



CITY COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION

Monday, July 21, 2025, 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 Delores A. Gunn
The Honorable Latresa Akins-Wells
The Honorable Allan Mears

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

DRAFT MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME: Mayor Butler called the meeting to order at 7:09 p.m.

INVOCATION/PLEDGE: The invocation and pledge were led by Dr. Beeler.

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		•
Councilmember Gunn	Council Member, Ward 2		•
Hector Gutierrez	Council Member, Ward 3		•
Latresa Akins-Wells	Council Member, Ward 4		•
Allan Mears	Council Member, Ward 5		•

John Wiggins, Finance Director; Shalonda Brown, HR Director; Diane Lewis; Deputy HR Director; Javon Lloyd, PIO; Talisa Adams, Procurement Manager; David Halcomb, Deputy Fire Chief; Joshua Cox; IT Director; Pauline Warrior, Chief of Staff; Rodney Virgil; Level 2 Support Engineer, Nigel Wattley; Deputy Director Public Works, Alton Matthews, Public Works Director, Rochelle Dennis Interim Economic Dev. Director; Nicole Dozier, Planning Community Director; Dorothy Roper-Jackson, Director Municipal Court; Brandon Criss, Police Chief; Michelle Hood, Deputy Clerk, and Danielle Matricardi, City Attorney.

ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA WITH ANY ADDITIONS / DELETIONS:

It was motioned to adopt the consent agenda.

Motion made by Councilmember James, Seconded by Councilmember Akins-Wells.

Voting Yea: Councilmember James, Councilmember Mears

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA WITH ANY ADDITIONS / DELETIONS:

It was motioned to adopt the regular agenda with the removal of item #13, and the addition of Confirmation of Rochelle Dennis as Director of Economic Development, and Approval of a Professional Agreement with Judge Freeman.

Motion made by Councilmember James, Seconded by Councilmember Gutierrez.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**1. Council Approval of the Special Called Meeting, Council Work Session, and Regular Meeting Minutes from June 16, 2025 - City Clerk**

It was motioned to approve the minutes with the **correction of**

Motion made by Councilmember Akins-Wells, Seconded by Councilmember James.

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS: (All Speakers will have 3 Minutes)

There were five (5) Public Comment Speakers.

Zack Parker told a story about the emperor. He noted that, just like the Emperor, the Mayor sent her own FU memo, and for a moment, the people felt what he had for years: humiliation, betrayal, and disrespect. He noted that as he watched, it seemed as though people got it, but just like the emperor, there was no apology or remorse. He said now she is back in grace, and the smiles have returned. The memo was forgotten, but he remembers. He noted he has been harassed, ignored, and retaliated against for daring to speak up. He said this is not about a memo, but the case of the city forgiving certain people and forgetting others.

Barbara Scandarick Smith has lived in Forest Park for 39 years and discussed her background. Her parents are buried in that cemetery, and she asked if they could continue to manage it. She noted that those grounds are sacred, and that is all that is left of their loved ones.

Dr. Leon Beeler noted he has been around since the 1990s. He noted they are going to have a Political Forum. He noted they understand this is an election year for the municipalities. He noted that at his forums, it is not a debate; they want to know what they are going to do. He noted he loves to hear about what people have done, but they want to know what people are going to do for the future of Forest Park.

Mary Stuckey noted she purchased a house in Forest Park one year ago, and her neighbors are operating a mechanic business from their home. She said cars are just sitting there; it's dirty and filthy. She stated she has complained to Code enforcement, but feels this person feels entitled. She noted there are tons of tires, equipment,

and rats the size of cats. She would like something done, or she is considering putting her house up for sale and moving.

LaWanda Falomi thanked the people who attended the volleyball team's annual banquet, especially Councilmember Akins Wells, Councilmember Gutierrez, Councilmember James, and Councilmember Gunn. She noted she was listening about the policy changes. She thinks it is important to review policies because time changes and the policies from back then do not align with where things are today. She noted it is election time, and Dr. Beeler does an amazing job with the forums. She noted there needs to be transparency, and a lot of concerned citizens are there in the audience. She stated they do the hiring and firing, and they are watching.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

City Manager Clark gave an overview of OpenGov new reporting module and how the software offers transparency, accountability, performance and real time data. He noted the key findings of the audit KPI's have been incorporated into this system. He noted that the budget from 2022 through now is in this system to see what has happened over a period of time.

Governing Body Comments/Discussion

Councilmember James noted they have done an amazing job, and it is good to know that information can be viewed in real time, because that is what the people want.

City Manager Clark thanked the PIO office, Javon Lloyd, and Kwame Amuleru-Marshall for the visual representation of the dashboard, which was done through their office.

Councilmember Gutierrez noted he was excited and loved the access to and transparency of the dashboard. He also noted that the video was great and that he liked the fact that they included people from the community in it. He noted that he cannot wait to share the information with the community.

Councilmember Akins Wells thanked them and noted she is always talking about informing the people, and transparency, and this gives them the information they need. She thanked everyone who participated in making this happen.

City Manager Clark noted that the last part is trying to bring in the council element as well. He said, based on some of the activities that the council members are doing, they want it to be accessible to the public.

Councilmember Mears said he is glad they are getting to the point where everybody will be able to be informed.

City Manager Clark noted that one thing he has heard is that they want accountability and transparency, and this system will give them that. There is no way the data can be changed.

PRESENTATIONS:

2. Discussion on the Macedonia Rock Spring Cemetery

Background/History:

Mrs. Delores Prothro-Saulsberry has requested to speak to the governing body regarding the upkeep of the Macedonia Rock Spring Cemetery maintenance agreement.

Ms. Delores Saulsberry stated she is from the area and her grandparents own a lot of land in the area. She noted she is there to speak about the colored cemetery, as you referred to it in your minutes. She

stated she was there on June 21 to talk about the issue of the cemetery being overgrown and abandoned. She noted the family members were too old to keep it up, but they did try. She gave a background of the cemetery, stating it was full, no one else would be buried in it unless approved by the city, and that it was a slave cemetery. She said they also discussed the city taking ownership of it. She noted someone came in from one of the universities, did a study, and said it is possibly historic. She stated in her mind that when she left the meeting, she thought the city would keep it clean and perhaps make it a historic site. She noted they had done a great job and put a beautiful mural there, which was great. She said she thought a memorial would be put out there, but it never came. Ms. Saulsberry asked them to continue to keep the cemetery clean. She said she is also asking with her ancestors that the city takes sole ownership of it.

Governing Body Comments/Discussion

Councilmember James thanked her for presenting the information and notes; they will see what they can do. She noted that at the last meeting, the item related to this was a table, and she is asking that they bring that item back.

Councilmember Gunn noted this is an added piece to Forest Park. She thanked her for the history and the potential for them to think about. She asked the governing body to take another look at this. She noted she saw a family name in the information on a family she is very fond of; they have been a blessing to her family. She noted she liked the idea of bringing in visitors and allowing them to tour the historical piece in the city.

City Manager Clark noted that they are still taking care of the landscaping needs of the cemetery.

Deputy Director Nigel Whatley noted that they have contractors taking care of it.

Mayor Butler asked what the process was to declare it an official historic site.

Attorney Matricardi noted that you must work with the state and the owner. She noted that the owners of the property can nominate it. She noted the record is showing that both cemeteries have the same owners according to the records. Otherwise, if the city is looking to acquire it then that is a different conversation.

Councilmember Gutierrez thanked her for stepping up and providing that history. He noted he hopes once they can get it as a visiting site that she can join them as a proud person with family members in the space. He noted he was a bit offended by her statement and would like to look at those facts. He noted bilingual Hispanics do make a little more. He noted he wants to work together and continue to move forward being all inclusive.

Councilmember Akins-Wells noted she agrees with Councilmember Gutierrez and said she holds everyone else accountable and will hold herself accountable. She said she was the one that said no they did not need to take over the cemetery. She noted that she appreciated her coming again to share that history and noted they did look into making it a historical site, but there was the ownership issue. She said because of the knowledge given that she did not previously have and the package provided and putting her personal feelings aside to see how they can all come together and see what can be done.

Councilmember Mears noted he appreciated the presentation. He said it is an eye opener for the situations that's been there. He said they should contribute all they can to beautify, clean it up, and make it look respectful.

LaWanda Folami thanked the governing body for listening to the people who came to advocate for their loved ones there. She said all they need to hear is if the city will continue to use the contractor that they are using. She said she would like them to do all three, and she plans to bring the other two families before them. Ms. Falomi said whatever they could not do to let them know so they can get it done.

Mayor Butler humbly thanked Ms. Delores for flying in to present today. She said the shared historical information changed the minds of some of the people sitting there. Because of her comments, she would like the city to push toward a historic preservation project. Mayor Butler said there is a lot of living history, and they do not want that knowledge lost when they pass on.

3. Recognition of Life-Saving Accomplishments-Police Department

Background/History:

On May 14, 2025, members of the Forest Park Police Department demonstrated exceptional courage, decisiveness, and an unwavering commitment to the preservation of life during a life-threatening incident.

In this incident, Lieutenant Arnold and Corporal Coley-Hebron responded swiftly and with the highest degree of professionalism. Their quick assessment of the situation, effective application of life-saving measures, and ability to remain composed under pressure directly resulted in a life being saved. Their actions were not only a testament to their advanced training and preparedness but also a reflection of their deep sense of duty to the citizens they serve.

These officers embody the core values of the Forest Park Police Department—integrity, service, and excellence. Their conduct during these critical incidents represents the very best of public service and serves as an inspiration to their peers and the broader community.

Today, we honor their heroism and dedication. The City of Forest Park proudly commends Lieutenant Arnold and Corporal Coley-Hebron for their outstanding service and the extraordinary impact they have made through their brave and selfless actions.

Chief Criss noted that Lieutenant Arnold and Corporal Coley did a great job saving the life of a one-year-old. He noted they responded to a call for service and when they arrived they jumped out of the car and sprang into action providing CPR. He noted because of their actions he is able to live on. Chief Criss said he would like to recognize them today for a job well done.

Lieutenant Arnold thanked them for honoring them.

Corporal Coley thanked them and noted that she often thought about the baby and the day they got the call. She said she was glad she had her partner with her and thanked them for honoring them.

4. Presentation by Partnership for Southern Equity about the Park at Fort Gillem

Background/History:

In 2012, the City of Forest Park, through the Urban Redevelopment Agency (URA), purchased Fort Gillem as part of the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) initiative. The acquisition included 125 units of former military (Wherry) housing, repurposed by the Army as naturally occurring affordable housing (NOAH), namely The Park at Ft. Gillem. There was a stipulation to honor the pre-existing third-party property management contract until its conclusion in October 2025.

In January 2025, the URA partnered with Partnership for Southern Equity (PSE), an Atlanta-based nonprofit dedicated to advancing racial equity and shared prosperity across metro Atlanta and the American South.

This partnership aims to explore aligned opportunities for the Park at Fort Gillem in key areas such as:

Economic Inclusion

Equitable Development

Environmental Justice

Energy Equity

The project objectives include:

Ensure transparency, equity, and inclusiveness in stakeholder engagement

Collect qualitative and quantitative data to understand residents' needs

Identify opportunities to mitigate resident hardships

Equip the City of Forest Park and the URA Board with robust data and insights to guide future decisions regarding the Park at Fort Gillem

Interim Director Rochelle Dennis introduced Kazim Woodbury and Jennifer Cobb.

Jennifer Cobb noted she manages the projects at Partnership for Southern Equity and Kazim Woodbury is the Director. She noted they are also known as PSE and advance racially equitable opportunity and growth in Metro Atlanta and the American South. She went on to speak about community engagement with the park at Fort Gillum. She noted that the URA partnered with PSE to understand who lives there and their needs, and to ensure development happens with the residents and not to them. She noted there will be 3 phases, and the next event will be at the community center this Thursday.

Kazim Woodbury noted that they presented a snapshot that showed data on population, average rent, and household size. He stated that they have received feedback from the people on their aspirations, and the things they cherish about living at the Park of Fort Gillum. He noted that they did a survey and are connecting with the people who have deep roots in the community between four and 15 years to learn about their experience. He noted that the majority of them reported they are satisfied with where they are living now. He said they expressed concerns about eviction or displacement and their future. He noted that no one wants to live with that uncertainty. He said that the next meeting on Thursday will be a chance for the URA Board, staff members, and the city manager to talk to the community.

Governing Body Comments/Discussion

City Manager Clark noted that the URA Board wanted to ensure the governing body had this information in real time while trying to determine what is best and what they are saying. He noted that the city has not been invited to the meetings because they wanted the residents to be able to express themselves and not feel pressured. He said that he is asking them all to attend the meeting on Thursday if they can.

Councilmember James said the URA Board is made up of all community members, and they have been intentional about communication, equity, and PSE. They are getting to know the residents and letting them

know they are looking to displace anyone. She noted they are looking at a path forward and ensuring the residents have a place they can truly call home. She said she also wanted the governing body to know what PSE was doing behind the scenes to ensure the residents were being cared for.

Councilmember Gutierrez noted he is glad the URA contracted with PSE, who are the experts. He noted that even though Gillum is far out, they are still residents of Forest Park and part of his Ward. He thanked Councilmember James and her committee for advocating for the people.

Councilmember Akins Wells thanked them for the presentations and hoped they would ease the residents' minds. She also thanked Councilmember James for informing them about what was going on. She stated she is glad the residents know they are not trying to push them out but are doing everything to keep them.

Councilmember Mears thanked them for the presentation and noted he is looking forward to hearing about the direction they plan to take.

Mayor Butler noted that she echoed the sentiments of her colleagues, particularly Councilwoman and Chairwoman James. She noted there was a misnomer out that they were intentionally trying to cause undue duress on the residents. She stated she knew her heart and knew that was not her approach. Mayor Butler said her Councilmember James and her board approach is amazing and she is glad everyone gets to see it.

5. Financial Reporting of the FY2024-2025 Monthly Financial Report

Background/History:

The Finance Department is presenting FY2024-2025 Monthly Financial review of the City's financials. The purpose of the monthly financial review is to help us know how healthy the City's cash flow is and help evaluate department performance to see if the executive office needs to reallocate resources to achieve the financial goals for the City.

There was a motion to defer the financial report until the next meeting.

Motioned by Councilmember Akins Wells, seconded by Councilmember Gunn

Councilmember James asked why.

Director Wiggins noted that they are still doing year-end and cleaning things up. He noted that when they present, he wants it to be the full story.

Motion made by Councilmember James, Seconded by Councilmember Mears.

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

6. Recreation and Leisure Year-End Review – Recreation and Leisure Services Department

Background/History:

In celebration of Parks and Recreation month, the Recreation and Leisure Services Department would like to highlight some of the amazing accomplishments during the FY25 budget year

Director Maxwell mentioned three of the legacy resident ladies and stated they will be representing the city in this year's upcoming Olympics. He stated that Ms. Dodson, Ms. Weems, and Ms. Sneed will be trying to bring home Gold in the 5k powerwalk, Corn Hole toss, 50-meter run, Shot Putt, and Discus Throw. Director Maxwell thanked them for all they do and for what they bring to the city.

Mayor Butler asked when the Olympics were.

It was noted to occur from July 25 to August 5 in Iowa.

Director Maxwell noted that it is Parks and Recreation month, and he gave an overview of things happening in the city and with the Legacy Residents. He said they focus on physical, mental, and financial well-being. He spoke on the accomplishments of the 6U and 8U baseball teams and the U12 soccer team. He congratulated Reshai Reeves for being voted on to serve as Commissioner for the fourth district GRPA. Director Maxwell spoke on the upcoming events and encouraged everyone to attend. He also wanted to show appreciation to their many partners, the teams, the parents, and the volunteer coaches.

Governing Body Comments/Discussion

Councilmember James thanked him and noted that he and his team are doing an amazing job.

Councilmember Gunn noted she did not know they offered so many activities. She told them to keep doing what they do and mentioned she loves the customer service when she goes over there. She also said the seniors love it when the young people respect them.

Councilmember Gutierrez thanked him and said it is great that he recognized his staff. He said that the soccer stuff is huge, and they are competing against clubs, and they are selected to do this, which is extremely competitive.

Councilmember Akins-Wells thanked him and his staff for doing an amazing job. She said that since he presented this, she wanted to share an email that was sent to her on Saturday. The email thanked them for the events they put together for the community and how vibrant the city is. She said that speaks volumes coming from someone who grew up in the city. She said the parks have always been vibrant, but the entertainment and things they are getting now they once were not there once. She said this comes from good leadership; when you have a good leader, you have a good staff.

Councilmember Mears congratulated them and noted they have always been the underdog but have always come out on top. He noted it is because they have always had a good recreation department to help along the way.

CEREMONIAL:

Forest Park Fire & EMS Introduction to (2) New Firefighter/AEMTs

The Forest Park Fire & EMS has onboarded two (2) new members to the Department:

- Jose Moralez – Firefighter/AEMT
- Tanelle Hunter – Firefighter/AEMT

Chief Clemons will present the introductions.

Proclamation In Recognition of National Parks and Recreation Month– Recreation and Leisure Services Department

Background/History:

Since 1985, citizens across the United States have celebrated Park and Recreation Month in July to promote strong, vibrant and resilient communities through the power of parks and recreation. During this observance month, municipalities throughout the nation recognized the more than 160,000 full-time park and recreation professionals, along with hundreds of thousands of part-time and seasonal workers and volunteers who maintain our nation's local, state and community parks. The City of Forest Park would like to acknowledge the exceptional efforts and dedication of the City's Recreation and Leisure Services Department, which continues to offer safe and accessible activities and programs for youth, adults, families, senior citizens and other local constituents.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Council Approval of a Resolution Authorizing the Annual Renewal of CAD and RMS Software Services-- IT Department

Council Approval of a Resolution Authorizing Lighting Service Agreements for 4576–4650 Burks Road and Springdale Road – Public Works Department

Council Approval of a Resolution Authorizing the Issuance of Blanket Purchase Orders- Public Works Department

OLD BUSINESS:

7. **Council Approval of a Resolution Authorizing the First Annual Renewal of the 12-Month Sound Equipment Services Agreement with Digital World Live, LLC – Procurement/Recreation and Leisure Services Department**

It was motioned to approve the Resolution Authorizing the First Annual Renewal of the 12-Month Sound Equipment Services Agreement with Digital World Live, LLC.

Motion made by Councilmember James, Seconded by Councilmember Mears.

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

Not present for vote: Councilmember Akins-Wells,

NEW BUSINESS:

8. **Council Approval to Draft a Resolution, Establishing an Impact Fee Program and Capital Improvements Element, and to Initiate Discussion on the Formation of a Development Impact Fee Advisory Committee- Planning and Community Development Department**

It was motioned to approve to Draft a Resolution, Establishing an Impact Fee Program and Capital Improvements Element, and to Initiate Discussion on the Formation of a Development Impact Fee Advisory Committee.

Motion made by Councilmember James, Seconded by Councilmember Mears.

Voting Yea: Councilmember James, Councilmember Gunn, Councilmember Gutierrez, Councilmember Mears

Not present to vote: Councilmember Akins-Wells

9. Council Approval of a Resolution Authorizing a Stormwater Management Fee Waiver for the Property on Waldrop Drive-Public Works Department

It was motioned to approve a Resolution Authorizing a Stormwater Management Fee Waiver for the Property on Waldrop Drive.

Motion made by Councilmember James, Seconded by Councilmember Mears.

Voting Yea: Councilmember James, Councilmember Gunn, Councilmember Gutierrez, Councilmember Mears

Not present to vote: Councilmember Akins-Wells

10. Council Approval of a Resolution Authorizing a Stormwater Management Fee Waiver for the Property on Metcalf Rd. Extension-Public Works Department

It was motioned to approve a Resolution Authorizing a Stormwater Management Fee Waiver for the Property on Metcalf Rd. Extension.

Motion made by Councilmember Mears, Seconded by Councilmember James.

Voting Yea: Councilmember James, Councilmember Gunn, Councilmember Gutierrez, Councilmember Mears

Not present to vote: Councilmember Akins-Wells

11. Council Approval of an Ordinance to Amend Title 2, Article E of the City's Code of Ordinances to Establish Regular Ward Fund Accounts and Capital Ward Fund Accounts-Executive Offices

It was motioned to approve an Ordinance to Amend Title 2, Article E of the City's Code of Ordinances to Establish Regular Ward Fund Accounts and Capital Ward Fund Accounts.

Motion made by Councilmember James, Seconded by Councilmember Gunn.

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

12. Council Approval of an Ordinance to Amend Section 7-1-3 ("Reservation of Facilities by Groups") of the City's Code of Ordinances, to Establish and Revise Insurance and Permit Requirements for the Use of City Parks and Recreational Facilities-Executive Offices

It was motioned to table the Ordinance to Amend Section 7-1-3 ("Reservation of Facilities by Groups") of the City's Code of Ordinances, to Establish and Revise Insurance and Permit Requirements for the Use of City Parks and Recreational Facilities.

Motion made by Councilmember Akins-Wells, Seconded by Councilmember Gutierrez.

Governing Body Comments/Discussion

Councilmember Gutierrez noted he would like to have input from the person who actually oversees the department, since they are amending this.

Mayor Butler asked if that was not done initially.

Councilmember Gutierrez noted it was not.

City Manager Clark noted the packet went out to everyone but wanted to table the item.

Councilmember James said it is an existing ordinance, and there are only a few things being changed.

Councilmember Gutierrez said yes, but he should have input on it. He noted this is something the attorney came up with and no disrespect to her, but he think the people here dealing in the day-to-day should have a say so. He noted he is not in favor of it.

Mayor Butler asked was he not apart of this.

Attorney Matricardi noted she did not speak to him directly, and there are not substantive provisions to it. It is just codifying things.

Voting Yes: Councilmember Gutierrez, Councilmember Akins-Wells,

Voting Nay: Councilmember James, Councilmember Gunn, Councilmember Mears

The vote failed.

Councilmember Akins-Wells noted she agrees with the tabling and got it from Mr. Clark. He stated he wants to give due respect to the director; if it were another department, they would not change it without their input.

Councilmember James noted the ordinance is in place and you all have seen the scratch out for the things that have been taken out and put in.

Councilmember Gutierrez noted that we just got done talking about how thing are changing, and he does not feel he is asking too much by tabling this to include the park directors. He noted he would do the same if they were uncomfortable with this.

Councilmember Gunn asked Director Maxwell about any concerns or discretions about these changes.

Director Maxwell noted that his primary concern is the number of people in a group and their need for insurance.

City Manager Clark noted the Special Events Ordinance has been on the books and was brought over to this section and he read A3 as it related to it. He went on to read the different code languages and since they were not being followed, they allowed the city attorney to prepare additions to this.

Councilmember Gutierrez noted this is why they need his input, because he is going to say what is right, it is not to put him on the spot in front of his supervisor. He said he is the one taking care of these events and needs to be included out of respect to him.

Councilmember Akins-Wells noted that Mr. Clark is the one that thought it needed to be tabled. She said if it was another director, you would give them all due respect. She said if he was involved in the process, he would not have these questions, and they would not be having this discussion.

City Manager Clark noted they should table it to have a conversation and the other conversation is that it has already been on the books and need to be followed. He said they need to discuss that is there and the amendments to be made.

It was motioned to approve the Ordinance to Amend Section 7-1-3 ("Reservation of Facilities by Groups") of the City's Code of Ordinances, to Establish and Revise Insurance and Permit Requirements for the Use of City Parks and Recreational Facilities.

Voting Yes: Councilmember James

Voting Nay: Councilmember Gunn, Councilmember Gutierrez, Councilmember Akins-Wells, Councilmember Mears

It was motioned to confirm Rochelle Dennis as Director of Economic Development

Motion made by Councilmember James, Seconded by Councilmember Gutierrez.

Voting Yea: Councilmember James, Councilmember Gunn, Councilmember Gutierrez, Councilmember Mears

It was motioned to approve the Professional Service Agreement for the Honorable Judge Ronald Freeman.

Motion made by Councilmember Akins-Wells, Seconded by Councilmember James.

Voting Yea: Councilmember James, Councilmember Gunn, Councilmember Gutierrez, Councilmember Mears

CLOSING COMMENTS BY GOVERNING BODY:

Councilmember James thanked Chief Criss and his team on the Neighborhood Watch in Ward 1, and they received great feedback. She thanked everyone for coming to the Ward meeting and noted the recording would be ready later in the week. She said the name on the door needs to be changed. She told Director Maxwell that she is not undermining him, but they do not get back on the agenda when they table things. She noted she is trying to prevent being sued and keeping councilmembers off many things.

Councilmember Gunn thanked the staff for all they do and said that they came out to love on the community. She noted that they are One Forest Park from what she sees, even though they do not agree on everything. She read the mission statement and said she saw that Saturday and was proud of where the city is. She noted that she appreciates the staff and everything they do.

Councilmember Gutierrez noted he was glad they were moving ahead with the apartment complex and gave Councilmember James a shoutout. He said he was enlightened and empowered by the history given on the cemetery. He gave Director Maxwell and his team a shout-out and thanked them for the presentation. He said he loves the software that the City Manager presented and how it will show the community the numbers. Councilmember Gutierrez congratulated the new Forest Park team members and Mrs. Dennis on her promotion.

Councilmember Akins Wells noted that she sometimes agrees with Mr. Parker and sometimes does not. She stated she believes in holding people accountable but does not like when they are all put into one group because they all have their own opinions. Councilmember Wells stated nothing has been brushed under the rug. She said the people are talking about it and know what is happening. She noted there is no need to continue to come and talk about the same thing when they can do something about it. She said they have the opportunity to change things by voting.

Council member Akins Wells noted she disagrees with canceling Council Meetings; if they are cancelled, the information needs to reach the people. She said they had a great Fun Friday/Bookbag giveaway, and the city did one also, which turned out very well. Councilmember Akins Wells stated that people always say One Forest Park. If it is true, everyone should attend each other's events regardless of who they are.

Councilmember Mears acknowledged Mr. Finch as the sexy senior who attends all the council meetings and noted that the people of Forest Park have a lot to be proud of. He said they have to keep working, look to God, and everything will be alright.

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

It was motioned to recess the regular meeting at 9:25 pm, and enter into Executive Session for Personnel, Litigation or Real Estate.

Motioned by Councilmember James, seconded by Councilmember Gunn

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

It was motioned to reconvene the regular meeting at 9:46 pm.

Motioned by Councilmember James and seconded by Councilmember Gunn

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

It was motioned to approve the general release and indemnification agreement with Chippendale LLC, concerning access for 498 North Avenue.

Motioned by Councilmember James and seconded by Councilmember Gunn

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

It was motioned to approve the general release and indemnification agreement with Mike Molandado concerning excess taxes for 1131 Stony Brook Road.

Motioned by Council James, seconded by Council Mears

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

It was motioned to approve the general release and indemnification agreement with Still Home LLC excess taxes for 521 Granade Street.

Motioned by Council James, seconded by Council Gunn

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

It was motioned to approve the resolution transferring 799 Main Street to the Forest Park Downtown Development Authority.

Motioned by Council James, seconded by Council Gunn

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

Mayor Butler adjourned the meeting at 9:49 pm.

ADJOURNMENT:

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.

City Clerk Signature

Mayor's Signature