



SUMTER CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2025

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. by Mayor David P. Merchant.

City Council	Title	Status
David P. Merchant	Mayor	Present
James B. Blassingame	Mayor Pro Tempore, Ward 2	Present
Anthony Gibson	Councilman, Ward 1	Present
Calvin K. Hastie, Sr.	Councilman, Ward 3	Present
Rebecca Lynn Kennedy	Councilwoman, Ward 4	Present
Colin C. Davis	Councilman, Ward 5	Present
Gifford M. Shaw	Councilman, Ward 6	Present

City Staff	Title
Deron McCormick	City Manager
Howie Owens	Assistant City Manager
Mark Partin	Chief of Staff
Staci Johnson	Administrative Services Director
Russell Roark	Police Chief
Helen Roodman	Planning Director
Michael Geddings	Director of Public Services
Danny Crowe	General Counsel
Linda Hammett	City Clerk
CC Newman	Records Management Administrator
Marc Engle	Multimedia Specialist
Carter James	Communications Manager

INVOCATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Councilman Colin C. Davis

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

City Council was asked to approve the August 19, 2025, regular meeting minutes. **Approved**

Motion: _____ Councilman Davis Second: _____ Councilman Gibson Vote: 7-0

OLD BUSINESS

1. BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Consider appointments expired June 30, 2025, and other vacancies. **No action taken**



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2. RZ-25-14, 419 SOUTH LAFAYETTE DRIVE

Consider **First Reading** of an ordinance to rezone an approximate 0.15-acre parcel of land from General Commercial (GC) to General Residential (GR). The property is located at 419 South Lafayette Drive and is identified by Tax Map Number 250-09-04-025. **Deferred**

Motion: _____ Councilman Hastie _____ Second: _____ Councilman Shaw _____ Vote: 7-0

First Reading was deferred until October 7, 2025.

NEW BUSINESS

3. PROCUREMENT RESOLUTION

Consider **Resolution Number 1002** authorizing the purchase of one (1) Mongoose Model 184XL-HD Trailer Jet. **Approved**

Motion: _____ Councilwoman Kennedy _____ Second: _____ Mayor Pro Tempore Blassingame _____ Vote: 7-0

4. MAINTENANCE GUARANTEE/DEED OF DEDICATION

Consider acceptance of a Maintenance Guarantee/Deed of Dedication for 26 lots in Phase Two-A (2-A) of Sibley Village Subdivision, consisting of lots 132-143 and 149-162 located along Daylilly Street and Salvia Street. **Approved**

Motion: _____ Councilman Gibson _____ Second: _____ Councilman Hastie _____ Vote: 7-0

5. COUNCIL REPORTS

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|-------------------------------|---|
| Mayor Merchant | - Attended the open house and dedication of Sumter United Ministries new emergency shelter and tiny transitional homes on August 29, 2025. Thanked all community partners who supported this endeavor. |
| Mayor Pro Tempore Blassingame | - Thanked Councilman Hastie for his congratulatory remarks pertaining to The Sumter Item's article of August 30, 2025, related to his pastoral service at Mount Zion Missionary Baptist Church.
- Attended the State of the Economy breakfast on August 29, 2025, along with Councilwoman Kennedy.
- He and Mrs. Blassingame attended Gospel in the Park at the Bishop W. T. English Memorial Park on September 1, 2025.
- Said Sewell, Ph.D., CFRM, President of Morris College, is appreciative of the upcoming North Main Corridor Improvement Project. This project will enhance the area surrounding the college and create a more welcoming entrance into the city.
- Councilman Gibson appeared on WLTX News on August 29, 2025, to speak about the North Main Corridor Improvement Project. |



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- Councilman Hastie
- Congratulated Mayor Pro Tempore Blassingame on the recent article in The Sumter Item, concerning his service as pastor of Mount Zion Missionary Baptist Church.
 - Saint Matthew Missionary Baptist Church held its first church service at South Sumter Park on August 31, 2025.

6. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

- Deron McCormick
- Provided each Councilmember with a list of capital expenditures for the City of Sumter's Water and Sewer and Stormwater Departments for Fiscal Year 2026.

7. EXECUTIVE SESSION

The meeting adjourned for Executive Session.

Motion: _____ Councilman Davis _____ Second: _____ Councilwoman Kennedy _____ Vote: 7-0

No action was taken during Executive Session.

PUBLIC SESSION

City Council made a motion to return to Public Session.

Motion: _____ Councilman Davis _____ Second: _____ Councilman Shaw _____ Vote: 7-0

8. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at approximately 1:36 p.m.

Motion: _____ Councilman Shaw _____ Second: _____ Councilman Hastie _____ Vote: 7-0

Respectfully submitted:

Linda D. Hammett
City Clerk

August 29, 2025 Certification of Public and Media Notification