



CITY of POOLER
— GEORGIA —

CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING – MINUTES

March 18, 2024 at 4:00 p.m. | 100 US Highway 80 SW, Pooler, GA 31322

I. ROLL CALL

Present: Karen Williams, Mayor
Wesley Bashlor, Councilmember
Michael Carpenter, Councilmember
Aaron Higgins, Mayor Pro Tem
Tom Hutcherson, Councilmember
Shannon Valim, Councilmember
John Wilcher, Councilmember
Matthew Saxon, City Manager
Craig Call, City Attorney
Chris Lightle, Finance Officer
Kiley Fusco, Clerk of Council

II. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Karen Williams called the meeting to order at 4:01 p.m.

III. INVOCATION

Rabbi Robert Haas of Congregation Mickve Israel gave the invocation.

IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Rabbi Robert Haas led the pledge.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Karen Williams reminded those present of the City's upcoming "Partner with Pooler to Plant a Tree for Free" event to be held Saturday, March 23 from 9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. at the Pooler Recreation Complex. She also announced the upcoming Town Hall Meeting for the discussion of Short-Term Rentals scheduled for Tuesday, March 19 at 6:00 p.m.

Police Chief Ashley Brown recognized presented awards to the following members of the Police Department: Supervisor of the Year - Sgt. M. Lanier, Officer of the Year - APO A. Lafeuillee, and Rookie of the Year - Officer G. Ballard.

VI. CONSENT AGENDA

A. City Council Meeting Minutes of March 4, 2024

B. City Council Executive Session Minutes of March 4, 2024

C. New Alcoholic Beverage License Application for Poach Egg Café, LLC at 810 Towne Center Boulevard, Suite 108

D. Special Event Permit Application (No Alcohol) for Celebrating Georgia Families: Be the Village on April 27, 2024

E. Special Event Permit Application (No Alcohol) for Wingstock on May 11, 2024

F. Department Reports

1. Public Works
2. Finance
3. Fire
4. Police
5. Recreation
6. Planning & Development

City Manager Matthew Saxon presented the Consent Agenda for consideration. Councilmember Tom Hutcherson moved to approve the Consent Agenda.

Motion to Approve; PASSED (6-0-0)

MOVER: Hutcherson

SECONDER: Wilcher

AYES: Bashlor, Carpenter, Higgins, Hutcherson, Valim, Wilcher

NAYS:

VII. ORDINANCES, PROCLAMATIONS, RESOLUTIONS

A. Ordinance O2024-03.A – Short-Term Rental Requirements (*First Reading; Public Hearing, Action*)

City Manager Matthew Saxon presented the first reading for consideration and Mayor Karen Williams opened the public hearing. There being no public comment, Mayor Karen Williams closed the public hearing. Councilmember Michael Carpenter moved to approve the first reading of Ordinance O2024-03.A – Short-Term Rental Requirements.

Motion to Approve; PASSED (6-0-0)

MOVER: Carpenter

SECONDER: Wilcher

AYES: Bashlor, Carpenter, Higgins, Hutcherson, Valim, Wilcher

NAYS:

B. Resolution R2024-03.A - Moratorium on Short-Term Rentals

City Manager Matthew Saxon presented the resolution for consideration. Citizens Caleb Hawley and Don Moffett commented. Mayor Pro Tem Aaron Higgins moved to approve Resolution R2024-03.A - Moratorium on Short-Term Rentals.

Motion to Approve; PASSED (6-0-0)

MOVER: Higgins
SECONDER: Hutcherson
AYES: Bashlor, Carpenter, Higgins, Hutcherson, Valim, Wilcher
NAYS:

VIII. OUTSTANDING BUSINESS

A. Site Plan for 780 Pooler Parkway

City Manager Matthew Saxon presented the site plan for consideration. Alec Metzger was present on behalf of the petitioner to answer questions. Councilmember Tom Hutcherson, upon review of the criteria, moved to approve the Site Plan for 780 Pooler Parkway.

Motion to Approve; PASSED (5-1-0)
MOVER: Hutcherson
SECONDER: Wilcher
AYES: Bashlor, Higgins, Hutcherson, Valim, Wilcher
NAYS: Carpenter

IX. NEW BUSINESS

A. Zoning Map Amendment for 224 East US Highway 80 (Public Hearing, Action)

City Manager Matthew Saxon presented the site plan for consideration. Mayor Karen Williams opened the public hearing. Citizens Michelle Lightning, Karen Morgan, Tonya Munn, Emerson Holland, Veronica Wiesner, and Don Moffett commented. Mayor Karen Williams closed the public hearing and Mayor Pro Tem Aaron Higgins, upon review of the criteria, moved to approve the Zoning Map Amendment for 224 East US Highway 80 with allowance for C-2 auto repair and car rental uses specifically, as well as all uses currently allowed in C-1.

Motion to Approve with Stipulations; PASSED (5-1-0)
MOVER: Higgins
SECONDER: Valim
AYES: Bashlor, Higgins, Hutcherson, Valim, Wilcher
NAYS: Carpenter

B. Policy for Rules of Council and Public Participation for Regular and Special Meetings

City Manager Matthew Saxon presented the policy for consideration. Mayor Pro Tem Aaron Higgins moved to approve the Policy for Rules of Council and Public Participation for Regular and Special Meetings.

Motion to Approve; PASSED (6-0-0)
MOVER: Higgins
SECONDER: Carpenter
AYES: Bashlor, Carpenter, Higgins, Hutcherson, Valim, Wilcher
NAYS:

C. Supplemental Agreement to the Moffatt & Nichol Pooler Parkway/Quacco Road Widening Master Services Agreement

City Manager Matthew Saxon presented the agreement for consideration. Leon Davenport was present to answer questions. Mayor Pro Tem Aaron Higgins moved to approve the Supplemental Agreement to the Moffatt & Nichol Pooler Parkway/Quacco Road Widening Master Services Agreement including special studies and not to exceed \$274,389.60.

Motion to Approve; PASSED (6-0-0)

MOVER: Higgins

SECONDER: Hutcherson

AYES: Bashlor, Carpenter, Higgins, Hutcherson, Valim, Wilcher

NAYS:

D. Extension to the Moffatt & Nichol Pooler Parkway/Quacco Road Widening Master Services Agreement

City Manager Matthew Saxon presented the agreement for consideration. Leon Davenport was present to answer questions, and citizen Pete Chaison commented. Councilmember Wesley Bashlor moved to approve the January 21, 2025 Extension to the Moffatt & Nichol Pooler Parkway/Quacco Road Widening Master Services Agreement.

Motion to Approve; PASSED (6-0-0)

MOVER: Bashlor

SECONDER: Wilcher

AYES: Bashlor, Carpenter, Higgins, Hutcherson, Valim, Wilcher

NAYS:

X. PUBLIC COMMENT

Citizens Tonya Munn and Michelle Lightning commented on a neighboring property with a fence and signage potentially in violation of the Code of Ordinances.

XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION

With no further public business to conduct, Mayor Pro Tem Aaron Higgins moved to enter Executive Session. Mayor and Council entered at 5:39 p.m.

Motion to Enter; PASSED (6-0-0)

MOVER: Higgins

SECONDER: Bashlor

AYES: Bashlor, Carpenter, Higgins, Hutcherson, Valim, Wilcher

NAYS:

Mayor Karen Williams called the meeting back to order at 5:45 p.m.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Pro Tem Aaron Higgins moved to adjourn the meeting.

Motion to Adjourn; PASSED (6-0-0)

MOVER: Higgins

SECONDER: Bashlor

AYES: Bashlor, Carpenter, Higgins, Hutcherson, Valim, Wilcher

NAYS:

The meeting adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

The foregoing minutes are true and correct and are approved on this

_____ day of _____, _____.

CITY OF POOLER, GEORGIA

Karen L. Williams, Mayor

ATTEST:

Kiley Fusco, Clerk of Council