



CITY COUNCIL Regular Meeting – Minutes

March 8, 2022 at 6:00 PM | City Hall | 100 US Hwy 80 SW, Pooler, GA 31322

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
Steve Scheer, City Attorney
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

Councilmember Karen Williams gave the invocation.

IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Councilmember Karen Williams led the pledge.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

VI. CONSENT AGENDA

City Manager Robert Byrd presented the consent agenda for consideration. Mayor Rebecca Benton then called for a motion to amend the February 22, 2022 City Council Meeting minutes to rescind approval of the February 7, 2022 Executive Session minutes. Councilmember Stevie Wall moved to amend the minutes.

Motion to Amend; PASSED (UNANIMOUS)

MOVER: Wall

SECONDER: Wilcher

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

NAYS:

Mayor Rebecca Benton then called for a motion to include approval of the February 7, 2022 Executive Session minutes in the March 8, 2022 City Council Meeting Consent Agenda. Councilmember Shannon Black moved to include the minutes.

Motion to Include; PASSED (UNANIMOUS)

MOVER: Black

SECONDER: Hutcherson

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

NAYS:

A. City Council Meeting Minutes of February 22, 2022

B. Alcoholic Beverage License Application for Aimbridge Hospitality, LLC DBA Aloft Savannah Airport at 1423 Benton Boulevard

C. City Council Executive Session Minutes of February 7, 2022

Councilmember Aaron Higgins moved to approve the consent agenda as amended.

Motion to Approve; PASSED (UNANIMOUS)

MOVER: Higgins

SECONDER: Hutcherson

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

NAYS:

VII. OLD BUSINESS

A. Amendment to the Roadside Mowing and General Maintenance Contract Award Motion

City Manager Robert Byrd presented the amendment for consideration. Councilmember John Wilcher moved to amend the February 22, 2022 City Council Meeting motion awarding the Roadside Mowing and General Maintenance Contract to include a term end date of November 20, 2025.

Motion to Amend; PASSED (UNANIMOUS)

MOVER: Wilcher

SECONDER: Wall

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

NAYS:

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

A. **Special Event Permit Application for Pooler Juneteenth Celebration Committee, Inc. on June 19, 2022**

City Manager Robert Byrd presented the application for consideration. City Attorney Steve Scheer noted that Mayor Pro Tem Tom Hutcherson, as the applicant, would not need to recuse himself as he is a committee volunteer and is receiving zero financial compensation related to the event. Pooler resident Hebert Singleton was present on behalf of the petitioner to answer questions. Councilmember Karen Williams moved to approve the Special Event Permit Application for the Pooler Juneteenth Celebration Committee, Inc. on June 19, 2022 with a fee waiver and subject to security plan approval by the Chief of Police.

Motion to Approve with Stipulations; PASSED (UNANIMOUS)

MOVER: Williams

SECONDER: Wilcher

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

NAYS:

B. **Special Event Permit Application for Pooler Juneteenth Celebration Run Committee, Inc. on June 11, 2022**

City Manager Robert Byrd presented the application for consideration. City Attorney Steve Scheer noted that Councilmember Aaron Higgins, as the applicant, would not need to recuse himself as he is a committee volunteer and is receiving zero financial compensation related to the event. Pooler resident Hebert Singleton was present on behalf of the petitioner to answer questions. Councilmember Aaron Higgins moved to approve the Special Event Permit Application for the Pooler Juneteenth Celebration Run Committee, Inc. on June 11, 2022 with a fee waiver and subject to security plan approval by the Chief of Police.

Motion to Award with Stipulations; PASSED (UNANIMOUS)

MOVER: Higgins

SECONDER: Hutcherson

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

NAYS:

C. **Variance Request for Parking Surface Material for Jerry Hubach at 1707 Old Dean Forest Road**

City Manager Robert Byrd presented the request for consideration, and Mayor Rebecca Benton opened the public hearing. Ken Stroud of Roberts Civil Engineering was present on behalf of the petitioner to answer questions. There being no public comments, Mayor Rebecca Benton closed

the public hearing. City Manager Robert Byrd stated that per our ordinances, the existing surface material is a non-conforming use, thus any expansion of that same material would be an expansion of a non-conforming use. Councilmember John Wilcher moved to deny the variance request for parking surface material for Jerry Hubach at 1707 Old Dean Forest Road as it does not meet the variance requirements.

Motion to Deny; PASSED (4-2)

MOVER: Wilcher

SECONDER: Higgins

AYES: Black, Higgins, Wall, Wilcher

NAYS: Hutcherson, Williams

D. **Subdivision Plat for Blakely Commons Creating Four Outparcels from Lot 13-A in Savannah Quarters Located Off William Blakely Crossing**

City Manager Robert Byrd presented the plat for consideration. Terry Coleman of Coleman Company was present on behalf of the petitioner to answer questions. Councilmember Stevie Wall moved to approve the subdivision plat for Blakely Commons creating four outparcels from Lot 13-A in Savannah Quarters located off William Blakely Crossing.

Motion to Approve; PASSED (UNANIMOUS)

MOVER: Wall

SECONDER: Higgins

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

NAYS:

E. **Site Plan for 125 Distribution Drive Expansion**

City Manager Robert Byrd presented the site plan for consideration. Patrick Warner of Coleman Company was present on behalf of the petitioner to answer questions. Councilmember Karen Williams, after review of the criteria, moved to approve the site plan for the 125 Distribution Drive expansion subject to the following conditions:

1. Payment of \$34,800.00 into the Tree Fund prior to a preconstruction meeting
2. Recording of the stormwater agreement prior to a preconstruction meeting

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

MOVER: Williams

SECONDER: Hutcherson

AYES: Black, Hutcherson, Wall, Wilcher, Williams

NAYS: Higgins

F. **Site Plan for 119 Westside Boulevard**

City Manager Robert Byrd presented the site plan for consideration. Patrick Warner of Coleman Company was present on behalf of the petitioner to answer questions. Councilmember Stevie Wall, after review of the criteria, moved to approve the site plan for 119 Westside Boulevard subject to the following conditions:

1. Payment of \$30,225.00 into the Tree Fund prior to a preconstruction meeting
2. Recording of the stormwater agreement prior to a preconstruction meeting

Motion to Approve; PASSED (UNANIMOUS)

MOVER: Wall

SECONDER: Wilcher

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

NAYS:

G. **Termination of the Agreement for Provision of Probation Services for the Municipal Court**

City Manager Robert Byrd presented the item for consideration, and City Attorney Steve Scheer recused himself. Councilmember Aaron Higgins moved to approve the Municipal Court Judge's decision to terminate the agreement for provision of probation services with Middle Georgia, LLC now known as JAG Probation, LLC effective March 31, 2022.

Motion to Approve; PASSED (UNANIMOUS)

MOVER: Higgins

SECONDER: Wilcher

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

NAYS:

H. **Acceptance of the Agreement for Provision of Probation Services for the Municipal Court**

City Manager Robert Byrd presented the agreement for consideration, and City Attorney Steve Scheer remained recused. Councilmember Aaron Higgins moved to approve the agreement for provision of probation services for the Municipal Court with Southeast Corrections, LLC.

Motion to Approve; PASSED (UNANIMOUS)

MOVER: Higgins

SECONDER: Williams

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

NAYS:

I. **2022 Surplus Property List**

City Manager Robert Byrd presented the list for consideration.
Councilmember Stevie Wall moved to approve the 2022 Surplus Property List.

Motion to Approve; PASSED (UNANIMOUS)

MOVER: Wall

SECONDER: Wilcher

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

NAYS:

J. **Fifth Amendment to the Sewer Agreement Between the City of Bloomingdale and the City of Pooler**

City Manager Robert Byrd presented the amendment for consideration.
Councilmember John Wilcher moved to approve the Fifth Amendment to the Sewer Agreement Between the City of Bloomingdale and the City of Pooler for additional capacity in the amount of \$3,385,000.00.

Motion to Approve; PASSED (UNANIMOUS)

MOVER: Wilcher

SECONDER: Williams

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

NAYS:

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Councilmember Aaron Higgins moved to adjourn the meeting.

Motion to Adjourn; PASSED (UNANIMOUS)

MOVER: Higgins

SECONDER: Wilcher

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

NAYS:

The meeting adjourned at 6:41 p.m.

The foregoing minutes are true and correct and approved by me on this _____ day of _____, 2022.

Rebecca C. Benton, Mayor

Attest:

Kiley Fusco, Clerk of Council