



**CITY of POOLER**  
— GEORGIA —

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**CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL CALLED MEETING – MINUTES**

August 12, 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 *via teleconference*  
Tom Hutcherson, Councilmember  
Shannon Valim, Councilmember  
John Wilcher, Councilmember  
Craig Call, City Attorney  
Matthew Saxon, City Manager  
Chris Lightle, Finance Officer  
Kiley Fusco, Clerk of Council

Absent:

**II. CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Karen Williams called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

**III. INVOCATION**

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

**IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Executive Pastor Shirlinia Daniel led the pledge.

**V. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Candidate Joel Boblasky announced that he is running for Chatham County Commission Chair. Mayor Karen Williams congratulated the Pooler Recreation 10U basketball team on winning the GRPA state championship. Mayor Karen Williams and Interim City Manager Matthew Saxon reported on the City's management of Tropical Storm Debby.

**VI. MILLAGE RATE PUBLIC HEARING #3**

Councilmember Tom Hutcherson moved to amend the agenda to add IX. New Business, Item D. Millage Rate Adoption.

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

MOVER: Hutcherson

SECONDER: Wilcher

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

Mayor Karen Williams then opened the public hearing at 6:21 p.m. Citizens Waymond Allen, Vera Lamb, Brian Royal, John Hayden, Abigail Slentz, Amy Gilliam, Tonya Munn, and Renee Higgins commented. Mayor Karen Williams closed the public hearing at 6:46 p.m.

## **VII. CONSENT AGENDA**

Councilmember John Wilcher moved to remove and postpone a vote on VII. Consent Agenda, Item B. City Council Executive Session Minutes of July 15, 2024 until the August 19, 2024 City Council Meeting.

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

MOVER: Wilcher

SECONDER: Carpenter

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

NAYS:

### **A. City Council Meeting Minutes of July 15, 2024**

### **~~B. City Council Executive Session Minutes of July 15, 2024~~**

### **C. Millage Rate Public Hearing Minutes of July 22, 2024**

### **D. Special Event Permit Application (No Alcohol) for Touch-a-Truck on February 22, 2025**

### **E. Release of Performance Bond and Acceptance of Maintenance and Sidewalk Bonds for Clear Lake, Phase 1A, Subject to City Attorney Approval**

### **F. Release of Performance Bond and Acceptance of Maintenance and Sidewalk Bonds for Clear Lake, Phase 1B, Subject to City Attorney Approval**

Councilmember Tom Hutcherson moved to approve the Consent Agenda with the exception of Item B. City Council Executive Session Minutes of July 15, 2024.

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

MOVER: Hutcherson

SECONDER: Valim

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

NAYS:

## **VIII. ORDINANCES, PROCLAMATIONS, RESOLUTIONS**

### **A. Ordinance O2024-07.B – To Amend Chapter 46 – Fire Prevention and Protection; Sections 7, 8, 9 (Second Reading)**

City Manager Matthew Saxon presented the ordinance for consideration. Councilmember John Wilcher moved to approve the second reading of Ordinance O2024-07.B – To Amend Chapter 46 – Fire Prevention and

Protection; Sections 7, 8, 9.

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

MOVER: Wilcher

SECONDER: Valim

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

NAYS:

**B. Proclamation for National Health Center Week**

Mayor Karen Williams read aloud the proclamation.

**IX. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. Conditional Use Request for a Warehouse, Showroom, and Office at 1323 East US Highway 80 (Public Hearing, Action)**

City Manager Matthew Saxon presented the request for consideration. Greg Coleman was present on behalf of the petitioner. Mayor Karen Williams opened the public hearing, and citizens Renee Higgins, Amy Gilliam, and Brian Royal commented. Mayor Karen Williams closed the public hearing and Councilmember Wesley Bashlor, upon review of the criteria, moved to approve the Conditional Use Request for a Warehouse, Showroom, and Office at 1323 East US Highway 80 subject to the following condition:

1. All truck traffic must enter and exit the property using Old Louisville Road

Motion to Approve with Stipulations; PASSED (5-1-0)

MOVER: Bashlor

SECONDER: Valim

AYES: Bashlor, Higgins, Hutcherson, Valim, Wilcher

NAYS: Carpenter

**B. Variance Request for Pooler Crossroads, Lot 5, Clear Lake Reserve, Phase 1 (Clear Lake Vista) Parking Requirements (Public Hearing, Action)**

City Manager Matthew Saxon presented the request for consideration. Daniel Hawker was present on behalf of the petitioner. Mayor Karen Williams opened the public hearing, and citizens Tonya Munn, Azsha Hankerson, Emerson Holland, Latricia Brown, and Kendall Depascal commented. Mayor Karen Williams closed the public hearing and Councilmember John Wilcher, upon review of the criteria, moved to deny the Variance Request for Pooler Crossroads, Lot 5, Clear Lake Reserve, Phase 1 (Clear Lake Vista) Parking Requirements.

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

MOVER: Wilcher

SECONDER: Carpenter

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

NAYS:

**C. Encroachment and Construction Agreement with TTRES at POOLER GA, LLC**

City Manager Matthew Saxon reported a postponement request from the petitioner. Councilmember John Wilcher moved to postpone the Encroachment and Construction Agreement with TTRES at POOLER GA, LLC until the August 19, 2024 City Council Meeting.

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

MOVER: Wilcher

SECONDER: Hutcherson

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

NAYS:

#### **D. Millage Rate Adoption**

Councilmember Wesley Bashlor moved to adopt a 2024 Millage Rate of 3.780.

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

MOVER: Bashlor

SECONDER: Hutcherson

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

NAYS:

#### **E. City Manager Contract and Appointment**

Councilmember Michael Carpenter moved to approve the City Manager contract and appoint Heath Lloyd as City Manager.

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

MOVER: Carpenter

SECONDER: Hutcherson

AYES: Bashlor, Carpenter, Higgins, Hutcherson,

NAYS: Valim, Wilcher

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

Citizen Emerson Holland, Kendall Depascal, Tonya Munn, and Veronica Wiesner commented.

#### **XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

With no further public business to conduct, Councilmember Tom Hutcherson moved to enter Executive Session. Mayor and Council entered at 7:40 p.m.

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

MOVER: Hutcherson

SECONDER: Wilcher

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

NAYS:

Mayor Karen Williams called the meeting back to order at 8:08 p.m.

Councilmember Michael Carpenter moved to amend the agenda to add IX. New Business, Item E. City Manager Contract and Appointment.

Motion to Amend; PASSED (5-1-0)

MOVER: Carpenter

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

**XII. ADJOURNMENT**

Councilmember Tom Hutcherson moved to adjourn the meeting.

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

MOVER: Hutcherson

SECONDER: Higgins

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

NAYS:

The meeting adjourned at 8:13 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:

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Kiley Fusco, Clerk of Council