b>   | <b>APPROVED [UNANIMOUS] Next: 5/18/2023 5:30 PM</b> |
| <b>MOVER:</b>    | Jim Clements, Mayor Pro Tempore                     |
| <b>SECONDER:</b> | Jimmy Morris, Council Member                        |
| <b>AYES:</b>     | Clements, Morris, Obeng, Jayroe, Milton, Smalls     |
| <b>ABSENT:</b>   | Angner                                              |

## **10. ENGINEERING**

- A. Motion to authorize the City Administrator to submit a grant application to the Rural Initiative Fund Grant Program under SC Department of Commerce in the amount of \$908,216 for the secondary water sedimentation basin project at the Water Treatment Plant.**

Council Member Milton moved, seconded by Mayor Pro Tempore Clements.

Mayor Jayroe called for the vote.

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|------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| <b>RESULT:</b>   | <b>APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]</b>                     |
| <b>MOVER:</b>    | Hobson H. Milton, Council Member                |
| <b>SECONDER:</b> | Jim Clements, Mayor Pro Tempore                 |
| <b>AYES:</b>     | Clements, Morris, Obeng, Jayroe, Milton, Smalls |
| <b>ABSENT:</b>   | Angner                                          |

- B. Motion to authorize the City Administrator to submit a grant application to the Rural Initiative Fund Grant Program under the SC Department of Commerce in the amount of \$781,764 to cover the additional cost for the Historic/Commercial districts stormwater improvements project.**

Council Member Obeng moved, seconded by Council Member Morris.

Mayor Jayroe called for the vote.

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| <b>RESULT:</b>   | <b>APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]</b>                     |
| <b>MOVER:</b>    | Tamika Williams Obeng, Council Member           |
| <b>SECONDER:</b> | Jimmy Morris, Council Member                    |
| <b>AYES:</b>     | Clements, Morris, Obeng, Jayroe, Milton, Smalls |
| <b>ABSENT:</b>   | Angner                                          |

## **11. ADMINISTRATION**

- A. Motion to approve second reading of an ordinance amending Chapter 2, Article II, Division 2, Sections 2-30 and 2-31 of the Code of Ordinances for the City of Georgetown.**

Mayor Pro Tempore Clements moved, seconded by Council Member Morris.

Mayor Jayroe called for the vote.

|                  |                                 |
|------------------|---------------------------------|
| <b>RESULT:</b>   | <b>DEFEATED [3 TO 3]</b>        |
| <b>MOVER:</b>    | Jim Clements, Mayor Pro Tempore |
| <b>SECONDER:</b> | Jimmy Morris, Council Member    |
| <b>AYES:</b>     | Clements, Morris, Jayroe        |
| <b>NAYS:</b>     | Obeng, Milton, Smalls           |
| <b>ABSENT:</b>   | Angner                          |

**Motion to reconsider the motion to approve second reading of an ordinance amending Chapter 2, Article II, Division 2, Sections 2-30 and 2-31 of the Code of Ordinances for the City of Georgetown.**

Council Member Obeng moved, seconded by Council Member Morris.

Mayor Jayroe called for the vote.

|                  |                                       |
|------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <b>RESULT:</b>   | <b>APPROVED [4 TO 2]</b>              |
| <b>MOVER:</b>    | Tamika Williams Obeng, Council Member |
| <b>SECONDER:</b> | Jimmy Morris, Council Member          |
| <b>AYES:</b>     | Clements, Morris, Obeng, Jayroe       |
| <b>NAYS:</b>     | Milton, Smalls                        |
| <b>ABSENT:</b>   | Angner                                |

**Motion to approve second reading of an ordinance amending Chapter 2, Article II, Division 2, Sections 2-30 and 2-31 of the Code of Ordinances for the City of Georgetown.**

Mayor Pro Tempore Clements moved, seconded by Council Member Obeng.

Mayor Jayroe called for the vote.

|                  |                                       |
|------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <b>RESULT:</b>   | <b>ADOPTED [4 TO 2]</b>               |
| <b>MOVER:</b>    | Jim Clements, Mayor Pro Tempore       |
| <b>SECONDER:</b> | Tamika Williams Obeng, Council Member |
| <b>AYES:</b>     | Clements, Morris, Obeng, Jayroe       |
| <b>NAYS:</b>     | Milton, Smalls                        |
| <b>ABSENT:</b>   | Angner                                |

**12. CITY ADMINISTRATOR REPORT**

Dr. Yúdice congratulated Mr. Scott Whittier, Deputy City Administrator for having no major accidents in Water Utilities, Electric Department, and Public Works for 2022. She said the MASC Loss Prevention Officer confirmed these departments are doing a fantastic job considering the work environment and work conditions.

**13. OLD BUSINESS**

None

**14. NEW BUSINESS**

Mayor Jayroe announced Anthuan Maybank will be visiting Georgetown this weekend and encouraged everyone to attend an event posted on the website. She announced the next Community Meeting will be held on May 2nd at 5:30pm at the Maryville Social Hall. Mayor Pro Tempore Clements stated there is a form on the website for citizens to complete and submit information for dilapidated houses.

**15. DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORTS**

Mayor Jayroe stated the department monthly reports are available for review in the agenda.

- A. Electric Department Monthly Report March 2023**
- B. Engineering Monthly Report March 2023**
- C. March 2023 Fire Report**

- D. March 2023 Fleet Service Report**
- E. GPD - Monthly Report March**
- F. Human Resources Monthly Report**
- G. March 2023 Municipal Court Report**
- H. Planning & Community Development Monthly Report**
- I. March 2023 Public Works Department Report**
- J. March 2023 Water Utilities Report**
- K. March 2023 Finance and IT Monthly Report**

**16. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON CITY SERVICES, BUSINESS, OR OTHER CITY MATTERS  
NOT ON THE AGENDA**

Mayor Jayroe recognized Mr. Wesley Gibson. Mr. Gibson stated the utility increases will be 41%. He said if your electric bill is \$350, it will be \$493.00 in 2028. Mr. Gibson suggested increasing property taxes instead of putting the burden on the working class. Mr. Gibson suggested putting the proposed rate increases in the utility bills to be transparent.

Mayor Jayroe recognized Brother Willie. Brother Willie stated former administration spent \$5M on a regenerating plant in order to get \$700,000 reimbursement from Santee Cooper but that did not happen and he believes citizens are being lied to again.

**17. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**Motion to adjourn Regular Meeting and enter into Executive Session pursuant to Section 30-4-70 (a)(1) and (2) to discuss incident to prospective contractual negotiations regarding city hall and to receive related legal advice; to receive quarterly legal update from the city attorney on pending cases and cases adjudicated since last update; and to discuss appointments for the City's Boards and Commissions.**

Council Member Milton moved, seconded by Mayor Pro Tempore Clements.

Mayor Jayroe called for the vote.

|                  |                                                 |
|------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| <b>RESULT:</b>   | <b>APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]</b>                     |
| <b>MOVER:</b>    | Hobson H. Milton, Council Member                |
| <b>SECONDER:</b> | Jim Clements, Mayor Pro Tempore                 |
| <b>AYES:</b>     | Clements, Morris, Obeng, Jayroe, Milton, Smalls |
| <b>ABSENT:</b>   | Angner                                          |

The Regular Meeting adjourned at 6:30pm.

**Motion to adjourn Executive Session and reconvene Regular Meeting.**

Council Member Morris moved, seconded by Council Member Obeng.

Mayor Jayroe called for the vote.

|                  |                                                 |
|------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| <b>RESULT:</b>   | <b>APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]</b>                     |
| <b>MOVER:</b>    | Jimmy Morris, Council Member                    |
| <b>SECONDER:</b> | Tamika Williams Obeng, Council Member           |
| <b>AYES:</b>     | Clements, Morris, Obeng, Jayroe, Milton, Smalls |
| <b>ABSENT:</b>   | Angner                                          |

Executive Session adjourned and Regular Meeting reconvened at 7:40pm.

**NO FORMAL ACTION WAS TAKEN IN EXECUTIVE SESSION.**

**City Council may take action on items discussed in Executive Session.**

**Motion to take agenda item 4. A. off the table.**

Mayor Jayroe moved, seconded by Council Member Smalls.

Mayor Jayroe called for the vote.

|                  |                                                 |
|------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| <b>RESULT:</b>   | <b>APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]</b>                     |
| <b>MOVER:</b>    | Carol R. Jayroe, Mayor                          |
| <b>SECONDER:</b> | Clarence C. Smalls, Council Member              |
| <b>AYES:</b>     | Clements, Morris, Obeng, Jayroe, Milton, Smalls |
| <b>ABSENT:</b>   | Angner                                          |

**Motion to approve second reading of an ordinance to amend fiscal year 2022/2023 [FY 2023] budget for the City of Georgetown, South Carolina, to prescribe purposes for which certain earmarked funds shall be expended; said funds total Three Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$300,000.00) from the \$3,500,000 Committed Funds for Capital Projects in the Fund Balance of the General Fund for the new City Hall building.**

Mayor Pro Tempore Clements moved, seconded by Council Member Milton. Council Member Milton stated for the record "The people don't understand where this money is coming from. This money is coming from the money we have for city hall, the \$3M and I think that is where there is a misunderstanding. We are going to take this money and use it for a new city hall."

Mayor Jayroe called for the vote.

|                  |                                                 |
|------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| <b>RESULT:</b>   | <b>ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]</b>                      |
| <b>MOVER:</b>    | Jim Clements, Mayor Pro Tempore                 |
| <b>SECONDER:</b> | Hobson H. Milton, Council Member                |
| <b>AYES:</b>     | Clements, Morris, Obeng, Jayroe, Milton, Smalls |
| <b>ABSENT:</b>   | Angner                                          |

**Motion to authorize the City Administrator to enter into negotiations for the purchase of a new city hall.**

Council Member Milton moved, seconded by Mayor Pro Tempore Clements.

Mayor Jayroe called for the vote.

|                  |                                                 |
|------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| <b>RESULT:</b>   | <b>APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]</b>                     |
| <b>MOVER:</b>    | Hobson H. Milton, Council Member                |
| <b>SECONDER:</b> | Jim Clements, Mayor Pro Tempore                 |
| <b>AYES:</b>     | Clements, Morris, Obeng, Jayroe, Milton, Smalls |
| <b>ABSENT:</b>   | Angner                                          |

**18. APPOINTMENTS**

**Motion to appoint Lynn Robb to the Architectural Review Board.**

Mayor Jayroe called for the vote.

|                |                                  |
|----------------|----------------------------------|
| <b>RESULT:</b> | <b>APPROVED [4 TO 2]</b>         |
| <b>AYES:</b>   | Clements, Morris, Jayroe, Milton |
| <b>NAYS:</b>   | Obeng, Smalls                    |
| <b>ABSENT:</b> | Angner                           |

**Motion to appoint Neil William Lareau to the Architectural Review Board.**

Mayor Jayroe called for the vote.

|                |                                  |
|----------------|----------------------------------|
| <b>RESULT:</b> | <b>DEFEATED [2 TO 4]</b>         |
| <b>AYES:</b>   | Obeng, Smalls                    |
| <b>NAYS:</b>   | Clements, Morris, Jayroe, Milton |
| <b>ABSENT:</b> | Angner                           |

**19. ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting of City Council.**

Council Member Milton moved, seconded by Mayor Pro Tempore Clements.

Mayor Jayroe called for the vote.

|                  |                                                 |
|------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| <b>RESULT:</b>   | <b>APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]</b>                     |
| <b>MOVER:</b>    | Hobson H. Milton, Council Member                |
| <b>SECONDER:</b> | Jim Clements, Mayor Pro Tempore                 |
| <b>AYES:</b>     | Clements, Morris, Obeng, Jayroe, Milton, Smalls |
| <b>ABSENT:</b>   | Angner                                          |

Regular Meeting adjourned at 7:44pm.

Stephanie Buccione  
City Clerk

Date Approved: 06/15/23