



## COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Commission Chamber

Tuesday, August 20, 2024

2:00 PM

### PRESENT

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

### ABSENT

Commissioner Jordan Johnson  
Commissioner Bobby Williams  
Commissioner Alvin Mason

### INVOCATION

Pastor Wesley Weatherford, Lead Pastor, Oasis Church

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

### RECOGNITION(S)

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

Presentations are made to the July 2024 Years of Service Recipients.

### DELEGATION(S)

**B. Mr. Rahman Bowick** regarding salaries and funding for Assistant Public Defenders and Client Services Advocates.

Presentation is made by Mr. Bowick.

**C. Ms. Naomi A. Goolsby** regarding neighborhood new buildings.

Ms. Goolsby requested that she be deleted from the Commission meeting agenda

**D. Mr. Al M. Gray** relative to "Patrick Henry's Augusta Warning".

Presentation is made by Mr. Gray.

**E. Mr. Brad E. Owens** Arts in the Heart Festival fees and local participation.

Presentation is made by Mr. Owens.

- F. **Ms. Tarika Holland** on behalf of Rene Gordon -Manuscript, Music, & Mainstage, LLC request for funding.

Presentation is made by Ms. Holland.

## CONSENT AGENDA

*(Items 1-19)*

### PLANNING

1. **Z-24-27** – A request for concurrence with the Augusta Planning Commission to **APPROVE** a petition by Whyte David Holdings, LLC, on behalf of Clear Sky Richmond LLC, requesting a **rezoning** from **zone A (Agricultural) to zone LI (Light Industrial)** affecting properties containing approximately 7.42 acres located at 3928 Buck Road. Tax Map #029-0-014-00-0.

Motion to approve.

Motion made by Frantom, Seconded by Smith-McKnight.

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

Motion carries 8-0.

2. **Z-24-28** – A request for concurrence with the Augusta Planning Commission to **APPROVE** a petition by Allen Grinalds on behalf of ACP Services LLC, requesting a **rezoning** from **zone B-1 (Neighborhood Business) and B-2 (General Business) to zone B-2 (General Business)** affecting property containing approximately 1.96 acres located at **1369 Fifteenth Street**. Tax Map #045-4-162-00-0.

Motion to refer this item back to the Planning Commission.

Motion made by Frantom, Seconded by Smith-McKnight.

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

Motion carries 8-0.

### ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

3. Motion to **approve** proceeding with the conceptual design costs for the electrical work for the 5th Street Marina with Johnson Laschober & Associates, P.C. (**Approved by Administrative Services Committee August 13, 2024**)

Motion to approve.

Motion made by Frantom, Seconded by Smith-McKnight.

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

Motion carries 8-0.

4. Motion to **approve** submission of the Healthy Production Grant and authority for the Mayor, as Augusta, Georgia's Certifying Official, to execute the documents. (**Approved by Administrative Services Committee August 13, 2024**)

Motion to approve.

Motion made by Frantom, Seconded by Smith-McKnight.

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

Motion carries 8-0.

5. Motion to **approve** Marquis de La Fayette Historical Marker on Municipal Grounds. **(Approved by Administrative Services Committee August 13, 2024)**

Motion to approve.

Motion made by Frantom, Seconded by Smith-McKnight.

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

Motion carries 8-0.

6. Motion to **approve** authorizing the Human Resources Department and the Administrator to meet and bring back a succession plan. **(Approved by Administrative Services Committee August 13, 2024)**

Motion to approve.

Motion made by Frantom, Seconded by Smith-McKnight.

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

Motion carries 8-0.

## **ENGINEERING SERVICES**

7. Motion to **approve** Change Order #1 for additional funding for additional construction services to the rehabilitation of Filter #4 at the Hicks Water Treatment Plant (PO No. 24AUA024). **(Approved by Augusta Commission February 6, 2024) (Approved by Engineering Services Committee August 13, 2024)**

Motion to approve.

Motion made by Frantom, Seconded by Smith-McKnight.

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

Motion carries 8-0.

8. Motion to **approve** Change order #1 request to approve funding for additional services to the Grant Writing Services targeted at water and wastewater (PO No. 23AUA153). **(Approved by Augusta Commission May 2, 2023) Approved by Engineering Services Committee August 13, 2024)**

Motion to approve.

Motion made by Frantom, Seconded by Smith-McKnight.

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

Motion carries 8-0.

9. Motion to **approve** Engineering Services Contract with Cranston LLC to provide services related to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) license for the Augusta Canal in the amount of \$384,610. **(Approved by Engineering Services Committee August 13, 2024)**

Motion to approve.

Motion made by Frantom, Seconded by Smith-McKnight.

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

Motion carries 8-0.

10. Motion to **approve** the installation of six (6) speed humps along Tate Road between Bellemeade Drive and Gibson Drive per adopted Augusta speed hump policy. Approve construction funds in the amount of \$27,000. AE (**Approved by Engineering Services Committee August 13, 2024**)

Motion to approve.

Motion made by Frantom, Seconded by Smith-McKnight.

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

Motion carries 8-0.

11. Motion to **approve** the installation of four (4) speed humps along London Blvd between Dublin Drive and Barton Chapel Road per adopted Augusta speed hump policy. Approve construction funds in the amount of \$18,000. AE (**Approved by Engineering Services Committee August 13, 2024**)

Motion to approve.

Motion made by Frantom, Seconded by Smith-McKnight.

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

Motion carries 8-0.

12. Motion to **approve** and award “Augusta Streetlight/Outdoor Lighting Assessment and Upgrade Need” contract to Georgia Power. Also approved funding not to exceed a total of \$550,000 for completing Phase 1 Services (Augusta Owned Steetlighting Audit). Phase 1 services fee is \$90 per streetlight assembly. AE/RFQ #23-241 (**Approved by Engineering Services Committee August 13, 2024**)

Motion to approve.

Motion made by Frantom, Seconded by Smith-McKnight.

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

Motion carries 8-0.

13. Motion to **approve** SA #2 Environmental Initial Phase Task Order (TO3) funding for Design, Permitting and Construction Engineering Services Contract to Johnson, Laschober & Associates, PC. (JLA) in the amount of \$118,130 for Rocky Creek Improvements. 23LFL222 / 19-152 (**Approved by Engineering Services Committee August 13, 2024**)

Motion to approve.

Motion made by Frantom, Seconded by Smith-McKnight.

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

Motion carries 8-0.

14. Motion to **approve** and award Preliminary Engineering Concept Phase (design phase1) of the Design Consultant Services Agreement to Cranston LLC (Cranston) in the amount of \$39,874.41 for the Jones Street Roadway & Alley Improvements Project. Award is contingent upon receipt of signed agreement. AE/ RFQ 24-162 (**Approved by Engineering Services Committee August 13, 2024**)

Motion to approve.

Motion made by Frantom, Seconded by Smith-McKnight.

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

Motion carries 8-0.

15. Motion to **approve** the sole source purchase from Peek Paving for thermoplastic restriping of Tobacco Rd between Deans Bridge Rd and Doug Bernard Pkwy and Plantation Rd between Peach Orchard Rd and Windsor Springs Rd. Also, Approve funds in the amount of \$180,850.00. AE (**Approved by Engineering Services Committee August 13, 2024**)

Motion to approve.

Motion made by Frantom, Seconded by Smith-McKnight.

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

Motion carries 8-0.

## FINANCE

16. Motion to **approve** resolution authorizing proceeding with the issuance by Augusta Georgia of its water and sewerage revenue bonds in order refund outstanding debt (Water and Sewer bonds, Series 2012 and 2014) of Augusta, Georgia relating to the water and sewerage system. (**Approved by Finance Committee August 13, 2024**)

Motion to approve.

Motion made by Frantom, Seconded by Smith-McKnight.

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

Motion carries 8-0.

17. Motion to **approve** scheduling a worksession with The Augusta Commission and the Local Legislative Delegation to discuss the Hotel Motel Tax. (**Approved by Finance Committee August 13, 2024**)

Motion to approve.

Motion made by Frantom, Seconded by Smith-McKnight.

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

Motion carries 8-0.

18. Motion to **approve** referring this matter (**of reimbursing the Mayor for his expenditures and to require the Mayor to use a city-issued credit card with a \$15,000 credit limit (Requested by Commissioner Wayne Guilfoyle)**) to the next Finance Committee meeting and tasking the Administrator, the Finance Director, the Procurement Director, a representative from the Law Department if necessary and a representative from the Mayor's Office to meet and come back with a resolution of the matter. (**Approved by Finance Committee August 13, 2024**)

See action taken under Item #25.

## PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

19. Motion to **approve** the minutes of the **August 6, 2024** regular meeting and Special Called Meeting held **August 13, 2024** of the Augusta Commission.

Motion to approve.

Motion made by Frantom, Seconded by Smith-McKnight.

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

Motion carries 8-0.

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

**AUGUSTA COMMISSION  
REGULAR AGENDA**

(Items 20-36)

**PUBLIC SERVICES**

- 20. A.N. 24-37 - New Location: Consumption on Premises Liquor, Beer and Wine with Sunday Sales, Renatta Early** Applicant located at 1370 Gordon Highway. District 1, Super District 9. **(Lack committee meeting quorum August 13, 2024)**

Motion to approve.

Motion made by Frantom, Seconded by Garrett.

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

Motion carries 8-0.

- 21. A.N. 24-38 – Existing Location, New Ownership: Retail Package Beer and Wine, Deep Patel** applicant, located at 1502 Central Avenue. District 1, Super District 9. **(Lack committee quorum August 13, 2024)**

Motion to approve.

Motion made by Frantom, Seconded by Pulliam.

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

Motion carries 8-0.

- 22. Motion to approve** Change Order #2 to the construction contract with R.W. Allen Construction, LLC in the amount of a \$48,000.00. Approved by the Augusta Aviation Commission on July 25, 2024. **(Lack committee quorum August 13, 2024)**

Motion to approve.

Motion made by Frantom, Seconded by Smith-McKnight.

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

Motion carries 8-0.

- 23. Motion to approve** directing the Planning and Development Department to provide data regarding alcohol licenses for off-premise consumption, specifically for package shops and liquor stores and to research the separation/distance requirements for off-premise alcohol consumption businesses. **(Requested by Commissioner Stacy Pulliam) (Lack committee quorum August 13, 2024)**

Motion to approve.

Motion made by Frantom, Seconded by Smith-McKnight.

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

Motion carries 8-0.

24. Consider a request by Ms. Bridget R. Lynch for a waiver of the fee for the use of the Augusta Commons for a fundraising event for The Fatty Marsha Foundation (501C3). **(Lack committee quorum August 13, 2024)**

Motion to approve.

Motion made by Frantom, Seconded by Smith-McKnight.

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

Motion carries 8-0.

## **FINANCE**

25. Motion to **reimburse** the Mayor for expenditures that was incurred on behalf of Augusta Richmond County. **(Requested by Commissioner Wayne Guilfoyle)**

Motion to approve.

Motion made by Guilfoyle, Seconded by Smith-McKnight.

Voting Aye: Frantom, Garrett, G. Johnson, Guilfoyle, Smith-McKnight

Voting Nay: Pulliam, Lewis, Scott

Motion fails 5-3.

Substitute motion to approve following the course of action in Item #18.

Motion made by Lewis, Seconded by Scott.

Voting Aye: Pulliam, Lewis, Scott

Voting Nay: Smith-McKnight, Frantom, Garrett, Guilfoyle, G. Johnson

Motion fails 3-5.

## **PUBLIC SAFETY**

26. Motion to **award** RFP 24-191 Janitorial Service for Augusta Fire Department Administration Building to Immaculate Facilities Group, LLC and authorize the mayor to sign all appropriate documentation. The contract is for a two (2) year award with an option to extend for three (3) additional one (1) year terms. **(Lacked committee quorum August 13, 2024)**

Motion to approve.

Motion made by Frantom, Seconded by Smith-McKnight.

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

Motion carries 8-0.

27. Motion to approve a **\$18,790** increase to the \$40,000 Delinquency Prevention Grant previously awarded to the Juvenile Court for FY24. **(Lacked committee quorum August 13, 2024)**

Motion to approve.

Motion made by Frantom, Seconded by Smith-McKnight.

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

Motion carries 8-0.

28. Motion to approve award of a Professional Services Agreement for Next Generation 9-1-1 Geographic Information System support under RFP #24-167 to Mission Critical Partners, LLC, in the amount of \$104,480.00 and approve transfer from E911 fund balance to the 2024 E911 operating budget in the amount of \$24,480.00 for the project. **(Lacked committee quorum August 13, 2024)**

Motion to approve.

Motion made by Frantom, Seconded by Smith-McKnight.

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

Motion carries 8-0.

29. Motion to **approve** the Mutual Aid Agreement between Augusta, Georgia and Harlem, Georgia and to authorize the mayor to execute the appropriate documents. **(Lacked committee quorum August 13, 2024)**

Motion to approve.

Motion made by Frantom, Seconded by Smith-McKnight.

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

Motion carries 8-0.

30. Motion to **approve** purchase of new screening equipment under the previously approved OPB Grant Program by Rohde Schwarz in the amount of \$525,715. **(Lacked committee quorum August 13, 2024)**

Motion to approve.

Motion made by Frantom, Seconded by Smith-McKnight.

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

Motion carries 8-0.

31. Motion to **approve** security upgrades under the previously approved OPB grant by A3 Communications in the amount of \$61,383.75 **(Lacked committee quorum August 13, 2024)**

Motion to approve.

Motion made by Frantom, Seconded by Smith-McKnight.

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

Motion carries 8-0.

32. Task the Administrator/staff with preparing a report going back for a five-year period to the present with information regarding how many animal adoptions have occurred, how many spay/neuter procedures have been performed and how many animals have been euthanized. **(Requested by Commissioner Wayne Guilfoyle) (Lacked committee quorum August 13, 2024)**

It was the consensus of the Commission that this item be received as information without objection.

33. Motion to **approve** a \$5,000 Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention Mini Grant to the Juvenile Court. **(Lacked committee quorum August 13, 2024)**

Motion to approve.



Motion made by Frantom, Seconded by Smith-McKnight.

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

Motion carries 8-0.

34. **Approve** contract renewal with AT&T to provide upgraded flexibility, increased speed and reduce operating costs. **(Lacked committee quorum August 13, 2024)**

Motion to approve.

Motion made by Frantom, Seconded by Smith-McKnight.

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

Motion carries 8-0.

### **ADMINISTRATOR**

35. Motion to **approve** the proposed 2024 millage rate.

Motion to approve the full roll back rate.

Motion made by Frantom, Seconded by Smith-McKnight.

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

Voting Nay: Pulliam, Lewis

Motion carries 6-2.

### **LEGAL MEETING**

A. Pending and Potential Litigation

B. Real Estate

C. Personnel

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

### **ADDENDUM ITEM**

1. Motion to adopt the restated Adoption Agreement, General Addendum and Service Credit Purchase Addendum. GMEBS has recently received a favorable determination letter from the IRS for the Defined Benefit Retirement Plan. (Donna Williams, Finance Director, Zenna McClain-Haymon, Senior Staff Attorney)

It was the consensus of the Commission that this item be added to the agenda without objection.

Motion to approve and to waive the second reading.

Motion made by Frantom, Seconded by Smith-McKnight.

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

Motion carries 8-0.

