Public Services Committee

Meeting Date: 11/26/2024

Motion to confirm the purchase of a sculpture from the 2023/2024 Sculpture Trail

Department:	Greater Augusta Arts Council / Recreation & Parks
Presenter:	Heather Dunaway / Denise Tucker
Caption:	Motion to confirm the purchase of a sculpture from the 2023/2024 Sculpture Trail, and to authorize the Mayor to execute all related documents.
Background:	The Greater Augusta Arts Council, as Augusta's Public Art Agency, has been tasked by the Augusta Commission to organize and host the Augusta Sculpture Trail. Entailed in the funding for each iteration of the 2-year sculpture trail is the purchase of one of the art pieces presented during the trail. The Greater Augusta Arts Council, with the Public Art Advisory Panel, has selected the most fitting piece of art for purchase on behalf of Augusta. Additional information regarding the sculpture trail and the sculptures is available online at https://augustasculpturetrail.com/.
Analysis:	Public art enhances the city's cultural appeal and provides a sense of identity, creating landmarks that attract residents and visitors alike. A well-chosen sculpture can make spaces more vibrant, fostering pride and connection in the community. Public art also encourages tourism and economic growth, with visitors spending on local businesses. Furthermore, it serves an educational purpose, sparking conversations and inspiring creativity. Investing in public art demonstrates a commitment to cultural enrichment and quality of life, helping shape a dynamic, attractive urban environment.
Financial Impact:	Funding for the purchase of the sculpture has already been made available to the Greater Augusta Arts Council.
Alternatives:	1. Move to confirm the purchase of the selected sculpture 2. Move to select a different sculpture 3. Move to no action
Recommendation:	1. Move to confirm the purchase of the selected sculpture
Funds are available in the following accounts:	N/A
REVIEWED AND APPROVED BY:	N/A