



SUMTER CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2024

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**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Mayor Pro Tempore James B. Blassingame.

City Council	Title	Status
David P. Merchant	Mayor	Absent
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 (Left at 6:00 p.m.)

City Staff	Title
Deron McCormick	City Manager
Howie Owens	Assistant City Manager
Staci Johnson	Administrative Services Director
Russell Roark	Police Chief
Karl Ford	Fire Chief
Helen Roodman	Planning Director
Michael Geddings	Director of Public Services
Steve Campbell	Building Director
Jeffery Jackson	Assistant Police Chief
Natalie Porter	Lieutenant of Investigative Services Division
Steven Dara	Senior Division Chief of Administrative Operations
Jeffrey Shirley	Division Chief of Administrative Operations
Robert Singleton	Captain of Patrol
Hazel Dennis	Sergeant of Patrol
Shelley Kile	Communications & Tourism Director
Clarence Gaines	Community Development/Housing Director
Larry McFadden	HOPE Centers Coordinator
Danny Crowe	General Counsel
Linda Hammett	City Clerk
Anukkah Chandler	Communications Specialist

**INVOCATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Councilman Davis

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

City Council was asked to approve the December 3, 2024, regular meeting minutes and the December 11, 2024, special called meeting minutes. **Approved**

Motion: \_\_\_\_\_ Councilman Shaw      Second: \_\_\_\_\_ Councilwoman Kennedy      Vote: 6-0



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**EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION**

Recognized City of Sumter employees with twenty (20), twenty-five (25), thirty (30), thirty-five (35), and forty-five (45) years of service.

**MAYOR'S CHRISTMAS CARD COMPETITION**

Recognized winners of the Mayor's Christmas Card Competition.

**PUBLIC HEARING – 6:00 P.M.**

**1. RZ-24-21, 3840 PATRIOT PARKWAY**

Receive comments from the public and consider ***First Reading*** of an ordinance to rezone approximately 5.21 acres of land from Agricultural Conservation (AC) to Residential Multi-Family (RMF). The property is located at 3840 Patriot Parkway and identified by Tax Map Number 184-00-01-009. **Approved**

Motion: \_\_\_\_\_ Councilman Davis \_\_\_\_\_ Second: \_\_\_\_\_ Councilman Gibson \_\_\_\_\_ Vote: 5-0

Affirmative	Negative
None	None

**OLD BUSINESS**

**2. BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS**

Consider appointments expiring December 31, 2024, and other vacancies. **No action taken.**

**3. ANN-24-04, 2158 AVALON DRIVE**

Consider ***Final Reading*** of ***Ordinance Number 2865*** annexing (by 100 percent annexation petition) approximately 0.63 acres of land (including right-of-way) located at 2158 Avalon Drive and identified by Tax Map Number 207-14-02-016. **Approved**

Motion: \_\_\_\_\_ Councilman Shaw \_\_\_\_\_ Second: \_\_\_\_\_ Councilman Davis \_\_\_\_\_ Vote: 6-0

*First Reading approval was given December 3, 2024.*

**NEW BUSINESS**

**4. CITY COUNCIL MEETING CALENDAR FOR 2025**

Adopt the City Council Meeting Calendar for 2025. **Approved**

Motion: \_\_\_\_\_ Councilwoman Kennedy \_\_\_\_\_ Second: \_\_\_\_\_ Councilman Hastie \_\_\_\_\_ Vote: 5-0

*Councilman Shaw left the meeting early due to another engagement.*



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**5. MUNICIPAL COURT JURY LIST FOR 2025**

Adopt the Municipal Court Jury List for 2025 received from the South Carolina Election Commission.

**Approved**

Motion: Councilman Hastie Second: Councilman Gibson Vote: 5-0

**6. PROCUREMENT RESOLUTION**

Consider **Resolution Number 972** authorizing a contract for the Shot Pouch Trailhead at Broad Street Construction Project. **Approved**

Motion: Councilman Hastie Second: Councilwoman Kennedy Vote: 5-0

**7. CITY CODE AMENDMENT (UTILITIES)**

Consider **First Reading** of an ordinance to amend Chapter 98 (Utilities) of the City of Sumter Code of Ordinances to add a new Section 98-63 (Backflow and Cross-Connection Control Policy). **Approved**

Motion: Councilman Hastie Second: Councilman Davis Vote: 5-0

**8. SALE OF PROPERTY**

Consider **First Reading** of an ordinance authorizing the sale of 0.226 acres of property jointly owned by the City of Sumter and Sumter County and located on Broad Street to the South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT). **Approved**

Motion: Councilwoman Kennedy Second: Councilman Hastie Vote: 5-0

**9. COUNCIL REPORTS**

- |                               |   |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Mayor Pro Tempore Blassingame | - Expressed regrets from Mayor Merchant for not attending today's meeting.  |
|                               | - The Sumter County Legislative Delegation presented a one million dollar grant from the State of South Carolina to Morris College on Monday, December 16, 2024, as part of the South Carolina Higher Education Excellence Enhancement Program (HEEEP). |
| Councilman Hastie             | - Attended the Southside Neighborhood Beautification Association Annual Christmas Party on Monday, December 16, 2024.   |
|                               | - <i>The Sumter Item</i> plans to feature the South Sumter Art Park in the January 2025 edition of <i>Life is Good in Sumter</i> .  |
| Councilwoman Kennedy          | - Thanked all who participated in the Shower Shaw with Goodies event on Tuesday, December 3, 2024.  |



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**10. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

Deron McCormick

- Presented photographs of the South Sumter Art Park Ribbon Cutting held on Thursday, December 5, 2024.
- Provided a brief report on the status of housing demolition through the Clyburn Demolition Grant.

**11. COMMENTS BY CITY CITIZENS**

<b>Citizens</b>
Lucy Mahon

**12. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at approximately 6:34 p.m.

Motion: \_\_\_\_\_ Councilman Hastie      Second: \_\_\_\_\_ Councilwoman Kennedy      Vote: 5-0

Respectfully submitted:

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Linda D. Hammett  
City Clerk

December 13, 2024      Certification of Public and Media Notification