



SUMTER CITY COUNCIL
SPECIAL CALLED MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18, 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	Absent
Rebecca Lynn Kennedy	Councilwoman, Ward 4	Present
Colin C. Davis	Councilman, Ward 5	Present
Gifford M. Shaw	Councilman, Ward 6	Absent

Attendees	Title
Deron McCormick	City Manager
Howie Owens	Assistant City Manager
Mark Partin	Chief of Staff
Staci Johnson	Administrative Services Director
Jonathan Flinchum	Finance Director
Michael Geddings	Director of Public Services
Cheryl Cato	Assistant Finance Director
Carter James	Communications Manager
Linda Hammett	City Clerk
CC Newman	Records Management Administrator
Marc Engle	Multimedia Specialist
Shane Kirkley	Audit Partner, Sheheen Hancock & Godwin, LLP

INVOCATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Pro Tempore Blassingame

NEW BUSINESS

1. AUDIT REPORT

2024

Finance Director Jonathan Flinchum provided each Councilmember with a reissued copy of the 2024 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report along with a memorandum dated December 18, 2025, highlighting the changes between the original report and the reissued report. He noted the following details:

- The following two federal projects were omitted from the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards (page 118):
 - S.C. Infrastructure Authority/U.S. Department of the Treasury in the amount of \$1,724,248.00.
 - S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control/Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in the amount of \$40,690.00 (not required to be included).
- Net position as previously reported is \$210,143,363.00.
- Net position as restated is \$211,168,843.00.
- Change in net position as previously reported is \$46,687,337.00.
- Change in net position as restated is \$47,712,817.00.

2025

Shane Kirkley of Sheheen Hancock & Godwin, LLP, presented the annual Comprehensive Financial Report for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2025. The annual Comprehensive Financial Report noted the following details:

- The City received unmodified audit opinions in all areas.
- The City will apply for a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting from the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) for its annual Comprehensive Financial Report for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2025.



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- The City's financial position is strong with a net position of \$234,135,765.00 as of June 30, 2025.
- The City had an increase in net position of \$23,746,181.00.
- No internal control findings were noted in the annual Comprehensive Financial Report for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2025.

2. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at approximately 1:22 p.m.

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

Respectfully submitted:

Linda D. Hammett
City Clerk

December 17, 2025 Certification of Public and Media Notification