



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

**AUGUST 15, 2024 – 5:30 PM
MUNICIPAL COURTROOM
2222 HIGHMARKET STREET
GEORGETOWN, SOUTH CAROLINA
AND LIVESTREAM:**

<https://www.facebook.com/cityoftown/>

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
Ms. Stephanie Buccione, City Clerk
Mrs. Cindy Thompson, Public Information Officer
Chief William Pierce, Georgetown Police Department
Chief Charlie Cribb, Georgetown Fire Department
Ms. Amy Skidmore, Georgetown Fire Department Office Manager
Mr. Ryan Call, Building Inspector
Mr. Orlando Arteaga, City Engineer
Mr. Ryan Courtemanche, Electric Utility Manager
Mrs. Kathy Vermeland, Finance Director
Mrs. Natrona Simmons, Public Works Manager
Mr. Isaac Williams, Fleet Superintendent

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.

Mayor Jayroe announced Mrs. Crosby is not present and Ms. Buccione will be serving as Parliamentarian at the meeting.

3. INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Council Member Angner introduced Council Member Carl to render the invocation and Mr. Joseph Baxter to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. PUBLIC HEARING

- A. The purpose of the Public Hearing will be to receive citizen input concerning an ordinance to ratify permanent road closing and grant easement over public property.**

Mayor Jayroe opened the Public Hearing and announced no one signed up to speak on this matter and closed the Public Hearing.

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON CURRENT AGENDA ITEMS

None

6. INTRODUCTION OF NEW EMPLOYEES

Chief Pierce introduced Darryel Carr and Jordan Fitzgerald for the Police department. Mrs. Vermeland introduced Jody Ulrich for the Finance department.

7. FIRE

- A. Motion to approve purchase and payment in the amount of \$169,006.40 to Rhinehart Fire Service for Scott Air Pack replacement.**

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

Mayor Jayroe called for the vote.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Jim Clements, Mayor Pro Tempore
SECONDER:	Bruce Carl, Council Member
AYES:	Angner, Clements, Morris, Obeng, Ethridge, Carl, Jayroe

8. POLICE

- A. Motion to approve and enter into a lease agreement with Vantage Financial, LLC in the amount of \$30,840.00 annually for 5 years to lease 30 Getac mobile data terminals, docking stations, vehicle adaptors, and extended warranties for the Police Department using FY25 budgeted funds.**

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

Mayor Jayroe called for the vote.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Jim Clements, Mayor Pro Tempore
SECONDER:	Bruce Carl, Council Member
AYES:	Angner, Clements, Morris, Obeng, Ethridge, Carl, Jayroe

9. ENGINEERING

- A. Motion to approve second reading of an ordinance for road closing of 17-Foot Alley located behind existing Front Street parking lot between Cleland and Dozier Streets and to assign mutual access easement to John C. Burgess (grantee).**

Council Member Carl moved, seconded by Council Member Ethridge.

Mayor Jayroe called for the vote.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Bruce Carl, Council Member
SECONDER:	Erin Ethridge, Council Member
AYES:	Angner, Clements, Morris, Obeng, Ethridge, Carl, Jayroe

- B. Motion to authorize Staff to approve the assignment consent to WK Dickson on an existing agreement for design services on WTP Secondary Sedimentation Basin.**

Council Member Angner moved, seconded by Council Member Morris.

Mayor Jayroe called for the vote.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Jonathan Angner, Council Member
SECONDER:	Jimmy Morris, Council Member
AYES:	Angner, Clements, Morris, Obeng, Ethridge, Carl, Jayroe

- C. Motion to approve a bid in the not-to-exceed amount of \$1,082,485.00 for the Raw Water Pump Station Electrical Upgrades Project no. 1607 and to award contract to Coastal Structures Corporation.**

Council Member Angner moved, seconded by Council Member Carl.

Mayor Jayroe called for the vote.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Jonathan Angner, Council Member
SECONDER:	Bruce Carl, Council Member
AYES:	Angner, Clements, Morris, Obeng, Ethridge, Carl, Jayroe

10. PUBLIC WORKS

- A. Motion to approve seasonal floral installation and maintenance agreement for fiscal year 2025 to Destiny Butler d/b/a Songbird Nursery in the amount of \$83,152.00.**

Mayor Pro Tempore Clements moved, seconded by Mayor Jayroe.

Mayor Jayroe called for the vote.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Jim Clements, Mayor Pro Tempore
SECONDER:	Carol R. Jayroe, Mayor
AYES:	Angner, Clements, Morris, Obeng, Ethridge, Carl, Jayroe

- B. Motion to approve purchase of New Way Sidewinder XTR Automated Garbage Truck from Amick Equipment Company in the amount of \$388,712.27.**

Council Member Carl moved, seconded by Council Member Ethridge.

Mayor Jayroe called for the vote.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Bruce Carl, Council Member
SECONDER:	Erin Ethridge, Council Member
AYES:	Angner, Clements, Morris, Obeng, Ethridge, Carl, Jayroe

- C. Motion to Approve Purchase and Payment to Lee Transport Equipment for Freightliner Dump Truck in the Amount of \$210,615.00.**

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

Mayor Jayroe called for the vote.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Jim Clements, Mayor Pro Tempore
SECONDER:	Bruce Carl, Council Member
AYES:	Angner, Clements, Morris, Obeng, Ethridge, Carl, Jayroe

- D. Motion to Approve Purchase and Payment to Really Good Equipment for a Leaf Vacuum Truck in the amount of \$265,079.30.**

Council Member Angner moved, seconded by Mayor Jayroe.

Mayor Jayroe called for the vote.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Jonathan Angner, Council Member
SECONDER:	Carol R. Jayroe, Mayor
AYES:	Angner, Clements, Morris, Obeng, Ethridge, Carl, Jayroe

11. ADMINISTRATION

A. Motion to approve first reading of an ordinance to amend rates and fees for the city of Georgetown's raw water services.

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

Mayor Jayroe called for the vote.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS] Next: 8/22/2024 5:00 PM
MOVER:	Jim Clements, Mayor Pro Tempore
SECONDER:	Jonathan Angner, Council Member
AYES:	Angner, Clements, Morris, Obeng, Ethridge, Carl, Jayroe

B. Motion to approve the expenditure to implement the Opioid Action Plan in the amount of \$79,892.04 to Georgetown County Alcohol and Drug Abuse Commission.

Council Member Obeng moved, seconded by Council Member Morris.

Mayor Jayroe called for the vote.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Tamika Williams Obeng, Council Member
SECONDER:	Jimmy Morris, Council Member
AYES:	Angner, Clements, Morris, Obeng, Ethridge, Carl, Jayroe

12. CITY ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

Mr. Whittier stated the software purchased to manage the Short-term rentals has been implemented. He stated the city currently has 31 short-term rentals registered and five are pending. He said a second letter will go out to about 20 non-compliant short-term rentals and fines will start being issued in September. Mr. Whittier said the city was awarded approximately \$4M for the American Rescue Plan and the approved list of expenditures is on page 228 in the agenda packet. He said the city

has spent about \$2.5M of these funds so far. Mr. Whittier said the bid for the new city hall was awarded to Coastal Structures in June and the kick-off meeting was held last month. He stated the estimated timeline for construction is eight months and the design phase is projected to be four months. He said fencing is almost complete at the Municipal Complex building and staff is having a meeting tomorrow with the design team and Coastal Structures to discuss further.

Mayor Pro Tempore Clements asked if the steel mill has gone back to work yet and how the \$1.1M control center upgrade that they want the city to help fund would be handled if they are not back in operation. Mr. Whittier said he has not received notice that they are operating, however, there was raw water usage in July. He stated the raw water usage had slowed down from the previous month. He said that would be a factor on the agreement the city is negotiating with the steel mill. Mr. Whittier said he will follow up with the steel mill and report back to Council.

Mayor Jayroe confirmed the city did put the fencing around the new Municipal Complex building out for bid and that information is available online.

13. MINUTES

Motion to approve minutes of July 18 and July 25, 2024 Council Meetings.

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

Mayor Jayroe called for the vote.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Jim Clements, Mayor Pro Tempore
SECONDER:	Jimmy Morris, Council Member
AYES:	Angner, Clements, Morris, Obeng, Ethridge, Carl, Jayroe

14. OLD BUSINESS

None

15. NEW BUSINESS

Council Member Obeng thanked Public Works and Ms. Simmons for their hard work during the storm. She said there will be a large conference for the AME church during September 11-14th in Georgetown, Berkely, and Williamsburg counties and asked everyone to give the attendees a warm welcome. She said the conference will bring approximately 5,000 attendees into the city.

Council Member Obeng asked for an update on a recent nuisance complaint for a business in the city. Mayor Jayroe and Mayor Pro Tempore Clements confirmed Chief Pierce is setting up a meeting for the neighborhood effected.

16. DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORTS

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

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

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

Mayor Jayroe recognized Ms. Cary Farrow. Ms. Farrow said the state passed a bill to allow 15% of A-tax funds to go towards attainable and work force housing. She said with the city currently revising the comprehensive plan, they should consider this as a funding option.

Mayor Jayroe recognized Ms. Dee Weathers. Ms. Weathers said she emailed everyone regarding this matter. She stated she and her elderly mother live beside Townz Bar and Grill and it has been in business for two years. She said the business is a hangout and the loud noise, parking issues, and littering is disrupting her and her elderly mother. Chief Pierce said he received he was made aware of this issue this week and he is working on the required documentation to report the location as a public nuisance.

18. EXECUTIVE SESSION

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.

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

Mayor Jayroe called for the vote.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Jonathan Angner, Council Member
SECONDER:	Jim Clements, Mayor Pro Tempore
AYES:	Angner, Clements, Morris, Obeng, Ethridge, Carl, Jayroe

The Regular Meeting adjourned at 6:15pm.

Motion to adjourn Executive Session and reconvene Regular Meeting.

Council Member Angner moved, seconded by Council Member Morris.

Mayor Jayroe called for the vote.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Jonathan Angner, Council Member
SECONDER:	Jimmy Morris, Council Member
AYES:	Angner, Clements, Morris, Obeng, Ethridge, Carl, Jayroe

Executive Session adjourned and Regular Meeting reconvened at 6:20pm.

NO FORMAL ACTION WAS TAKEN IN EXECUTIVE SESSION.

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

19. APPOINTMENT

Motion to appoint Tondalicia Sumpter to the Board of Zoning Appeals for a three-year term.

Council Member Angner moved, seconded by Council Member Obeng.

Mayor Jayroe called for the vote.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Jonathan Angner, Council Member
SECONDER:	Tamika Williams Obeng, Council Member
AYES:	Angner, Clements, Morris, Obeng, Ethridge, Carl, Jayroe

20. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting of City Council.

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

Mayor Jayroe called for the vote.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Bruce Carl, Council Member
SECONDER:	Jim Clements, Mayor Pro Tempore
AYES:	Angner, Clements, Morris, Obeng, Ethridge, Carl, Jayroe

The Regular Meeting adjourned at 6:25pm.

Stephanie Buccione
City Clerk

Date Approved: 09/19/24