



# CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION

Monday, July 18, 2022, at 6:00 PM  
Council Chambers and YouTube Livestream

## MISSION STATEMENT

It is the mission of the City of Forest Park to enhance, strengthen, and grow our city by collaborating with our community to provide the highest level of service. Striving to be recognized as a diverse community that values and respects all members. We will strive to provide fair, professional, and courteous service through transparency and open communication. As we work to achieve this mission, we will have integrity beyond reproach while employing fiscal discipline and innovation. In this work there are no praises and raises for mediocrity.

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

**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

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

## DRAFT MINUTES

**CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME:** The meeting was called to order by Mayor Butler at 6:00pm and she read the Mission Statement.

**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		✓

Joshua Cox, IT Director, Javon Lloyd, Public Information Officer, Chiquita Barkley, Finance Director, Diane Lewis, HR Deputy Director, LaShawn Gardiner, Management Analyst, David Halcome, Deputy Fire Chief, James Shelby, Planning Community & Development Director, Bobby Jinks, Public Works Director, Michael Brunson, Deputy Police Chief and Arthur Geeter, Purchasing Manager

**CITY MANAGER'S REPORT:** Dr. Marc-Antonie Cooper, City Manager**COMMUNITY INFORMATION/REMINDERS:**

- The City of Forest Park Human Resources Department is planning a city JOB FAIR on August 22, 2022, from 9am – 3pm at 696 Main Street. Visit [www.forestparkga.gov](http://www.forestparkga.gov) for more information soon to come.
- The Georgia High School Football Hall of Fame's 36-member inaugural class will be inducted at the College Football Hall of Fame on Saturday, October 22 and Forest Park Graduate Hines Ward will be among the inductees and he was one of the top vote-getters.

**CITY OPERATIONS:**

- On August 6<sup>th</sup>, from 12 noon – 6:00pm, the City of Forest Park Fire and Emergency Services will host an Open House at Station One, located at 4539 Jonesboro Road.
- On June 30<sup>th</sup>, the Finance, HR Departments, and the City Manager's Office had its project kick off meeting with ADP. It is our goal to have ADP processing the city first payroll by November 2022, with full implementation for payroll and time keeping by January 1, 2023.
- HR deployed our new Performance evaluations system Trackstar, and employee evaluations are underway. The system allows for consistent performance tracking and feedback from supervisors and managers.
- Our Public Information Office is working diligently to make updates to our city's online presences via Google and other search engines. Our IT Director established our City's Google Business Account, now we can submit and update our own information. Please be patient with us as we continue to move forward and ensure the most up to date and accurate information is being displayed.
- On Friday, July 15 there was an accident where an unknown person hit and then fled a GA Power electric pole that blew the transformers connecting City Hall, Recreation and Leisure, Planning and Human Resources Buildings. I want to give a huge shout out and Thank You to the Ms. Abbey Jones and all the Recreations and Leisure staff for quickly rallying the children in summer camp and closing necessary facilities to ensure the public's safety. The Forest Park Police Department officers, especially Sgt. Sparks and Officer Ellis, the Forest Park Fire Department BC Flagg, and his crew, as well as our Public Works Team Deputy Director Nigel Wattlely and our Finance front office team, Ms. Chanda Melson and our PIO Mr. Javon Lloyd for all their quick responses to the situation. The situation was contained with minimal disruptions and reported to Georgia Power, who responded quickly and to the residents via social media. Also, with the help of our IT personnel Mr. Jimmie Rodriguez and our video surveillance we hope the Forest Park Police Department we will catch the perpetrator quickly.

**SHOUT OUT**

- KUDOS to Chief Nathaniel Clark who received a letter of recognition from the Forest Park Ministers Association. The association offered thanks to Chief Clark and the Officers of the Forest Park Police Department for the constant and continued care and concern for the community.
- PIO Javon Lloyd received an email from resident Nikki Fontaine thanking him for the updates and media information. She stated that this information is really helping her out.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- 1. Discussion to Authorize Approval to Award a Contract to BRTU Construction, Inc. for the Construction of a Complete Streetscape and Roadway on Mainstreet in Forest Park, GA-**  
Department of Planning & Community Development

**Background/History:**

Sealed bids were received by the City from prospective contractors for the City's "Downtown Streetscape Phase 2A- Mainstreet" project. The work consists of furnishing and installing all materials, labor, tools, equipment, and related services required for a complete project. This project includes but is not limited to providing the construction of a complete streetscape and roadway on Mainstreet from College Street at the fountain to Phillips Drive. BRTU Construction, Inc. was selected by a competitive bid process for the construction project.

**Comments/Discussion from Governing Body:**

**James Shelby, Director of Planning Community & Development** - This is one of the many projects that we have going on in the city, for capital projects. This project will go from the Falcons all the way to Phillips St., which is phase 2A. Then phase 2B will go from Phillips all the way down to Jonesboro Rd. We must acquire some more right away to get that project on the way. This project is completely funded, and I ask that the city council approve it, so that we can move forward and get more dirt moving in the city.

**Councilmember James** -Yes, thank you for this. Can you tell us a little about what the enhancement would be?

**James Shelby** - Yes, it will be a continuation of what we have already brick sidewalks, street lighting that the council approved about two months ago. It will improve removing all the wooden poles we have with nice concrete poles; decorative lights and the streets will be completely paved.

**Councilmember Akins-Wells** -First, I would like to say thank you. Two, Dr. Cooper, know there has been some issues in my ward, as far as the lighting and beautifying of Main Street. When we have issues and we want some of the things we may need in our ward, is that something the Planning and Zoning Department do? You mentioned about acquiring the right-of-way and we were just having a conversation about some things in Ward 4, and it cannot get done because the city does not have the funds. So, is it something your department can help get the funds so that some of these things can get done? I love Main Street and we need to do some things, but we also need to beautify other areas.

**James Shelby** – I hear you Councilmember Wells, but let us keep in mind, that these funds were already identified. These projects are from the SPLOST 2015 that we had not spent and was just sitting on the books. These projects are ones that council had already approved, and we just started implementing them a year ago. We can help, but most of the projects are funded with SPLOST money. So, when the new SPLOST come out and city council wants to approve funding for certain projects within the wards, then you have that authority to do so.

**City Manager** - I just want to be a little more specific on what Councilwoman Wells, was speaking of. We were talking about some of the sidewalks that the council had already approved for Rockcut Rd, Waldrop as well as Linda Way. Part of the issue that we have there is that the purchase of easement, that we would need to do with some of those sidewalk installations. Councilwoman Wells, and I have discussed this and there is a process that we go through with all these projects not just with specific projects in specific areas.

What we were discussing, the money is there for this project for the sidewalks on Linda Way specifically. The issue that we have, and I explained this to Councilwoman Wells, is we have to come back to council, because we do not know what the cost of purchasing easement would be and it is going to increase the cost, which means we are going to have to bring it back to council for additional approval or to move forward.

## 2. Council Discussion on Purchasing FLOCK LPR (license plate reader) - Police

### Background/History:

The Police Department is requesting council approval for the installation and operations of the FLOCK LPR system. FLOCK provides cameras that capture the license plates of vehicles passing the cameras. The system allows law enforcement to identify stolen vehicles, wanted persons and direction of travel of persons suspected of committing crimes within the city limits. The information captured by the FLOCK system is available only to law enforcement and a purpose code must be used when accessing the captured picture of any license plate. The FLOCK system is currently used by 1,500+ agencies and has shown to reduce crime, and or clear active cases by up to 70% in some locations.

Clayton County FLOCK cameras have already been used by the Forest Park Police Department to help identify suspect vehicles and to clear cases. However, Clayton County does not have any cameras installed within our city limits and we are limited on county cameras that are close to the city limits. FLOCK does not use facial recognition to identify any person. FLOCK provides real time information to law enforcement agencies, with no delay, and provides video/picture evidence of vehicles wanted in connection with crimes within our city and the surrounding areas.

### Comments/Discussion from Governing Body:

**Michael Brunson, Deputy Police Chief** - This will enhance our crime solving ability. FLOCK is a well-respected brand, and a lot of agencies use it. We will be able to connect into that network and work with those other agencies and get that information very quickly and it will identify those vehicles for example: if there is a robbery and there is a plate that come out, if the vehicle drives through it will automatically hit once it is put into the NCIC/GCIC system automatically and let us know, that wanted vehicle went north bound on Old Dixie Highway. It is a great tool for law enforcement it is something we believe will enhance our crime fighting ability in the city.

**Councilmember Antoine** – This is a no brainer in the first paragraph in the last sentence where it says the FLOCK system is currently used by 1,500+ agencies and has shown to reduce crime, and or clear active cases by up to 70% in some locations. So, I support that.

**Councilmember Gutierrez** – Will this identify uninsured vehicles and expired tags?

**Michael Brunson, Deputy Police Chief**- Expired tags absolutely, but I am not sure about uninsured. I will have to ask our subject matter expert of traffic, Sergeant Gladden, can answer that question.

**Councilmember Gutierrez**- I know that Lake City has it because they post up at Jonesboro and Forest Parkway and it reads anything driving by.

**Michael Brunson, Deputy Police Chief**- Yes, it will read plate that is coming through if it is expired or wanted it will alert.

**Councilmember Gutierrez**- I want to know if it has that capability as well?

**Officer Gladden** – As long as it is inputted into NCIC or GCIC the state or national database it will read on the FLOCK camera. If it is never inputted by the state, we will not get a hit on it.

**Councilmember Akins-Wells** – It is a good idea.

**Councilmember Mears** – I also, think this is a great idea. Anything that we can do to enhance the effort of our public safety in fire and police or anything like that is all right by me and I am on board 100%.

3. **Council Consideration of a Technical Fee Ordinance Update and Adoption of Certain Fees-Legal and Finance**

**Background/History:**

Staff has prepared a technical fee ordinance to clean-up various provisions in the Code of Ordinances where a specific dollar amount for a certain fee is set. The same change is made throughout. It provides that all fees shall be established from time to time by resolution of the governing body and kept on file in the office of the director of finance. In this way, each year Council can approve changes to various fees without having to make specific ordinance amendments.

The ordinance also includes an exhibit which establishes certain fees for various departments that either (a) have been removed from the Code of Ordinances or (b) are in need of updating.

Departments with fees not shown already have had their fees approved by Council.

**Comments/Discussion from Governing Body:**

**Councilmember Gutierrez** - So will we get example on how much to charge. I am just not an expert on fees, will we get a recommendation from you all on these fees?

**Mayor Butler** - It is in your package.

**Councilmember Gutierrez** - Like in the future if it were to change, for example: one time Director Shelby, came up and said we need to adjust these fees.

**Chiquita Barkley, Finance Director** - You will be notified if we to make any changes to the fees.

**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 for Personnel, Litigation and Real Estate at 6:18pm.

Motion made by Councilmember Antoine, Seconded by Councilmember Gutierrez.

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

It was moved to reconvene back into the Work Session at 7:03pm

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 July 18, 2022, Council Work Session at 7:03pm.

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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