

**CITY GOVERNMENT  
OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF CITY COUNCIL  
JANUARY 28, 2009  
SAVANNAH, GEORGIA**

The regular meeting of Council was held this date at 2:00 p.m. in Council Chambers of City Hall. Mayor Pro Tem Jackson called the meeting of the Savannah City Council to order. Alderman Van Johnson gave an inspirational message afterwards there was a moment of silent reflection before the city council meeting of January 28, 2009, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. The minutes from the meeting of January 15, 2009 were approved upon motion of Alderman Felser, seconded by Alderman Thomas and carried.

Upon motion of Alderman Felser, seconded by Alderman Thomas, the summary minutes of the City Council Workshop and the City Manager's Briefing of January 15, 2009 were approved.

**PRESENT:** Mayor Pro-Tem Edna B. Jackson, Presiding  
Alderman Tony Thomas, Chairman of Council  
Alderman Van Johnson, II, Vice-Chairman of Council  
Aldermen Clifton Jones, Jeff Felser, Mary Osborne, Mary Ellen Sprague  
and Larry Stuber

City Manager Michael B. Brown  
City Attorney James B. Blackburn

Asst. City Attorney Lester B. Johnson, III

**ABSENT:** \* Mayor Otis S. Johnson (out of town due to city related matters)  
Asst. City Attorney William W. Shearouse

**PRESENTATIONS**

**Mayor Pro Tem Edna Jackson announced Mayor Otis Johnson is out of town tending to the business of the city and that is why he is not here today.**

**An appearance by Eileen Baker, Cultural Affairs Director, and Shirley James, Festival Coordinator for the Black Heritage Festival, to invite City Council members and the public to attend the performances, workshops, concerts, and exhibitions of the 20th Annual Savannah Black Heritage Festival.** Mayor Pro Tem Jackson stated at this time we will have an appearance by Ms. Eileen Baker, Cultural Affairs Director and Mrs. Shirley James, the Festival Coordinator for the Black Heritage Festival to come out and invite the community to participate in this year's festival. Ms. Baker stated good afternoon. Today you will be hearing about two February events produced by our cultural partners, those are the Savannah Book Festival which is in its second year and the Savannah Black Heritage Festival which will be celebrating its twentieth year. Now to tell you a little bit about the Black Heritage Festival is Mrs. Shirley James, the project director. Mrs. Shirley James thanked Ms. Baker. Good afternoon to our Mayor Pro Tem Edna Jackson, to our Honorable Mayor Otis Johnson in his absence, our distinguished aldermen, to city officials and fellow citizens of this great

city, it is with pride that she stands before them once again and greets them on behalf of the Department of Cultural Affairs and Dr. Earl Yarborough, President at Savannah State University who sends his regrets for not being with them this afternoon. She also stands very proudly representing the committee for the Twentieth Annual Savannah Black Heritage Festival presented by the City of Savannah and Savannah State University. This is a banner year for them. It is their desire to make this festival one of the best as a tribute to a man who conceptualized this celebration of African American culture in our city, the late W.W. Law. We have come to extend a formal invitation to our visitors, to our citizens of all ages and most especially to you, our city leaders, to join them in this year's festival which will begin on January 31<sup>st</sup> and run through February 15<sup>th</sup> with pre-festival and post-festival activities through February 28<sup>th</sup>. Our theme is "Our Journey Through the Arts". We feel as that this is a most appropriate theme celebrating both the visual and performing arts and especially so since we are also celebrating the Centennial of Johnny Mercer, a native son who was both influenced by and also left his mark on the sounds and words of African American music. So we come to ask that you and all of our citizens be prepared to enjoy music, song, dance, theater, the visual arts, lectures, experiential learning opportunities and various crafts while continuing to enhance your knowledge about the cultural contributions of African Americans. Join us and sing to the hymns and hymn stories of the African American church. Sing with Dr. Ysaye Barnwell of Sweet Honey in the Rock at the Telfair Academy as she enjoins us in chants and rhythms sung since the days of our ancestors. Listen to a jazz tribute to Johnny Mercer at the JEA with the Spelman College Women's Jazz Ensemble. Let your eyes focus on the sculptures of Richard Hunt, prints from the Walter O. Evans Collection and the artworks of Cedric Smith and Wendell Smith. Get into the beat with Savion Glover, En Vogue, TRES, formerly known as Five Men on a Stool and Ken with the violin is back this year. Clap your hands to the gospel music of James Fortune and Elder Jimmy Hicks. Of course our own Stephanie Edwards and Jeanette Illidge are part of the line-up. We ask that you learn about Black Cowboys from a jazz singer, Allan Harris. Get parenting tips from Rose Rock, the mother of Chris Rock and last but not least learn how to pick crabs while listening to the stories of the women of Pinpoint and Sandfly who have preserved this time honored tradition. Thanks to our partners, the Telfair Museum, Savannah College of Art and Design, the Beach Institute, the Lucas Theatre, the Savannah Book Festival, Live Oak Libraries, the JEA, Savannah Technical College, the SSU/HIV/AIDS Substance Abuse Program and new partners this year, Morningstar Cultural Arts Group and the Savannah Music Festival. It is through the collaborative scheduling that they are able to offer a festival of festivals with a great and in-depth program because we are celebrating twenty years of existence. We also thank our long standing business, corporate and community partners for the staunch support over the years. Join us for a family affair as we celebrate our journey through the arts. We promise that the 2009 festival will be educational, engaging and memorable. Mayor Pro Tem Jackson and aldermen, fellow citizens, seasoned citizens, young and younger citizens, please accept this invitation to the Twentieth Annual Savannah Black Heritage Festival. All activities are free and open to the public. We ask that you check our website at [www.savannahblackheritagefestival.com](http://www.savannahblackheritagefestival.com) for updated schedules. We look forward to seeing you. We thank you for this opportunity. Mayor Pro Tem Jackson asked Mrs. James to introduce her guest. Mrs. James apologized. This is one of our committee members, Mr. Kwabena Jones. Mayor Pro Tem Jackson thanked them. They will be there. She is sure and she meant to tell council that the tickets were not ready yet for Savion Glover. Mrs. James stated no not for you. She stated to the Mayor Pro Tem and the councilmen, we had the most successful lottery on last evening. They were able to award to their youth groups exactly 1,125 seats which is over fifty percent of the Johnny Mercer Theatre. They still have a block of tickets for our military families and then the other tickets will be distributed. Unfortunately there are not a lot of tickets for the public but they will be able to pick theirs up on February 5<sup>th</sup> at the box office beginning at 10:00a.m. Mayor Pro Tem Jackson asked will council be receiving theirs? Mrs. James stated yes council will be receiving their tickets. Alderman Johnson thanked Mrs. James for the work for the new Savannah Black Heritage Festival which begins the day after the grand festival for the old one. He thinks that he asks her every year how can you top this and she says she does not know but we have had a quality event year after year with a plethora of activities for our citizens to come and enjoy. He wanted to thank her for the work she puts in to make this happen year after year. Mrs. James thanked Alderman Johnson and again she wanted to thank the committee members and all of our partners

because without them and under the guidance and direction of the Department of Cultural Affairs, we could not do it. We thank you. Mayor Pro Tem Jackson stated she noticed the schedule is in the Savannah Morning News today but if she would like to tell them, this city council is interested in promoting programming for youth. One of the things she noticed was that the opening of the festival on January 30<sup>th</sup> with a Youth Talent Fest. You may want to let the community know and let them know where they can pick up this very nice brochure. Mrs. James stated the Youth Talent Fest is a pre-festival activity which will take place this Friday evening at Savannah State University in the ballroom beginning at 7:00p.m. This is how we begin to start showcasing our youth talent in the city. Brochures are being placed everywhere but by all means today's edition, both of the Savannah Tribune and the Savannah Morning News have the complete schedule as an insert. Thank you. Mayor Pro Tem Jackson thanked Mrs. James.

**An appearance by Matt Prickett, Festival Coordinator for the Savannah Book Festival, to invite City Council members and the public to attend the Savannah Book Festival.** Mayor Pro Tem Jackson stated Ms. Baker did not present the gentleman here, Mr. Matt Prickett, the Festival Coordinator for the Savannah Book Festival. He is here to invite them as well as the community to the book festival. Mr. Prickett greeted Mayor Pro Tem Jackson and the council members. He is very grateful for this opportunity to be here today. He asked Mr. Clinton Powell to come join him up there if he could make it. He had been hit by a car recently and it has been a little difficult to get around. As he stated, he is very grateful for this opportunity to appear before them today to invite them to join them for the second annual Savannah Book Festival. The Black Heritage Festival obviously gives them something to aspire to twenty years would be delightful but they are happy to be back for a second year with a much improved festival. They learned some lessons last year. They consolidated all of their venues on Telfair Square this year. Last year they had Franklin Square involved as well. Many of the attendees found it difficult to make it from one program to the other because of the dispersion of the venues so having it consolidated on Telfair Square will make it easier for us all to see the authors that we want to see. The festival will go for three days. It will start on Friday, February 6<sup>th</sup>, the evening at 5:30p.m. at Trinity Church. Roy Blount, a well-known Southern humorist will be with us for our keynote address, following on Saturday, starting at 10:00a.m until 5:00p.m. We will have forty-two different sessions involving primarily authors. They will talk about their lives and letters; what inspired them to write and the inspiration behind their latest works. They will obviously talk about their current works. They will also take questions from the audience. Savannah is known for her intimacy and hospitality. This format promotes that kind of connection between our audiences and their authors. This year's Savannah Morning News – Savannah Book Festival will feature Roy Blount. He will mention a couple of the other authors. Each one of them should have a poster at their desks which lists a few by no means all of their authors. There are a number of different venues. Lifestyle is a very popular venue. The author of *Southern Weddings*, Tara Guerard will be with us. His wife would probably be more interested in this than he would. In any case they try to have something for various audiences. Roy Blount will appear again on Saturday. Jabari Asim who was part of the Black Heritage Festival last year; famous for his book, *The N Word, Who Can Say It, Who Shouldn't and Why*, is out with his latest book, *What Obama Means*. Mr. Jabari Asim is the editor of the *The Crisis*, the magazine of the NAACP and former editor of Book World at the Washington Post. We are delighted to have him with us. Many of you may know Bailey White. Bailey has been on NPR for years with *Bailey White's Journal*; a very popular author, attends very few festivals and we are delighted to have her with us as well. He will join Mrs. James in talking about the importance of collaboration to our effort. A number of our authors are obviously scheduled in collaboration with the Black Heritage Festival. Our interest is in serving everyone in this community. He invited Mr. Clinton Powell, who some of you might know. Mr. Powell runs the Spitfire Poetry Group along with his own work. One of our most popular venues last year was our Spoken Word/Poetry venue. Mr. Powell and many of his students performed. We will have them back as well as folks from A.W.O.L. (All Walks of Life) Poetry Group and Basiknowledge, his real name is Lawrence Green and he has appeared on HBO and is a well-known spoken word poet. In our Published Poet area, he would draw their attention to Natasha Trethewey, the author of *Native Guard*, Pulitzer Prize Winner last year and an excellent poet. He invited them to hear her speak.

Our collaborators include the Black Heritage Festival, Telfair Academy, Savannah State University, Armstrong Atlantic State University and the University of Georgia Library System. He is bound to leave someone out. In any case, this project is not put on solely by them but in collaboration with many others who share their interest in promoting reading, writing and civil conversation. Mark Twain once said, "The man who doesn't read good books has no advantage over the man who can't read them." Some years ago he decided that he would no longer automatically vegetate in front of his television at the end of the day. He schedules time. He started using his DVR so he does not have to waste time on commercials. His friends at WTOG would not like to hear that. He sets aside time for reading. He recommends it to all of them. Please help them promote these events with your constituencies. He distributed posters. If you know of a good place where those might have some impact please help them in promoting the festival. He would be happy to answer any questions. Alderman Sprague stated she particularly did not want to miss Ferrol Sams. Do you have a listing of when particular authors are going to speak or when A.W.O.L. is going to perform so that they know when to be there? Mr. Prickett stated absolutely. There is a schedule on their website, [www.savannahbookfestival.org](http://www.savannahbookfestival.org). An insert will be included in the Savannah Morning News next week but he was not sure of the exact date. It is readily available on their website. Dr. Sams is first in the Fiction venue at Trinity at 10:00a.m. on Saturday morning. They thought that he might draw a crowd and help them get off to a good start. Alderman Sprague stated that's great. Mayor Pro Tem Jackson asked are there other questions? She thanked Mr. Prickett. She encouraged everyone to please go out and be a part of both of these wonderful festivals. Mr. Prickett thanked them.

## **LEGISLATIVE REPORTS**

Mayor Pro Tem Jackson stated Mr. City Manager. City Manager Brown stated Madame Mayor Pro Tem under alcoholic beverage license hearings, first on agenda item number five, Roslind Brown d/b/a Montgomery Beverages which is right at the southeast corner of Montgomery and Gwinnett. This is an application for a package liquor store. There was one previously at this location but it has been some time since that was operated as a package shop, therefore it triggered a complete review; part of which showed that it might be within 500 feet of another package shop. We are recommending continuing this until February 12, 2009 so as to make sure that it meets all of the appropriate distance requirements. He recommended approval of that recommendation. Alderman Osborne made a motion to continue until the February 12, 2009 city council meeting, seconded by Alderman Felser. The motion carries. Alderman Osborne stated if it is appropriate, agenda items six through twelve on alcoholic beverages per the city manager's recommendation, she made a motion for approval. Alderman Johnson asked for agenda item eleven to be pulled. City Manager Brown recommended that they hold off on agenda item number eleven for two weeks. Alderman Thomas asked for agenda item six to be pulled. Mayor Pro Tem Jackson asked was the motion seconded. Alderman Felser stated excluding agenda items six and eleven that were pulled out, he seconded the motion. The motion carries.

As advertised, the following alcoholic license petition was continued for two weeks until February 12, 2009 upon motion of Alderman Osborne, seconded by Alderman Felser and carried:

**Roslind S. Brown d/b/a Montgomery Beverages**, requesting a liquor, beer and wine (package) license at 802 Montgomery Street, which is located between Gwinnett and Bolton Streets in District 1.

As advertised, the following alcoholic license petitions were approved upon motion of Alderman Osborne, seconded by Alderman Felser and carried:

**Amy Lynch for Clarkson Hospitality Group, LLC, d/b/a Stay Bridge Suites,** requesting a beer and wine (hotel, package and drink) license at 301 E. Bay Street, which is located between Lincoln and Habersham Streets in District 1.

**Ryan Michelle Monroe for Courtyard Management Corporation d/b/a Courtyard by Marriott,** requesting a beer and wine (drink) license with Sunday sales at 6703 Abercorn, which is located between Jackson Boulevard and Hampton Street in District 4.

**James W. Newton, Jr. for Food Lion, LLC, d/b/a Food Lion,** requesting a beer and wine (package) license at 8914 White Bluff Road, which is located between Wesley Street and Paradise Drive in District 4.

**Hitesh D. Patel for Aidson, Inc., d/b/a El Cheapo,** requesting a beer and wine (package) license at 8408 White Bluff Road, which is located between Montgomery Cross and Seneca Roads in District 4.

**Mamoun Abu Salameh d/b/a Stop 2 Shop,** requesting a beer and wine (package) license at 209 East Broad Street, which is located between Oglethorpe Avenue and McDonough Street in District 2.

As advertised, the following alcoholic license petition was approved upon motion of Alderman Stuber, seconded by Alderman Jones and carried:

City Manager Brown stated agenda item number six is Virginia Lanier Rahn for River Street Liquor, LLC, d/b/a River Street Liquor. This is a package shop application at 423 East River Street in the vicinity of Lincoln and East Broad between those two ramps. It is a new location but it meets all of the requirements. He recommended approval. Mayor Pro Tem Jackson asked why did we pull this item? Alderman Thomas stated he had a couple of concerns with this item. He is not against passing this. He is going to support passage but he did want to put on the record his concerns regarding open containers especially with liquor bottles in downtown. We have a vagrancy problem on River Street already. He noticed that this is addressed at 423 East River Street but the actual entrance is on Factors Walk which is above. We put many stipulations on bars and nightclubs regarding cleanliness of the area around their business. He does not why they would not put the same stipulations on this package store that will be there. He has a suspicion that a lot of bottles that will be bought from there will end up being discarded along Bay Street and even on the river as people take the bottle down to the river and sit and drink. He wanted to know what we are going to do to try to control the litter issue but also the open container issue of these glass bottles because this will be in close proximity to a place of consumption. Mayor Pro Tem asked Ms. Lanier to enter her name and address in the records for them. Mrs. Virginia Lanier Rahn stated her name and address of 401 Kinzie Avenue, Savannah, Georgia 31404. Mayor Pro Tem asked Mrs. Rahn if she heard Alderman Thomas' concerns and if so address how you are going to handle it. Mrs. Rahn stated the actual store is a very small store. It is about a 1,000 square feet so she is not expecting to do a large amount of volume. Her father is retired and is here in town. He is helping her run the store because he has a lot of experience in this industry. They are planning on having a police officer on site at all times. As far as any rules and regulations, she has done a lot of work with the Property Maintenance Division here in the historic district. She has had twelve years of experience with compliance and making sure all of the buildings that she managed were kept nicely according to all the rules and regulations. She plans to continue with this building in the same way. Alderman Thomas asked Mrs. Rahn if she understood his concern with brown bagging and things like that right around the store. Mrs. Rahn stated yes she did. She spoke with Mrs. Jones' assistant regarding the rules and regulations and she spoke with a gentleman in the Inspections Department which was a part of Zoning. They did talk about those issues. She thought there were some rules and regulations already in place that will help her with keeping people from taking a bottle and drinking it right outside. She did not believe that they were allowed to use a bottle or they can not take a bottle and sit in their car. They do not have a number of parking spaces so she is not anticipating that they will have people just sitting out there and using it as an open container. We have an issue with glass open container laws that we can help enforce by restoring the area while making sure clients understand the rules and regulations. Mayor Pro Tem Jackson stated it may

be well that you post something because you will have tourists coming into the area. You may not be able to tell everybody but at least if it is posted, you would have done something. Mrs. Rahn stated she would be more than happy to do any kind of posting of any recommendation that the city asks of her as well as the police department. Alderman Thomas stated he is fine with it. Alderman Felser asked Mrs. Rahn, will your package store be open on St. Patrick's Day? Mrs. Rahn stated for this St. Patrick's Day. She knows she still has to get a building permit and has to speak with the Fire Marshal. She can not answer that because of things that are outside of her control. She does not know how long it will take to get the building permit to do the build out. Alderman Osborne asked if it is done timely, do you plan to be open? Mrs. Rahn stated if she can get everything done in a short amount of time then it would be a good thing but she does not know if that is really realistic considering the time needed to get an architect and an engineer involved. Alderman Felser stated whether it is this year or next St. Patrick's Day, he wanted to reiterate to her that if it is this year or whenever it is that they expect her on that day to have increased security and remember they expect everybody to be carded. They have specific rules and regulations for all of our bars and certainly a package store on River Street, they would want her to be just as strict with underage drinking. Mrs. Rahn stated certainly. Alderman Felser thanked Mrs. Rahn. Mayor Pro Tem Jackson asked are there any other questions? Alderman Osborne stated she guessed she had one and maybe she should know the answer to this but she does not. In a bar if a person is obviously already intoxicated, the person should not be served a drink. Is that the same case in a package shop? City Manager Brown stated it is. Mayor Pro Tem Jackson asked for a motion for approval. Alderman Stuber made a motion for approval, seconded by Alderman Jones. The motion carries. Mayor Pro Tem Jackson thanked Mrs. Rahn. Mrs. Rahn thanked the members of council.

**Virginia Lanier Rahn for River Street Liquor, LLC, d/b/a River Street Liquor,** requesting a liquor, beer and wine (package) license at 423 E. River Street, which is located between the Lincoln and East Broad Ramps in District 1.

As advertised, the following alcoholic license petition was continued for two weeks until February 12, 2009 upon motion of Alderman Johnson, seconded by Alderman Thomas and carried:

**Kundan Patel for Yashasvi, Inc., d/b/a Yash Food Mart,** requesting a beer and wine (package) license at 701 W. 37th Street, which is located between Florance and Harden Streets in District 1.

Mayor Pro Tem Jackson stated agenda item eleven. Alderman Johnson stated Madame Mayor Pro Tem, he has asked the city manager and he graciously agreed, if you remember this location of 701 West 37<sup>th</sup> Street. A couple of years ago, there were some significant efforts on several of their behalves to have this business to work with the neighboring Cuyler-Brownsville community and therefore he was not aware that there was a transfer in ownership and management. He wanted to ensure that we will not have those types of problems that we used to have there before and again give the community the opportunity to know what is going on in their immediate neighborhood. He asked the city manager and he has agreed to continue this for two weeks. Mayor Pro Tem Jackson asked are you making a motion? Alderman Johnson made a motion to continue agenda item eleven for two weeks, seconded by Alderman Thomas. Mayor Pro Tem Jackson asked for a date certain. Alderman Osborne asked are you also suggesting in your motion that the new owner meets with the neighborhood association? Alderman Johnson stated if at all possible yes; he would like that to occur because that is such a troubled location. Mayor Pro Tem Jackson stated we have a motion and an amendment to the motion. Are you accepting Alderman Osborne's statement as an addition. Alderman Johnson stated yes ma'am. Mayor Pro Tem Jackson stated the motion is that agenda item number eleven be continued for two weeks in order for the questions to be cleared up and for the owner to meet with the neighborhood association. Alderman Johnson stated correct. Mayor Pro Tem Jackson stated now she has unreadiness on the motion. Alderman Johnson stated yes ma'am. Alderman Jones stated he wanted to note that there was a beer and wine license at this particular location in 2008. The thing that he sees here is the change in

ownership. He just wanted to point that out. Mayor Pro Tem Jackson stated you are absolutely right Alderman Jones. One of the things she thinks they have noticed in this area is the debris has started there again. She saw it in passing. Alderman Jones stated he did not think you could hold this new person accountable. Alderman Johnson stated that is exactly why he is asking for the continuance because the new owner would not be bound by the agreement with the old owner so we want to make sure that they are aware of what our concerns are. Alderman Jones stated before it is voted on. Mayor Pro Tem Jackson asked are there any other questions on the motion? The motion carries. City Manager Brown stated if he is not mistaken that completes the alcoholic beverage items.

## **MISCELLANEOUS**

**BE IT RESOLVED AND IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED** that the Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Savannah in regular meeting of Council assembled, that the foregoing recommendation is hereby adopted and approved upon motion of Alderman Felser, seconded by Alderman Osborne and carried.

**Monument – Recreation on Crawford Square.** The Savannah-Chatham County Historic Site and Monument Commission recommends approval of the theme, location, design and funding for a small monument to recreation on Crawford Square. The proposed location is near the basketball court. In 1946, the City's Parks and Recreation Department held a basketball tournament and offered as the prize a paved basketball court. The Crawford Square team won the tournament, and in 1947 the basketball court was constructed. The basketball court expanded recreational opportunities for youth in what remains as the only active square in Savannah. The square and basketball court have provided a gathering place for recreation and fellowship, and fostered community spirit. Many of the players went on to pursue athletic careers in college and became productive citizens. The monument will be approximately two feet by two feet and will match the nearby Cisterns Monument. The base will be brick, the top concrete, and the plaque will be bronze. Private funds have been secured to cover the full cost. The Commission reports that the proposed monument is consistent with the Master Plan and Guidelines and recommends approval with the condition that the petitioner coordinate the installation with City departments. Recommend approval.

City Manager Brown stated agenda item number thirteen under miscellaneous is an approval for a rather small but important monument that would go into Crawford Square. As he recalls the monument would be about as large as the one there now which commemorates another aspect of the park. He believed it commemorated cisterns in our squares and in fact there is a cistern in Crawford Square. The base is about a two foot square or two and half feet and sloped in tablet style which is about two feet tall. This will commemorate the fact that this has always been a very popular recreational square. It has a basketball court in it. It has been debated often but the basketball court has made the test of time. This will commemorate the famous tournament there. The idea was whoever won the tournament then the city would do something in commemoration of that and the basketball court was installed. This monument would commemorate that recognition. He recommended approval. Alderman Felser stated to Madame Mayor Pro Tem Jackson, he wanted to make a motion for approval but he also wanted to at the same time commend County Commissioner Coach Holmes for having worked very hard on the preservation of the history of Crawford Square. He was a former resident of Crawford Square. He appreciated his help as well as Alderman Mary Osborne. This square falls in her district as well so it is very appropriate because the basketball that was played in that square dates over fifty years ago. It was a community gathering spot for a lot of Savannah. He is proud to move for approval of item number thirteen, seconded by Alderman Osborne. Alderman Jones stated Madame Mayor amongst you youngsters here; he used to play in Crawford Square on that same basketball court. One thing that came to his mind when he saw this and he is going to talk to James Holmes about it, but years ago we had a bon-fire in Crawford Square at the first of the year. He guessed through the fire regulations and everything else that was eliminated but you might see something else coming up. City Manager Brown stated he believed that it is mentioned in the text on this monument. This is an overall historical plaque for the square. It is not

just about the athletics but it is about some of the other things. It was not the only square where there were bon-fires. Alderman Jones stated that was the one he attended. Alderman Thomas stated we have to be careful of those embers around the wooden houses. Mayor Pro Tem Jackson stated she thinks to bring it even more home, this was one of the fewer squares where African Americans were allowed to be in. She thinks it is really outstanding. She thought Alderman Gwen Goodman would have loved it; she is sure she is smiling down as they pass this today. If there be no more comments, all those in favor. Opposes. The motion carries.

## **TRAFFIC ENGINEERING REPORTS**

**BE IT RESOLVED AND IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED** that the Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Savannah in regular meeting of Council assembled, that the foregoing recommendation is hereby adopted and approved upon motion of Alderman Thomas, seconded by Alderman Stuber and carried.

**No Parking – Coffee Bluff Villa Road West of Crusader Park.** Adrian D'Arts and the Fire Marshal's Office have requested that parking be prohibited on the south side of Coffee Bluff Villa Road for safety reasons. Coffee Bluff Villa Road is only 25 feet wide. When vehicles are parked in a concentrated area along both sides, which occurs when there are events at the community center, this reduces the travel lane to 10 feet or less, and makes it difficult for fire and emergency vehicles to respond to the area. Traffic Engineering met with the Fire Marshal's Office and the manager of the community center, and both were in favor of the removal of parking on the south side of the street only. Parking is currently prohibited on the south side of Coffee Bluff Villa Road from Coffee Bluff Villa Road to a point 350 feet to the west. On-street parking on the south side of Coffee Bluff Villa Road in front of the neighborhood center is recommended to be prohibited, as well as an additional 200 feet west of the western property line of Crusader Park. The affected property owner agrees with this recommendation. Recommend that parking be prohibited on the south side of Coffee Bluff Villa Road in front of the neighborhood center and for an additional 200 feet beyond Crusader Park. Recommend also that the code be updated to reflect the current parking prohibition and the correct street name. (Deferred from January 6, 2009. See attached map.) Recommend approval.

City Manager Brown stated agenda item number fourteen under traffic engineering reports, we have hopefully kind of a good problem to have. The Crusader Center on Coffee Bluff Villa Road is very popular. We needed a review of the parking provisions. It is not good when you are near a center to have cars parked on both sides of the street because children have a propensity to run between the cars. He thinks they have worked out something that will allow for parking both on-street and some parking for special events on the non-developed part of the site. He recommended approval of this traffic engineering report. Alderman Thomas stated Madame Mayor Pro Tem, he moved for approval of this item with one point. He wanted to stress that we really need to evaluate the parking. We exhausted a lot of city funds to create this center at Coffee Bluff. It is now starting to be used more and more frequently for events on the weekends and gatherings which draw large numbers of folks. The parking is so limited in the area that he would like to request that the city manager come back to council and show them a plan for overflow parking. City Manager Brown stated it is in the report that you received. It is attached. It shows a map and where overflow parking will occur at the site. Alderman Thomas stated it shows a picture but is there an actual road to get back to it. City Manager Brown stated no. We will use staff during these special events to guide people onto the site. Alderman Thomas stated the staff will guide people. City Manager Brown stated they will have to because otherwise people will drive all over the field. For those events we will need to have someone present. Alderman Thomas stated the only reason he is raising this issue is because he has town hall meetings in the Coffee Bluff area that will draw 150 to 200 people. There is not adequate parking if they are going to restrict the parking on the street which he understands. He just wanted to make sure that we have an entry way for folks to get off of the road so that we do not end up parking

people a half of mile down the road. It needs to be around the center. The motion was seconded by Alderman Stuber. The motion carries.

## **BIDS, CONTRACTS AND AGREEMENTS**

Upon the motion of Alderman Thomas, seconded by Alderman Felser and carried, the following **bids, contracts and agreements** were approved:

Alderman Thomas stated Madame Mayor Pro Tem, on bids, contracts and agreements he moved for approval per the city manager's recommendation of agenda items fifteen through twenty-six point one less any council holdouts, seconded by Alderman Felser. Alderman Osborne wanted to make a comment on item nineteen. Mayor Pro Tem Jackson asked are there any other pullouts? Agenda items fifteen through eighteen and items twenty through twenty-six point one. The motion carries.

**Grayson Stadium Lease.** Approved of a two year lease with Professional Baseball, a Georgia LLC (Sand Gnats), for the use of Grayson Stadium in Daffin Park. The tenant will pay \$25,000 per year for the use of the stadium. The City is not required to make any capital improvements under the terms of this lease. However, the City has programmed approximately \$3 million of voter approved SPLOST (Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax) funds for additional stadium improvements necessary for stadium modernization, League required facility enhancements, and patron/fan amenities.

**Fiber Infrastructure Installation – Bid No. 08.292.** Approved to procure services for installation of fiber optic cabling (Division II only) from A T & T in the amount of \$422,648.00. Division II of this bid includes design and engineering as well as installation of a fiber optic network in the Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard corridor for wireless connectivity. The funding includes matching funds from the Wireless Communities grant of the Georgia Technology Authority. Division I, installation of fiber to the historic squares, will be awarded separately once funding is identified. Eleven bidders were pre-qualified bid to bid on this project. The Minority and Women Business Enterprise (MWBE) goal for this project is 9%: 7% MBE and 2% WBE. The recommended contractor submitted participation of 9.5%; 7.5 % MBE utilizing ASC Solutions and Economy Masonry, and 2% WBE utilizing Georgia Telecom Supply. Bids were received December 9, 2008. This bid has been advertised, opened and reviewed. Delivery: 60 Days.

The bidders were:

L.B. (B) AT & T	\$ 422,648.00
Utilipath, LLC	\$ 442,298.00
ADB Utility Contractors	\$ 505,228.50
Classic City Mechanical, Inc.	\$ 522,329.00
(C) Mastech Enterprise, Inc.	\$ 523,708.00
MetroPower, Inc.	\$ 656,651.00
World Fiber Technologies, Inc.	\$ 648,929.75
NetPlanner Systems, Inc.	\$ 701,993.86
Fiber Technologies, Inc.	\$ 748,912.00

Funds are available in the 2009 Budget, Account No. 311-9207-52842-OP136. A Pre-Bid Conference was conducted and 20 vendors attended. (B)Indicates local non-minority owned business; (C) Indicates non-local minority owned business.

**Electrical Motor Repair – Annual Contract – Bid No. 08.323.** Awarded an annual contract to procure electrical motor repair from Tampa Armature Works (TAW) in the amount of \$27,564.46. The repair services will be used by Water Reclamation and other City departments to repair electric motors used in various plant operation applications. The reason for not selecting the low bidder is that Industrial Electro-Mechanics held the previous annual contract and had performance issues that included not repairing motors

per the bid specifications, late deliveries and incorrect billing. Bids were received December 23, 2008. This bid has been advertised, opened and reviewed. Delivery: As Needed. Terms: Net-30 Days.

The bidders were:

L.B.(D) Tampa Armature Works	\$ 27,564.46
(D)+ Industrial Electro-Mechanics	\$ 23,471.98

Funds are available in the 2009 Budget, Account No. Various. A Pre-Bid Conference was conducted and two vendors attended. (D)Indicates non-local non-minority owned business; +Indicates low bidder not selected.

**Uniform Jackets and Shoes for Savannah-Chatham Metropolitan Police Department – Annual Contract – Bid No. 08.317.** Awarded an annual contract to procure uniform jackets and shoes from Quartermaster, Inc. in the amount of \$141,090.00 and Award Excellence Company, LLC in the amount of \$2,648.00 for a total of \$143,738.00. The contract will provide uniform jackets, boot and shoes for the Metropolitan Police Department officers. Bids were received December 30, 2008. This bid has been advertised, opened and reviewed. Delivery: As Needed. Terms: Net-30 Days.

The bidders were:

	Items 1-6	Item 7
L.B.(D) Quartermaster	\$141,090.00	No Bid
L.B.(F) Award Excellence Co.	No Bid	\$2,648.00
GT Distributors	\$ 54,832.00	(Partial Bid) No Bid
Azar’s Uniforms	\$ 62,100.00	(Partial Bid) No Bid
(F) Uniforms by Patrick	\$151,198.00	\$4,450.00
Uniforms by John	\$153,308.00	\$3,214.00
Riverside Manufacturer	\$155,870.00	\$4,675.00

Funds are available in the 2009 Budget, Account No. 101-4240-51310. A Pre-Bid Conference was conducted and two vendors attended. (D) Indicates non-local non-minority owned business; (F) Indicates non-local woman owned business.

**Fine Screens – Sole Source – Requisition No. 09188757.** Approved to procure two fine screens from Dontech Industries in the amount of \$33,960.00. The fine screens will replace worn equipment utilized to filter waste solids during the wastewater treatment process. The reason why a sole source vendor is required is that these replacement parts are only available from the manufacturer of the equipment. The offer was received January 8, 2009. Delivery: 4-5 Weeks. Terms: Net- 30 Days.

The bidder was:

S.S.(D) Dontech Industries	\$ 33,960.00
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Funds are available in the 2009 Budget, Account No. 311-9207-52842. A Pre-Bid Conference was not conducted as this is a sole source purchase. (D)Indicates non-local non-minority owned business.

**Pager Rental Services – Annual Contract Renewal – Bid No. 09.021.** Renewed an annual contract to procure pager rental services from Propage Inc. in the amount of \$33,420.00. The 501 alphanumeric pagers and 2 alpha nationwide pagers are needed by City employees for communication. While pagers are an older technology, they are the best and least expensive means of notification for many functions. Bids were originally

received February 15, 2005. This bid has been advertised, opened and reviewed. Delivery: As Needed. Terms: Net-30 Days.

The bidders were:

L.B. (B) Propage, Inc.	\$ 33,420.00
US Mobility, Inc.	\$ 39,427.00
Morris Communications	\$ 45,879.00

Funds are available in the 2009 Budget, Account No. Various 51211. A Pre-Bid Conference was not conducted as this is an annual contract renewal. (B)Indicates local non-minority owned business.

**Automotive Glass Repair – Annual Contract Renewal – Bid No. 09.022.** Renewed an annual contract to procure automotive glass repair services from Safelite Fulfillment, Inc. (formerly Diamond Triumph Auto Glass) in the amount of \$31,400.00. The automotive glass will be used by Vehicle Maintenance to replace broken or damaged glass in City vehicles. Bids were originally received June 30, 2006. This bid has been advertised, opened and reviewed. Delivery: As Required. Terms: Net-30 Days.

The bidders were:

L.B.(D) Safelite Fulfillment, Inc.	\$ 31,400.00
Harmon Auto Glass	(Partial Bid) \$ 30,000.00

Funds are available in the 2009 Budget, Account No. 611-1130-51254. A Pre-Bid Conference was not conducted as this is an annual contract renewal. (D)Indicates non-local non-minority owned business.

**Sanitation Truck Chassis – Sole Source – Requisition No. 09188148.** Approved to procure seven refuse truck chassis from Crane Carrier Company in the amount of \$842,359.00. The chassis will be utilized by Sanitation to replace vehicles 2710, 2711, 2712, 2713, 6712, 6714 and 6715 which are no longer economical to repair or operate. The reason why a sole source vendor is required is that the City has standardized on a chassis for refuse trucks. The City completed a competitive review of refuse trucks. During that review, Crane Carrier had the only available chassis which allowed the cab to sit low to the ground providing easy access with a walk-thru design. These features reduce staff injuries and provide a more ergonomic interior with increased crew seating. Standardizing on one chassis reduces parts inventory and maintenance costs. The offer was received January 21, 2009. Delivery: 120 Days. Terms: Net-30 Days.

The bidder was:

S.S.(D) Crane Carrier Company	\$ 842,359.00
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Funds are available in the 2009 Budget, Account No. 613-9230-51515. A Pre-Bid Conference was not conducted as this is a sole source purchase. (D)Indicates non-local non-minority owned business.

**Traffic Sign Faces, Sheeting and Associated Materials – Annual Contract – Bid No. 08.298.** Awarded an annual contract to procure traffic sign sheeting and faces from Osburn Associates in the amount of \$28,289.35 and Vulcan, Inc. in the amount of \$27,867.00 for a total of \$56,156.35. The materials will be used by the Traffic Engineering Sign Shop to make new and refurbished traffic signs. The low bidder was selected for each item. Bids were received November 25, 2008. This bid has been advertised, opened and reviewed. Delivery: As Required. Terms: Net-30 Days.

The bidders were:

L.B.(D) Osburn Associates, Inc.	\$ 28,289.35
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L.B.(D) Vulcan Signs	\$ 27,867.00
Nippon Carbide Industries (USA)	(Partial Bid) \$ 15,052.52
3M Traffic and Vehicle Systems	(Partial Bid) \$ 23,442.00
Georgia Correctional Industries	(Partial Bid) \$ 42,718.50
(F) Garden State Highway Products	\$ 63,264.25
Rocal, Inc.	\$ 64,013.40
Custom Products Corporation	\$ 66,896.95
McCain Sales of Florida	\$ 69,830.40
Newman Traffic Signs	\$ 84,278.20
Municipal Supply & Sign Co.	\$ 87,359.30
(A) Speedi Sign	\$ 92,147.26

Funds are available in the 2009 Budget, Account No. 101-2103-51340. A Pre-Bid Conference was conducted and no vendors attended. (A)Indicates local minority owned business; (D) Indicates non-local non-minority owned business; (F) Indicates non-local woman owned business.

**Restoration of Winged Lion – RFP No. 08.300.** Approved to procure restoration of the winged lion fountain in front of the Old Cotton Exchange from Nelson Architectural Restoration in the amount of \$58,000.00. The services are needed to restore the fountain which was destroyed during a vehicular accident. The terracotta lion will be replaced with a glass fiber reinforced concrete (GFRC) lion which will retain the markings and texture of the original but will be a more durable material. Of all of the proposers, Nelson Architectural Restoration had the most experience in recreating badly damaged sculpture including a pair of terracotta winged lions at the Grove Arcade in Asheville, North Carolina. Nelson Architectural Restoration has worked in Savannah previously and been awarded the Board of Trustees Preservation award in 1991 and 1993 for terra cotta projects. Their most recent Savannah project was the former Fox and Weeks Funeral Home which is now The Mansion hotel where they provided stone carving, patching, mold making and casting for restoration of the decorative brownstone and terra cotta elements of the facade. Mr. Nelson is an Associate Member of the American Institute for Conservation and has won numerous awards for his work. Once the replica is completed, Nelson will provide the City with the mold which could be used in the event the lion is ever destroyed again. Nelson has committed to 5% MWBE participation utilizing a local plumbing company. The proposal has been advertised, opened and reviewed. Delivery: 3-4 Months.

The proposals were:

B.P.(D) Nelson Architectural Restoration	\$ 58,000.00
Duncan Designs	\$ 29,235.00
Jensen Conservation	\$ 34,950.00
Ponsford, Ltd.	\$ 54,500.00
McKay Lodge Fine Arts Conservation	\$ 73,160.00
Professio by Matt Henson Henson	\$ 78,800.00
Conservation Artisans	\$ 80,962.00
Kreilick Conservation	\$ 98,000.00
(A) Sterling Builders & Restoration	\$ 141,992.00

Funds are available in the 2009 Budget. A Pre-Proposal Conference was conducted and three vendors attended. (A)Indicates local minority owned business; (D) Indicates non-local non-minority owned business.

**Forsyth Park Bandshell Tensile Structure – Bid No. 08.334.** Approved to procure construction services for the Forsyth Park Bandshell Tensile Structure from Sopher Fabric Products in the amount of \$251,425.00. The work to be completed includes the fabrication and installation of approximately 4500 square feet of tensile membrane and its supporting steelwork, cables and anchorage materials. The price includes the addition of Bid Alternate No. 2 for \$18,700.00 which provides a year long contract for the removal and installation of the fabric in case of hurricane or other need. Bids were only accepted from pre-qualified bidders. There were no Minority and Women Business Enterprise

(MWBE) goals established for this project due to its highly specialized nature. Bids were received January 20, 2009. This bid has been advertised, opened and reviewed. Delivery: 150 Days. Terms: Net-30 Days.

The bidders were:

L.B.(D) Sopher Fabric Products	\$ 251,425.00
Structurflex	\$ 303,232.00
USA Shade & Fabric Structures	\$ 394,100.00

Funds are available in the 2009 Budget, Account No. 311-9207-52842. A Pre-Bid Conference was conducted and three vendors attended. (D)Indicates non-local non-minority owned business.

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Upon the motion of Alderman Osborne, seconded by Alderman Felser and carried, the following **bid, contract and agreement** was approved:

**Transportation Services for Golden Age Centers – Annual Contract Renewal– Bid No. 09.013.** Renewed an annual contract to procure transportation services from Senior Citizens, Inc. in the amount of \$153,750.00. The services will provide transportation for the elderly to various Recreation Services Golden Age programs. Bids were originally received December 19, 2006. This bid has been advertised, opened and reviewed. Delivery: As Needed. Terms: Net-30 Days.

The bidders were:

L.B. (B) Senior Citizens, Inc.	\$ 153,750.00
(A) JLM Transportation Services, Inc.	\$ 164,000.00

Funds are available in the 2009 Budget, Account No. 101-6110-51295. A Pre-Bid Conference was not conducted as this is an annual contract renewal. (A)Indicates local minority owned business; (B) Indicates local non-minority owned business.

Alderman Osborne stated she just wanted to comment similarly to what you mentioned about Crawford Square. One of the things her deceased predecessor always mentioned was to take care of the senior citizens. She is very pleased to see that they will get some funding for senior citizens for the Golden Age centers. Mayor Pro Tem Jackson thanked Alderman Osborne. She asked Alderman Osborne if she was making a motion for approval. Alderman Osborne made a motion for approval, seconded by Alderman Felser. The motion carries.

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Mayor Pro Tem Jackson asked City Manager Brown for any other comments. City Manager Brown stated no ma'am. Alderman Jones stated we had a discussion this morning about River Street. We promised a public hearing. We said we would report it out here today. City Manager Brown stated he thinks and maybe he should not speak but he and the Mayor Pro Tem spoke about this. It was the Mayor's preference and he thinks this is fine. It will still give them enough time to have this as a topic at the town hall meeting which staff can correct him if he is wrong, he believes it is February 10<sup>th</sup> at the normal time which he believes is 7:00p.m. We will have a briefing but then have public comments on the St. Patrick's Day event. Alderman Stuber stated that was his comment also but in addition he thinks it was the consensus of the council to get good public input and announce publicly how we will. There are four issues to be considered as recommended by the Chamber of Commerce and the CVB. Those four issues should be identified in the public announcement so the public understands what is on their plate. City Manager Brown stated what we will do is web-post some type of report that goes

into some of the issues that have been identified and especially those four recommendations. Mayor Pro Tem Jackson asked City Attorney Blackburn for any comments. Mayor Pro Tem Jackson recognized Alderman Thomas for comments. Alderman Thomas recognized Alderwoman Mary Osborne who this past weekend at the Georgia Municipal Association was recognized for her achievement and recognition and a Certificate of Achievement. She got a double whammy. She has moved up on her educational courses at GMA. We congratulate her on her achievements. Alderman Osborne thanked him very much. Mayor Pro Tem Jackson stated we will be going to Atlanta today right after this meeting to lobby our legislators to carry forth the agenda of the city at the Savannah-Chatham County Day. We ask that you think about what we are doing and she is sure they will have some aspects of it on television. She is sure the media will be there.

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There being no further business, Madame Mayor Pro Tem Jackson declared this meeting of Council adjourned.

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A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Dyanne C. Reese". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

Dyanne C. Reese  
Clerk of Council