



CITY OF
Swainsboro GEORGIA
Crossroads of the Great South



City Council Agenda

The regular meeting of Mayor and City Council was held on **Tuesday, September 5, 2023**, at 6:00 P.M. City Hall

Members Present: Mayor Bennett, Councilperson Collins, Councilperson Quarterman, Councilperson Parker, Councilperson Stafford, Councilperson Sconyers, Councilperson Davis (arrived 6:44 PM)

Prayer of Invocation: Councilperson Quarterman

Pledge of Allegiance

Minutes of Regular Meeting of August 7, 2023, was presented. Mr. Middlebrooks had a correction after the minutes were sent out. Under old business item number 2, it showed Councilperson Collins abstaining. Councilperson Collins voted No and Councilperson Parker abstained making vote 3–2;1. Councilperson Collins stated that under new business number 2, she voted No for Councilperson Parker’s motion to amend the agenda to add intergovernmental agreement regarding recreational facilities and activities for the citizens of Emanuel County and the addendum as presented making the vote 4 – 2. Councilperson Sconyers made a motion to approve the minutes with the changes presented.

Motion: Sconyers

Seconded by: Quarterman

Vote: 5 – 0

Davis was absent for this motion.

A. Old Business.:

1. Council heard from Giselle White-Perry regarding Robin Road. Ms. White-Perry stated that there has been a committee established to do some investigation to determine the extent of the complaints and issues of the residents of Robin Road. There is no committee report, and her concern is whether the committee has met or whether or not it intends to meet. Councilperson Quarterman stated that the committee is going to meet before the next meeting. Councilperson Sconyers asked Ms. White-Perry what the city of Swainsboro has done to cause the problem. Ms. White-Perry states the idea is to assess the nature of the problem and have an environmental engineer to help us assess what is causing the problem. You first establish that there is one. Councilperson Sconyers states that there is a problem but you’re in a flood zone. So, when it rains that is where the water is going to go to the low area. The city did not cause that. Councilperson Stafford states that McNeal does have a complaint because the water is coming off the school parking lot across the driveway into his yard. Councilperson Stafford states we could fix that by digging up that driveway and putting a ditch in there. Attorney Levis states that the McNeal issue is coming from state owned property across the street not city owned property. The committee is designed to review this and bring back finding to the council so the council can make an informed decision. I would greatly put pressure on this committee to meet so the council can make a fully informed decision on what needs to be done so we can move forward on this issue.
2. Council heard from Jacqueline Brantley regarding a blight property located next to hers. Councilperson Sconyers states that she has a real problem and whatever we need to do legally we need to do. Attorney Levis stated that he has met with Mr. Kirby, Mr. McCoy, the Chief of Police and Mr. Middlebrooks and provided them with an outline of how they should proceed with a double approach. Councilperson Sconyers stated that we need to contact Ms. Brantley and tell her what we are doing.

B. New Business:

1. Council heard from Vicki Livingston regarding Harmon Park and the water rate increases. Ms. Livingston stated that Harmon Park is a wonderful park and a wonderful benefit to our community. Our park needs some work, the same benches, broken concrete table, and rusty swings that was there 32 years when my children went there are still there. The benches need to be replaced with things that are not splintered and don't get hot. They need to be covered so that the people that do go and are elderly can have a place to sit and cool off. It is an asset to our community. It is a green space. It also increases property value. Mayor Bennett stated that in the month of November we will still have a parks and recreation budget and we are not going to spend it. Why couldn't we take those funds and redo the benches and stuff that is going on out there. Mr. Middlebrooks states that we will take it under advisement at that particular time and see what is left.
2. Council considered redesignating the use of the new K9 unit purchased from Daniels. Councilperson Sconyers made a motion to approve the redesignation of the K9 unit purchased from Daniels to a detective.

Motion: Sconyers Seconded by: Stafford Vote: 5– 0
Davis was absent for this motion.

3. Council heard the results of the 2022 Audit. Mr. Richard Deal of Lanier, Deal, Proctor & Bloser of Statesboro did the annual audit, and he thanked the city staff for their assistance. Mr. Deal reviewed annual audit with the council. Councilperson Parker asks how close would this be to a forensic audit? Mr. Deal states a forensic audit you would go through every thing looking for a specific thing.

Councilperson Stafford made a motion to amend the agenda to add North Racetrack Street.

Motion: Stafford Seconded by: Parker Vote: 6 – 0

Councilperson Parker made a motion to approve the emergency expenditure for the culvert on North Racetrack Street

Motion: Parker Seconded by: Stafford Vote: 6 – 0

Councilperson Davis made a motion to amend the agenda to add the advertisement for a new alcohol license.

Motion: Davis Seconded by: Parker Vote: 6 – 0

Councilperson Stafford made a motion to approve the advertisement of the new alcohol license for Ms. Vanzzini.

Motion: Stafford Seconded by: Sconyers Vote: 6 – 0

C. Consent Agenda

None

D. Committee Reports:

None

E. Executive Session:

None

Councilperson Stafford made a motion to adjourn.

Motion: Stafford Seconded by: Davis Vote: 6 - 0

Submitted: ***Herman Middlebrooks***, City Administrator