

CALLED MEETING

COMMISSION CHAMBER

April 30, 2024

Augusta Richmond County Commission convened at 11:00 a.m., Tuesday, April 30, 2024, the Honorable Garnett Johnson, Mayor, presiding.

PRESENT: Hons. Johnson, Williams, Frantom, Garrett, Scott, McKnight, Pulliam, Lewis and Guilfoyle, members of Augusta Richmond County Commission.

ABSENT: Hon. Mason, member of Augusta Richmond County Commission.

Mr. Garrett: All right, now that we have a quorum, I would like to call this meeting to order. Ms. Bonner or Attorney, if you want to –

The Clerk: We're going to ask Attorney McClain if she would please offer the motion for executive session.

1. LEGAL MEETING

A. Pending and potential litigation

B. Real estate

C. Personnel

Ms. McClain: I move (sic) that we go into executive meeting to discuss pending and potential litigation, real estate and personnel.

Mr. Frantom: So moved.

Ms. Scott: Second.

Mr. Garrett: All right, we have a motion and a second. Voting, Ms. Bonner.

Mr. Johnson and Mr. Lewis out.

Motion carries 7-0.

Mr. Garrett: All right, with that being said, we will enter into executive session.

[EXECUTIVE SESSION]

2. Motion to authorize execution by the Mayor of the affidavit of compliance with Georgia's Open Meeting Act.

Mr. Garrett: All right, I'd like to call this meeting back to order. Entertain a motion to exit executive session.

Mr. Frantom: So moved.

Ms. McKnight: Second.

Mr. Garrett: Voting, Ms. Bonner.

Motion carries 9-0.

Mr. Garrett: Attorney Brown, do we have any motions?

Mr. Brown: Yes, sir, we have several motions.

Ms. Douse: Mayor Pro Tem, I would like to request a motion to accept the resignation of General Counsel Wayne Brown, effective July 12, 2024, and provide six months of severance pay by way of salary and benefit continuation and cash out of vacation pay upon the execution of customary settlement and release of claims agreement as he will be available for transition consultation purposes during the severance period.

Mr. Frantom: So moved.

Ms. McKnight: Second.

Mr. Garrett: All right, voting, Ms. Bonner.

Mr. Williams votes No.

Motion carries 8-1.

Ms. Douse: Mayor Johnson, I would like to make a motion, request a motion to approve the transfer of real property located at 2815 Regency Blvd. identified as the unhatched portion of Tract A of the attached plat to the Augusta, Georgia Land Bank Authority.

Mr. Frantom: So moved.

Ms. Scott: Second.

Mr. Garrett: Voting, Ms. Bonner.

Motion carries 9-0.

Mr. Garrett: Any other items?

Ms. Douse: There are. I would like to make a motion to approve the transfer of .28 acres of land real property adjacent to 1310 Walker Street to PSH Augusta Downtown, LLC by quit claim deed to, excuse me, let me start over. I would like to make a motion to transfer .28 acres of land, real property, adjacent to 1310 Walker Street by quit claim deed to PSH Downtown Augusta, LLC under the guidance of the Augusta, Georgia Law Department

subject to easement and deed restrictions as required by the Augusta Engineering Department.

Mr. Frantom: So moved.

Ms. McKnight: Second.

Mr. Garrett: Motion and a second. Voting, Ms. Bonner.

Motion carries 9-0.

Mr. Garrett: Thank you. Next item please.

Mr. Brown: Mayor Pro Tem, we would like to request a motion to adopt a resolution authorizing the settlement of all claims by Derwin Jackson in the total amount of \$32,500 payable to Derwin Jackson and further authorize the Administrator to disburse the amount of \$32,500 directly to the payee or through the service agent for the Workers Compensation claim waiving any Augusta Richmond County Georgia ordinances in conflict with this resolution for this instance only and for other purposes.

Mr. Frantom: So moved.

Ms. McKnight: Second.

Mr. Garrett: Motion and proper second. Voting, Ms. Bonner.

Motion carries 9-0.

Mr. Garrett: Thank you. Attorney. Brown.

Mr. Brown: We would request a motion to adopt a resolution by Augusta, Georgia Commission to direct the Development Authority of Augusta, Georgia to terminate that certain sub-lease by and between the Development Authority of Augusta, Georgia and C4Live LLC dated January 13, 2020 and related matters.

Ms. McKnight: So move.

Mr. Frantom: Second.

Mr. Garrett: Motion and a very proper second. Voting, Ms. Bonner.

Motion carries 9-0.

Mr. Garrett: Attorney Brown, do we have anything else?

Mr. Brown: No, sir.

Mr. Garrett: All right, with that being said, I believe the Mayor has a point of personal privilege and I guess we will allow him to have it.

Mr. Mayor: Thank you, Mayor Pro Tem. I certainly appreciate it. Before I go to my point of personal privilege, I just want to thank Attorney Brown for his commitment to the City for 16 years. We really appreciate it. Thank you for your guidance and everything that you've done. On behalf of the Mayor's office, I appreciate you. Just wanted to let you know saying that.

Mr. Brown: Thank you, sir.

Mr. Mayor: All right, my point of personal privilege is that starting tomorrow, May 1, is Mental Health Awareness Month and with us today we have some mental health professionals that are sitting on the front row. You probably see the green ribbon. They are with the Mental Health America Augusta Chapter so we thank you for being here. A lot of people don't realize how important having a health mind is and having a healthy state of mind so we appreciate your work throughout the community and with your organization across this country we just wanted to recognize you so thank you for being here and thank you for all that you do. Thank you so much.

Mr. Garrett: As Chairman of Serenity Mental Health, I want to thank you guys as well for the work that you do and I know that your work often goes unthanked but we're here to say thank you very much.

Mr. Mayor: All right with that said we're going to turn it over to the committee chairman.

[MEETING ADJOURNED]

Lena J. Bonner
Clerk of Commission

CERTIFICATION:

I, Lena J. Bonner, Clerk of Commission, hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Called Meeting of the Augusta Richmond County Commission held on April 30, 2024.

Clerk of Commission