

COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Commission Chamber Tuesday, October 21, 2025 2:00 PM

INVOCATION

Bishop Dr. Gregory M. Fuller, Pastor, Macedonia Church of Augusta

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA RECOGNITION(S)

A. Congratulations!!! 2025 August & September 25-50 Years of Service Recipients and the 2025 September Employee of the Month recipient.

Recognitions presented.

DELEGATION(S)

B. Mr. Moses Todd- discuss. OCG16-10-20, OCG 16-10-1, the Georgia Constitution Article 1 Section 1 Paragraph X, and the US Constitution First Amendment Rights.

Presentation made accordingly and presented the City of Augusta a \$9,000 donation from I Love Augusta to jumpstart the project of rebuilding the wall at Magnolia Cemetery.

Motion to accept donation.

Motion made by Guilfoyle and seconded by Turnley.

Voting Yea: Guilfoyle, Turnley, Slendak, Scott, Lewis, Clark, Mayor Johnson

Motion carried 7-0 with J. Johnson, Pulliam, Lewis and Garrett out.

C. Ms. Mary Finch regarding the \$45.00 Streetlight Service Charge.

Presentation made accordingly.

D. Ms. Angela Bakos - Resolution creating the Charter Review Committee.

Presentation made accordingly.

E. Dr. Teresa Waters- Introduce Augusta University School of Public Health.

Presentation made accordingly.

F. Mr. Melvin Kelly regarding Homelessness.

Presentation made accordingly.

G. Ms. Shawn Harris -Empowering Every Learner: A strategic support Plan for families and children with special needs.

Presentation made accordingly.

- H. Ms. Monique Braswell regarding the annual "Monique Braswell Feast Before The Feast "
 Presentation made accordingly.
 - I. Mr. Ben Hasan regarding contract with University of Georgia (UGA) GA Carl Vinson Institute of Government.

Mr. Hasan did not appear.

- J. Mr. Charlie Coleman regarding the Fire Department structure and cost to community.Presentation made accordingly.
- K. Ms. Debra Estep regarding Open Records Requests- Charter Review Committee Concerns.Presentation made accordingly.

CONSENT AGENDA

(Items 1-31)

PLANNING

1. <u>Z-25-29</u>— A request for concurrence with the Augusta Planning Commission to APPROVE a petition by Purpose Holdings, LLC, on behalf of Good News Church Inc., requesting a rezoning from zones R-1 (One-Family Residential) and R-1A (One-Family Residential) to zone R-1E (One-Family Residential) to develop a single-family residential subdivision, affecting approximately 4.08 acres out of a 7.47-acre tract located at 400 Warren Road. Tax Map # 017-0-026-00-0.

Motion to approve

Motion made by Garrett and seconded by Rice

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

and J. Johnson

Voting Nay: Guilfoyle

Motion carried 10-1 with Lewis out

2. <u>Z-25-33</u>— A request for concurrence with the Augusta Planning Commission to APPROVE a petition by Gayle C. Crawford on behalf of Lawrence C. Crawford requesting a rezoning from zone B-2 (General Business) to zone R-1A (One-Family Residential) for an existing residence, affecting property containing approximately 0.5 acres located at 2721 A Peach Orchard Road. Tax Map # 098-3-240-00.

Motion to approve

Motion made by Garrett and seconded by Rice

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

Motion carried 11-0

3. <u>Z-25-34</u>— A request for concurrence with the Augusta Planning Commission to APPROVE a petition by Matt Mills on behalf of Cyber Housing, LLC, requesting a rezoning from zone R-1E (One-Family Residential) to zone PUD (Planned Unit Development) to develop a mixed residential community, affecting approximately 25.71 acres out of a 111.4-acre tract located at 2384 Gordon Highway. Tax Map # 082-0-003-00-0.

Motion to approve

Motion made by Clark and seconded by Garrett Voting Yea: Mayor Johnson, Slendak, Garrett, Scott, Clark, Pulliam, Turnley, Rice, J. Johnson and Guilfoyle

Motion carried 10-0 with Lewis out (1) objector.

Z-25-37– A request for concurrence with the Augusta Planning Commission to APPROVE a petition by Nicholas Edry requesting a rezoning from zone P-1 (Professional/Office) to zone B-1 (Neighborhood Business) to develop a rental property, affecting property containing approximately 0.21 acres located at 2054 Walton Way. Tax Map # 035-3-398-00-0

Motion to approve

Motion made by Garrett and seconded by Rice Voting Yea: Mayor Johnson, Slendak, Garrett, Lewis, Scott, Clark, Pulliam, Turnley, Rice, J. Johnson and Guilfoyle

Motion carried 11-0

5. <u>Z-25-36</u>—A request for concurrence with the Augusta Planning Commission to APPROVE a petition by Birkie Ayer on behalf of D J Davis Enterprise, LLC, requesting a rezoning from zone R-1C (One-Family Residential) to zone R-2 (Two-Family Residential) to develop a duplex, affecting properties containing approximately 0.14 acres located at 1622 and 1624 Luckey Street. Tax Map #'s 058-4-102-00-0 & 058-4-101-00-0.

Motion to approve

Motion made by Garrett and seconded by Rice Voting Yea: Mayor Johnson, Slendak, Garrett, Lewis, Scott, Clark, Pulliam, Turnley, Rice, J. Johnson and Guilfoyle

Motion carried 11-0

SE-25-11 A request for concurrence with the Augusta Planning Commission to APPROVE a petition by Dorinda Anin-Amponsah requesting a special exception per Section 26-1(h) of the Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance to establish a family personal care home with 6 clients, affecting property containing approximately 0.31 acres located at 3602 Abbey Road. Zoned R-1A (One-Family Residential). Tax Map # 095-0-115-00-0.

Motion to have the petitioner to meet with the community to see if something could be worked out and bring back to the next Commission Meeting.

Motion made by Guilfoyle and seconded by Scott Voting Yea: Guilfoyle, Scott, Rice, Slendak, Clark, Mayor Johnson, Turnley

Motion carried 7-0 with J. Johnson, Pulliam, Lewis and Garrett out.

7. <u>SE-25-12</u>– A request for concurrence with the Augusta Planning Commission to APPROVE a petition by Moses Missionary Baptist Church requesting a special exception per Section 26-1(a) of the Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance to install two monument signs and bring an existing church into zoning conformance, affecting properties containing approximately 1.43 acres located at 27, 29, 33, 112 and 120 Walker Street, 515, 516, and 611 First Street, 109 Watkins Street, and 616 Forsythe Street. Zoned R-3C (Multiple-Family Residential). Tax Map #'s 047-4-291-01-0, 047-4-290-00-0, 047-4-289-00-0, 047-4-410-00-0, 047-4-404-00-0, 047-4-280-00-0, 047-4-288-00-0, 047-4-420-00-0, 047-4-416-00-0, & 047-4-414-00-0. Zoned R-3C (Multiple-Family Residential).

Motion to approve

Motion made by Garrett and seconded by Rice Voting Yea: Mayor Johnson, Slendak, Garrett, Lewis, Scott, Clark, Pulliam, Turnley, Rice, J. Johnson and Guilfoyle

Motion carried 11-0

8. <u>SE-25-13</u>– A request for concurrence with the Augusta Planning Commission to Deny a petition by GURU NAAM, LLC, on behalf of Convenience Retailers, LLC, requesting a special exception per Section 21-2(c) of the Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance to establish a liquor store, affecting property containing approximately 1.25 acres located at 2220 Gordon Highway. Tax Map # 067-0-050-00-0. Zoned B-1 (Neighborhood Business).

Motion to defer to next meeting.

Motion made by Garrett and seconded by Rice Voting Yea: Mayor Johnson, Slendak, Garrett, Lewis, Scott, Clark, Pulliam, Turnley, Rice, J. Johnson and Guilfoyle

Motion carried 11-0

9. A request to **AMEND** Ordinance No. 7986 that was approved August 19, 2025, by the Augusta Commission for Planning & Development zoning case Z-25-30. The street name for this petition was entered incorrectly only in the Ordinance. P&D staff corrected the change to reflect the correct address.

Motion to approve.

Motion made by Garrett and seconded by Rice Voting Yea: Mayor Johnson, Slendak, Garrett, Lewis, Scott, Clark, Pulliam, Turnley, Rice, J. Johnson and Guilfovle

Motion carried 11-0

10. A request to **AMEND** Ordinance No.7980 that was approved July 22, 2025, by the Augusta Commission for Planning & Development zoning case Z-25-24. The request is to remove condition #8 from the recommendations. The Planning Commission and P&D staff are both in agreement with the removal of condition #8.

Motion to defer to next Commission Meeting

Motion made by Garrett and seconded by Rice Voting Yea: Mayor Johnson, Slendak, Garrett, Lewis, Scott, Clark, Pulliam, Turnley, Rice, J. Johnson and Guilfoyle

Motion carried 11-0

PUBLIC SERVICES

10. Motion to approve the purchase of five (5) fareboxes for Augusta Transit (AT). (Approved by Public Services Committee October 14, 2025)

Motion to approve.

Motion made by Garrett and seconded by Rice Voting Yea: Mayor Johnson, Slendak, Garrett, Lewis, Scott, Clark, Pulliam, Turnley, Rice, J. Johnson and Guilfoyle

Motion carried 11-0

11. Motion to approve the annual application to the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) for Section 5303 funds in FY 2027. (Approved by Public Services Committee October 14, 2025)

Motion to approve.

Motion made by Garrett and seconded by Rice

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

Motion carried 11-0

12. Motion to **approve** procurement of new playground equipment, including installation and shipping, for Riverwalk from Gametime through the Omnia Cooperative Purchasing Contract. (**Approved by Public Services Committee October 14, 2025**)

Motion to approve.

Motion made by Garrett and seconded by Rice

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

Motion carried 11-0

13. Augusta Regional Airport (AGS) – Motion to **approve** contract for Emerging Compounds Treatment Technologies (ECT2) for transition of ARFF Trucks in the amount of \$220,600. Approved by the Augusta Aviation Commission September 25, 2025. (**Approved by Public Services Committee October 14, 2025**)

Motion to approve.

Motion made by Garrett and seconded by Rice

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

Motion carried 11-0

14. Augusta Regional Airport (AGS) – Motion to **approve** the Airport Operations Department to purchase a 2025 Ford F150 in the amount of \$58,729.00 from Akins Ford, who holds the state contract for Ford F150s. Approved by the Augusta Aviation Commission September 25, 2025. (**Approved by Public Services Committee October 14, 2025**)

Motion to approve.

Motion made by Garrett and seconded by Rice

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

Motion carried 11-0

15. Augusta Regional Airport (AGS) – Motion to **approve** five-year agreement for X-1FBO Aviation Management Software with GMSTEK, LLC. and purchase of proprietary integrated hardware. Approved by the Augusta Aviation Commission September 25, 2025. (**Approved by Public Services Committee October 14, 2025**)

Motion to approve.

Motion made by Garrett and seconded by Rice Voting Yea: Mayor Johnson, Slendak, Garrett, Lewis, Scott, Clark, Pulliam, Turnley, Rice,

J. Johnson and Guilfoyle

Motion carried 11-0

16. Augusta Regional Airport (AGS) – Motion to approve Staff's Administrative (Payment) Process for the StandardAero Pavement Reconstruction Project. Approved by the Augusta Aviation Commission September 25, 2025. (**Approved by Public Services Committee October 14, 2025**)

Motion to approve.

Motion made by Garrett and seconded by Rice

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

Motion carried 11-0

17. Augusta Regional Airport (AGS) – Motion to approve Acceptance of Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Airport Infrastructure Grant (AIG) Grant No. 3-13-0011-061-2025 (#61) in the amount of \$1,284,475.00. This grant is for the FY2025 Design of New Taxiway Connectors & Taxiway E Hot Spot Mitigation project. Approved by the Augusta Aviation Commission September 25, 2025. (Approved by Public Services Committee October 14, 2025)

Motion to approve.

Motion made by Garrett and seconded by Rice

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

Motion carried 11-0

19. Motion to approve A.N. 25-41 – Existing Location, New Ownership: Consumption on Premises Liquor, Beer, Wine & Sunday Sales. Stephen P. Willy applicant for Affiniti Golf Partners LLC, located at 1500 Comfort Road, Augusta GA 30909. District 3, Super District 10 (Approved by Public Services Committee October 14, 2025)

Motion to approve.

Motion made by Garrett and seconded by Rice

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

Motion carried 11-0

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

20. Motion to **approve** the adoption of Augusta Tomorrow's *2035 Vision: A Blueprint for Action and Growth.* (**Approved by Administrative Public Services Committee October 14, 2025**)

Motion to approve.

Motion made by Garrett and seconded by Rice

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

Motion carried 11-0

21. Motion to approve the purchase of 11 vehicles, at a total cost of \$531,620.04 to include the total cost of vehicles at \$475,947.04 from Akins Ford Dodge and total upfitting cost of \$55,673.00 from West Warning Equipment Sales & Service, LLC for the Fire department. (Approved by Administrative Services Committee October 14, 2025)

Motion to approve.

Motion made by Garrett and seconded by Rice

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

Motion carried 11-0

22. Motion to approve the purchase of five Dodge Durango Pursuits at a total cost of \$266,552.70 from Akins Dodge Ford for the Richmond County Marshals Office. (Approved by Administrative Services Committee October 14, 2025)

Motion to approve.

Motion made by Garrett and seconded by Rice

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

Motion carried 11-0

23. Motion to approve the purchase of one toro mower at a total cost of \$103,221.91 from Jerry Pate Turf & Irrigation for the Recreation department. (Disapproved by Administrative Services Committee October 14, 2025)

Motion to approve.

Motion made by Garrett and seconded by Rice

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

Motion carried 11-0

ENGINEERING SERVICES

24. Motion to approve Contract Amendment with Itron. (Approved by Engineering Services Committee October 14, 2025)

Motion to approve.

Motion made by Garrett and seconded by Rice

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

Motion carried 11-0

25. Motion to approve the abandonment of a portion of Twiggs Street and Watkins Street within the vicinity of the New Augusta Arena between Sixth Street and Fenwick Street as shown on the attached plat, as it has ceased to be used by the public to the extent that no substantial public purpose is served by it or that its removed from the county road system is otherwise in the best public interest pursuant to O.C.G.A. 32 -7-2, with the abandoned property to be quit-claimed to the Coliseum Authority for \$1 subject to all recommendations by Engineering regarding storm water, utilities and easements. (Approved by Engineering Services Committee October 14, 2025) Motion to approve.

Motion made by Garrett and seconded by Rice

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

Motion carried 11-0

26. Motion to **approve** purchase of new bleach production cells from De Nora Texas as a sole source procurement.(**Approved by Engineering Service Committee October 14, 2025**)

Motion to approve.

Motion made by Garrett and seconded by Rice

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

Motion carried 11-0

PUBLIC SAFETY

27. Motion to **approve** accepting the FY26 Delinquency Prevention Grant award in the amount of \$42,000.(**Approved by Public Safety Committee October 14, 2025**)

Motion to approve.

Motion made by Garrett and seconded by Rice

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

Motion carried 11-0

28. Motion to accept the 2025 VOCA Grant Program Continuation award in the amount of \$100,000.(Approved by Public Safety Committee October 14, 2025)

Motion to approve.

Motion made by Garrett and seconded by Rice

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

Motion carried 11-0

29. Motion to accept the FY26 CHINS grant award in the amount of \$100,000. (Motion to approved by Public Safety Committee October 14, 2025)

Motion to approve.

Motion made by Garrett and seconded by Rice

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

Motion carried 11-0

PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

30. Motion to **approve** minutes of the Commission October 7, 2025 meeting.

Motion to approve.

Motion made by Garrett and seconded by Rice

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

Motion carried 11-0

APPOINTMENT(S)

31. Motion to **approve** the Augusta Legislative appointment of Mr. Pierce Blitch to the Richmond County Board of Assessors due to the passing of BOA Member Mr. Bryan Simkins.

Motion to approve.

Motion made by Garrett and seconded by Rice

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

Motion carried 11-0

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

AUGUSTA COMMISSION REGULAR AGENDA

(Items 32-35)

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

32. Motion to **approve** bid #25-218 for the purchase of two 2026 Animal Transport Trucks at a total cost of \$144,290 from Akins Ford for the Animal Services Department. (**No recommendation Administrative Services Committee October 14, 2025**)

Motion to forward to next meeting.

Motion made by Garrett and seconded by Rice Voting Yea: Mayor Johnson, Slendak, Garrett, Lewis, Scott, Clark, Pulliam, Turnley, Rice, J. Johnson and Guilfoyle

Motion carried 11-0

ENGINEERING SERVICES

33. Motion to approve that the portion of Dogwood Terrace Apartments, consisting of approximately 722 feet of Bolt Drive as shown on the attached plat, has ceased to be used by the public to the extent that no substantial public purpose is served, and that its removal from the county road system is otherwise in the best public interest, pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 32-7-2; further, that this action is subject to Engineering recommendations, and the Mayor is authorized to execute any necessary documents to process this approval. (No recommendation Engineering Services Committee October 14, 2025)

Motion to approve

Motion made by Rice and seconded by Slendak

Substitute Motion- for the Augusta Housing Authority, Engineering Department and all pertinent personnel and the Community meet to see if they can come up with a creative solution and report back at the next meeting.

Motion made by Scott and seconded by Pulliam

Voting Yea: Turnley, Scott, J. Johnson, Mayor Johnson, Rice, Slendak, Pulliam

Motion carried 9-0 with Garrett and Lewis out

FINANCE

34. Discuss and set employee contribution rates for the health benefits plan for FY 2026. (**No recommendation from Finance Committee October 14, 2025**)

Motion to approve \$500 deductible for individual and \$1,500 per family.

Motion made by Turnley and seconded by Scott.

Voting Yea: Turnley, Scott, Rice, Slendak, Clark, Guilfoyle, Mayor Johnson,

Motion carried 7-0 with J. Johnson, Lewis, Pulliam, Garrett out

LEGAL MEETING

- **A.** Pending and Potential Litigation
- B. Real Estate
- C. Personnel
- **35.** Motion to authorize execution by the Mayor of the affidavit of compliance with Georgia's Open Meeting Act.