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**SAVANNAH CITY COUNCIL
APRIL 20, 2026 AT 6:00 P.M.
CLASBEY CENTER – COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

Mayor Kirk Larson presiding.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Call meeting to order – Mayor Kirk Larson brought the meeting to order. Roll Call – City Clerk Minde Dreher called roll. Council members: Pam Kessler, Ethan Herbek, Joy Thompson, and Keven Schneider. City Officials/Employees: City Administrator Brooke Bell, City Clerk Minde Dreher, Chief of Police Zach Long, Parks Director Matthew Johnson, Water Superintendent Jason Mercer, and Director of Public Works Tyler Swink attended. The meeting notice was posted at City Hall on April 17, 2026.

Approval of Agenda- Pam Kessler made motioned to approve the agenda with the addition of Tyler Payments and Water Tower Maintenance. Joy Thompson seconded. Motion carried on 4 yes votes.

Public Testimony: None

Level Up Arcade- Matthew Svoboda with Level Up Arcade was in attendance to discuss an upcoming event at the arcade. He requested permission to close down 5th Street for the event. The event will feature the St. Joe Goats for a meet-and-greet, along with various vendors and food trucks.

Cross walk on Arbor- Clarence Green with NCMC was in attendance to discuss adding a crosswalk on Arbor Drive to provide safer access to parking across the street from campus. Swink will arrange for the installation of appropriate signage and have the crosswalk added to the list for painting.

Lift Station Fencing Bid Approval- The city received three bids for fencing. Clark Fence & Construction bid \$26,325.00; J&R Construction bid \$13,715.00; and KW Fence Company bid \$34,065.00. Director Swink met with Terrel Clark at each location to go over bids. Director Swink would like to go with Clark Fencing for that reason. Council would like an addendum sent to the other two bidders for the change on the sewer gate.

Credit Card Fee's – Bell and Dreher had a zoom with Tyler Payments today to discuss adding the online payments per councils' request. Keven Schneider motioned to pass the credit card fees on to the customer. Ethan Herbek seconded. Motion passed on 4 yes votes

Tower Maintenance – Nick Lamm was in attendance to discuss tower maintenance following recent evaluations. The Messick Tower was identified as being in worse condition than the school (Savage) tower. The proposed rehabilitation cost for the Messick Tower is \$800,000.00, which includes containment due to lead exterior concerns. The project is estimated to take 8–12 weeks and would involve both interior and exterior work, including replacement of the ladder and roof vent. The proposal does not include installation of a fence; while not mandatory, a fence is highly recommended by DNR for water towers.

For the Savage Tower, no lead issues were identified. However, an interior recoating will be needed within the next 10–15 years. Additional improvements include updating the ladder and roof vent. The estimated cost to rehabilitate the Savage Tower is \$525,000.00.

Payment of Bills & Financials:

Ethan Herbek made a motion to accept payment of bills and file for audit. Keven Schneider seconded. Motion passed on 4 yes votes.

Reports:

Minutes from April 6, 2026.

Chief of Police Report: Long reported that the 911 bill passed during the election. He has been attending meetings regarding the implementation of the tax and will be participating in a docudrama on Wednesday.

City Administrator Report:

- Bell attended Andrew County Health Coalition, Rotary, Golf Committee, and Park Board meetings.
- Bell attended several special meetings for Chamber of Commerce.
 - Katie Graham resigned as Director.
 - Chamber is trying to figure out how to proceed with the Independence Day Celebration
- Keller was in town and did street paving. Because the Clasbey parking lot was worse than thought, North 5th from Pearl to 71 Hwy had to be removed from the original plan. It was instead replaced with Benton from 3rd to 5th
- Bell held bid openings for lift station fencing.
- All receipts for the pool meter/line have come in. Total cost was \$8,689.29; leaving \$1,310.71 donation to the pool.

Director of Public Works Report: The cemetery crew has been busy with mowing operations, and Josh has been sending additional help on a weekly basis. The reservoir siphon had to be restarted following recent rainfall; both the 4-inch and 6-inch siphons are now operational to bring the reservoir back to the required level. Swink also reported that Keller has been communicating effectively with Swink regarding paving projects. Fifth Street has been removed from the project list due to the condition of the Clasbey Parking lot. Benton Street at the cemetery has been completed. Keller will be doing the back drive of Minnie Cline in July, at that

time Benton Street will also be completed from Minnie Cline to 6th Street. Swink reported a mower was purchased from Home Depot that is better suited for maneuvering between headstones in the cemetery.

Joy Thompson motioned to accept the reports. Keven Schneider seconded. Motion carried on 4 yes votes.

BILLS FOR CONSIDERATION:

2026-4- Evergy Electric Franchise was read for second reading.

No Motion Made

ADJOURNMENT

Adjourn Sine Die

NEW SESSION

Election results read.

City Clerk Minde Dreher presented the Oath of Office to newly elected officials: Council Members: Than Wagers and Keven Schneider.

Call meeting to order –Mayor Kirk Larson brought the meeting to order.

Roll Call – City Clerk Minde Dreher called roll. Council members: Pam Kessler, Than Wagers, Joy Thompson, and Keven Schneider. City Officials/Employees: City Administrator Brooke Bell; City Clerk Minde Dreher, Chief of Police Zach Long, Parks Director Matthew Johnson, and Director of Public Works Tyler Swink attended.

Appointments:

Elect Council President – Joy motioned to approve Keven Schneider as Council President. Pam Kessler seconded. Motion carried on 4 yes votes.

Discussion: Appointments are as follows: Keven Schneider: Golf Committee; Joy Thompson: Parks Liaison; Pam Kessler: Tree Board; Than Wagers: Planning and Zoning; and Brooke Bell University of MO Extension.

ELECTED OFFICIALS' DISCUSSION

Mayor Report- Mayor Larson expressed that he is looking forward to working with the new council and continuing to move the city forward. Larson also stated an interest in exploring the establishment of an emergency fund account.

Council Members Discussion:

Pam Kessler- Kessler has received complaints on pot holes around town, specifically the areas of Price Street at 1st Street and Park Street near the cemetery from water leak repairs.

Nathaniel Wagers - Nothing

Joy Thompson – Thompson reported receiving calls regarding potholes, as well as complaints about fire hydrants appearing tacky after the tops were painted. Swink explained that the paint is used to identify the flow capacity of each hydrant, which also contributes to the City's ISO rating.

Keven Schneider- Nothing

Pam Kessler motioned to go into Closed Session for reasons of Real Estate 610.021(2) & Personnel 610.021(3). Joy Thompson seconded. Vote: Wagers: aye; Thompson: aye; Schneider: aye; Kessler: aye. Motion carried.

CLOSED SESSION: Real Estate 610.021(2) & Personnel 610.021(3).

Discussion on Real Estate

Discussion on Personnel

Keven Schneider made a motion to hire Trevor Moss for the parks department at \$47,000.00 per year. Pam Kessler seconded. Kessler - aye; Wagers - aye; Thompson – aye; Schneider – aye

Keven Schneider motioned to go back into Open Session. Pam Kessler seconded. Vote: Kessler - aye; Wagers - aye; Thompson – aye; Schneider– aye. Motion carried.

Adjournment -- Meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m. on a motion by Pam Kessler and seconded by Joy Thompson. Motion carried on 4 yes votes.

Kirk Larson, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Minde Dreher, City Clerk