

**REGULAR MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES
NOVEMBER 21, 2024 — 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 Jonathan Angner
Council Member Erin Ethridge
Council Member Tamika Williams-Obeng
Council Member Jimmy Morris

MEMBERS ABSENT

Council Member Bruce Carl

ALSO PRESENT

Mr. Scott Whittier, City Administrator
Mrs. Elise Crosby, City Attorney
Ms. Stephanie Buccione, City Clerk
Mr. Nick Ard, IT Technician
Mrs. Cindy Thompson, Public Information Officer
Deputy Chief Nelson Brown, Georgetown Police Department
Chief Charlie Cribb, Georgetown Fire Department
Mr. Ryan Call, Building Inspector
Mr. Peter Gaytan, Planning & Community Development Director
Mr. Ryan Courtemanche, Electric Utility Manager
Ms. Eliza Jagger, Assistant Finance Director
Ms. Kara Hamilton, Human Resources Manager
Mr. Chris Mullis, Water Utilities Manager
Mrs. Natrona Simmons, Public Works Manager
Mr. Isaac Williams, Fleet Superintendent

2. ANNOUNCEMENT CONCERNING ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Mayor Jayroe called the Regular Meeting of City Council to order at 5:30 pm 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

Mayor Pro Tempore Clements introduced members from the local Trail Life USA troop #2021. Mr. Mike Miller rendered the invocation and Troop Master Art Baker along with troop members lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON CURRENT AGENDA ITEMS

None

5. INTRODUCTION OF NEW EMPLOYEES

Mrs. Vermeland introduced Mr. Braxton Walton for the Finance department. Deputy Chief Brown introduced Jonathan Beggs, Michael Hepfer, and Richard Long for the Police department. Mrs. Simmons introduced Ms. Ashley Gaddy for the Public Works department.

6. PLANNING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

A. Motion to approve a Resolution to adopt the multi-jurisdictional Georgetown County Hazard Mitigation Plan, 2024

Council Member Jonathan Angner moved, seconded by Council Member Erin Ethridge

Mayor Jayroe called for the vote.

RESULT:	Approved
MOVER:	Council Member Jonathan Angner
SECONDER:	Council Member Erin Ethridge
AYES:	Jim Clements, Carol Jayroe, Jonathan Angner, Erin Ethridge, Jimmy Morris, Tamika Williams-Obeng

B. Motion to approve first reading of an Ordinance Rezoning of Approximately 0.38 acres, located at 327 Duke Street, Georgetown, SC (05-0030-134-00-00), from Residential (R1) to Residential (R4)

Council Member Tamika Williams-Obeng moved, seconded by Mayor Pro Tempore Jim Clements

Mayor Jayroe called for the vote.

RESULT:	Approved
MOVER:	Council Member Tamika Williams-Obeng
SECONDER:	Mayor Pro Tempore Jim Clements
AYES:	Jim Clements, Carol Jayroe, Jonathan Angner, Erin Ethridge, Jimmy Morris, Tamika Williams-Obeng

7. ENGINEERING

A. Motion to approve a change order to Coastal Structures for selective demolition, asbestos abatement, and air monitoring at the new City Hall building in the amount of \$111,200.00

Council Member Jonathan Angner moved, seconded by Mayor Pro Tempore Jim Clements

Mayor Jayroe called for the vote.

RESULT:	Approved
MOVER:	Council Member Jonathan Angner
SECONDER:	Mayor Pro Tempore Jim Clements
AYES:	Jim Clements, Carol Jayroe, Jonathan Angner, Erin Ethridge, Jimmy Morris, Tamika Williams-Obeng

8. WATER UTILITIES

A. Motion to approve purchasing 400 water meter nodes for the Water Utilities Department in the amount of \$82,680.00 with FY-25 funds

Mayor Pro Tempore Jim Clements moved, seconded by Council Member Jimmy Morris
Council Member Angner referenced page 4 of the contract and asked for the record "is there a warranty and if any of these are faulty, are we releasing them of any liability?" Mrs. Crosby stated the language used is commonly used in other contracts presented to the city.

Mayor Jayroe called for the vote.

RESULT:	Approved
MOVER:	Mayor Pro Tempore Jim Clements
SECONDER:	Council Member Jimmy Morris
AYES:	Jim Clements, Carol Jayroe, Jonathan Angner, Erin Ethridge, Jimmy Morris, Tamika Williams-Obeng

9. ADMINISTRATION

A. Motion to approve a Resolution for a holiday moratorium of the two hour parking Ordinance

Mayor Pro Tempore Jim Clements moved, seconded by Council Member Tamika Williams-Obeng

Mayor Jayroe called for the vote.

RESULT:	Approved
MOVER:	Mayor Pro Tempore Jim Clements
SECONDER:	Council Member Tamika Williams-Obeng
AYES:	Jim Clements, Carol Jayroe, Jonathan Angner, Erin Ethridge, Jimmy Morris, Tamika Williams-Obeng

10. CITY ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

Mr. Whittier gave an update regarding lead exposure. He said the city had to report to the EPA by the end of October regarding inventories of water source materials. He stated the city sent out letters to residents who may have lead pipes. He said this does not mean residents have been exposed to lead. He said resident concerns have been directed to the water department. Mayor Jayroe requested council members receive a copy of the letter.

Mr. Whittier said the city's new ERP system, BS&A, is scheduled to be completely implemented in early January. He said utility payment credit card charges will remain the same. He said all fees to process payments would go back to the vendors. Council Member Obeng asked when the residents would be notified of the changes. Mrs. Vermeland confirmed the notifications will be sent out to residents on December 5th. Mr. Whittier gave an update on the two dilapidated houses on Wood Street. He said there is a hearing scheduled for December 3rd by the Construction Board of Appeals and based on their approval, the city can move forward with the demolition after 60 days from the hearing date.

11. MINUTES

A. Motion to approve minutes of October 17 and October 24, 2024.

Mayor Pro Tempore Jim Clements moved, seconded by Council Member Jimmy Morris
Mayor Jayroe called for the vote.

RESULT:	Approved
MOVER:	Mayor Pro Tempore Jim Clements
SECONDER:	Council Member Jimmy Morris
AYES:	Jim Clements, Carol Jayroe, Jonathan Angner, Erin Ethridge, Jimmy Morris, Tamika Williams-Obeng

12. OLD BUSINESS

Mayor Pro Tempore Clements requested discussions regarding the Georgetown Housing Authority and opportunities for housing be scheduled in the new year.

13. NEW BUSINESS

Council Member Obeng asked if alerts could be sent out to residents who have a high water usage due to a water leak before they receive their bill so they can address any issues beforehand. Mr. Whittier stated the city currently does not see high usage until after the fact. Mrs. Vermeland stated the new ERP system does offer a module that can be utilized

by residents to monitor usage throughout the month. She said they will be presenting that feature to Council for approval sometime next year. Mayor Pro Tempore Clements stated the city is losing money on processing FOIA requests. He asked Mr. Whittier to evaluate the current fees and report any revisions that would solve this issue.

14. DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORTS

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

- A. Building Monthly Report**
- B. Electric Department Monthly Report**
- C. Engineering Department Monthly Report**
- D. Finance Department Monthly Report**
- E. Fire Department Monthly Report**
- F. Fleet Services Monthly Report**
- G. Human Resources Monthly Report**
- H. Municipal Court Monthly Report**
- I. Planning & Community Development Monthly Report**
- J. Police Department Monthly Report**
- K. Public Works Monthly Report**
- L. Risk Management Monthly Report**
- M. Water Utilities Monthly Report**

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

Mayor Jayroe recognized Mr. Kevin McGraw. Mr. McGraw stated he is the Property Manager of the Richmond Place apartments. He said they offer discounts on security deposits for city employees and other organizations. He stated they currently have apartments available.

16. EXECUTIVE SESSION

- A. Motion to adjourn Regular Meeting and enter into Executive Session pursuant to Section 30-4-70(a)(1) to discuss appointments/reappointments**

to the City Boards/Commissions.

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

Council Member Tamika Williams-Obeng moved, seconded by Mayor Pro Tempore Jim Clements

Mayor Jayroe called for the vote.

RESULT:	Approved
MOVER:	Council Member Tamika Williams-Obeng
SECONDER:	Mayor Pro Tempore Jim Clements
AYES:	Jim Clements, Carol Jayroe, Jonathan Angner, Erin Ethridge, Jimmy Morris, Tamika Williams-Obeng

Executive Session adjourned and Regular Meeting reconvened at 6:25pm.

C. NO FORMAL ACTION WAS TAKEN IN EXECUTIVE SESSION.

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

17. APPOINTMENT

A. Motion to reappoint Janette Rodrigues and Andrew Friedman to the Arts & Cultural Commission.

Council Member Erin Ethridge moved, seconded by Council Member Jimmy Morris

Mayor Jayroe called for the vote.

RESULT:	Approved
MOVER:	Council Member Erin Ethridge
SECONDER:	Council Member Jimmy Morris
AYES:	Jim Clements, Carol Jayroe, Jonathan Angner, Erin Ethridge, Jimmy Morris, Tamika Williams-Obeng

B. Motion to appoint John Sisk to the Architectural Review Board.

Mayor Carol Jayroe moved, seconded by Council Member Jonathan Angner

Mayor Jayroe called for the vote.

RESULT:	Approved
MOVER:	Mayor Carol Jayroe
SECONDER:	Council Member Jonathan Angner
AYES:	Jim Clements, Carol Jayroe, Jonathan Angner, Erin Ethridge, Jimmy Morris, Tamika Williams-Obeng

C. Motion to appoint Brooke Huffman to the Architectural Review Board.

Council Member Jonathan Angner moved, seconded by Council Member Jimmy Morris

Mayor Jayroe called for the vote.

RESULT:	Defeated
MOVER:	Council Member Jonathan Angner
SECONDER:	Council Member Jimmy Morris
AYES:	None

D. Motion to reappoint Ede Graves to the Architectural Review Board.

Council Member Jonathan Angner moved, seconded by Mayor Pro Tempore Jim Clements

Mayor Jayroe called for the vote.

RESULT:	Approved
MOVER:	Council Member Jonathan Angner
SECONDER:	Mayor Pro Tempore Jim Clements
AYES:	Jim Clements, Carol Jayroe, Jonathan Angner, Erin Ethridge, Jimmy Morris, Tamika Williams-Obeng

18. ADJOURNMENT

A. Motion to Adjourn the Regular Meeting of City Council.

Council Member Jonathan Angner moved, seconded by Council Member Jimmy Morris

Mayor Jayroe called for the vote.

RESULT:	Approved
MOVER:	Council Member Jonathan Angner
SECONDER:	Council Member Jimmy Morris
AYES:	Jim Clements, Carol Jayroe, Jonathan Angner, Erin Ethridge, Jimmy Morris, Tamika Williams-Obeng

The Regular Meeting adjourned at 6:25pm.

Stephanie Buccione
City Clerk

Date Approved: 12/19/2024