

Regular Meeting of City Council  
New Ellenton City Hall  
Monday, December 15, 2025, 6:00PM  
Minutes

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**WORK SESSION:** None

**WELCOME:** Mayor Kimberly Williams

**INVOCATION:** Elvira Johnson-Holley

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** All stood

**COUNCIL ROLL CALL:** Ricky Foster, Geneva Jackson, Ashley Morgan, Kimberly Williams, Carl Culpepper, III and Elvira Johnson-Holley

**COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:**

- Christ Central Update – New Girl Scouts every other Tuesday with Jamie Boylen - (864) 980-9976); Christmas Program (12/19/2025, 4:00pm-7:00pm); Senior Food Boxes once a month; Bingo to start again soon; Food Pantry on hold due to renovation construction; Dungeon & Dragons on Saturday & Sundays.

**APPROVAL OF COUNCIL MINUTES:**

- Regular Meeting November 17, 2025  
*Motion to approve:* Geneva Jackson  
*2<sup>nd</sup> to the motion:* Elvira Johnson-Holley  
*There was a unanimous vote in favor of approval*
- Special Called Meeting December 8, 2025  
*Motion to approve:* Ashley Morgan  
*2<sup>nd</sup> to the motion:* Ricky Foster  
*There was a unanimous vote in favor of approval*

**OLD BUSINESS:** none

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- Approval of Updated Employee Handbook (Vehicle Use Policy added)  
Ricky Foster has questions; to discuss later with Administrator  
*Motion to table:* Geneva Jackson  
*2<sup>nd</sup> to the motion:* Elvira Johnson-Holley  
*There was a unanimous vote in favor of approval*

**DEPARTMENT UPDATES:**

- **Administration- (Maria Tamimi-Bush):** Code of Ordinances – Working on the draft of Ordinances that American Eagle Publishing has sent us. We have received the legal and research response. It will take another month and a half to complete all of the questions and fix other issues. We have numerous changes to make in it still.

We will be taking bids for the WWTP improvement project to replace the existing bar screen and construction of a new spray field pump station wet well with building on Thursday, Jan. 22 at 10 am. Advertisements for those bids are going out this week.

Board of Zoning Appeals and Planning Commission Members – We need replacements for these members on these boards. We need 2 for the BZA and 2 for the Planning Commission.

We have cut off the gas at the old civic center that has been paid at a minimum bill for however long. (\$27 a month over the period of time).

The Fire Chief, Police Chief and Public Works Supervisor and I have met to start discussions about our hazard mitigation that will go along with the county and the region as well as we will be starting on a workable plan for the city.

Feb 3 – We have tentatively scheduled this date as a workshop with our MASC rep Desiree Fragosa and I would also like propose this date as a council goal setting workshop as well. I wanted to schedule our time with Desiree early, possibly at 4 or 4:30 and then we could have a working session after that. I have reserved the Community Center for this meeting if it is favorable for everyone.

Great news we just found out today that our Community Development Block Grant has been approved for \$169,930.

Don't forget about the City Employee Christmas luncheon on Thursday, Dec. 18.

- **Fire Chief – (Mike Kellems):** 116 calls for service; 2026 late January the county will start on the new Training Facility on Gun Range Rd and it should be complete by late summer, funds are from CPST. CPST-5 Aiken County Fire Service is going to attain 6 new tower leases to put us on the same frequency as all other Emergency Services; After the 1<sup>st</sup> of the year installation of new radios and mobile services; Revenue for the year is close in line to where it should be for this time of year.
- **Police Chief – (Chief Solomon):** Information from Police Report (Report available at City Council Minutes and Agendas | City of New Ellenton with approved minutes); Receiving certified applicants: Cadet Raulerson finishing his four block of on-line training and will be testing on Friday upon completion we will be scheduling his cumulative and physical agility test to be completed at the Academy in Columbia; after completion he will be starting his 8 week training with the Academy; Road Closures for Christmas Parade at 1130, Saturday December 20<sup>th</sup> parade commences at noon from St Paul's Church; on parade day free coats give away at Todd's from 12noon-4pm provided by COACHO (Community of Aiken County Helping Others) for children.
- **Streets/Roads/Sewer – (Jason Morgan):** attended conference hosted by SC Rural Water Association and we meet with several vendors that can help us save money with chemicals etc.; will schedule a demonstration next council meeting to show a new mapping system for public works, sewer lines etc.; chipper out of service, fuel line issue.
- **Parks/Recreation & Tourism – (Brandi White):** Christmas Parade – 12/20/2025 at 12:00 noon, new route map posted on line, 20 confirmed to participate, Joe Wilson, no bands, Santa will be in attendance.  
(James Anderson): Baseball/T-Ball will start after winter break; equipment will be inventoried and tracked more efficiently through an Excel spreadsheet; planning for the budget meeting.

**COMMENTS FROM MAYOR & COUNCIL:** Elvira Johnson-Holley: SRP will have a Drive Up ATM in January 2026; Thank you to Chief Kellems for inviting us to your Award Banquet; Thank you Brandi for all your work; Thank you Tina for your work in the community; welcome to new council Carter and Jeff; **Kim Williams:** Thank you all for attending and we are going to miss you Ricky; welcome to new council members Carter and Jeff; looking forward to working with Christ Central starting January as Director, wish everyone

Merry Christmas and a wonderful New Year ; **Geneva Jackson**: council make sure you check your Ethics Commission reports; new council to be sworn in Jan 20<sup>th</sup>; Merry Christmas all;

Council meeting needs to be changed due to many attending training in Columbia on same date.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

*Motion to adjourn: Carl Culpepper III*

*2<sup>nd</sup> to the motion – Elvira Johnson-Holley*

*There was a unanimous vote in favor of adjournment*

 01/12/2026  
City Clerk Signature/Date

  
Mayor Signature/Date

**SUPPORTING MATERIALS ATTACHED:**

Information from Police Report