



AUGUSTA COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Commission Chamber
Tuesday, March 18, 2025
2:00 PM

PRESENT:

Mayor Johnson
Mayor Pro Tem Guilfoyle
Commissioner J. Johnson
Commissioner Stacy Pulliam
Commissioner Rice
Commissioner Clark
Commissioner Lewis
Commissioner Slendak
Commissioner Garrett
Commissioner Scott

ABSENT:

Commissioner Mason

INVOCATION

Reverend Kimberly E. Dunn, Associate Rector, Saint Paul's Church

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

RECOGNITION(S)

A. Congratulations! 2025 February Years of Service (YOS) 25–50-year recipients.

Presentations made.

B. Congratulations! George P. Butler Bulldogs on your 2024-2025 Georgia State High School State Champions. **(Requested by Commissioner Tony Lewis)**

Presentations made

DELEGATION(S)

C. Mr. Moses Todd from I Love Augusta Inc. discuss Charter Review Committee/charter review.

Mr. Todd addressed the Commission as stated.

CONSENT AGENDA

(Items 1-27)

PLANNING

1. **Final Plat – S-960 – Brittany Oaks** – A request for concurrence with the Augusta Planning Commission to APPROVE a petition by Southern Partners, Inc. on behalf of TBR Townhomes LLC requesting final plat approval for Brittany Oaks containing 194 lots, located at 3303 Firestone Drive. Tax Map # 141-0-004-04-0. *Reviewing agency approval 01/29/2025*

Motion to approve

Motion made by Garrett and seconded by Rice

Voting Yea: Mayor Johnson, Garrett, Rice, J. Johnson, Scott, Pulliam, Lewis, Guilfoyle, Clark, Slendak

Motion carries 10-0

2. **Final Plat – S-952 – Worthington** – A request for concurrence with the Augusta Planning Commission to APPROVE a petition by Civil Engineering of Columbia on behalf of GSH Land Fund LLC requesting final plat approval for Worthington containing 85 lots, located at 2523 Tobacco Road. Tax Map # 141-0-538-05-0. *Reviewing agency approval 02/24/2025*

Motion to approve

Motion made by Garrett and seconded by Rice

Voting Yea: Mayor Johnson, Garrett, Rice, J. Johnson, Scott, Pulliam, Lewis, Guilfoyle, Clark, Slendak

Motion carries 10-0

3. **Z-25-03** – A request for concurrence with the Augusta Planning Commission to APPROVE a petition by JBC Construction on behalf of Jeb Boggus Properties LLC requesting a rezoning from zones A (Agricultural), LI (Light Industrial), and R-MH (Manufactured Home Residential) to zone R-1D (One-Family Residential) to construct a mixed-use development, affecting 34.9 acres out of a 44.99 acre tract located at 3601, 3605, 3615, 3625, and 3635 Mike Padgett Highway. Tax Map #'s 157-0-012-01-0, 157-0-012-00-0, 157-0-011-00-0, 157-0-011-01-0, & 157-0-009-00-0

Motion to approve

Motion made by Garrett and seconded by Rice

Voting Yea: Mayor Johnson, Garrett, Rice, J. Johnson, Scott, Pulliam, Lewis, Guilfoyle, Clark, Slendak

Motion carries 10-0

4. **Z-25-04** – A request for concurrence with the Augusta Planning Commission to APPROVE a petition by JBC Construction on behalf of Jeb Boggus Properties LLC requesting a rezoning from zones A (Agricultural), LI (Light Industrial), and R-MH (Manufactured Home Residential) to zone B-2 (General Business) to construct a mixed-use development, affecting 10.09 acres out of a 44.99

acre tract located at 3601, 3605, 3615, 3625, and 3635 Mike Padgett Highway. Tax Map #'s 157-0-012-01-0, 157-0-012-00-0, 157-0-011-00-0, 157-0-011-01-0, & 157-0-009-00-0.

Motion to approve

Motion made by Garrett and seconded by Rice

Voting Yea: Mayor Johnson, Garrett, Rice, J. Johnson, Scott, Pulliam, Lewis, Guilfoyle, Clark, Slendak

Motion carries 10-0

5. **Z-25-05** – A request for concurrence with the Augusta Planning Commission to APPROVE a petition by David L. Harden requesting a rezoning from zones R-1E (One-Family Residential) and B-2 (General Business) to zone B-2 (General Business) to establish a bistro, plant nursery, garden center, petting zoo, event space, and campsite, affecting properties containing approximately 5.62 acres located at 1813 and 1815 Kissingbower Road. Tax Map #'s 057-3-137-02-0 & 057-3-139-01-0.

Motion to approve

Motion made by Garrett and seconded by Rice

Voting Yea: Mayor Johnson, Garrett, Rice, J. Johnson, Scott, Pulliam, Lewis, Guilfoyle, Clark, Slendak

Motion carries 10-0

6. **Z-25-06**-A request for concurrence with the Augusta Planning Commission to APPROVE a petition by Darius Jamschidian on behalf of CSRA Economic Opportunity Authority Inc. requesting a rezoning from zone P-1 (Professional/Office) to zone R-3C (Multiple-Family Residential) to develop apartments, affecting properties containing approximately 0.16 acres, located at 343 Telfair Street. Tax Map # 047-4-068-00-0.

Motion to approve

Motion made by Garrett and seconded by Rice

Voting Yea: Mayor Johnson, Garrett, Rice, J. Johnson, Scott, Pulliam, Lewis, Guilfoyle, Clark, Slendak

Motion carries 10-0

PUBLIC SERVICES

7. **Motion to approve allowing the Administrator to meet with Dr. Lee A. Donohue, MD, FACP, District Health, Director** Georgia Department of Public Health / East Central Health District 6 regarding additional funding for the Mosquito Control program and bring back a proposal at the Commission March 18, 2025 meeting. **(Approved by Public Services Committee March 11, 2025)**

Motion to approve

Motion made by Garrett and seconded by Rice

Voting Yea: Mayor Johnson, Garrett, Rice, J. Johnson, Scott, Pulliam, Lewis, Guilfoyle, Clark, Slendak

Motion carries 10-0

- 8' Motion to **approve** the purchase of two (2) Paratransit Cutaway Vehicles from Model 1 Commercial Vehicles of College Park Georgia. **(Approved by Public Services Committee March 11, 2025)**

Motion to approve

Motion made by Garrett and seconded by Rice

Voting Yea: Mayor Johnson, Garrett, Rice, J. Johnson, Scott, Pulliam, Lewis, Guilfoyle, Clark, Slendak

Motion carries 10-0

9. Motion to **approve** A.N. 25-11 – Existing Location, New Ownership: Retail Package Beer and Wine, Prayashkumar Patel applicant for Bhalabhai, LLC DBA Joy Food Mart, 3011 Wheeler Road. District 7, Super District 10 **(Approved by Public Services Committee March 11, 2025)**

Motion to approve

Motion made by Garrett and seconded by Rice

Voting Yea: Mayor Johnson, Garrett, Rice, J. Johnson, Scott, Pulliam, Lewis, Guilfoyle, Clark, Slendak

Motion carries 10-0

10. Motion to **approve** A.N. 25-12 – Existing Location, New Ownership: Retail Package Beer and Wine, Iqbal H. Mohammed applicant for Get N Go, 2350 Windsor Spring Road, District 6, Super District 10 **(Approved by Public Services Committee March 11, 2025)**

Motion to approve

Motion made by Garrett and seconded by Rice

Voting Yea: Mayor Johnson, Garrett, Rice, J. Johnson, Scott, Pulliam, Lewis, Guilfoyle, Clark, Slendak

Motion carries 10-0

11. Motion to **approve** A.N. 25-14 – New Location: Consumption on Premises Liquor, Beer and Wine with Sunday Sales, James G. James applicant for JLK Group Holdings, located at 2163 Central Ave, District 1, Super District 9. **(Approved by Public Services Committee March 11, 2025)**

Motion to approve

Motion made by Garrett and seconded by Rice

Voting Yea: Mayor Johnson, Garrett, Rice, J. Johnson, Scott, Pulliam, Lewis, Guilfoyle, Clark, Slendak

Motion carries 10-0

12. Motion to **approve** request from **Ms. Bridget Lynch** for **The Fatty Marsha Foundation** fee waiver for venue and stage rental fees for use of the Augusta Common for Fall Wine Festival on Saturday, October 11th from 2:30pm - 7pm .(**Approved by Public Services Committee March 11, 2025**

Motion to approve

Motion made by Garrett and seconded by Rice

Voting Yea: Mayor Johnson, Garrett, Rice, J. Johnson, Scott, Pulliam, Lewis, Guilfoyle, Clark, Slendak

Motion carries 10-0

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

13. Motion to approve Recommendation of Award for RFP 24-237 Wellness Center Services. After a thorough evaluation process, the evaluation committee recommends the following awards: **CareATC**. The award recommendation is for a 3-year contract with the option to extend for two (2) additional one (1) year terms.(**Approved by Administrative Services Committee March 11, 2025**

Motion to approve

Motion made by Garrett and seconded by Rice

Voting Yea: Mayor Johnson, Garrett, Rice, J. Johnson, Scott, Pulliam, Lewis, Guilfoyle, Clark, Slendak

Motion carries 10-0

14. Motion to approve City of Augusta's recertification in the Georgia Municipal Association's City of Ethics Program. (**Approved by Administrative Services Committee March 11, 2025**

Motion to approve

Motion made by Garrett and seconded by Rice

Voting Yea: Mayor Johnson, Garrett, Rice, J. Johnson, Scott, Pulliam, Lewis, Guilfoyle, Clark, Slendak

Motion carries 10-0

ENGINEERING SERVICES

- 15. Motion to approve** the deed of dedications, maintenance agreements, and road resolutions submitted by the Engineering Department and the Augusta Utilities Department for Captains Corner, Phase 2. **(Approved by Engineering Services Committee March 11, 2025)**

Motion to approve

Motion made by Garrett and seconded by Rice

Voting Yea: Mayor Johnson, Garrett, Rice, J. Johnson, Scott, Pulliam, Lewis, Guilfoyle, Clark, Slendak

Motion carries 10-0

- 16. Motion to approve** supplement funding (supplement 4) in amount not to exceed \$15.0 million for Hurricane Helene Debris Removal services with Ceres Environmental Services, Inc. Also approve use of General Fund fund-balance to fund these services. AE/ 24-915 **(Approved by Engineering Services Committee March 11, 2025)**

Motion to approve

Motion made by Garrett and seconded by Rice

Voting Yea: Mayor Johnson, Garrett, Rice, J. Johnson, Scott, Pulliam, Lewis, Guilfoyle, Clark, Slendak

Motion carries 10-0

- 17. Motion to approve** supplement funding (supplement 5) in amount not to exceed \$3.728 million for Hurricane Helene Debris Removal Monitoring Services with Goodwyn, Mills & Cawood, Inc (GMC). Also approve use of General Fund fund-balance to fund these services. AE/ 24-916. **(Approved by Engineering Services Committee March 11, 2025)**

Motion to approve

Motion made by Garrett and seconded by Rice

Voting Yea: Mayor Johnson, Garrett, Rice, J. Johnson, Scott, Pulliam, Lewis, Guilfoyle, Clark, Slendak

Motion carries 10-0

- 18. Motion to approve** allowing W.W. Williams to provide onsite technical services for #6 and #7 Diesel Engine for the period to include the Augusta National Tournament for a fee of \$45,731.80. **(Approved by Engineering Services Committee March 11, 2025)**

Motion to approve

Motion made by Garrett and seconded by Rice

Voting Yea: Mayor Johnson, Garrett, Rice, J. Johnson, Scott, Pulliam, Lewis, Guilfoyle, Clark, Slendak

Motion carries 10-0

PUBLIC SAFETY

- 19. MOTION TO APPROVE ADDITIONAL FUNDING REQUEST IN THE AMOUNT OF \$173,258 FROM THE FY25 JUVENILE JUSTICE INCENTIVE GRANT AWARD. (Approved by Public Safety Services Committee March 11, 2025)**

Motion to approve

Motion made by Garrett and seconded by Rice

Voting Yea: Mayor Johnson, Garrett, Rice, J. Johnson, Scott, Pulliam, Lewis, Guilfoyle, Clark, Slendak

Motion carries 10-0

- 20. Motion to approve the extension of the existing 2024 MOU with Augusta University and the signing of the 2025 MOU for an internship program centered around environmental and smart city sensors and programs.(Approved by Public Safety Services Committee March 11, 2025)**

Motion to approve

Motion made by Garrett and seconded by Rice

Voting Yea: Mayor Johnson, Garrett, Rice, J. Johnson, Scott, Pulliam, Lewis, Guilfoyle, Clark, Slendak

Motion carries 10-0

- 21. Motion to approve and award the Space Planning and Programming & Schematic Design for Richmond County Jail (Charles B. Webster Detention Center) to Treanor Inc. (RFQ 24-217) (Approved by Public Safety Services Committee March 11, 2025)**

Motion to approve

Motion made by Garrett and seconded by Rice

Voting Yea: Mayor Johnson, Garrett, Rice, J. Johnson, Scott, Pulliam, Lewis, Guilfoyle, Clark, Slendak

Motion carries 10-0

- 22. Motion to approve a request by the Augusta Fire Department to use Elite Diesel of Augusta as the sole source vendor to make repairs on Aerial Truck 5 (AT-5). (Approved by Public Safety Services Committee March 11, 2025)**

Motion to approve

Motion made by Garrett and seconded by Rice

Voting Yea: Mayor Johnson, Garrett, Rice, J. Johnson, Scott, Pulliam, Lewis, Guilfoyle, Clark, Slendak

Motion carries 10-0

23. Motion to **approve** a request from Chief Probate Judge Stacy Y. Johnson to add a \$10 fee to the court filing fees for each civil action filed with the court. (**Approved by Public Safety Services Committee March 11, 2025**)

Motion to approve

Motion made by Garrett and seconded by Rice

Voting Yea: Mayor Johnson, Garrett, Rice, J. Johnson, Scott, Pulliam, Lewis, Guilfoyle, Clark, Slendak

Motion carries 10-0

APPOINTMENT(S)

24. Motion to **approve** the appointment of Ms. Dianne Sprague to the Augusta Tree Commission representing District 10. (**Requested by Mayor Pro Tem Guilfoyle**)

Motion to approve

Motion made by Garrett and seconded by Rice

Voting Yea: Mayor Johnson, Garrett, Rice, J. Johnson, Scott, Pulliam, Lewis, Guilfoyle, Clark, Slendak

Motion carries 10-0

25. Motion to **approve** appointing Mr. James Stokes to the Augusta Public Transit Advisory Board representing District 7. (**Requested by Commissioner Tina Slendak**)

Motion to approve

Motion made by Garrett and seconded by Rice

Voting Yea: Mayor Johnson, Garrett, Rice, J. Johnson, Scott, Pulliam, Lewis, Guilfoyle, Clark, Slendak

Motion carries 10-0

26. Motion to **approve** the reappointment of Mr. Ben Morgan to the Augusta Public Transit Citizens Advisory Board (**Requested by Commissioner Francine Scott**).

Motion to approve

Motion made by Garrett and seconded by Rice

Voting Yea: Mayor Johnson, Garrett, Rice, J. Johnson, Scott, Pulliam, Lewis, Guilfoyle, Clark, Slendak

Motion carries 10-0

PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

27. Motion to **approve** the minutes of the Augusta Commission meeting held March 4, 2025.

Motion to approve

Motion made by Garrett and seconded by Rice

Voting Yea: Mayor Johnson, Garrett, Rice, J. Johnson, Scott, Pulliam, Lewis, Guilfoyle, Clark, Slendak

Motion carries 10-0

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

**AUGUSTA COMMISSION
REGULAR AGENDA**

(Items 28-42)

PUBLIC SERVICES

28. **Mr. Michael E. Spindler** requesting modification to taxi meters and rates. **(No recommendation from Public Services Committee March 11, 2025.)**

Motion to adopt new proposed rates and related services and waive second reading.

Motion made by Scott and seconded by Rice

Voting Yea: Mayor Johnson, Garrett, Rice, J. Johnson, Scott, Pulliam, Lewis, Guilfoyle, Clark, Slendak

Motion carries 10-0

29. "Update - Homeless Taskforce " **(Requested by Commissioner Jordan Johnson)**

It was the consensus of the Commission to move forward to the next committee meeting without objections.

30. Establish a Study Committee to review and look into policies, procedures, and codes, as it relates to residential building. **(Requested by Commissioner Francine Scott)**

Motion to approve with Commissioner Pulliam and Mayor Pro Tem Guilfoyle serving as co-chairs.

Motion made by Scott and seconded by Rice

Voting Yea: Mayor Johnson, Garrett, Rice, J. Johnson, Scott, Pulliam, Lewis, Guilfoyle, Clark, Slendak

Motion carries 10-0

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

31. Receive as information a presentation by the Urban Land Institute Technical Assistance Panel on recommendations for property at 401 Walton Way.

Commission received as information without objection(s)

32. Update on the Marshal's Office salary increase request.

Received as information the Administrator's recommendation without objections.

ENGINEERING SERVICES

33. Motion to approve the Memorandum of Agreement between Augusta, Georgia and the City of Blythe, Georgia Regarding Removal and Disposal of Debris related to Hurricane Helene.

Motion to approve

Motion made by Scott and seconded by Rice

Voting Yea: Mayor Johnson, Garrett, Rice, J. Johnson, Scott, Pulliam, Lewis, Guilfoyle, Clark, Slendak

Motion carries 10-0

34. Augusta Corporate Park Easement Deed and Lift Station Warranty Deed.

Motion to approve

Motion made by Scott and seconded by Rice

Voting Yea: Mayor Johnson, Garrett, Rice, J. Johnson, Scott, Pulliam, Lewis, Guilfoyle, Clark, Slendak

Motion carries 10-0

FINANCE

35. Motion to approve renewal of Augusta POL/EPL Insurance with Premium Quote for 2025 – 2026 POL/EPL coverage with MarshMcLennan Agency, current broker, through insurance carrier RSUI for a premium of \$70,760 (premium remained flat).

Motion to approve

Motion made by Scott and seconded by Rice

Voting Yea: Mayor Johnson, Garrett, Rice, J. Johnson, Scott, Pulliam, Lewis, Guilfoyle, Clark, Slendak

Motion carries 10-0

36. Request to approve Augusta Commercial Property Insurance coverage for 2025 offered through Affiliated FM, current carrier, for a premium of \$1,054,424 for full blanket coverage and limited flood coverage in flood prone areas.

Motion to approve

Motion made by Scott and seconded by Rice

Voting Yea: Mayor Johnson, Garrett, Rice, J. Johnson, Scott, Pulliam, Lewis, Guilfoyle, Clark, Slendak

Motion carries 10-0

37. Adopt updated funding timeline for Coliseum Authority Debt Service.

Motion to approve

Motion made by Scott and seconded by Rice

Voting Yea: Mayor Johnson, Garrett, Rice, J. Johnson, Scott, Pulliam, Lewis, Guilfoyle, Clark, Slendak

Motion carries 10-0

PUBLIC SAFETY

38. Discussion of issues pertaining to the 911 department. **(Requested by Commissioner Wayne Guilfoyle)**

Motion to approve directing the Administrator to meet with the Sheriff's Office, 911, Emergency Management, Fire Department and Marshal's Office to discuss matters, concerning 911 response times and additional channels for the Sheriff's Office.

Motion to approve.

Motion made by J. Johnson and seconded by Scott

Voting Yea. Mayor Johnson, Johnson, Scott, Slendak, Rice, Guilfoyle, Pulliam, Lewis, Garrett, Clark

Motion carries 10-0

APPOINTMENT(S)

39. Motion to **approve** appointing Commissioner Stacy Pulliam as an ex-officio member of the Commission to the Augusta Convention and Visitors Bureau. **(Requested by Mayor Pro Tem Wayne Guilfoyle)**

Motion to approve

Motion made by Scott and seconded by Rice

Voting Yea: Mayor Johnson, Garrett, Rice, J. Johnson, Scott, Pulliam, Lewis, Guilfoyle, Clark, Slendak

Motion carries 10-0

40. Motion to **approve** the reappointment of Mr. Henry Middleton, to the Richmond county Board of Assessors **(Requested by Commissioner Francine Scott)**

Motion to approve

Motion made by Scott and seconded by Rice

Voting Yea: Mayor Johnson, Garrett, Rice, J. Johnson, Scott, Pulliam, Lewis, Guilfoyle, Clark, Slendak

Motion carries 10-0

- 41.** Motion to **consider** the recommendation of the Richmond County Board of Health to appoint Mary Ann Moores to the vacant member-at-large seat formerly held by Antonia Autry.

Motion to approve

Motion made by Scott and seconded by Rice

Voting Yea: Mayor Johnson, Garrett, Rice, J. Johnson, Scott, Pulliam, Lewis, Guilfoyle, Clark, Slendak

Motion carries 10-0

ADDENDUM AGENDA ADDITIONS RECEIVED WITHOUT OBJECTION

- 1.** Discuss Masters renters will not have all debris in Augusta picked up by Masters week. (Requested by Catherine Rice)

Received as information without objection.

- 2.** Discuss and give update on road paving on Hephzibah-McBean Rd. (Requested by Commissioner Brandon Garrett)

Received as information without objection and forward to next committee meeting.

- 3.** Provide update on recruitment status for all interim director positions: Central Services, County Attorney, IT, and Procurement. (Requested by Commissioner Brandon Garrett)

Received as information without objection.

- 4.** Reappointment of Angel Maestro – Board of Zoning Appeals and Dr. Charles Larke – Augusta Aviation Commission (Bush Field). (Requested by Commissioner Don Clark)

Motion to approve

Motion made by Scott and seconded by Rice

Voting Yea: Mayor Johnson, Garrett, Rice, J. Johnson, Scott, Pulliam, Lewis, Guilfoyle, Clark, Slendak

Motion carries 10-0

5. Approve a path forward for a local homestead exemption. **(Requested by the Administrator's Office)**

Motion to approve a resolution requesting the Augusta Delegation to sponsor a local bill setting a homestead exemption with a flat inflationary index of 3.5%.

Motion made by Guilfoyle and seconded by Rice

Voting Yea, Guilfoyle, Rice, Mayor Johnson, Garrett, Johnson, Pulliam, Lewis, Clark Scott, Slendak

Motion carries 10-0

LEGAL MEETING

A. Pending and Potential Litigation

B. Real Estate

C. Personnel

Motion to approve going into legal session to discuss pending threatened litigation, real estate and personnel matters.

Motion to approve

Motion made by Rice seconded by Garrett

Voting Yea: Mayor Johnson, Rice, Garrett, Scott, Johnson, Pulliam, Lewis, Slendak, Clark, Guilfoyle

Motion carries 10-0

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

Motion to approve

Motion made by Rice and seconded by Johnson

Voting Yea Mayor Johnson, Rice, Lewis, Slendak, Clark, Scott, Johnson

Out: Pulliam, Mason, Garrett, Guilfoyle

Motion carries 7-0

ADDITION FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION:

43. Motion to continue the Interim General Counsel arrangement until June 30, 2025.

Motion to approve

Motion made by J. Johnson and seconded by Rice

Voting Yea Mayor Johnson, Rice, Lewis, Slendak, Clark, Scott, Johnson

Motion carries 8-0 with Pulliam, Mason and Garrett out

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