



CITY OF PORT WENTWORTH

CITY COUNCIL

FEBRUARY 23, 2023

Council Meeting Room

Regular Meeting

7:00 PM

7224 GA HIGHWAY 21
PORT WENTWORTH, GA 31407

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Mayor Gary Norton called the meeting to order.

2. PRAYER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Council Member Rufus Bright Led the Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL - CLERK OF COUNCIL

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Gary Norton	Mayor	Present	
Thomas Barbee	Mayor Pro Tem	Present	
Gabrielle Nelson	Council Member	Present	
Mark Stephens	Council Member	Present	
Rufus Bright	Council Member	Present	
Glenn Jones	Council Member	Present	

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Council Member Mark Stephens moved to approve the agenda with the addition of the Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Port Wentworth and Chatham Area Transit.

A.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Mark Stephens, Council Member
SECONDER: Thomas Barbee, Mayor Pro Tem
AYES: Barbee, Nelson, Stephens, Bright, Jones

5. RECOGNITION OF SPECIAL GUESTS

6. PUBLIC COMMENTS - REGISTERED SPEAKERS

A. Georgia Benton

She discussed the following topic(s):

- History of Houston House

B. Dominique Lavasier

He discussed the following topic(s):

- Planning and Zoning Meeting Times

- C. Robin Shubert
She discussed the following topic(s):
- Rezoning
- D. Hannah Hester
She discussed the following topic(s):
- Rezoning
- E. Kerri Smart
She discussed the following topic(s):
- Rezoning
- F. Patricia Gray
She discussed the following topic(s):
- Rezoning
- G. Kim Steel
She discussed the following topic(s):
- Rezoning

7. ELECTIONS & APPOINTMENTS

8. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

- A. Regular Council Meeting Minutes - January 26, 2023
- B.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Thomas Barbee, Mayor Pro Tem
SECONDER:	Mark Stephens, Council Member
AYES:	Barbee, Nelson, Stephens, Bright, Jones

9. COMMUNICATIONS & PETITIONS

10. COMMITTEE REPORTS

11. CONSENT AGENDA

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Glenn Jones, Council Member
SECONDER:	Gabrielle Nelson, Council Member
AYES:	Barbee, Nelson, Stephens, Bright, Jones

A. Memorandum of Understanding- Chatham Transit Authority

City Manager Steve Davis explained that an opportunity for the City to partner with Chatham Area Transit has come, and they would make two stops in Port Wentworth and take our citizens to downtown Savannah for St. Patrick's day.

Councilman Jones asked if we could add another stop for downtown Port Wentworth, and Mr. Davis said that he would ask.

12. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

13. NEW BUSINESS

14. RESOLUTIONS/ORDINANCES/PROCLAMATIONS

A. Certified City of Civility

Councilwoman Nelson explained to council and to the citizens that GMA started a new initiative based on civility to bring a form of true unity, because each of us deserves civility from each other. She also read the Civility Pledge and presented the resolution before council.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Thomas Barbee, Mayor Pro Tem
SECONDER:	Gabrielle Nelson, Council Member
AYES:	Barbee, Nelson, Stephens, Bright, Jones

B. Elected Officials Compensation – 1st Reading

Mr. Davis stated that they looked at the compensation statistics on DCA for cities that were similar in size. He found that our council was underpaid and recommended \$1200 month.

15. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Councilman Bright made a motion to adjourn to Executive session and it was second by Councilman Stephens. Vote was Approved Unanimously.

Councilman Barbee made a motion to reconvene to Regular Council Meeting and it was second by Councilman Bright. Vote was Approved Unanimously.

Councilman Barbee made a motion to approve Chief Libby's Retirement Agreement with the removal of paragraph five, and it was second by Councilman Bright. Vote was Approved Unanimously.

- A. Litigation
- B. Personnel
- C. Real Estate

16. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Councilman Barbee made a motion to adjourn.
Seconded by Councilman Bright. Vote was Approved Unanimously.

Mayor Gary Norton

The foregoing minutes are true and correct and approved by me on this _____ day of _____, 2023.

ATTEST:

Zahnay Smoak, Clerk of Council