

**REGULAR MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES**

JANUARY 16, 2025 — 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 Bruce Carl
Council Member Erin Ethridge
Council Member Jimmy Morris
Council Member Tamika Williams-Obeng

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
Ms. Amy Skidmore, Georgetown Fire Department Office Manager
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

Council Member Angner introduced Mr. Charlie Ball to render the invocation and lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON CURRENT AGENDA ITEMS

Mayor Jayroe recognized Mr. Dan Stacy. Mr. Stacy stated he was present to answer any questions regarding agenda item 6.B. regarding an ordinance authorizing the conveyance of two easement areas on Cannon Street.

5. INTRODUCTION OF NEW EMPLOYEES

Deputy Chief Brown introduced Mr. Lawrence Venezia for the Police department.

6. ENGINEERING

A. Motion to approve engineering amendment request from WK Dickson to provide additional design services for the WTP Secondary Sedimentation Basin for a not-to-exceed amount of \$98,700.00

Mayor Pro Tempore Jim Clements moved, seconded by Council Member Erin Ethridge

Mayor Jayroe called for the vote.

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

B. Motion to approve first reading of an ordinance authorizing the conveyance of two easement areas on Cannon Street, Block 100, located at 15 Cannon Street and 16 Cannon Street.

Council Member Jonathan Angner moved, seconded by Council Member Jimmy Morris
Council Member Angner stated for the record "the house that I know has a historical plaque was built and laid out in 1757."

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, Bruce Carl, Erin Ethridge, Jimmy Morris, Tamika Williams-Obeng

7. RISK MANAGEMENT

A. Motion to Approve payment in the amount of \$781,391.00 to SCMIRF Semi Annual billing for liability Insurance.

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, Bruce Carl, Erin Ethridge, Jimmy Morris, Tamika Williams-Obeng

B. Motion to approve two quarterly payments to SCMIT in the amount of \$219,210.00 for Workers compensation Insurance.

Council Member Tamika Williams-Obeng moved, seconded by Council Member Bruce Carl

Mayor Jayroe called for the vote.

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

8. ADMINISTRATION

A. Motion to approve a resolution for an additional moratorium of the two-hour parking ordinance starting on February 26, 2025 and ending June 29, 2025.

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, Bruce Carl, Erin Ethridge, Jimmy Morris, Tamika Williams-Obeng

9. CITY ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

Mr. Whittier said at last month's meeting, city council approved to use Construction Management Services for the Municipal Complex facility following the city's procurement policy. He said per the policy, interested parties have 15 days to submit any comments to the City Administrator and take them to Council to address. He stated no comments were submitted. He said per the policy, an independent monitor is used to observe the service

selection process to determine that it was done correctly. Mr. Whittier stated the Waccamaw Regional Council of Governments has agreed to be the monitor of this process. Mr. Whittier remained everyone that the city will be switching over to the new enterprise software system, BS&A, on January 21. He said they have been onsite this week and provided staff training. He stated they will also be onsite when the city goes live and they will offer some additional staff training. Mr. Whittier thanked everyone for their patience and understanding during this time. Mr. Whittier stated the city received state funds with the help of State Representative Lee Hewitt for the stormwater pump project at the old city hall site. He stated WK Dickson was awarded a contract last month to conduct a feasibility study to come up with an alternative system from what is currently being used. He said the first meeting is scheduled at the end of this month.

10. MINUTES

A. Motion to approve the minutes of December 19, 2024 Council Meeting.

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

Mayor Jayroe called for the vote.

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

11. OLD BUSINESS

Council Member Morris requested a project to provide a playground at Howard School be brought back to discussion with the county and school district. Mr. Whittier stated it would be a good time to bring it back up for discussion as we approach the budget season.

Mayor Pro Tempore Clements asked if there had been a pre-construction meeting for business owners in the Front and Orange Street project areas. Mr. Arteaga said that Mr. Al Joseph attended the meeting and he is the liaison for the business owners to address any concerns. Mayor Pro Tempore Clements asked for an update on Liberty Steel. Mr. Whittier stated production at the mill stopped on October 11th and the 365-day clock started. He said services provided by the city and Santee Cooper have been terminated at the steel mill. Mayor Pro Tempore Clements thanked Mayor Jayroe and Mr. Whittier for staying on top of future opportunities that involve the steel mill site and possibly the paper mill site that could have a huge impact on the city.

12. NEW BUSINESS

Council Member Obeng requested to have a workshop to have a discussion on a hate crime ordinance. She stated she would like Mr. Charlie Barrineau from the Municipal Association to attend the workshop to provide detailed information for this ordinance. Council Member Obeng said this year's MLK parade route has changed and she encouraged everyone to attend the parade this Saturday and help out with non-profits and

charities to honor him.

Mayor Jayroe stated the group that organizes the MLK parade and the Juneteenth parade have changed the parade routes and now it will reduce staff needed from 27 police officers to 7. She said this change will make it safer and eliminate confusion for everyone. She suggested the city co-sponsor both the MLK and Juneteenth parades as long as the terms and parade routes stay the same. Council Member Obeng said she would get with Ms. Graham and confirm the group agrees with the arrangement. Council Member Angner requested an update on making revisions to the parade ordinance. Mr. Whittier stated it is being worked on.

13. DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORTS

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

- 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**

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

Mayor Jayroe recognized Ms. Cary Farrow. Ms. Farrow stated she is concerned about the current utility bill. She said she reviewed the last four months of her utility bills and the service days were 15-25 days, but her current bill states 52 service days. She said this is unacceptable and no one should have to choose between paying their utility bill or paying other important bills. She requested there be an ordinance in place that limits no more

than 30 service days on a utility billing period. Mr. Whittier said they are investigating the issue and trying to resolve it before moving to the new system.

15. ADJOURNMENT

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

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

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

The Regular Meeting adjourned at 6:10pm.


Stephanie Buccione
City Clerk

Date Approved: 02/20/2025