



# City of Warner Robins City Council Meeting Minutes

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Monday, August 19, 2024

5:00 PM

Fellowship Bible Baptist Church

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**Presiding:** Mayor LaRhonda W. Patrick

**City Officials Present:**

Councilman Kevin Lashley  
Councilman Larry Curtis  
Councilman Keith Lauritsen

Councilman Charlie Bibb  
Councilman Clifford Holmes

**City Officials Absent:**

Councilman Derek Mack

**Regular Meeting of Warner Robins City Council**

**Call to Order:** 509 p.m.

**Adoption of the Agenda:** Councilman Lauritsen moved to adopt the agenda. Councilman Bibb seconded the motion. Councilmen Bibb, Lauritsen, Lashley, Holmes and Curtis voted for adoption of the agenda.

**Opening Prayer:** Pastor Tolan Morgan; Fellowship Bible Baptist Church

**Pledge of Allegiance:** Girls Scout Troop 60506

**Announcements:**

**Proclamations/Awards/Presentations:**

- Presentation – Chip N’ Away at Heart Disease – Ms. Cynthia Malone
- Recognition – Girls Scout Troop 60506
- ~~Recognition – Warner Robins American Little League 11U Softball~~
  - Team wasn’t present
- Award – Key to the City; Jacob Poole
- ~~Awards – Employee Service Awards~~
  - No employees present

**Action Items:**

<b>Action Item 1</b>	<b>Presentation of Minutes from the Regular Meeting of August 5, 2024</b>
The minutes of the Regular Meeting of August 5, 2024 were presented for approval.	
<b>Motion:</b>	Councilman Holmes moved for the approval of the minutes for the regular meeting of Monday, August 5, 2024.
<b>Second:</b>	Councilman Curtis
<b>Outcome:</b>	Councilmen Lauritsen, Lashley, Curtis and Holmes voted for approval. Councilman Bibb abstained.

<b>Action Item 2</b>	<b>Formal Public Comments Pertaining to Current Agenda Items</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. Kenny Meredith; Glass Guru – Action Item #7 opposition</li> </ul>	
<b>Motion:</b>	N/A
<b>Second:</b>	N/A
<b>Outcome:</b>	N/A

<b>Action Item 3</b>	<b>Consent Agenda</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. Purchasing Bids</li> <li>B. Employee Promotions</li> <li>C. Home Occupation Permits</li> </ul>	
<b>Motion:</b>	Councilman Curtis moved for the approval of the consent agenda.
<b>Second:</b>	Councilman Lashley
<b>Outcome:</b>	Councilmen Bibb, Lauritsen, Lashley, Holmes and Curtis voted for approval.

<b>Action Item 3 (A)</b>	<b>Purchasing Bids</b>
Purchasing Bid List item, attached hereto, were presented for approval. 14 items	

<b>Action Item 3 (B)</b>	<b>Employee Promotions</b>
<p>The following employees are recommended for promotion by their Department Director, and the Mayor and City Council deem such recommendations beneficial.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Kevin Paredes, promoted from Equipment Operator, Job Class #461, Grade 10, Public Works Stormwater, to Code Enforcement Official, Job Class #845, Grade 14, Building and Inspections, to be effective August 19, 2024.</li><li>• Lauren Polk, promoted from Contracts Coordinator, Job Class #18, Grade 18, General Administration, to Purchasing Agent, Job Class #196, Grade 21, General Administration, to be effective August 19, 2024.</li></ul>	

<b>Action Item 3 (C)</b>	<b>Home Occupation Permits</b>
<p>The Planning &amp; Zoning Board recommends approval the following applications as submitted.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Peyton King – 107 Belaire Dr. – Mobile Dog Grooming</li><li>2. Vanessa Martin – 209 Meadow Run Dr. – Alteration Service</li><li>3. James Fleming – 104 Dry Brook Ct. – Pool Construction</li><li>4. Angelica Diaz – 232 Creek Cove Trl. – Fence Construction</li><li>5. Tuan Mai – 204 Post Oak Way – Eyelash Service</li><li>6. Dewayne Adams – 94 Gawin Dr. – Headlight Restoration</li></ol>	

<b>Action Item 4</b>	<b>Ordinance #27-24 – Mid-State Energy Name Change – SECOND READING</b>
<p>Ordinance #27-24 of the City of Warner Robins:</p> <p>AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CHARTER OF THE CITY OF WARNER ROBINS BY STRIKING LANGUAGE IN ARTICLE II, DIVISION 2, SECTION 24-44 OF THE CHARTER IN ORDER TO RECOGNIZE THE CREATION BY THE STATE OF GEORGIA OF THE MID-STATE ENERGY AUTHORITY AS THE REPLACEMENT FOR JONG AND THE MID-STATE ENERGY COMMISSION; TO SUBSTITUTE IN THE CHARTER A PROVISION IN WHICH THE CITY AUTHORIZES AND APPROVES THE TRANSFER TO THE MID-STATE ENERGY AUTHORITY OF ALL ASSETS, CONTRACTS, EMPLOYEES, INTERESTS, LIABILITIES, AND PROPERTY OF JONG AND THE MID-STATE ENERGY COMMISSION; TO RATIFY AND CONFIRM ALL TRANSFERRED CONTRACTS, AGREEMENTS, LIABILITIES, AND OBLIGATIONS BETWEEN THE CITY OF WARNER ROBINS AND JONG OR THE MID-STATE ENERGY COMMISSION; TO REPEAL ALL CHARTER PROVISIONS, OTHER ACTS AND ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HEREWITH; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.</p>	

WHEREAS, the City of WARNER ROBINS, Georgia, a municipal corporation of the State of Georgia (the "City"), operates pursuant to the Constitution and laws of the State of Georgia and its Charter, approved July 29, 2020, as amended; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature of the State of Georgia has passed and the Governor of the State of Georgia has executed an Act creating the Mid-State Energy Authority, which is intended to replace the Jointly Owned Natural Gas and the Mid-State Energy Commission;

WHEREAS, the City has now determined pursuant to its home rule powers granted pursuant to Article IX, Section II, Paragraph II of the Constitution of the State of Georgia and O.C.G.A. Section 36-35-1 through 36-35-7 that it is necessary to strike language currently in the City's Charter and substitute language relating to the Mid-State Energy Authority; and

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDAINED by the governing authority of the City of Warner Robins, by the authority of the same, as follows:

Section 1. The Charter of the City of Warner Robins, Georgia is hereby amended by striking the language currently in Section 24-44 and substituting the following:

"Title. This may be cited as "Mid-State Energy Authority."

Section 24-44. The Mid-State Energy Authority (the "Authority") has been created by the State of Georgia pursuant to the Mid-State Energy Authority Act. The Authority is intended to replace the Jointly Owned Natural Gas ("JONG") and the Mid-State Energy Commission ("MSEC") (referred to collectively as the "Commission"). The City hereby authorizes and approves the conveyance and transfer of all assets, contracts, employees, interests, liabilities, and real or personal property of the Commission to the Authority, whether originating or held through JONG or MSEC, and further reaffirms and ratifies all transferred contracts, agreements, liabilities, and obligations between the City and the Authority as such existed with JONG or MSEC.

Section 2. All portions of the Charter or amendments thereto and all ordinances or resolutions in conflict with this ordinance and the Charter revisions made herein be and the same are hereby repealed.

Section 3. If any part of this ordinance shall be declared void, it is the intent and the purpose hereof that all other provisions not so declared void shall remain in full force and effect.

Section 4. The Clerk of the City is hereby authorized and directed to cause a notice, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit "A" and hereby incorporated by reference, to be published in the *Houston Home Journal*, the official newspaper in which Sheriff's advertisements are published in Houston County, in which the City is located, once a week for three weeks within a period of sixty days immediately preceding the day of the final adoption of this ordinance. The Clerk of the City is also hereby authorized and directed to cause the publisher of the *Houston Home Journal* to execute an affidavit of such publication.

<b>Motion:</b>	Councilman Lauritsen moved for the approval of Ordinance #27-24.
<b>Second:</b>	Councilman Bibb

<b>Outcome:</b>	Councilmen Bibb, Lauritsen, Lashley, Holmes and Curtis voted for approval.
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<b>Action Item 5</b>	<b>Ordinance #28-24 – City of Warner Robins Classification Plan Update</b>
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Ordinance #28-24 of the governing authority of the City of Warner Robins that the City Classification Plan is amended as follows:

- Create the position of Customer Service Specialist - PT, Job Class # 168, Grade 99, authorized strength of 2, General Administration Department.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that the City’s Finance department is hereby authorized to transfer funds between departments and between line items within a department in the Fiscal Year 2025 budget, as necessary to facilitate the change to the City’s classification plan enumerated in this ordinance.

<b>Motion:</b>	Councilman Lashley moved for the approval of Ordinance #28-24 and to waive the second reading.
<b>Second:</b>	Councilmen Holmes
<b>Outcome:</b>	Councilmen Bibb, Lauritsen, Lashley, Holmes and Curtis voted for approval.

<b>Action Item 6</b>	<b>Ordinance #29-24 – Appendix C Article VIII of Zoning Ordinance</b>
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Ordinance #29-24 of the governing authority of the City of Warner Robins as follows:

Zoning Ordinance Section 81.2 (3) of the Table of requirements by district and use shall be deleted in its entirety and the following inserted in lieu thereof:

“Except in Planned Development Districts, the developer of single-family attached dwellings is required to set aside an additional two thousand five hundred (2,500) square feet of common open space for each dwelling unit. This area shall be located within the same block as the dwelling unit and cannot be used for any other purpose except as open space. See sections 90 and 92.”

<b>Motion:</b>	Councilman Bibb moved for the approval of Ordinance #29-24 and to waive the second reading.
<b>Second:</b>	Councilman Lauritsen
<b>Outcome:</b>	Councilmen Bibb, Lauritsen, Lashley, Holmes and Curtis voted for approval.

Action Item 7	Resolution – Renaming of Hospital Drive
<p>A resolution of the Mayor and Council of the City of Warner Robins wishing to honor Dr. Parihar’s many years of service, so resolving that the municipal roadway system for the City of Warner Robins be amended to change the name of “Hospital Drive” to “Dr. Parihar Drive.”</p>	
<b>Motion:</b>	Councilman Holmes moved to table this item until the September 3, 2024 meeting.
<b>Second:</b>	Councilman Lashley
<b>Outcome:</b>	Councilmen Bibb, Lauritsen, Lashley and Holmes voted for approval. Councilman Curtis abstained.

Action Item 8	Resolution – Master Lease Agreement Amendment
<p>A resolution to authorize Mayor LaRhonda W. Patrick to execute Amendment Three to the Lease Agreement between the Warner Robins Development Authority d/b/a Engage Warner Robins and the City of Warner Robins, Georgia to add the purchased property (Wilkerson).</p>	
<b>Motion:</b>	Councilman Curtis moved for the approval.
<b>Second:</b>	Councilman Holmes
<b>Outcome:</b>	Councilmen Bibb, Lauritsen, Lashley, Holmes and Curtis voted for approval.

Action Item 9	Resolution – Memorandum of Understanding (Houston County)
<p>A resolution to authorize Mayor LaRhonda W. Patrick to execute a Memorandum of Understanding between Houston County and the City of Warner Robins for the construction of a new animal control facility that was approved within the 2024 Special Local Option Sales Tax.</p>	
<b>Motion:</b>	Councilman Lauritsen moved for the approval.

<b>Second:</b>	Councilman Bibb
<b>Outcome:</b>	Councilmen Bibb, Lauritsen, Lashley, Holmes and Curtis voted for approval.

<b>Action Item 10</b>	<b>Resolution – Arthur J Gallagher Risk Management Services, Inc. Agreement</b>
<p>A resolution to authorize Mayor LaRhonda W. Patrick and City Clerk Mandy Stella to execute an agreement with Arthur J Gallagher Risk Management Services, Inc. for a period of one year from signing of such agreement.</p>	
<b>Motion:</b>	Councilman Lashley moved for the approval.
<b>Second:</b>	Councilman Curtis
<b>Outcome:</b>	Councilmen Bibb, Lauritsen, Lashley, Holmes and Curtis voted for approval.

<b>Action Item 11</b>	<b>Motion – Rezoning Petition – Edward Whipple</b>
<p>Rezoning request from Edward Whipple for property located at the north west corner of Davis Drive and King Drive, also known as tax parcel [0W19A0 015000] from R-2 [Single Family Residential District] to C-2 [General Commercial District].</p>	
<b>Motion:</b>	Councilman Bibb moved for the approval.
<b>Second:</b>	Councilman Lashley
<b>Outcome:</b>	Councilmen Bibb, Lauritsen, Lashley, Holmes and Curtis voted for approval.

<b>Action Item 12</b>	<b>Motion – Appointment – Fire Chief</b>
<p>A motion to appoint Mr. Albert S. Wright as the Fire Chief of the Warner Robins Fire Department.</p>	
<b>Motion:</b>	Mayor Patrick moved for the appointment

<b>Second:</b>	Councilmen Bibb, Lauritsen, Lashley, Holmes and Curtis
<b>Outcome:</b>	Councilmen Bibb, Lauritsen, Lashley, Holmes and Curtis voted for approval.

Action Item 13 Public Announcement	
<p>Pursuant to the requirements of O.C.G.A. § 50-18-72(a)(11), the City of Warner Robins does hereby announce that James Drinkard is under consideration and the sole finalist to be appointed as City Administrator and is deemed to be best qualified to serve in that role. Documents concerning this final candidate are available for inspection and copying, upon an Open Records Act request being made. No final vote or action on this appointment will occur until, at least, September 3, 2024.</p>	
<b>Motion:</b>	N/A
<b>Second:</b>	N/A
<b>Outcome:</b>	N/A

**Adjournment:** 6:09 pm

**Next Regular Council Meeting:** Tuesday, September 3, 2024

\*Town Hall followed meeting

  
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 Mandy Stella  
 City Clerk