

CALLED MEETING

COMMISSION CHAMBER  
August 29, 2023

Augusta Richmond County Commission convened at 11:00 a.m., Tuesday, August 29, 2023, 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. Mayor: Ladies and gentlemen, I appreciate your patience. Madam Clerk, I call this meeting to order. I understand there's one item we want to address before we go to legal and that's item #3. Madam Clerk, if you don't mind for the record read that in.

**3. Motion to adopt 2023 mill rates and resolution for each taxing district at the computed proposed full rollback rate. (Approved by the Commission August 1, 2023)**

**Mr. Frantom: Motion to approve.**

Ms. McKnight: Second.

Mr. Mayor: Madam Clerk, I have a motion and a second. Seeing no further discussion, we're voting.

**Mr. Garrett and Mr. Lewis out.**  
**Motion carries 7-0.**

Mr. Mayor: Thank you, Madam Clerk. Attorney Mack.

**1. LEGAL MEETING**  
**A. Pending and potential litigation**  
**B. Real estate**  
**C. Personnel**

**Ms. Rachel Mack: Good morning, Mayor and Commissioners. I would recommend a motion to go into executive session to discuss pending and potential litigation, real estate and cyber security.**

**Ms. McKnight: I so move.**

Mr. Johnson: Second.

Mr. Mayor: All right, we have a motion and second. Madam Clerk, voting.

**Mr. Garrett and Mr. Lewis out.**

**Motion carries 7-0.**

Mr. Mayor: Thank you, Madam Clerk. We're now in legal.

[EXECUTIVE SESSION]

Mr. Mayor: All right, ladies and gentlemen, I appreciate your patience. Madam Clerk, call this meeting back to order. Attorney Brown.

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

**Mr. Brown: Thank you, sir. Mayor Davis (sic), Commission, we would ask for a motion to execute the closed meeting affidavit.**

**Mr. Frantom: So moved.**

Mr. Johnson: Second.

Mr. Mayor: There's a motion and a second. Seeing no further discussions, we're voting.

**Mr. Garrett not voting.**

**Motion carries 8-0.**

Mr. Mayor: Thank you, Madam Clerk. Attorney Brown, are there any motions as a result of our closed executive session?

Mr. Brown: Yes, there are, Mayor Johnson.

**The Clerk: A Resolution authorizing the settlement of all claims by Timothy Fulton, claimant, in the aggregate sum of \$30,000 for the purpose of settling litigation matters.**

Mr. Mayor: Thank you, Madam Clerk. Is there a motion to approve this?

**Mr. Frantom: So moved.**

Mr. Johnson: Second.

Mr. Mayor: Madam Clerk, we have a motion and a second. Voting.

**Mr. Garrett votes No.**

**Motion carries 8-1.**

Mr. Johnson: Thank you so much, Madam Clerk. Attorney Brown.

**The Clerk: Our next Resolution is a resolution authorizing the settlement of all claims by Brittany Irvin, guardian and conservator of Bailee Imani Curtis and Paytin Dantrell, Shante Germany in the aggregate sum of \$500,000.**

Mr. Mayor: All right, colleagues, is there a motion to approve, please?

**Mr. Johnson: So moved.**

Mr. Frantom: Second.

Mr. Mayor: All right, Madam Clerk, I have a motion and a second. We're voting.

**Motion carries 9-0.**

Mr. Mayor: Thank you, Madam Clerk. Let's continue.

**The Clerk: Our next item is a Resolution authorizing the settlement of all claims by Kathey Sheppard in the aggregate sum of \$75,000.**

Mr. Mayor: Colleagues, is there a motion to approve, please?

**Mr. Guilfoyle: So move.**

Mr. Frantom: Second.

Mr. Mayor: Madam Clerk, I have a motion and a second. We're voting.

**Motion carries 9-0.**

Mr. Mayor: All right, Madam Clerk, are there any more?

**The Clerk: The last one is a Resolution authorizing the settlement of claims by Ollie Jones in the amount up to \$600,000 payable to Ollie Jones and Reevis Law Firm LLC.**

Mr. Mayor: Thank you, Madam Clerk. Is there a motion?

**Mr. Johnson: So move.**

Mr. Frantom: Second.

Mr. Mayor: We'll receive the motion from the commissioner from the 1<sup>st</sup> and a second. Voting.

**Motion carries 9-0.**

Mr. Mayor: Thank you, Madam Clerk. Attorney Brown.

Mr. Brown: Do you have any more?

The Clerk: No.

**Mr. Brown: Okay, we request a motion to approve the cyber incident closeout response and to authorize the Mayor to execute the necessary documents required for such closeout.**

**Mr. Frantom: So moved.**

Ms. Scott: Second.

Mr. Mayor: Thank you, Attorney Brown. I have a motion and a second. No further discussion, we're voting.

**Motion carries 9-0.**

Mr. Mayor: Attorney Brown.

**Mr. Brown: We would request a motion to transfer 2502 Allen Street, Augusta, Georgia, to the Land Bank.**

**Mr. Johnson: So move.**

Mr. Frantom: Second.

Mr. Mayor: All right, there was a motion and a second. We're voting.

**Motion carries 9-0.**

Mr. Mayor: Thank you. Attorney Brown, if there are no further motions, I hereby adjourn this meeting.

Mr. Brown: No further motions, sir.

Mr. Mayor: Thank you so much. I'm prepared to sign the closed meeting affidavit. This meeting is hereby turned over to the committees.

[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 August 29, 2023.

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Clerk of Commission

