



COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Commission Chamber

Tuesday, October 15, 2024

2:00 PM

PRESENT

Mayor Garnett Johnson
Commissioner Brandon Garrett
Commissioner Jordan Johnson
Commissioner Bobby Williams
Commissioner Sean Frantom
Commissioner Francine Scott
Commissioner Catherine Smith-McKnight
Commissioner Stacy Pulliam
Commissioner Tony Lewis
Commissioner Wayne Guilfoyle

ABSENT

Commissioner Alvin Mason

INVOCATION

Reverend Bruce Bias, Sr., Senior Pastor, Good Samaritan Baptist Church

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

RECOGNITION(S)

A. Congratulations! 2024 September Years of Service (YOS) 25–50-year recipients.

Presentations were made to the 2024 September Years of Service recipients.

DELEGATION(S)

B. Ms. Naomi A. Goolsby regarding, 902 James Brown; Veterans Cemetery; Mayor's daily budget; City Administrator and Sunday Liquor Sales. **(Deferred from September 30, 2024 Commission Meeting)**

Presentation made by Ms. Goolsby.

CONSENT AGENDA

(Items 1-12)

PUBLIC SERVICES

3. Motion to approve **A.N. 24-44 – Existing Location, New Ownership: Consumption on Premises Liquor, Beer and Wine with Sunday Sales and Dance, Rudolph Gosyne** applicant, located at 15 Eighth Street. **District 1, Super District 9. (Deferred from the September 30, 2024 Commission Meeting) (Approved by Public Services Committee October 8, 2024)**

Motion to approve.

Motion made by Frantom and Seconded by McKnight

Voting Yea: Johnson, Garrett, Johnson, Williams, Frantom, Scott, Smith-McKnight, Pulliam, Lewis, Guilfoyle

Motions carries 10-0

4. Motion to approve **A.N. 24-45 - New Location: Requesting Retail Package Beer and Wine, Vishal Doshi Applicant for Fortune Lottery** located at 2901 Mike Padgett Highway. **District 6, Super District 10 (Deferred from September 30, 2024 Commission Meeting) (Approved by Public Services Committee October 8, 2024)**

Motion to approve.

Motion made by Frantom and Seconded by McKnight

Voting Yea: Johnson, Garrett, Johnson, Williams, Frantom, Scott, Smith-McKnight, Pulliam, Lewis, Guilfoyle

Motions carries 10-0

5. Motion to approve **A.N. 24-46 - New Location: Requesting Retail Package Beer and Wine, Karthik Allati** applicant - D/B/A Lotto Market located at 2762 Tobacco Road. **District 4, Super District 9 (Approved by Public Services Committee October 8, 2024)**

Motion to approve.

Motion made by Frantom and Seconded by McKnight

Voting Yea: Johnson, Garrett, Johnson, Williams, Frantom, Scott, Smith-McKnight, Pulliam, Lewis, Guilfoyle

Motions carries 10-0

6. Motion to approve **A.N. 24-47 – Existing Location, New Ownership: Requesting Retail Package for Beer and Wine, Vijeshkumar Patel** Applicant for **Keshav 3341, LLC D/B/A Super Express #5.** located at 3341 Deans Bridge Road. **District 5, Super District 9 (Deferred from September 30, 2024 Commission Meeting) (Approved by Public Services Committee October 8, 2024)**

Motion to approve.

Motion made by Frantom and Seconded by McKnight

Voting Yea: Johnson, Garrett, Johnson, Williams, Frantom, Scott, Smith-McKnight, Pulliam, Lewis, Guilfoyle

Motions carries 10-0

7. Motion to approve **A.N. 24-41 – Existing Location, New Ownership: Retail Package for Beer and Wine, Sarita Gammage** Applicant for **Prabish Foodmart1, Inc. DBA Prabish Food Mart** located at 1675 Olive Road. **District 1, Super District 9 (Approved by Public Services Committee October 8, 2024)**

8. Motion to **approve** the plaque design for the Henry H. Brigham Community Center adding former Commissioner John Clarke name and deleting Mayor **Pro Tem** and adding **Commissioner** for Brandon Garrett, (**Approved by Public Services Committee October 8, 2024**)

Motion to approve.

Motion made by Frantom and Seconded by McKnight

Voting Yea: Johnson, Garrett, Johnson, Williams, Frantom, Scott, Smith-McKnight, Pulliam, Lewis, Guilfoyle

Motions carries 10-0

9. Motion to **approve** instructing the Planning and Development Department to review and offer amendments to the Historic Preservation Ordinance, Bylaws and Guidelines as it pertains to appeals within thirty (30) days and to consult with other Historic Preservation Commission's in the state pertaining to their operations for comparison. (**Approved by Public Services Committee October 8, 2024**)

Motion to refer to the Public services Committee.

Motion made by Williams, Seconded by Lewis

No action was taken on this motion due to the passage of the substitute motion

Substitute motion to approve with the inclusion of the Historic Preservation Commission and Historic Augusta.

Motion made by Sean Frantom, Seconded by Brandon Garrett

Voting Yea: Johnson Garrett, Johnson, Williams, Frantom, Scott, Smith-McKnight, Pulliam, Lewis, Guilfoyle

Motions carries 10-0

10. Motion to refer to the Administrator for review and report back in three/four weeks recommendations on Plan Review Readers for the Augusta Planning Department. (**Approved by Public Services Committee October 8, 2024**)

Motion to approve.

Motion made by Frantom and Seconded by McKnight

Voting Yea: Johnson, Garrett, Johnson, Williams, Frantom, Scott, Smith-McKnight, Pulliam, Lewis, Guilfoyle

Motions carries 10-0

FINANCE

11. Motion to refer the Public Defender Salary Proposal to the upcoming budget hearing. (**Approved by Finance Committee October 8, 2024**)

Motion to approve.

Motion made by Frantom and Seconded by McKnight

Voting Yea: Johnson, Garrett, Johnson, Williams, Frantom, Scott, Smith-McKnight, Pulliam, Lewis, Guilfoyle

Motions carries 10-0

12. Motion to **update** authorized staff as signatories for bank accounts. (**Approved by Finance Committee October 8, 2024**)

Motion to approve.

Motion made by Frantom and Seconded by McKnight

Voting Yea: Johnson, Garrett, Johnson, Williams, Frantom, Scott, Smith-McKnight, Pulliam, Lewis, Guilfoyle

Motions carries 10-0

APPOINTMENT(S)

13. Motion to **approve** the appointment of **Mr. John Clarke** to Historic Preservation Commission representing District 8. (**Requested by Mayor Pro Tem Brandon Garrett**)

Motion to approve.

Motion made by Frantom and Seconded by McKnight

Voting Yea: Johnson, Garrett, Johnson, Williams, Frantom, Scott, Smith-McKnight, Pulliam, Lewis, Guilfoyle

Motions carries 10-0

PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

14. Motion to **approve** the regular (virtual) meeting minutes of the Commission held on Monday, September 30, 2024.

Motion to approve.

Motion made by Frantom and Seconded by McKnight

Voting Yea: Johnson, Garrett, Johnson, Williams, Frantom, Scott, Smith-McKnight, Pulliam, Lewis, Guilfoyle

Motion carries 10-0

15. Motion to **accept** Department of Justice (DOJ) grant award for Richmond County Treatment Court Substance Abuse Driving Under the Influence Treatment Program in the amount of \$750,000.00 from the Bureau of Justice Assistance FY2024 Adult Treatment Court Program.

Motion to approve.

Motion made by Frantom and Seconded by McKnight

Voting Yea: Johnson, Garrett, Johnson, Williams, Frantom, Scott, Smith-McKnight, Pulliam, Lewis, Guilfoyle

Motions carries 10-0

ADDENDUM ITEMS:

Unanimous consent is given to add following items to the Consent Agenda:

- 16. Approve** the allocation of **\$2,500,000** dollars from General Fund Balance to Fund 220 to provide for ancillary costs due to Hurricane Helene. (**Requested by Administrator Allen**)

Motion to approve.

Motion made by Frantom and Seconded by McKnight

Voting Yea: Johnson, Garrett, Johnson, Williams, Frantom, Scott, Smith-McKnight, Pulliam, Lewis, Guilfoyle

Motions carries 10-0

- 17. Motion to approve** for the emergency protective measures Hurricane Helene debris removal response contract services (13 firms) & coordination support (one firm) to include any associated funding using General Fund balance not to exceed **\$3,100,000. (Requested by Administrator Allen)**

Motion to approve.

Motion made by Frantom and Seconded by McKnight

Voting Yea: Johnson, Garrett, Johnson, Williams, Frantom, Scott, Smith-McKnight, Pulliam, Lewis, Guilfoyle

Motions carries 10-0

- 18. Motion to approve** the **payment** of essential employees as defined in the “Augusta Inclement Weather/Emergency Condition Administrative Rule” effective date January 19, 2011, for employees that worked during the emergency period of September 28, 2024, through October 7, 2024. **(Requested by Administrator Allen)**

Motion to approve.

Motion made by Frantom and Seconded by McKnight

Voting Yea: Johnson, Garrett, Johnson, Williams, Frantom, Scott, Smith-McKnight, Pulliam, Lewis, Guilfoyle

Motions carries 10-0

- 19. Motion to approve** the Intergovernmental Agreement between Augusta, GA and City of Blythe, GA for Debris Removal. **(Requested by Administrator Allen)**

Motion to approve.

Motion made by Frantom and Seconded by McKnight

Voting Yea: Johnson, Garrett, Johnson, Williams, Frantom, Scott, Smith-McKnight, Pulliam, Lewis, Guilfoyle

Motion carries 10-0

******END CONSENT AGENDA******
AUGUSTA COMMISSION

**AUGUSTA COMMISSION
REGULAR AGENDA
(Items 20-23)**

LEGAL MEETING

A. Pending and Potential Litigation

B. Real Estate

C. Personnel

Mr. Plunkett: we would request a motion to go into an executive session for the discussion of pending and potential litigation, real estate and personnel.

Motion made by Frantom and Seconded by McKnight: So move

Ms. McKnight: Second

Mr. Mayor: That's a proper motion and a second. Madam Clerk, we're voting.

Voting Yea: Johnson, Garrett, Johnson, Williams, Frantom, Scott, Smith-McKnight, Pulliam, Lewis, Guilfoyle

Motions carries 10-0

(EXECUTIVE SESSION)

Mr. Mayor: Madam Clerk, I call this meeting back to order.

20. Attorney Plunkett, we request a motion to authorize execution by the Mayor of the affidavit of compliance with Georgia's Open Meeting Act.

Motion to approve.

Motion made by Frantom and Seconded by McKnight

Voting Yea: Johnson, J. Johnson, Frantom, Scott, Smith-McKnight, Pulliam, Lewis, Guilfoyle

Out: B. Williams, Brandon Garrett

Motion carries 8-0

21. Motion to **approve** the Employment Agreement for **Tameka Allen** as City Administrator an annual salary of \$230,000 with a car allowance of \$7,200 a year, deferred compensation, and such other benefits consistent with the position of administrator.

Motion to approve.

Motion made by McKnight and Seconded by Frantom

Voting Yea: Johnson, J. Johnson, Frantom, Scott, Smith-McKnight, Pulliam, Lewis, Guilfoyle

Out: B. Williams, B. Garrett

Motion carries 8-0

22. Motion to **approve** a severance and release agreement with **Donna Williams** with six months salary continuation and credit for 10 years of service for retirement purposes and to authorize the mayor to execute such agreement on behalf of Augusta.

Motion to approve.

Motion made by Frantom and Seconded by McKnight

Voting Yea: Johnson, J. Johnson, Frantom, Scott, Smith-McKnight, Pulliam, Lewis, Guilfoyle

Out: B. Williams, B. Garrett

Motion carries 8-0

23. Motion to **approve** a severance and release agreement with **Geri Sams** with six months salary continuation and credit for 10 years of service for retirement purposes and to authorize the mayor to execute such agreement on behalf of Augusta.

Motion to approve.

Motion made by McKnight and Seconded by Frantom

Voting Yea: Johnson, J. Johnson, Frantom, Scott, Smith-McKnight, Pulliam, Lewis, Guilfoyle

Out: B. Williams, B. Garrett

Motion carries 8-0

MEETING ADJOURNED

October 15, 2024