



CITY COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION

Monday, April 01, 2024 at 7:00 PM
Council Chambers and YouTube Livestream

Website: www.forestparkga.gov
YouTube: <https://bit.ly/3c28p0A>
Phone Number: (404) 366.4720

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

The Honorable Mayor Angelyne Butler, MPA

The Honorable Kimberly James
The Honorable Hector Gutierrez
The Honorable Allan Mears

The Honorable Dabouze Antoine
The Honorable Latresa Akins-Wells

Ricky L. Clark Jr, City Manager
Randy Rainey, City Clerk
Danielle Matricardi, City Attorney

DRAFT REGULAR MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME: Mayor Pro-Tem Akins-Wells called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

INVOCATION/PLEDGE: The invocation and pledge were led by Pastor Clinksdale.

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		✓
Hector Gutierrez	Council Member, Ward 3		zoom
Latresa Akins-Wells	Council Member, Ward 4		✓
Allan Mears	Council Member, Ward 5		✓

Jeremi Patterson, Deputy Finance Director; John Wiggins; Finance Director; Nina Robinson; James Shelby, Interim Director of Planning & Community Development; Shalonda Brown, HR Director, Diane Lewis, Deputy HR Director; Nigel Whatley, Deputy Public Works Director, Dorthy Roper-Jackson, Court Administrator, Rodney Virgil, Level 2 Support Engineer; Pauline Warrior; Senior Management Analyst, Chief Criss, PD; and Danielle Matricardi, City Attorney, Deputy Chief May, Major Smith and Ioana Armstrong.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA WITH ANY ADDITIONS / DELETIONS:

It was moved to approve the agenda with the amendment of Removing item number 2 and replacing it with the Georgia Cities Week Resolution.

Motion made by Councilmember James, Seconded by Councilmember Mears.

Voting Yea: Councilmember James, Councilmember Antoine, Councilmember Gutierrez, Councilmember Akins-Wells, Councilmember Mears

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

1. **Council Approval of Council Work Session and Regular Meeting Minutes from March 18, 2024 -**
City Clerk

It was moved to approve the Council Work Session and Regular Meeting Minutes from March 18, 2024.

Motion made by Councilmember James, Seconded by Councilmember Mears.

Voting Yea: Councilmember James, Councilmember Antoine, Councilmember Gutierrez, Councilmember Akins-Wells, Councilmember Mears

PUBLIC COMMENTS: (All Speakers will have 3 Minutes)

There were two (2) Public Comment Speakers:

Louis Wright- noted that people are coming to her about the recycling center. There is a close sign on it and the citizens need it. She would like an update, she noted she would like them to put the City Managers' report on the screen so that those at home can follow along.

Sam Ibenez- noted he has some concerns about some of the tickets that are being issued. He asked the council to open the Recycling center back up because they needed it. He noted 240 thousand is going to the police but why and how. He noted it is a lot of money and he does not like that. He noted his friend went to jail and was found dead and they do not have any answers yet. He noted his name is Dewayne Briscoe. He noted all his friend talked about was happiness. He noted that someone spoke about a police car being wrecked. He would like to know where the car is and to whom they are selling it to. He stated let us start working together instead of fighting each other.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT:

City Manager Clark- recognized the new hires within the Police Department: Amar McIntosh, Jordan Parish, Jaydon Brown, Corey Grant Jones, Marcus Van, and police recruits Quan Don and Jonathan Carol. He noted Mr. Don is the first Vietnamese police officer here in the City of Forest Park. He noted that the Police Department is made up of a diverse group of people. He sent out prayers to Mayor Butler who laid her father to rest today. Mr. Clark noted there was a celebration for Ms. Yvonne Braswell's retirement, after serving 15 years. He noted they will start the budget proceedings next week with the different departments. He noted he will soon plan a date for the retreat and go over with the mayor and Council what the presentation will include for the 2024-2025 budget year. He noted that Mr. James Shelby has been appointed Interim Director for the Planning and Economic Department.

He recognized the recipient of 270 thousand dollars through the local Maintenance and Improvement grants. This will help do more street and infrastructure projects throughout the community. He noted that this is the first time that GDOT is not requiring matching funds.

He noted that they have been in conversation about the recycling Center, and it requires a part-time position. He noted as they commence the budget it is something that will be discussed. He noted that the Home Program has 122 pre-qualified people: Ward 1- 22 people, Ward 2 -28, Ward 3- 22, Ward 4- 32, and Ward 5-18. He noted due to people not having computers Ms. Pauline and the Council Aides have been individually assisting them in the chambers with uploading their information. He noted they will not know if there will be any remaining funds until they go through the entire cycle.

PRESENTATIONS:

(Replaced) Presentation on the Geotechnical Investigation for the Public Safety Building-Planning and Community Development Department

Background/History:

Falcon Design/Grouped Engineering Services (GES) investigated undeveloped portions of the property associated with the Gillem Public Safety Building. This investigation was in response to the appearance of subsidence/sinkholes on the property in areas that were outside the limits of construction and disturbance for the project. The original geotechnical report was utilized solely for the actual areas requiring construction for the parking and building areas for this site.

- 2. It was motioned to Approve a Resolution of the City of Forest Park recognizing the Georgia Cities Week April 21st – April 27th and encourage all residents to support the celebration and corresponding activities.**

Motion made by Councilmember James, Seconded by Councilmember Mears.

Voting Yea: Councilmember James, Councilmember Antoine, Councilmember Gutierrez, Councilmember Akins-Wells, Councilmember Mears

- 3. FOREST PARK FIRE & EMS – OFFICER PROMOTIONS AND NEWLY APPOINTED OFFICERS**

The Forest Park Fire & EMS Department has recently promoted Captain Ian Hogan to Battalion Chief and Lieutenant Conway Ferguson to Captain.

Chief Latosha Clemons will present the introductions.

Chief Clemmons noted that Mr. Hogan will report directly to Deputy Chief May.

Ian Hogan- noted it has been an honor and privilege so far and he looks to do right by the gentleman in the back of the room, so they continue to do right by the city.

Chief Clemmons – noted they are doing a quick presentation of a shield, or a helmet and the official pinning will be during Georgia Cities Week.

Conway Ferguson -thanked the City Manager, the Council, and the Chief. He noted it has been 26 years and he hopes to continue to serve to the best of his ability and take care of his crew.

There were also two newly appointed officers: Tad Busby to Training Division Lieutenant and Charles Morris to Lieutenant.

NEW BUSINESS:**4. Council Approval on the Renewal of the GEMA/Homeland Security Statewide Mutual Aid Agreement-Executive Offices**

It was moved to approve the Renewal of the GEMA/Homeland Security Statewide Mutual Aid Agreement.

Motion made by Councilmember Mears, Seconded by Councilmember James.

Voting Yea: Councilmember James, Councilmember Antoine, Councilmember Gutierrez, Councilmember Akins-Wells, Councilmember Mears

5. Council Approval of an Emergency Requisition Associated with the Public Safety Building – Planning and Community Development Department

It was moved to approve an Emergency Requisition Associated with the Public Safety Building.

Motion made by Councilmember Mears, Seconded by Councilmember James.

Voting Yea: Councilmember James, Councilmember Antoine, Councilmember Gutierrez, Councilmember Akins-Wells, Councilmember Mears

6. Council Approval of the City Center Boundary Topographic and Utility Survey-Planning and Community Development Department/Capital Projects

It was moved to approve the City Center Boundary Topographic and Utility Survey.

Motion made by Councilmember James, Seconded by Councilmember Mears.

Voting Yea: Councilmember James, Councilmember Antoine, Councilmember Gutierrez, Councilmember Akins-Wells, Councilmember Mears

7. Council Approval to upfit seventeen (17) Police Vehicles- Police Department

It was moved to approve to upfit seventeen (17) Police Vehicles.

Motion made by Councilmember James, Seconded by Councilmember Mears.

Voting Yea: Councilmember James, Councilmember Antoine, Councilmember Gutierrez, Councilmember Akins-Wells, Councilmember Mears

8. Council Approval to Purchase seven (7) portable Radios for the Police Department-Police Department

It was moved to approve to Purchase seven (7) portable Radios for the Police Department.

Motion made by Councilmember Mears, Seconded by Councilmember James.

Voting Yea: Councilmember James, Councilmember Antoine, Councilmember Gutierrez, Councilmember Akins-Wells, Councilmember Mears

9. Council Approval to purchase one (1) Police Vehicle-Police Department

It was moved to approve to purchase one (1) Police Vehicle.

Motion made by Councilmember James, Seconded by Councilmember Mears.

Voting Yea: Councilmember James, Councilmember Antoine, Councilmember Gutierrez, Councilmember Akins-Wells, Councilmember Mears

10. Council Approval for the Purchase of Playground Equipment for Pocket Parks-Public Works Department

It was moved to approve the Purchase of Playground Equipment for Pocket Parks.

Motion made by Councilmember James, Seconded by Councilmember Mears.

Voting Yea: Councilmember James, Councilmember Antoine, Councilmember Gutierrez, Councilmember Akins-Wells, Councilmember Mears

11. Council Approval - CPRG Grant Agreement with Clayton County-Public Works Department

It was moved to approve CPRG Grant Agreement with Clayton County.

Motion made by Councilmember James, Seconded by Councilmember Mears.

Voting Yea: Councilmember James, Councilmember Antoine, Councilmember Gutierrez, Councilmember Akins-Wells, Councilmember Mears

CLOSING COMMENTS BY GOVERNING BODY:

Councilmember James- thanked everyone for coming out and she is looking forward to the new Spring season.

Councilmember Gutierrez- sends his condolences to the Mayor on the loss of her father. He noted he was proud of his city and everything that they are doing.

Councilmember Mears- noted he understands they are selling the parking lot for the Amphitheatre. He noted he just wants everyone to know because it is coming. He acknowledged Mr. Willie as the oldest person in the room and thanked everyone

Councilmember James- noted if you have not RSVP for April 18th to please do so, for the Evolution Celebration of Fort Gillem. She noted she would like those who have served in the service or on the URA board present and past to register.

Councilmember Akins Wells- thanked everyone for coming. She welcomed the new hires and congratulated those that were promoted. She thanked the Fire and Police Chief for doing an amazing job. She thanked Ms. Warrior for the program and for helping move the city forward. She thanked Mr. Shelby for standing up again. She noted April 5th from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm in 2nd Street Park there will be the Tree Dedication. She noted the recipient was a resident of Forest Park and he lost his life at a young age in 2016. She thanked everyone for coming.

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

It was moved to recess into Executive Session at 7:26 p.m. for Personnel, Litigation, or Real Estate matters.

Motion made by Councilmember James, Seconded by Councilmember Mears.

Voting Yea: Councilmember James, Councilmember Antoine, Councilmember Gutierrez, Councilmember Akins-Wells, Councilmember Mears

It was motioned to reconvene into the Council Regular Session at 7:33 p.m.

Motion made by Councilmember James, Seconded by Councilmember Mears.

Voting Yea: Councilmember James, Councilmember Antoine, Councilmember Gutierrez, Councilmember Akins-Wells, Councilmember Mears

It was motioned to purchase the DDA property located at 650 Main Street for 350k.

Motion made by Councilmember James, Seconded by Councilmember Mears.

Voting Yea: Councilmember James, Councilmember Antoine, Councilmember Gutierrez, Councilmember Akins-Wells, Councilmember Mears

ADJOURNMENT:

It was moved to adjourn the Regular Session at 7:34 p.m.

Motion made by Councilmember James, Seconded by Councilmember Mears.

Voting Yea: Councilmember James, Councilmember Antoine, Councilmember Gutierrez, Councilmember Akins-Wells, Councilmember Mears

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