



**CITY OF FOREST PARK MAYOR & COUNCIL
CITY COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION**

Monday, October 04, 2021, at 7:00 PM
Council Chambers and YouTube Livestream

Website: www.forestparkga.gov
YouTube: <https://bit.ly/3c28p0A>
Phone Number: (404) 366.1555

FOREST PARK CITY HALL
745 Forest Parkway
Forest Park, GA 30297

DRAFT CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MINUTES

The Honorable Mayor Angelyne Butler, MPA

The Honorable Kimberly James The Honorable Dabouze Antoine
The Honorable Hector Gutierrez The Honorable Latresa Akins-Wells
The Honorable Allan Mears

Dr. Marc-Antonie Cooper, City Manager
S. Diane White, City Clerk
Mike Williams, City Attorney

CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME: Mayor Butler called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

INVOCATION/PLEDGE: The invocation and pledge was provided by Dr. Paden.

ROLL CALL - CITY CLERK: A quorum was established.

Attendee's Name	Title	Absent	Present
Angelyne Butler, MPA	Mayor, At-Large		✓
Kimberly James	Council Member, Ward 1		✓
Dabouze Antoine	Council Member, Ward 2, Mayor Pro-Tem		✓
Hector Gutierrez	Council Member, Ward 3		✓
Latresa Akins-Wells	Council Member, Ward 4	✓	
Allan Mears	Council Member, Ward 5		✓

DIRECTORS PRESENT: Darquita Williams, Interim Finance Director; Shalonda Brown, HR Director, Bobby Jinks, Director Public Works, James Shelby, PB&Z Director, Tarik Maxell, Director of Recreation & Leisure,

Joshua Cox, IT Director, LaShawn Gardiner, Management Analyst, Nathaniel Clark, Chief of Police and Latosha Clemmons, Fire Chief

PUBLIC COMMENTS: (All Speakers will have 3 Minutes)

There was one speaker:

Dr. Paden- I stand to just invite you on behalf of the Forest Park Minister's Association we will be having a political forum on Thursday, October 7, 2021, at 6pm to 9pm, at the Community Recreation center located at 803 Forest Parkway, Forest Park. We do not endorse any candidates, but we like to provide the candidates a platform as well as the community a platform. So, we invite all of you to come and be apart. I think it will be informative.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA WITH ANY ADDITIONS / DELETIONS:

It was motioned to adopt the agenda with the following addition Item #4 the Resolution to Authorize Ethics Officer to investigate administer all pending and or any future complaints until such time the ethics board is fully constituted and trained.

Motion made by Councilmember James, Seconded by Councilmember Mears.

Voting Yea: Councilmember James, Councilmember Antoine, Councilmember Gutierrez, Councilmember Mears.
The motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

1. **Council Approval of Council Work Session and Regular Meeting Minutes from September 20, 2021**
- S. Diane White, City Clerk

It was motioned to approve the Work Session and Regular Meeting Minutes as printed.

Motion made by Councilmember James, Seconded by Councilmember Gutierrez.

Voting Yea: Councilmember James, Councilmember Antoine, Councilmember Gutierrez, Councilmember Mears. The motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

2. **Approval of Employee Vacation Sellback – Chief Executive Offices**

It was motioned to approve the Employee Vacation Sellback

Motion made by Councilmember James, Seconded by Councilmember Gutierrez.

Voting Yea: Councilmember James, Councilmember Antoine, Councilmember Gutierrez, Councilmember Mears. The motion carried.

3. **Approval of Law Firm to hear Ethics Cases (Ethics Officer) – Chief Executive**

It was motioned to approve the law firm of Chandler, Britt & Jay, LLC as the Ethics Officer

Motion made by Councilmember James, Seconded by Councilmember Mears.

Voting Yea: Councilmember James, Councilmember Antoine, Councilmember Gutierrez, Councilmember Mears. The motion carried.

ADDENDUM:

4. Resolution to Authorize Ethics Officer - Executive Office

It was motioned to approve a Resolution to Authorize Ethics Officer to investigate administer all pending and or any future complaints until such time the ethics board is fully constituted and trained.

Motion made by Councilmember James, Seconded by Councilmember Mears.

Voting Yea: Councilmember James, Councilmember Antoine, Councilmember Gutierrez, Councilmember Mears. The motion carried.

CLOSING COMMENTS BY GOVERNING BODY:

Councilmember James - reminded everyone to come out to the 2021 Forest Park Homecoming Parade that will be held this Saturday, October 9, 2021. I would like to express for anyone that would like to participate, please have your parade entry form submitted by tomorrow. I would also like to make a special note that there will be no campaigning in the parade. The only campaigning will be from the candidates that are running for homecoming court. I want to thank everyone for coming out. I hope you all come out to the Forest Park Ministers Association political forum. Have a great evening.

Councilmember Antoine - I see a lot of new faces and for those that are always here, thank you. I want to give a shout out to our Deputy Chief and congratulations on this historic event. Thank you for the phone calls about the people in Haiti which is where I am from. I know you heard about the events. I lot of you sent emails and text messages that you were keeping us in your prayer. As you have seen on the news, there is help. But they are being shipped back by the thousands. A lot of the people are being shipped back are from the Sister Cities that we supported. Years ago, when we adopted this agenda, we did not know this was going to happen. Shout out to the Fire Department when the fire trucks are shipped. Thank you beforehand the help that was needed. If you show me a person that cares about another country, I can tell you where that person is going because it is not just about one area; they see where they can help everywhere. I hope everyone sees it like that. I want to give a shout out about the utility assistance program that is coming along. I am excited to spread the word I know there will be more details coming. I would like to give a shout out to Mr. Shelby, you are always on point by bringing businesses to the city. I would like to give a shout out to our City Manager. I am not sure if you all knew but this is a milestone he has achieved. There are not many City Managers in Georgia that can wear this title. I would also say that this is one of the best City Manager's that we have ever had.

Councilmember Gutierrez - congratulations Dr. Cooper I share the same sentiments as Councilman Dabouze. I just want to say we have had a few events; a few is an understatement, I really want to shout out our Public Works Department, Director of Parks & Recreation Tarik Maxwell, our Council Aides Ms. Tenisha Dixon, and Demarion Moses they are just amazing at everything that they do. Their organization and execution; I am just blessed. I get a lot of the credit for things that they do. We just talk about it and our city staff just execute for you all, our people. I am really happy. We do not have to drive (insert city name) because we are hosting them here. At Food Truck Friday we showed a movie at the *Fountain* so my apologies because we did have to close the turning lane to the right. You were still able to turn in you just had to go 5 more feet, sorry for the inconvenience. We also had a cleanup and the Boys Scouts showed up, thank you to them and the other (2) two volunteers that showed up. Our Hispanic Heritage Festival

was also a success. The community really embraced that we had some amazing performers and a lot of children from the community performing. My favorite event that I have had since I been here in Forest Park is *Bingo Night* with the seniors. Just to talk and connect with them. I know COVID hit us hard, but for our seniors that were hit harder. They had to be secluded as the ones that were the most vulnerable. A lot of people were just thankful and to connect with them on a personal level. I lost my father a few years ago so it is nice to talk to them. We will be meeting with our Senior Committee this week to talk about our next event. I would like to invite you all to that; it is very powerful. I would like to invite you to the future national champions, this Saturday Georgia Bulldogs @ Auburn. Please come out and enjoy. Shout out to Parks and Recreation Director, Tarik Maxwell he brings a lot of local performers that is nice and neat experience. Next week, I will be partnering with a nonprofit to finish up Hispanic Heritage Month. I would like to invite you to *Sunset Yoga*, yoga out on the green and watch the sun come down; Wednesday, we will host an event for *Breast Cancer Awareness*, we will have a speaker to come out. I did not know that men could get breast cancer. I do not know any men/guys that have had it. So, men and women check your self; *Thursday*, they will be making vision boards, if you want to build something to help motivate you; vision boards are very powerful; and Friday we will be playing *Loteria* (Spanish Bingo). Follow us on social media or you can just call me if you cannot find the information God bless all of you. Elections are coming up, please make sure you get people motivated and registered. The people have the power. When we hold people accountable when we show up and vote; so, let's make sure we do that. Congratulations Deputy Chief Halcome. Also, there was a cemetery in my ward that was left off the list for maintenance.

Councilmember Mears - I am glad to see everyone here tonight. I would like to give a few accolades to Dr. Cooper for his award and Mr. Halcome on his achievement in fire endeavors. I have known Mr. Holcomb since he was (9) years old, congratulations. I work a part time job and several people at my work have had cases of COVID. We have a perfect opportunity to be checked at no expense. I use the facility last weekend. Just to check in to see. You never know when you will be exposed. They are highly professional. They checked and everything is fine. I do not have COVID. Please use them. Have a good evening and thank you.

Mayor Butler - I would like to echo the sentiments of my colleagues Dr. Cooper on your accomplishments. You are a blessing to have in our city. Deputy Chief Halcome congratulations. We do have the second annual State of the City Address that will be held on October 13, 2021, at 7:00pm at Living Faith Tabernacle. I want to encourage everyone to come out and hear about all of the amazing things going on in our city and all of the future plans to continue to move Forest Park forward. I do hope to see you all at the political forum. The same faces here, I would hope to see you after the November election. The *Green Leaf* will be going out in the mail; grab one on your way out. You have some people try and tell our narrative and often times they get it wrong. This is coming from the City of Forest Park. This is as good as the gospel; this is our gospel. If it is not coming from this office, consider the source.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: (When an Executive Session is required, one will be called for the following issues: Personnel, Litigation or Real Estate)

ADJOURNMENT:

It was motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:18pm.

Motion made by Councilmember James, Seconded by Councilmember Mears.

Voting Yea: Councilmember James, Councilmember Antoine, Councilmember Gutierrez, Councilmember Mears.

The motion carried.