



CITY of POOLER
— GEORGIA —

CITY COUNCIL
Regular Meeting – Minutes

March 20, 2023 at 6:00 PM

Pooler City Hall
100 US Hwy 80 SW,
Pooler, GA 31322
www.pooler-ga.gov

I. ROLL CALL/DECLARATION OF QUORUM

Present: Rebecca C. Benton, Mayor
Tom Hutcherson, Mayor Pro Tem
Shannon Black, Councilmember
Aaron Higgins, Councilmember
Stevie Wall, Councilmember
John Wilcher, Councilmember
Karen Williams, Councilmember
Robert Byrd, City Manager
Craig Call, City Attorney
Chris Lightle, Finance Officer
Kiley Fusco, Clerk of Council

Absent:

II. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Rebecca Benton called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

III. INVOCATION

Dr. Shirlenia Daniel gave the invocation.

IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Dr. Shirlenia Daniel led the pledge.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilmember Aaron Higgins reminded those present of the GA DOT announcement regarding the 16@95 Project. The first new turbine bridge ramp that will carry I-16 westbound traffic to I-95 southbound is projected to open Thursday, March 23, 2023. The ramp replaces the existing cloverleaf, loop ramp on the west side of I-95. The partial turbine bridge ramps will open overnight when traffic volumes are typically lowest.

VI. CONSENT AGENDA

A. City Council Meeting Minutes of March 7, 2023

B. City Council Executive Session Minutes of March 7, 2023

- C. **Special Event Permit Application for Cavallo Equestrian Arts, LLC from March 31, 2023 through April 2, 2023**
- D. **Special Event Permit Application for the Chamber of Commerce on April 21, 2023 (*seeking waiver*)**
- E. **Special Event Permit Application for Robert Carpenter on May 6, 2023**
- F. **Special Event Permit Application for The 200 Club of the Coastal Empire on May 6, 2023 (*seeking waiver*)**
- G. **Department Reports**
 - 1. Public Works
 - 2. Finance
 - 3. Fire
 - 4. Police
 - 5. Recreation
 - 6. Planning & Zoning

Councilmember Karen Williams moved to approve the Consent Agenda.

Motion to Approve; PASSED (UNANIMOUS)

MOVER: Williams

SECONDER: Hutcherson

AYES: Black, Higgins, Hutcherson, Wall, Wilcher, Williams

NAYS:

VII. NEW BUSINESS

A. **Site Plan for Element Hotel at 100 Davol Street**

City Manager Robert Byrd presented the site plan for consideration. Dan Fishcer of EMC Engineering was present on behalf of the petitioner.

Councilmember Stevie Wall moved to approve the Site Plan for Element Hotel at 100 Davol Street subject to the following conditions:

1. Recording of the stormwater agreement prior to a preconstruction meeting
2. Completion of stormwater detention pond construction
3. Payment of a portion of the traffic signal cost, not to exceed \$175,000; final amount to be set by City Manager based on number of hotel rooms

Dan Fischer verbally agreed that the petitioner would be willing to contribute toward the cost of the traffic signal.

Motion to Approve with Stipulations; PASSED (UNANIMOUS)

MOVER: Wall

SECONDER: Hutcherson

AYES: Black, Higgins, Hutcherson, Wall, Wilcher, Williams

NAYS:

B. Acceptance of Maintenance and Sidewalk Performance Bond for Clear Lake Reserve Phase 2

City Manager Robert Byrd presented the bonds for consideration. Lamar Mercer was present on behalf of the petitioner. Mayor Pro Tem Tom Hutcherson moved to accept the Clear Lake Reserve Phase 2 Maintenance Bond in the amount of \$214,306.76 and the Sidewalk Performance Bond in the amount of \$55,972.50, subject to City Attorney approval.

Motion to Accept with Stipulations; PASSED (UNANIMOUS)

MOVER: Hutcherson

SECONDER: Higgins

AYES: Black, Higgins, Hutcherson, Will, Wilcher, Williams

NAYS:

C. Pooler Recreation Complex Tennis Courts Change Order #1 from Parker Properties

City Manager Robert Byrd presented the change order for consideration. Councilmember John Wilcher moved to approve the Pooler Recreation Complex Tennis Courts Change Order #1 from Parker Properties to be paid from SPLOST funds.

Motion to Approve; PASSED (UNANIMOUS)

MOVER: Wilcher

SECONDER: Higgins

AYES: Black, Higgins, Hutcherson, Wall, Wilcher, Williams

NAYS:

D. Amendment #1 to the 2023 Roadside Mowing and General Maintenance Contract with The McGraley Company, LLC

City Manager Robert Byrd presented the amendment for consideration. Councilmember Karen Williams moved to approve Amendment #1 to the 2023 Roadside Mowing and General Maintenance Contract with The

McGraley Company, LLC.

Motion to Approve; PASSED (UNANIMOUS)

MOVER: Williams

SECONDER: Wilcher

AYES: Black, Higgins, Hutcherson, Wall, Wilcher, Williams

NAYS:

E. **2023 Surplus Property List**

City Manager Robert Byrd presented the list for consideration.

Councilmember Aaron Higgins moved to approve the 2023 As-Is Surplus Property List.

Motion to Approve; PASSED (UNANIMOUS)

MOVER: Higgins

SECONDER: Wilcher

AYES: Black, Higgins, Hutcherson, Wall, Wilcher, Williams

NAYS:

F. **Fiscal Year 2023 Community Project Funding Grant Agreements B-23-CP-GA-0458, 0459, 0460, 0461**

City Manager Robert Byrd presented the agreements for consideration.

Councilmember Stevie Wall moved to approve for signature the Fiscal Year 2023 Community Project Funding Grant Agreements B-23-CP-GA-0458, 0459, 0460, 0461.

Motion to Approve; PASSED (UNANIMOUS)

MOVER: Wall

SECONDER: Wilcher

AYES: Black, Higgins, Hutcherson, Wall, Wilcher, Williams

NAYS:

G. **Disciplinary Hearing for Owner of Savannah Chocolate Bar at 1 N Godley Station Boulevard, Suite B-100**

Finance Officer Chris Lightle and Lieutenant Schmidt reported on the history of the payments and property, and began the hearing. Maurice Gilliard was present. Councilmember Aaron Higgins moved to place Maurice Gilliard, owner of the Savannah Chocolate Bar at 1 N Godley Station Boulevard, Suite B-100, on probation subject to the following conditions:

1. All delinquent amounts due shall be paid in full, in person, by March 31, 2023
2. All monthly payments for the next six months shall be paid in full, in person, and on time (through September 20, 2023)
3. If 1 and 2 are satisfactorily completed, the probation period will end in six months (September 20, 2023)

Motion to Place on Probation; PASSED (UNANIMOUS)

MOVER: Higgins

SECONDER: Wilcher

AYES: Black, Higgins, Hutcherson, Wall, Wilcher, Williams

NAYS:

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Councilmember John Wilcher moved to adjourn the meeting.

Motion to Adjourn; PASSED (UNANIMOUS)

MOVER: Wilcher

SECONDER: Higgins

AYES: Black, Higgins, Hutcherson, Wall, Wilcher, Williams

NAYS:

The meeting adjourned at 6:38 p.m.

The foregoing minutes are true and correct and approved by me on this _____
day of _____, 2023.

Rebecca C. Benton, Mayor

Attest:

Kiley Fusco, Clerk of Council