



# CITY COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION

Monday, December 02, 2024 at 7:00 PM  
Council Chambers and YouTube Livestream

**Website:** [www.forestparkga.gov](http://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 Latresa Akins-Wells  
The Honorable Allan Mears

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

## DRAFT REGULAR MINUTES

**CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME:** Mayor Butler called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm.

**INVOCATION/PLEDGE:** Elder Cook led the pledge and invocation.

**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		•
Hector Gutierrez	Council Member, Ward 3	•	
Latresa Akins-Wells	Council Member, Ward 4		•
Allan Mears	Council Member, Ward 5		•

John Wiggins, Finance Director; Jeremi Patterson, Deputy Finance Director, Shalonda Brown, HR Director, Deputy Fire Chief David Halcomb; Joshua Cox; IT Director, Pauline Warrior, Chief of Staff; Javon Lloyd, PIO, Kwame Marshall; Multimedia Specialist, Derry Walker, Code Enforcement Director, Marsellas Williams, Economic Director; Nicole Dozier, Planning Community Director.; Talisha Clark, Procurement Manager; Dorothy Roper-Jackson, Court Director; James Shelby, Project Manager; Michelle Hood, Deputy City Clerk; Brandon Criss, Police Chief; and Danielle Matricardi, City Attorney.

**ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA WITH ANY ADDITIONS / DELETIONS:**

**Councilmember James** noted that if there are no objections, the items can be moved from the regular agenda to the consent agenda.

**Mayor Butler** asked if she wanted to include the items from the executive session.

**Attorney Matricardi** noted they needed to be voted on separately.

It was motioned to move items 3-7 from the regular agenda and adopt the consent agenda.

Motion made by Councilmember James, Seconded by Councilmember Mears.

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

**ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA WITH ANY ADDITIONS / DELETIONS:**

It was motioned to adopt the regular agenda with the following additions from the Executive Session:

A motioned to authorize legal services agreement with Denmark Ashby to become effective January 1, 2025.

A motioned to adopt a resolution to authorize the acquisition of 1.754 acres of certain real property located in LAND LOT 211 of the 12<sup>th</sup> LAND DISTRICT of the City of Forest Park and Clayton County.

A motioned to adopt a resolution to authorize the acquisition of 1.57 acres of certain real property located in LAND LOTS 207, 210, AND 211 of the 12<sup>th</sup> LAND DISTRICTS of the City of Forest Park.

A motion to authorize the Mayor to execute an agreement with the URA to formalize existing use of the Forest Park Police Department Shooting Range

Motion made by Councilmember James, Seconded by Councilmember Mears.

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

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

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

It was motioned to approve the Work Session and Regular meeting minutes from November 18, 2024.

Motion made by Councilmember James, Seconded by Councilmember Mears.

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

**PUBLIC COMMENTS: (All Speakers will have 3 Minutes)**

There were 2 (two) public comment speakers.

**Carl Evans** noted he had a friend call city hall to get his truck put in the Christmas Parade and was told it was too late. He noted his friend, nor did he hear about a parade until today. He noted at the last meeting the Beautification Committee was talking about the clean sweep, and they had not used the flip signs in over three years or longer. He noted when they were being used, people knew about the clean sweep. Mr. Evans said he does not think the

legacy residents who were not a part of the home program should be excluded from participating in the new sign-up.

**Jay Evans** noted that she was honored to be chosen to participate in the commercial. She thanked everyone involved.

## **CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

**City Manager Clark** thanked the Chief of Staff, who served as the Administrator for the first round of the home program. He noted that it has opened up to 61 and under, as it was first open to the legacy residents. He noted that they will give an overview of the program and answer any questions.

**Pauline Warrior, Chief of Staff**, noted that they are excited about the second phase because of the success of the first phase. She said that the first phase was for the legacy residents, and the requirement was for those aged 62 and older. She noted that the funds used were ARPA, and the amount available was 1.3 million dollars. There were 276 applicants, and 76 residents qualified. Ms. Warrior said that there was a \$10,000 threshold for repairs to be done for each qualified resident. She noted 33 contractors registered to participate, and ten qualified. She said it was expanded, and they accepted six more contractors.

She noted that this phase is for people aged 21 to 61. They must reside within the city limits, and the home must be in the homeowner's name. She noted that income will be verified. Ms. Warrior pointed out that no former participants could reapply to ensure everyone had an opportunity to participate.

**Mr. Clark** thanked the governing body and noted that they look forward to launching phase two. He also thanked the PIO office for putting this video together. He noted that they did not have a program mandate requirement. He stated that you have up to 60 days to finalize everything. This round of the program is from 18 to 61 because they could not apply the first time.

**Councilmember James** asked if the 60 days were for when they apply or when they contact a vendor.

**City Manager Clark** noted once they have the notice to proceed and have contacted the contractors.

## **PRESENTATIONS:**

### **2. Staff Presentation Regarding Ongoing and Planned PIO Activities – Public Information Office**

#### **Background/History:**

The Public Information Office exists to ensure that information released by the City of Forest Park is timely, accurate, comprehensive and relevant to all aspects of communications with the general public, internal staff and members of the media. It is the mission of the Public Information Office to promote and enhance city government via media relations, print and digital publications, social media, marketing campaigns and the city's website. A comprehensive presentation is to be provided to city council regarding current and planned office activities.

**Javon Lloyd, PIO** noted he is joined by his colleague Kwame Marshall. He gave an overview of what has been happening. He noted they are the first responders of information for highlights in the community, and general events. He said they have been able to secure positive news coverage through all the major news stations throughout Atlanta and share some positive stories. He noted the Home Program was picked up by the USA Suns, and this shows the word is getting out about what is going on. He thanked Mr. Marshall

for doing professional headshots for all employees. He noted they keep citizens informed through the weekly newsletter, constant contact, the mail distribution list, and emails. Mr. Lloyd said they also use the local news outline to cover what is happening and get the word out. He said when it comes to videography, they have been able to push out consistent content, they go out and make things happen. Mr. Lloyd noted they have a website redesign project coming up and thanked the council for approving this. He states he is looking forward to creating literature in diverse languages and continuing to establish relationships with regional, local, and national media partners.

**Mayor Butler** noted she is thankful for both of them. She remembers what it was like trying to get the department created, and it has done a 180. Mayor Butler stated he said something that resonated with them all about changing their own trajectory and narrative. She noted they had done that.

**CEREMONIAL:** none

**PUBLIC HEARINGS:** none

**CONSENT AGENDA:** **Items 3-7 under New Business were moved to the consent agenda.**

**OLD BUSINESS:** none

**NEW BUSINESS:** **Items 3-7 under New Business were moved to the consent agenda.**

3. **Council Approval of the 2025 City Council Holiday Calendar-** Executive Offices
4. **Council Approval of the 2025 City Council Meetings Calendar-**Executive Offices
5. **Council Approval on 3rd Party Data Review–** IT Department
6. **Council Approval to accept the Thriving Communities Grant funding through Norfolk Southern - Planning Community Development**
7. **Council Approval to Enter into a contract for Construction Manager At Risk (CMAR) Services for the New City Center:** Procurement/Executive Office
8. **Council Approval to authorize legal services agreement with Denmark Ashby to become effective January 1, 2025**

It was motioned to authorize legal services agreement with Denmark Ashby to become effective January 1, 2025

Motion made by Councilmember James, Seconded by Councilmember Mears.

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

9. **Council Approval to adopt a resolution to authorize the acquisition of 1.754 acres of certain real property located in LAND LOT 211 of the 12<sup>th</sup> LAND DISTRICT of the City of Forest Park.**

It was motioned to adopt a resolution to authorize the acquisition of 1.754 acres of certain real property located in LAND LOT 211 of the 12<sup>th</sup> LAND DISTRICT of the City of Forest Park and Clayton County.

Motion made by Councilmember James, Seconded by Councilmember Mears.

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

**10. Council Approval to adopt a resolution to authorize the acquisition of 1.57 acres of certain real property located in LAND LOTS 207, 210, AND 211 of the 12<sup>th</sup> LAND DISTRICTS of the City of Forest Park and Clayton County.**

It was motioned to adopt a resolution to authorize the acquisition of 1.57 acres of certain real property located in LAND LOTS 207, 210, AND 211 of the 12<sup>th</sup> LAND DISTRICTS of the City of Forest Park and Clayton County.

Motion made by Councilmember James, Seconded by Councilmember Akins-Wells.  
Voting Yea: Councilmember James, Councilmember Akins-Wells, Councilmember Mears

**11. Council Approval to authorize Mayor to execute agreement with the URA to formalize existing use of the Forest Park Police Department Shooting Range.**

It was motioned to authorize the Mayor to execute an agreement with the URA to formalize existing use of the Forest Park Police Department Shooting Range

Motion made by Councilmember James, Seconded by Councilmember Mears.  
Voting Yea: Councilmember James, Councilmember Akins-Wells, Councilmember Mears

Councilmember James asked for a point of order to ensure they officially adopted the consent agenda items.

Mayor Butler noted they did.

**CLOSING COMMENTS BY GOVERNING BODY:**

**Councilmember James** noted and thanked Ms. Franklin, Bishop Fortson for helping her give out around 36 turkeys. She thanked Nick White and Jonathan Rashmir for their generous donations of turkeys. Councilmember James also thanked Mr. White for feeding Thanksgiving dinner to the high school staff. She stated on January 21<sup>st</sup>, they will be celebrating Teacher of the Year, from their cluster of schools, and she is asking for donations for the cause. She thanked everyone who had already verbally committed to donating to the cause. Mrs. James acknowledged her daughter, who is a world traveler and graduate and has her own production company. She thanked everyone for coming out.

**City Manager Clark** noted the employees of the City of Forest Park would like to thank the Governing Body for their Christmas gift.

**Councilmember Akins-Wells** thanked Councilmember James for the journey she is embarking on and wanted to know its findings. She thanked everyone who came out for the Turkey Giveaway. She noted that the pastor of Fellowship Church in Eastpoint packed the truck with everything. They gave away 350 turkeys, and she thanked all the participants. She said that everything she does is for the community, and she will always be their voice. She asked when jobs are available that are asking for minimum qualifications to please consider the residents of Forest Park, not just friends, family, and people you know. Councilmember Akins-Wells thanked everyone for coming out.

**Councilmember Mears** noted he hopes everyone had a good Thanksgiving and will have a good Christmas. He thanked them for coming out to the city to take care of their business, gave a shoutout to Mr. Willie Finch, and asked everyone to continue to come out.

**Mayor Butler** noted she hopes to see everyone at the upcoming December 16<sup>th</sup> meeting. She noted the holiday parade is this Saturday and starts at 6:00 p.m. It will start on Main Street and end at Starr Park for the tree lighting, which begins at 8:22 p.m.

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

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Mayor Butler adjourned the meeting at 7:58 pm.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, those requiring accommodation for meetings should notify the City Clerk's Office at 404-366-4720 at least 24 hours before the meeting.