Regular Meeting of City Council
New Ellenton City Hall
Monday, November 17, 2025, 7:00PM
Minutes

WORK SESSION: 6:00 PM – Employee Bonuses/Calendar Discussion and Executive Session: Personnel - To Discuss an Employment Agreement. Council went into Executive Session at 6:27PM.

Motion to begin Executive Session: Carl Culpepper, III
2nd to the motion: Elvira Johnson-Holley
There was a unanimous vote in favor of approval.
No action was taken at Executive Section. The Executive Session ended at 6:35PM.

WELCOME: Mayor Kimberly Williams

INVOCATION: Geneva Jackson

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 (11/11/2025, 6:00pm-7:00pm, Every other Tuesday Night, K5 – Older) Jamie Boylen - (864) 980-9976); Christmas Program (12/19/2025, 4:00pm-7:00pm); Emergency Food Boxes available for Pick Up; Clothes Closet (Set Appointment with Tonya Thomas - (803) 221-2149); Asking for Volunteers

INTRODUCTION OF NEW POLICE OFFICERS:

- Chief Solomon: Abott Raulerson (Currently completing 4 Week Online Training); Justin Griner – Certified Office (School Resource Officer for Greendale Elementary)

APPROVAL OF COUNCIL MINUTES:

- Regular Meeting October 20, 2025

Motion to approve: Geneva Jackson
2nd to the motion: Elvira Johnson-Holley
There was a unanimous vote in favor of approval

OLD BUSINESS:

- Approval of Second and Final Reading of Ordinance 2025-07 Business License Class Update:

Motion to read by Title Only Ordinance No. 2025-07 Business License Class Update:
Motion to approve: Carl Culpepper, III
2nd to the motion: Ricky Foster
There was a unanimous vote in favor of approval

Lynn read by Title Only Ordinance No. 2025-07 Business License Class Update, required by MASC, Class schedule and Appendix.

Motion to approve Second and Final Reading of Ordinance 2025-07 Business License Class Update: Carl Culpepper, III
2nd to the motion: Ricky Foster
There was a unanimous vote in favor of approval

- Approval of Second and Final Reading of Ordinance 2025-08 Floodplain Ordinance Update:

Motion to read by Title Ordinance No. 2025-08 Floodplain Ordinance Update: Carl Culpepper, III

2nd to the motion: Elvira Johnson-Holley

There was a unanimous vote in favor of approval.

Lynn read by Title Only Ordinance 2025-08 Floodplain Ordinance Update. New Ellenton has not had ordinance in place, has accepted Aiken County's but NE needs to have their own ordinance agreement.

Motion to approve Second and Final Reading of Ordinance No. 2025-08 Floodplain Ordinance Update: Carl Culpepper, III

2nd to the motion: Ricky Foster

There was a unanimous vote in favor of approval.

Resolution with Internal Government with Aiken County, forthcoming.

- Approval of Second and Final Reading of Ordinance 2025-09 Annexation of Area Contiguous to City Limits:

Motion to read by Title Only Ordinance No. 2025-09 Annexation of Area Contiguous to City Limits*:*

Motion to approve: Elvira Johnson-Holley

2nd to the motion: Ricky Foster

There was a unanimous vote in favor of approval

This Motion is regarding the Owner of JDubbz, who wants to be annexed into the city:

Motion to approve Second Reading of Ordinance No. 2025-09 Annexation of Area Contiguous to City Limits*:* Carl Culpepper, III

2nd to the motion: Ashley Morgan

There was a unanimous vote in favor of approval

NEW BUSINESS:

- Approval of Resolution 2025-08 Addendum to Library Lease
(Correction to date of Resolution, 11/17/2025; Utility Billing Discrepancy for New Ellenton Public Library Leased Property. Effective January 2026 the county will begin paying the utilities as identified in the original lease.

Motion to approve Resolution 2025-08 Addendum to Library Lease: Ricky Foster

2nd to the motion: Geneva Jackson

There was a unanimous vote in favor of approval

- Approval to Change the City Council Meeting Time to 6:00 pm:
(City Council Meeting Time is not set by Ordinance. Proposal to move the time up one hour.)

Motion to approve Changing the City Council Meeting Time to 6:00 pm: Geneva Jackson

2nd to the motion: Ashley Morgan

There was a unanimous vote in favor of approval

- Approval of Employee Bonuses for Christmas 2025:
(New Ellenton Staff Christmas Bonuses)

Motion to approve Employee Bonuses for Christmas 2025: Elvira Johnson-Holley

2nd to the motion: Ricky Foster

Recusal: Ashley Morgan

- Approval of City Calendar and Council Meetings for 2026:
(City of New Ellenton 2026 Calendar of Events)

Motion to approve City Calendar and Council Meetings for 2026:
Motion to approve: Carl Culpepper, III
2nd to the motion: Geneva Jackson
There was a unanimous vote in favor of approval

DEPARTMENT UPDATES:

- **Administration – (Lynn McEwen):** Veteran's Day Celebration – We had a good celebration with 60 people in attendance at the Veteran's Day Celebration. There are 9 banners up this time, but we are expecting more to be purchased for Memorial Day time period when they will go up again. This will come down this week when the Christmas decorations go up. These 9 plus the additional ones will go up in May – we will keep adding to them as we go. We had a very nice letter of thanks from Mr. George Hammack II on the Veteran's Day program.
  Update on Sewer Projects:
  - **23 CWSRF – Pond Liner Replacement**
    - Debris in Pond No. 2 removed by Haren Construction.
    - Contractor held up with negations and coordination with sludge removal contractor. They are now ready to proceed.
    - Turnipseed Engineers is providing necessary information to the sludge removal subcontractor for SCDES permit approval of the sludge removal equipment and operations.
    - Haren Construction and subcontractor plan to mobilize mid-December to start removing sludge. **Contingent upon SCDES permit.** Sludge will be removed while pond is in operation.
    - Turnipseed Engineers has reviewed sub-contractor shop drawings and approved. We understand the Contractor has materials.
    - HDPE liner subcontractor prepared to mobilize after sludge is removed and ponds taken out of service. Likely during January to February timeframe.
  - **23 RIA – WWTF Equipment Replacement**
    - Schedule extension approved by RIA
    - Received 1 of 2 permits. We expect the 2nd approval at any time.
    - Ready to advertise for bids once 2nd approval is received and RIA authorizes advertising.
  - **24 SRF – Sprayfield Replacement**
    - Project submitted to SCDES for permits on 10-16-25. We expect comments or approval anytime.
    - SRF reviewing contract documents and construction plans.
    - Ready to advertise when the permit is approved and SRF authorizes advertising.
  - **Generator – Police Department and Influent Pump Station**
    - Application submitted to SCEMD.
      - Attending BCA workshop on November 18 to submit additional information to SCEMD which is due later in November.

  Tomorrow – Tuesday, the doors at the Community Center will be updated with new locks and the end door that does not shut properly will also be replaced. New keys will be updated so we will have a process of working all that out after the doors are finished.
  Code of Ordinances – Working on the draft of Ordinances that American Eagle Publishing has sent us. We are still waiting on another portion of something that they need to send us for the legal explanation of what ordinances are in and why. We should have that by the end of November. We have numerous changes to make in it still.
  Board of Zoning Members – We are in need of replacing two members on the Board of Zoning appeals (Jeff White-city council, and Brenda Adams). If you have any suggestions or

know of any willing volunteers for these positions, please let me know. The council will have to approve the members at a council meeting.
Planning Commission Members – At this time, I believe that we only need to replace two members of the Planning Commission (Carter Rhine – city council and Doug Abercrombie). Again, any suggestions and ultimately the volunteers named for this commission must be approved by council.
I will be working with our internet and phone providers to see how we can reduce costs on our expenses if we do not lose any of our current capabilities with the equipment we have at this time.
We will have a City Employee Christmas luncheon on Thursday, Dec. 18. More information to come on that.

- **Fire Chief – (Mike Kellems):** 127 calls for service; Annual Turkey Shoot Fundraiser; Invited Council and Employees to Awards Banquet, on 12/6/2025; Fire Prevention - Greendale Elementary, 1st – 5th Graders and Look What I Can Do Learning Center; Fire Fees for October were good.
- **Police Chief – (Chief Solomon):** Information from Police Report (Report available at City Council Minutes and Agendas | City of New Ellenton with approved minutes); Ms. Martha Young went on a Ride Along with Captain Watson. She said she was really impressed by the experience and recommended that others do a ride along as well.; Road Closure for Christmas Parade.
- **Streets/Roads/Sewer – (Jason Morgan):** No updates.
- **Parks/Recreation & Tourism – (Lynn McEwen):** Tree Lighting – 12/4/2025 at 6:00pm; Christmas Parade – 12/6/2025 at 12:00pm (New Route: South – North. Start at St. Paul's Church then Northwest on Carole Ave)

COMMENTS FROM MAYOR & COUNCIL: **Elvira Johnson-Holley:** Thank Constituents for re-election and for voting; SRP Virtual Teller – The Test drive is successful, however not user friendly for the Handicap. Discussions for Drive Up have begun; **Geneva Jackson**: New Rural Health Center Clyburn Ophthalmology has a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony 11/18/2025. The Augusta Regional Transportation Study (ARTS) – Whiskey Road Expanding Right Aways on both sides; 11/3/2025 supported Greendale Elem Teachers there are concerns about the safety of select classrooms. Their concerns have been addressed by the School Board; Community Serves Thanksgiving Dinners - 11/25/2025 at 11:00am – 3:00pm, drive through service at the New Ellenton Community Center. Aiken Lessie Price Senior Center 11/20/2025 at 11:00am, SRP Breakfast discussing a new State Bill allowing municipalities to utilize Credit Union for deposited transactions; **Ashley Morgan:** Attended A Chef's Extravaganza of Aiken, SC, hosted a fundraiser for Helping Hands, Inc., in support of programs for foster youth and families in Aiken and surrounding counties; Carter Rhine: Veteran Program had 60 People as well, there was acknowledgement in the newspaper. Kudos to everyone; **Kimberly Williams:** Thanks for re-electing me as your Mayor.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to adjourn: Geneva Jackson
2nd to the motion – Elvira Johnson-Holley
There was a unanimous vote in favor of adjournment

City Clerk Signature/Date

Mayor Signature/Date 12/15/25

SUPPORTING MATERIALS ATTACHED:
Information from Police Report