



CITY of POOLER
— GEORGIA —

CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING – MINUTES

December 16, 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
John Wilcher, Councilmember
Shannon Valim, Councilmember
Craig Call, City Attorney
Heath Lloyd, City Manager
Chris Lightle, Chief Finance Officer
Kiley Fusco, Clerk of Council

Absent:

II. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Karen Williams called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

III. INVOCATION

Resident Joy Aiken gave the invocation.

IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Resident Joy Aiken led the pledge.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Pro Tem Aaron Higgins announced his upcoming name change and noted the remaining nights of Santa Visits Pooler, the full schedule of which is available on the City's website at www.pooler-ga.gov.

Mayor Pro Tem Aaron Higgins then moved to amend the agenda, adding Item Q. "Contract Approval for Lift Station 21 and 22 Upgrades" under New Business.

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

MOVER: Higgins

SECONDER: Hutcherson

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

NAYS:

VI. CONSENT AGENDA

A. City Council Workshop Minutes of November 18, 2024

B. City Council Workshop Minutes of December 2, 2024

C. City Council Meeting Minutes of December 2, 2024

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. SPECIAL EVENTS

~~A. Special Event Permit Application (No Alcohol) for Holiday Season- Fireworks Sale at Tanger Outlets from December 26, 2024 – January 3, 2025~~

Mayor Karen Williams noted that the item had been withdrawn by the petitioner. No action was taken.

VIII. DEPARTMENT REPORTS

A. Public Works

Assistant City Manager Matt Saxon gave the Public Works Report.

B. Finance

Chief Finance Officer Chris Lightle gave the Finance Report.

C. Fire-Rescue

Chief Wade Simmons gave the Fire-Rescue Report.

D. Police

Chief Ashley Brown gave the Police Report.

E. Parks & Recreation

Jeremy Greene gave the Parks & Recreation Report.

F. Planning & Development

Director Nicole Johnson gave the Planning & Development Report.

G. Human Resources

Assistant City Manager Caroline Hankins gave the Human Resources Report.

IX. ORDINANCES, PROCLAMATIONS, RESOLUTIONS

A. Ordinance O2024-09.B – Commercial Parking Requirements - Chapter 82 - Traffic and Vehicles, Article II - Stopping, Standing and Parking, Section 39 - Residential Neighborhood and Subdivision Restrictions, Section 41 - Same - Penalties and Section 45 - Parking of Commercial Vehicles to Add Language Related to Parking Violations (Second Reading)

City Manager Heath Lloyd presented the second reading for consideration. Councilmember John Wilcher moved to approve the second reading of Ordinance O2024-09.B – Commercial Parking Requirements - Chapter 82 - Traffic and Vehicles, Article II - Stopping, Standing and Parking, Section 39 - Residential Neighborhood and Subdivision Restrictions, Section 41 - Same - Penalties and Section 45 - Parking of Commercial Vehicles to Add Language Related to Parking Violations.

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

MOVER: Wilcher

SECONDER: Higgins

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

NAYS:

B. Ordinance O2024-12.A – To Amend Chapter 38: Courts; to Provide for a Term of Office for the Municipal Court Judge; to Provide for an Effective Date (Second Reading)

City Manager Heath Lloyd presented the second reading for consideration. Councilmember Michael Carpenter moved to approve Ordinance O2024-12.A – To Amend Chapter 38: Courts; to Provide for a Term of Office for the Municipal Court Judge; to Provide for an Effective Date.

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

MOVER: Carpenter

SECONDER: Wilcher

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

NAYS:

C. Resolution R2024-12.D – GIRMA Georgia First Responders PTSD Program Enrollment, Component 1, Not to Exceed \$6,532.00

City Manager Heath Lloyd presented the resolution for consideration. Councilmember John Wilcher moved to approve Resolution R2024-12.D – GIRMA Georgia First Responders PTSD Program Enrollment, Component 1, Not to Exceed \$6,532.00.

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

MOVER: Wilcher

SECONDER: Valim

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

NAYS:

D. Resolution R2024-12.B – Fiscal Year 2025 Budget Approval (First Reading; Public Hearing, Action)

City Manager Heath Lloyd presented the resolution for consideration. Mayor Karen Williams opened the public hearing. Citizen Pete Chaison commented. Mayor Karen Williams closed the public hearing, and Mayor Pro Tem Aaron Higgins moved to approve the first reading of Resolution R2024-12.B – Fiscal Year 2025 Budget Approval.

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

MOVER: Higgins

SECONDER: Hutcherson

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

NAYS:

X. OUSTANDING BUSINESS

A. Zoning Map Amendment for 500 Seabrook Parkway (Public Hearing, Action)

City Manager Heath Lloyd presented the amendment for consideration. Attorney John Northup was present on behalf of the petitioner, and verbally requested postponement of the agenda item, stating that the petitioner would cover the costs of any public hearing readvertisement. Mayor Karen Williams opened and closed the public hearing without comment. Mayor Pro Tem Aaron Higgins moved to postpone the Zoning Map Amendment for 500 Seabrook Parkway to the January 6, 2025 City Council Meeting.

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

MOVER: Higgins

SECONDER: Bashlor

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

NAYS:

XI. NEW BUSINESS

~~A. Zoning Map Amendment for 1511 Quacco Road (Public Hearing, Action)~~

Mayor Karen Williams noted that the item had been withdrawn by the petitioner. No action was taken.

B. Site Plan for Stoneweg Multifamily at 800 High Avenue

City Manager Heath Lloyd presented the site plan for consideration. Doug Morgan of EMC Engineering Services was present on behalf of the petitioner. Mayor Pro Tem Aaron Higgins, upon review of the criteria, moved to approve the Site Plan for Stoneweg Multifamily at 800 High Avenue, subject to the following condition: the access road from Old Quacco Road shall be used for emergency vehicle access only until such time that the Pooler Parkway/Quacco Road improvements are complete. Until completion, the main access shall remain off High Avenue.

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

MOVER: Higgins

SECONDER: Hutcherson

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

NAYS

C. Final Plat and Performance Bond for Harmony, Phase 8A at Andante Way

City Manager Heath Lloyd presented the plat and bond for consideration. Councilmember Wesley Bashlor moved to approve the final plat and performance bond in the amount of \$3,448,621.50 for Harmony, Phase 8A at Andante Way.

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

MOVER: Bashlor

SECONDER: Wilcher

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

NAYS:

D. Release of Landscape Warranty Bond for Outlet Mall of Savannah at 200 Tanger Outlets Boulevard

City Manager Heath Lloyd presented the bond for consideration. Travis Burke of Coleman Company was present on behalf of the petitioner. Councilmember John Wilcher moved to approve release of the Landscape Warranty Bond for Outlet Mall of Savannah at 200 Tanger Outlets Boulevard in the amount of \$361,524.00.

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

MOVER: Wilcher

SECONDER: Higgins

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

NAYS:

E. Acceptance of Maintenance Bond for I-16 West, Phase 2B at I-16 and Pooler Parkway

City Manager Heath Lloyd presented the bond for consideration. Councilmember John Wilcher moved to approve acceptance of the Maintenance Bond for I-16 West, Phase 2B at I-16 and Pooler Parkway in the amount of \$452,441.98.

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

MOVER: Wilcher

SECONDER: Hutcherson

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

NAYS:

F. Acceptance of Maintenance Bond for I-16 Mixed Use Access Road at High Avenue Extension

City Manager Heath Lloyd presented the bond for consideration. Councilmember John Wilcher moved to approve acceptance of the Maintenance Bond for I-16 Mixed Use Access Road at High Avenue Extension in the amount of \$230,744.00.

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

MOVER: Wilcher

SECONDER: Hutcherson

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

NAYS:

G. Release of Maintenance and Warranty Bonds for Hunt Club, Phase 6

City Manager Heath Lloyd presented the bonds for consideration.

Councilmember John Wilcher moved to approve Release of the Maintenance and Warranty Bonds for Hunt Club, Phase 6 in the amount of \$619,112.00.

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

MOVER: Wilcher

SECONDER: Bashlor

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

NAYS:

H. Release of Maintenance and Warranty Bonds for Telfair Park, Phase 1 at Easthaven Area D

City Manager Heath Lloyd presented the bonds for consideration. Mayor Pro Tem Aaron Higgins moved to table Release of the Maintenance and Warranty Bonds for Telfair Park, Phase 1 at Easthaven Area D in the amount of \$380,246.03.

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

MOVER: Higgins

SECONDER: Wilcher

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

NAYS:

Upon returning to the agenda item, Councilmember Tom Hutcherson moved to postpone Release of the Maintenance and Warranty Bonds for Telfair Park, Phase 1 at Easthaven Area D in the amount of \$380,246.03 to the January 6, 2025 City Council Meeting.

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

MOVER: Hutcherson

SECONDER: Wilcher

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

NAYS:

I. Release of Sidewalk Performance Bond for Telfair Park, Phase 1 at Easthaven Area D

City Manager Heath Lloyd presented the bonds for consideration.

Councilmember John Wilcher moved to approve Release of Sidewalk Performance Bond for Telfair Park, Phase 1 at Easthaven Area D in the amount of \$75,735.00.

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

MOVER: Wilcher

SECONDER: Bashlor

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

J. ~~Agreement with Judge J. Hamrick Gnann for Municipal Court Judge Services~~

Mayor Karen Williams noted that the item had been withdrawn from the agenda. No action was taken.

K. Proposal for a Summary Change Order (CO4) with Hussey Gay Bell for the Wastewater Treatment Plant 6.223 MGD Expansion, Not to Exceed \$154,980.00

City Manager Heath Lloyd presented the proposal for consideration. Jessica Hargrove of Hussey Gay Bell was present on behalf of the petitioner. Councilmember Wesley Bashlor moved to approve the Proposal for a Summary Change Order (CO4) with Hussey Gay Bell for the Wastewater Treatment Plant 6.223 MGD Expansion, Not to Exceed \$154,980.00.

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

MOVER: Bashlor

SECONDER: Wilcher

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

NAYS:

L. Proposal for Transportation Engineering Services with Kimley-Horn for Addendum No. 3 to the Pine Barren Road Corridor Study (Pooler Parkway to South Rogers Street), Not to Exceed \$76,500.00

City Manager Heath Lloyd presented the proposal for consideration. Rhodes Hunt of Kimley-Horn was present on to answer questions. Citizen Latricia Brown commented. Councilmember Michael Carpenter moved to approve the Proposal for Transportation Engineering Services with Kimley-Horn for Addendum No. 3 to the Pine Barren Road Corridor Study (Pooler Parkway to South Rogers Street), Not to Exceed \$76,500.00.

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

MOVER: Carpenter

SECONDER: Valim

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

NAYS:

M. Award Contract for Lead Pipe Inspection

City Manager Heath Lloyd presented the bids for consideration. Councilmember John Wilcher moved to award the Contract for Lead Pipe Inspection to Aqua Meter Consultants, Not to Exceed \$82,600.00.

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

MOVER: Wilcher

SECONDER: Higgins

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

NAYS:

N. Award Contract for Pipemakers Canal Improvements, Phase II

City Manager Heath Lloyd presented the bids for consideration. Mayor Pro Tem Aaron Higgins moved to award the Contract for Pipemakers Canal Improvements, Phase II, to Savannah River Utilities, Not to Exceed \$1,588,927.00.

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

MOVER: Higgins

SECONDER: Bashlor

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

NAYS:

O. Award Contract for a Temporary Construction Access for OutPost Bay at Jimmy Deloach Parkway

City Manager Heath Lloyd presented the bids for consideration. Citizen Shirlinia Daniel commented. Councilmember Wesley Bashlor moved to award the Contract for a Temporary Construction Access for OutPost Bay at Jimmy Deloach Parkway to Ryjack Enterprises, Not to Exceed \$25,300.00.

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

MOVER: Bashlor

SECONDER: Wilcher

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

NAYS:

P. Award Contract for West Collins Street Improvements

City Manager Heath Lloyd presented the bids for consideration. Councilmember John Wilcher moved to award the Contract for the West Collins Street Improvements to Crossroads Construction, Not to Exceed \$97,750.00.

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

MOVER: Wilcher

SECONDER: Hutcherson

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

NAYS:

Q. Contract Approval for Lift Station 21 and 22 Upgrades

City Manager Heath Lloyd presented the contract for consideration. Mayor Pro Tem Aaron Higgins moved to approve the contract for Lift Station 21 and 22 Upgrades previously awarded to Southern Civil, LLC, Not to Exceed \$1,861,170.00 and subject to City Attorney approval.

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

MOVER: Higgins

SECONDER: Hutcherson

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

NAYS:

XII. PUBLIC COMMENT

Citizen Kimberly O'Connell commented.

City Manager Heath Lloyd delivered a presentation on the December 12-13, 2024 Boil Water Advisory.

XIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

With no further public business to conduct, Mayor Pro Tem Aaron Higgins moved to enter Executive Session. Mayor and Council entered at 8:56 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 9:06 p.m.

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Pro Tem Aaron Higgins moved to adjourn the meeting.

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

MOVER: Higgins

SECONDER: Wilcher

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

NAYS:

Mayor Karen Williams reminded those present of the Special Called Meeting with Public Hearing to be held on December 30, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. for adoption of the Fiscal Year 2025 Budget.

The meeting adjourned at 9:07 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