



**CITY of POOLER**  
— GEORGIA —

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**CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING – MINUTES**

April 15, 2024 at 6:00 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 6:00 p.m.

**III. INVOCATION**

Executive Pastor Shirlinia Daniel from Bread of Life Ministries gave the invocation.

**IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Executive Pastor Shirlinia Daniel led the pledge.

**V. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mayor Karen L. Williams introduced the candidates present: Tracie Macke for Chatham County Court Magistrate Judge, Frank Pennington for Superior Court Judge, and Stephanie Campbell for Savannah-Chatham County School Board District 7. Mayor Pro Tem Aaron Higgins recognized James Hall, Chatham County Board of Elections Member.

**VI. CONSENT AGENDA**

**A. City Council Meeting Minutes of April 1, 2024**

**B. City Council Executive Session Minutes of April 1, 2024**

**C. City Council Workshop Meeting Minutes of April 1, 2024**

- D. New Alcoholic Beverage License Application for B1 Food Service, LLC  
DBA Bewon at 1105 East Highway 80**
- E. New Alcoholic Beverage License Application for Drury Hotels Company,  
LLC DBA Drury Plaza Hotel – Savannah/Pooler at 500 US Highway 80**
- F. New Alcoholic Beverage License Application for La Cosecha Pooler GA,  
LLC DBA La Parilla Mexican Restaurant #24 at 140 Tanger Outlets  
Boulevard**
- G. New Alcoholic Beverage License Application for Bonbon Chicken, LLC  
DBA 92 Chicken at 1 North Godley Station Boulevard**
- H. Special Event Permit Application (No Alcohol) for the Pooler  
Juneteenth Celebration on June 15, 2024**
- I. Special Event Permit Application (No Alcohol) for the Pooler  
Juneteenth Run on June 19, 2024**
- J. Release of the Maintenance Bond for Hunt Club, Phase VII**

**K. 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. Mayor Pro Tem Aaron Higgins moved to approve the Consent Agenda as amended with Item J. Release of the Maintenance Bond for Hunt Club, Phase VII no longer requiring City Attorney approval.

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

MOVER: Higgins

SECONDER: Hutcherson

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

NAYS:

**VII. ORDINANCES, PROCLAMATIONS, RESOLUTIONS**

**A. Ordinance O2024-04.A – Amendment to the Pooler Code of  
Ordinances, Utility Location Requirements  
(*Second Reading*)**

City Manager Matthew Saxon presented the second reading for consideration. Citizen Don Moffett commented twice. Councilmember John Wilcher moved to approve the second reading of Ordinance O2024-04.A – Amendment to the Pooler Code of Ordinances, Utility Location Requirements.

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

MOVER: Wilcher

SECONDER: Hutcherson

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

**B. Proclamation for Autism Acceptance Month**

Mayor Karen Williams read the proclamation aloud and presented a copy to the Dunn family.

**C. Proclamation for Child Abuse Prevention Month**

Mayor Karen Williams read the proclamation aloud and presented a copy to Whitney Gilliard of Gilliard & Company.

**D. Proclamation for Garden Week of Georgia**

Mayor Karen Williams read the proclamation aloud and presented a copy to the Pooler Garden Club.

**VIII. OUTSTANDING BUSINESS**

**A. Reapproval for Walk-On's/Vet Center at 105 Half Moon Way**

City Manager Matthew Saxon presented the reapproval for consideration. Robert Forest was present on behalf of the petitioner. Citizen Artenze Hall commented. Councilmember Tom Hutcherson, upon review of the criteria, moved to approve the request for Reapproval for Walk-On's/Vet Center at 105 Half Moon Way subject to the conditions included in the original letter:

1. A westbound right turn deceleration lane on Blue Moon Xing being proposed under this project.
2. A modification to the southbound approach at Half Moon Way and Blue Moon Xing is being proposed under the Towne Place Pooler project. This modification includes a left turn lane and thru/right turn lane on the southbound approach to the intersection.
3. The approval of the site plan shall be contingent upon the remaining traffic improvements proposed under Towne Place Pooler attaining site plan approval. The full extent of traffic improvements must be approved and a resubmittal of plans showing the complete scope of the traffic improvements must be provided, prior to a preconstruction meeting being scheduled.
4. It shall be noted that a certificate of occupancy shall not be issued until the Water Distribution and the Sanitary Sewer System falling under the scope of Towne Place Pooler project have been permitted, constructed, and accepted by the City.

Robert Forest verbally agreed to the conditions.

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

MOVER: Hutcherson

SECONDER: Valim

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

NAYS:

**IX. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. Zoning Map Amendment for 701 Jimmy DeLoach Boulevard to Amend Zoning Conditions (*Public Hearing, Action*)**

City Manager Matthew Saxon presented the amendment for consideration. Attorney Robert McCorkle was present on behalf of the petitioner. Mayor Karen Williams opened the public hearing. There being no comments, Mayor Karen Williams closed the public hearing and Mayor Pro Tem Aaron Higgins moved to postpone the Zoning Map Amendment for 701 Jimmy DeLoach Boulevard to Amend Zoning Conditions until the May 6, 2024 City Council Meeting. Attorney Robert McCorkle verbally agreed to the deferral.

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

MOVER: Higgins

SECONDER: Bashlor

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

NAYS:

**B. PUD Amendment for the Jabot PUD – Amendment #17 (*Public Hearing, Action*)**

City Manager Matthew Saxon presented the amendment for consideration. Robert Forest was present on behalf of the petitioner. Mayor Karen Williams opened the public hearing and Citizens Pat Lynch, Michael Bartusch, and Michael Maher commented. Mayor Karen Williams closed the public hearing and Councilmember Wesley Bashlor, upon review of the criteria, moved to approve the PUD Amendment for the Jabot PUD – Amendment #17.

Motion to Approve; PASSED (4-2-0)

MOVER: Bashlor

SECONDER: Higgins

AYES: Bashlor, Carpenter, Higgins, Valim

NAYS: Hutcherson, Wilcher

**C. Professional Services Proposal for Water System Model Update from Hussey Gay Bell**

City Manager Matthew Saxon presented the proposal for consideration. Chris Burke of Hussey Gay Bell was present to answer questions. Mayor Pro Tem Aaron Higgins moved to approve the Professional Services Proposal for Water System Model Update from Hussey Gay Bell not to exceed \$18,500.00 and subject to City Attorney approval.

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

MOVER: Higgins

SECONDER: Wilcher

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

NAYS:

**D. Professional Engineering and Surveying Services Proposal for Pipemakers Canal Improvements – Phase II from Coleman Company**

City Manager Matthew Saxon presented the proposal for consideration. Terry Coleman of Coleman Company was present to answer questions. Councilmember Tom Hutcherson moved to approve the Professional Engineering and Surveying Services Proposal for Pipemakers Canal Improvements – Phase II from Coleman Company not to exceed \$40,450.00 and subject to City Attorney approval.

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

MOVER: Hutcherson

SECONDER: Wilcher

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

NAYS:

#### **E. Contract for Legal Representation from Tate Law Group, LLC.**

Mayor Pro Tem Aaron Higgins moved to approve a contract with the Tate Law Group, LLC for legal representation in the 3M DuPont class action suit.

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

MOVER: Higgins

SECONDER: Carpenter

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

NAYS:

#### **X. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mayor Karen Williams introduced the candidate present: Laureen Monica Boles for District 8 Commissioner. Citizen Michael Maher commented.

#### **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 7:10 p.m.

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

MOVER: Higgins

SECONDER: Wilcher

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

NAYS:

Mayor Karen Williams called the meeting back to order at 7:21 p.m.

Mayor Pro Tem Aaron Higgins moved to amend the agenda, adding New Business, Item E. Contract for Legal Representation from Tate Law Group, LLC.

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

MOVER: Higgins

SECONDER: Hutcherson

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

NAYS:

#### **XII. ADJOURNMENT**

Councilmember Shannon Valim moved to adjourn the meeting.

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

MOVER: Valim

SECONDER: Wilcher

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

NAYS:

The meeting adjourned at 7:23 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