RESOLUTION NO. <u>22-07</u>

RESOLUTION CENSURING COUNCIL MEMBER DABOUZE ANTOINE; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY, REPEALING INCONSISTENT RESOLUTIONS, PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, the City of Forest Park ("City") is a municipal corporation located within Clayton County, Georgia duly organized and existing under the laws of the State of Georgia and is charged with providing public services to residents located within the corporate limits of the City-Ward 2;

WHEREAS, Council Member Dabouze Antoine was elected to serve the citizens of the City;

WHEREAS, Mr. Antoine swore an oath, that among other things, he would perform the duties of the office of Council Member in the best interests of the City of Forest Park;

WHEREAS, the office of a City Council Member requires that such person meet and maintain the highest standards of behavior;

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 2.15 of the City Charter, the City engaged the services of Powell & Edwards, P.C. (the "Investigator") to conduct an investigation into the circumstances surrounding a contract for certain improvements to be made at Perkins Park and other matters;

WHEREAS, a copy of the Investigator's report (the "Report") is attached hereto as Exhibit A;

WHERAS, a public hearing to receive the Investigator's report was held before the Mayor and Council on March 7, 2022 at which time Mr. Antoine was afforded the opportunity to respond and defend himself with respect to the matters set forth in the Report;

WHEREAS, the Report determined that there was conclusive evidence that Mr. Antoine violated the laws of the State of Georgia, the City Charter and the Code of Ordinances of the City of Forest Park in that he admitted to accepting gifts in excess of \$500 from a private contractor who was subsequently awarded the contract for the improvements to be made at Perkins Park;

WHEREAS, the Report has been forwarded to the Clayton County District Attorney's office for further investigation;

WHEREAS the City Council wishes to make clear that the Council does not condone nor accept Mr. Antoine's behavior;

WHEREAS, the City Council finds that this resolution is necessary and beneficial to its citizens and to the proper use of City funds.

NOW THEREFORE, THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FOREST PARK HEREBY RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. **Censure.** – Mr. Antoine is hereby formally censured for his unacceptable and inexcusable behavior. Mr. Antoine is called upon to cease the afore-mentioned behavior and to conduct himself in a manner fitting the office of City Council Member.

Section 2. **Approval of Execution** - The Mayor is hereby authorized to sign all documents and to perform all other acts necessary to effectuate this Resolution on behalf of the City of Forest Park. The City Clerk is authorized to execute, attest to, and seal any document which may be necessary to effectuate this Resolution, subject to approval as to form by the City Attorney.

Section 3. **Severability** - To the extent any portion of this Resolution is declared to be invalid, unenforceable, or non-binding, that shall not affect the remaining portions of this Resolution.

Section 4. **Repeal of Conflicting Provisions** - All City resolutions inconsistent with this Resolution are hereby repealed.

Section 7. **Effective Date** - This Resolution shall be effective on the date of its approval by the City Council and Mayor as provided in the City Charter.

SO RESOLVED this 7th day of March, 2022.

Mayor Angelyne Butler

Council Member Kimberly James, Ward 1

Council Member Dabouze Antoine, Ward 2

Council Member Hector Gutierrez, Ward 3

Council Member Latresa Wells, Ward 4

Council Member Allan Mears, Ward 5

ATTEST:

_____ (SEAL)

City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

City Attorney