

# CITY OF FOREST PARK MAYOR & COUNCIL City Council Regular Session

Monday, May 17, 2021, at 7:00 PM Council Chambers, Virtual Meeting Via Zoom and YouTube Livestream

Website: <a href="www.forestparkga.gov">www.forestparkga.gov</a>
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745 Forest Parkway Forest Park, GA 30297

## **Draft Regular Minutes**

The Honorable Mayor Angelyne Butler, MPA

The Honorable Kimberly James The Honorable Dabouze Antoine
The Honorable Hector Gutierrez The Honorable Latresa Akins-Wells
The Honorable Allan Mears

Dr. Marc-Antonie Cooper, City Manager Sharee Steed, City Clerk Mike Williams, City Attorney

CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME: The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm by Mayor Butler

**INVOCATION/PLEDGE:** Invocation was given by Minister Justin Cook of Rock Church Atlanta and the pledge of allegiance was recited in unison.

**ROLL CALL - CITY CLERK:** All members were present, and a quorum was established.

Attendee's Name	Title	Absent	Present
Angelyne Butler, MPA	Mayor, At-Large		<b>✓</b>
Kimberly James	Council Member, Ward 1		<b>√</b>
Dabouze Antoine	Council Member, Ward 2, Mayor Pro-Tem		✓
Hector Gutierrez	Council Member, Ward 3		<b>√</b>
Latresa Akins-Wells	Council Member, Ward 4		<b>√</b>
Allan Mears	Council Member, Ward 5		<b>✓</b>

**DIRECTORS PRESENT:** A. Girard Geeter, Procurement Manager; Darquita Williams, Interim Finance Director; James Shelby, Director of Planning & Zoning, Bruce Abraham, Director Economic Development, Bobby Jinks, Director Public Works, Tarik Maxwell, Director of Parks and Recreation, Nathaniel Clark, Police Chief, and Latosha Clemons, Deputy Fire Chief

#### PRESENTATIONS:

1. Councilmember Akins-Wells would like to present the Forest Park High School Boys' Varsity Baseball Team with a proclamation for becoming the 2021 Region 3 5A Runner-Up.

Councilmember Akins-Wells thanked the coaches, parents, and everyone at Forest Park High School. Stated she wanted to recognize the Baseball Team, because they go unnoticed, so we are going to shine a new light on baseball today. There is a new program and new coach (Coach Josh Froneberger) that has received Coach of the Year for two consecutive years and he has brought different strategies to the Forest Park baseball program and for the first time in a very long time, we had scouts from major league baseball, LSU, Notre Dame, Georgia at our Forest Park baseball games, which says a lot about the students, coaches and parents that are here today and presented individual proclamations to each team member and their coaches. Also, there are some students who made the All-Region Team, Larry Pippins, who is a Senior made first team; Matthew Nettles, Jaquez Akins, Michael Storey all made the second team with Michael Storey being awarded pitcher of the year and Montrell Christian honorable mention. We are needing support from the Community and School in collecting funds for redoing the baseball field, Coach has a cashapp for donations - \$pitchingguru, please support.

**Coach Froneberger** – Thanked everyone from the City of Forest Park, being a resident of the city and played baseball and basketball, it has always been a dream to come back and coach at his alma mater. We have faced a lot of adversities coming into the high school season with a COVID year, with communication being down and not having students in the building for practice, but I made accommodations for practice at 5:30p and worked with the parents, whom I thank and appreciate working with them and the coach of the year award really goes to them, because without them this would not have been possible. Without the team and the coaching staff, we are nothing as a community and it is all about the students for me. There are 15 of the 16 members returning and look out for us, it is a bright future for this program, and I thank you all for your continued support.

**Councilmember Akins-Wells** – All are invited to 696 Main Street to have dinner with the team.

2. Nathaniel Clark, Police Chief would like to present the CALEA (Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies) advanced 4-year Award

**Chief Nathaniel Clark** – Introduced the newest member of the Police Department, Major Sandra Johnson, who joined the Police Department on May 20<sup>th</sup>.

Chief Clark presented the Mayor and Council with the CALEA Award (Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies) 4-year Advance Award. This is a historic moment in our city, it is the first award we have achieved of this caliber. Our Police Department is second to none in the nation, we thank our citizens and the governing body for helping us make this achievement. Chief Clark stated that the Police Department did not make this achievement on their own and gave special thanks to the following individuals, Mayor Butler, Councilmembers James and Akins-Wells, Ms. Brown, HR Director, Pastor Dr. Wesley Green, Sara Dixon and last, but not least, Ms. Catherine Capps, who worked vigorously that we achieve this award, working around the clock for almost seven months to help us achieve this award, which normally takes four years to accomplish.

Catherine Capps – It would not have happened without your support, because when I took this task on, I was floored, but honored. I started digging into the files that were missing, had numerous communications with Deputy Chief Gentry, before speaking with the Chief Clark, we were over 3,000 files behind to meet our November visit. I would like to give thanks to everyone who participated to make this happen and it was a great honor to accomplish this task. Ms. Capps read the award and Chief Clark formally presented the award to Mayor and Council as well as Certificate of Appreciation to Ms. Catherine Capps.

City Manager, Dr. Cooper presented a Certificate of Appreciation from CALEA to Chief Clark.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS: (There is a 3 MINUTE LIMIT)**

Ms. LaWanda Folami – I am here on behalf of the concerned citizens. We attended a hearing here about two weeks ago and that was the most embarrassing, unprofessional ethics that the concerned citizens could see. We do not see where there could be justice to the accuser or the person who you are trying to prove themselves, it was just not by ethics or anything. I feel that the governing body needs to review the Ethics Board, we do not feel that the people that come before you can get a fair justice service and to say that you should feel the same way, you should not want to govern the meeting and come govern the ethics board, that is not giving fairness to the community. That is being disrespectful, taking money unnecessary, because you have already made your mind. I also, would like to say, on behalf of the concerned citizens, we ask that Mike Williams resign or quit, we do not care which one it is, and we are going to follow up to make sure that happens. Because anytime you have a city attorney, who does not represent the city in a proper manner, he is not only deceiving you and failing you, but he is really failing the taxpayers. It is a whole lot; we have a lot of people asking who is the mayor of the city of Forest Park? Where did that come from, Angelyne Butler is the Mayor of Forest Park and you all should recognize that at all meetings. Why are you playing tick for tack with each other, I do not know and really do not care; but at the end of the day, the only thing we are saying, you can say it is negative, we are saying it is positive, because this is our opinion, and when we come with our opinion it is going to stand. Mayor Butler, you know that concerned citizens is real, because you were there. We have seen dog fights, pig fights, but we have seen snakes fight, so if we do not get this house in order, this house is going to fall and I have come to tell you today, this house will fall, and I hate it because it is on my watch. I walked the streets. I have prayed a prayer, asked my neighbor, my enemy, my friend to support me in bringing in a governing body. Let me be the first to tell you ladies and gentlemen, you all are failing us, believe it or not, you are failing us because you are failing each other, you may not want to hear from me, but I am the only one going to stand up and tell you the truth, and those who want to say it is a rocket something, evidently it is not applying to you, because anything you out and say that your mayor is not the mayor of this city, I woe you.

**Ms. Dorinda Ellis** – Behind me is the waste management at 327 Lamar Drive, every morning we got beep, beep, beep, crash, green at 1:30 or 2:00 o'clock in the morning waking me up. I have spent personally, two times up to \$12K rebuilding sewer lines, because bellies have formed in my backyard from the rats that are coming from waste management. I have spent over \$8k redoing the wiring harness on my 2000 Mustang with 23,000 miles on it, a collector's car; I can not have a barbecue outside my house because the stink that comes from the waste management. I have rats in my backyard, garage and driveway and I am sick of it. I want to know who in Forest Park, okayed these people to move in, my neighbor, Chris DeLuca, has been at these meetings, the sheriff's office and has talked to the mayor, and I have personally talked with CM Wells regarding this. My neighbor got a phone call offering his house, that was the solution, because something like \$20 million dollars is what the city of Forest Park would have to pay to get rid of waste management, second-hand information, I got that from him and a phone call. I have been in my house for 30 years and I am 65 years old, I would like to retire in my home. I have done work in my house, and I know every little sound, every little niche if something is wrong with my house, I cannot, I have rats in my backyard. Can someone help me please? Can someone help me fix this, 30 years, I have invested in this

house, it is where I wanted to live. I cannot even leave my windows open in the summertime for fresh air, because there is not any, I smell trash. Can someone help me, my information is on the form I filled out to speak.

Forest Park Resident – Several years ago, during a council meeting, it was decided that any questions that citizens bring up the following meeting the city manager would address those questions with what has been done or why it could not happen, being that was not the ideal solution, this worked out satisfactorily. This was under Angela Redding's tenure she really knew the workings of our city. Since she was terminated, no one would address our concerns, even though I know you are new Mr. Cooper, I truly believe you will be honest enough to investigate our issues. Barker and Clark never cared. Speaking of Clark, this city is not big enough for a Public Safety Director, just terminate the position and let him consider if he wants a position with PD to be a patrol officer, frankly he has cost the city loads of money, and all I see is people leaving for other cities. Mr. Cooper and Council, I am opposed to having to pay a consulting firm \$6k a month, speaking for the city on the city's behalf. Let us save that \$72k year fee and let a department head speak or until you terminate Clark, let him do it. Let us save some money, so give the News Daily or the Clayton Crescent the information to report and I would like to know, for the record, if Chief Horton is still on payroll.

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

Motion made by Councilmember James, Seconded by Councilmember Antoine, to adopt the Council Agenda as printed.

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

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

 Council Approval to Adopt the Council Work Session and Regular Meeting Minutes for April 19, 2021 - Sharee Steed, City Clerk

Motion made by Councilmember James, Seconded by Councilmember Wells to approve the Council Work Session and Regular meeting minutes for April 1, 2021.

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

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**4. Approval of Body Worn Camera Policy** - Public Safety Director/Chief of Police, Nathaniel Clark

Motion made by Councilmember James, Seconded by Councilmember Antoine to approve the Body Worn Camera Policy.

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

5. Approval of Cleaning Services Contract for the Police Department - Public Safety Director/Chief of Police, Nathaniel Clark

Motion made by Councilmember James, Seconded by Councilmember Antoine to approve a cleaning contract for the Police Department.

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

**6.** Approval of Human Resource Departments Budget/Amendment/Transfer of Funds – Diane Lewis, Benefits Specialist and Darquita Williams, Interim Finance Director

Motion made by Councilmember James, Seconded by Councilmember Mears to approve the Human Resources Department Budget Transfer of Funds.

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

7. Council Approval of Budget Transfers for the Planning, Building & Zoning Department - James Shelby, Director of PBZ and Darquita Williams, Interim Finance Director

Motion made by Councilmember James, Seconded by Councilmember Antoine to approve the Budget Transfers for the Planning, Building & Zoning Department.

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

8. Council Approval to enter a contract with Mauldin and Jenkins for Professional Services - Dr. Cooper, City Manager

Motion made by Councilmember James, Seconded by Councilmember Antoine to approve to enter a contract with Mauldin & Jenkins for Profession Services.

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

9. Council Approval to enter a Contract with Spiked Communications for the establishment of a Public Information Office in the amount of \$6,000 monthly - Dr. Cooper, City Manager

Motion made by Councilmember James, Seconded by Councilmember Antoine to enter a contract with Spiked Communications for the establishment of a Public Information Office in the amount of \$6,000 monthly.

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

Councilmember James asked Dr. Cooper what is the estimated time for this?

City Manager – The length of time that we are looking at is between 4 to 6 months, that is why we said "not to exceed" amount, so if we get to that point and we are still not there, I will have to come back to council with justification to continue.

#### **CLOSING COMMENTS BY GOVERNING BODY:**

Councilmember James - Thanks to all for coming out to be a part of our council meeting, we appreciate you and appreciate you being here. Congratulations to the Class of 2021 and special thanks to Ms. Tenisha Dixon for her help in organizing the caravan parade, and Senior day activity; thanks to all the departments that took part, especially our police, fire, public works and recreation and leisure departments. Thanks to the community partners, Clayton Police and Sheriff's office and thanks to the business owners who made donations and contributions. We had a very successful cleanup of the cemetery on Conley Road, which is classified in the books, as Colored Cemetery. Thanks to the Public Works department for cutting the grass, elected officials that attended. State Representatives Sandra Scott and Kim Schofield, Judge Shalonda Jones Parker. This was State Representative Schofield's first time using a rake, I told her that I would mention that. The next neighborhood meeting that I will host will take place on Thurs., May 20th, I invite everyone to come and be a part of our virtual meeting at 5:00pm, we invite our subject matter experts, as I call them, which is our department heads and leaders in the city to talk about some of the great things that are happening in Forest Park and I would like to express that a lot of times things are one-sided and you get a tunnel vision as to what you believe the truth is and what your perception is and I would just say we have to be mindful of everything, we have mindful of the employees and how they feel, we have to be mindful of everything. So, some decisions we make, everybody is not going to agree with, and everyone is not going to agree with everything everyone does. There will always be disagreement with someone, we are all individuals, we are all unique and with that I do not think we should tear each other down, I do not think we should ask people to resign, I do not think we should try to force people. I think it is our personal opinions of what we have, and we are allowed to have that; I am allowed to have my personal opinions as well, but I know that are certain platforms that I would not express different things. I do not want to assassinate anyone's character, anyone's ability to do their job, I know we had a great leader in our Fire department, but there were some flaws found by the investigator and that is known. So, I cannot jump to one side because of the great job; if I do a great job as a city councilmember, but I have some issues that are plaguing people, then I need to be called out on that. So, we just cannot say this person doing a great job, so we got to look over some of the things that transpired, we cannot do that, and I refuse to do that, and I will not do that. I will not back down on any decisions that I have made and as I have stated once before, whether I am in the majority or minority, it does not matter, I can move forward and I can continue to work, but I will not tear down someone because they do not agree with me; that is something we cannot do, we are not going to always agree. Thanks to ATL Sling for participating in the Senior caravan and the alumni game that occurred at Kiwanis stadium, Coach Rex wants to bring the football team in the community, so he petitioned the County to have their spring football game at Kiwanis stadium, there were a lot of alumni that graduated from Forest Park High school in attendance and the team won, beating Mt. Zion 30-0, we are looking forward to a great season.

Councilmember Antoine – Thanks to everyone for coming in, I see some new faces, hopefully this is not your last, because we all are here to serve the best for the city. I had a huge concern, that most of you probably do not know, it is the trees that is in Forest Park. I keep saying that, but some of that the city and the citizens are going to have to come together and work on, because last couple of weeks ago, we had a little storm that passed by here; thanks to public works and fire departments, but honestly it is a concern, because you have people that have trees behind their houses, they do not know how old the trees are and they could fall destroy their houses. If you do not know the law, if your neighbor's tree falls on your house or on your property, guess who pays for that. We are talking about \$6 to \$8 thousand dollars for a tree. It is something that we might not even overlook, because we do not think of the trees. But whenever it rains, I think about the trees behind my house how a branch or tree could fall. The huge oak tree that fell on the old lady's house on North Ave; her husband was a councilman; she has raccoons and rats in her house, and I am working with her to try to help her out. Shoot out to the police department, you all are awesome, the award is something unheard of, there are only 40 police departments out of 500 that has accomplish this; give credit where it is due; this is huge with all that is going on. Thanks to Planning & Zoning for making our city look better. There is important information that our city manager just shared with us, it is the rental assistant program, please share that, they are helping renters with 15 months, it is a great opportunity. We also have the utility assistance

program on Main Street at Reverend Grant Center, they are paying up to \$800 on your GA Power bill; you need your license, GA Power bill and social security number. This is offered to Fayette County, Henry County and Clayton County. That is my concern, I am not here to bash people or take people down, because that is not what God does and if you ever want to ask God what needs to be done, that is what you do, because God is not going to come here and make people look bad. So, I would encourage everybody that we all want the best for this city, I am sure, we do not want to see it burn down. But God is not a God of confusion, so that is one plan, and who has that plan? Him. So, help us so we can help everyone else. We want to help, we need you, there is nobody here that is smart, we all need help, none of us are Einstein out here, so if you want to help us grow just take us out and we will talk about it. Thank you and may God continue to bless you.

Councilmember Gutierrez – I am sorry and having a real hard time after hearing your testimony, Ms. Ellis. I drove by there and went to the police department, and I could see that half of the road is black, the other half is street color, when all that trash comes in. And the smell was horrible, and the flies look like bats, and I could see this dry stuff on the cars and houses and what you said about the barbecue, I am sorry, because that changed when I saw that this is my priority number one, right now. Even though it is not in my Ward, this is our city, our people that have to live there in that. It has not fallen on deaf ears, thank you for coming up and that is where it starts, with the people, with your comments, with you coming here and letting us know what the priorities are, we are going to do something and I know the council is motivated to change that, our people come first and that was a mistake that never should have be done, but it is here and we have to acknowledge it, so thank that. Thanks for all the public comments, honestly, because it feels nice to have people back in here. Congratulations the boy's baseball team that was amazing to have them come here. I went to that game and it just beautiful to see the community, and that where it starts in the community supporting our future, so let us support them as much as we can and support all sports here in Forest Park. Congratulations to the Police Department for the CALEA recognition and bringing in the major in today, is all the new leadership and good things that are happening here; there are some problems, but nothing is perfect. Even the council, no family is perfect, nothing is going to always go the same way, if we had that then we should just have one party, but we need to have that balance. So, I appreciate each council's opinion even though we do not share them. Let us get vaccinated, do it for your family, do it yourself, you can only bring harm to your family if you do not get vaccinated. Other countries do not have access to these vaccines, so take advantage of the resources. Ms. Sharee Steed, I would like to thank you for everything you have done for our city, and I wish you the best. We had a Mother's Day Food Truck Friday event, thanks to all that donated to that event, our next one is June 4th, and we are going to it towards our dads. I want to recognize our fathers for our Food Truck event on June 4th and we will have giveaways for you as well. Make sure you come out and if any departments want to donate anything let me know. On June 5th, I will be having a clean-up day in my Ward, look for the information on our social media; on May 20th we are having an educational event, with at motivational speaker, free gifts for our youth. Hopefully this upcoming year, we will establish a Senior Committee and Youth Committee so you can have a seat table and hold us accountable. As far as the decision that was made, when we had the appeal hearing, I unfortunately disagreed with you CM James, but I always appreciate your input as well: I was not happy with what happened. Our duty was to decide, and a decision was made, and I do not want to make our employees feel like we do not care about, we definitely do. You cannot take this candy and chop your head off, I think there is levels of getting on to somebody or things that can be done; I did not agree with that, but we are going to do something about it, we have not given up. Thanks to everyone for coming out and we appreciate you and hope to see you at the free events and reach out for anything.

Councilmember Akins-Wells – Thanks to everyone for coming out and being at our meeting. Congratulations to our baseball team and the coaches; also, congratulations to Samaya Fagan, I so proud of her. I have gotten better with not responding to negativity, but what I will say is, some of us actually care, some of us actually get out and work for the people, so we are not just sitting and doing nothing. And just because we do not get along the way certain people want us to get along, does not mean we are not handling business. Just because we are not handling how you want us to handle it, does not mean things are not getting done. No we are not here to be friends, we are here to do a job, we are here to get things done, we are here to move the city forward and so if you are not here for that

reason, then you should not be here, so I am not going to agree with oh the city's falling down and out, because whoever put waste management in the middle of Ward 4, that is when they should have been speaking on the city going downhill. So, I feel like even though we do not always get along, it is okay. The people elected us because we are all different, we all represent something different, so instead of coming here bashing at every meeting, every meeting, help, if you see that something is wrong help, because we talk about division and then the people get up here and talk about it are the ones that is causing it. To Ms. Ellis, I apologize to you, yes, we have spoken on several occasions and everybody in Forest Park knows that I am totally against Waste Management being in the middle of a community. I have talked about it and talked about it, and I am the reason we got the city attorney to communicate with waste management and everyone had something to say about the amount that the city would have to pay, well I do not care, honestly, because it is about the residents of Forest Park. But again, I am just one person, so if they do not feel something should be done, I can sit here and talk until I am blue in the face and nothing is going to happen, and maybe it is because they do not have to live by it and deal with it. But I care, I hear you, do not think it is falling on deaf ears, but I cannot do anything by myself. So, again I will ask Mr. Williams, Mayor, Dr. Cooper, whoever can help us get them out our community, please; because you heard Ms. Ellis, I was in tears, because it is ridiculous that our citizens have to deal with that and we are sitting here talking about the city falling down because people are not getting along or someone resigning because they do not agree with certain things, when there are bigger issues. I want to thank the fire department for being involved in the community; for supporting Forest Park's baseball team. that is so unheard of, that has never happened; so, to see our scouts, fire department out there supporting, I thank you, this is what our young men and women need to see, that they have the support of everybody. I was not here when the hearing took place, I was at the hospital, I attend at the last minute, but I do not feel that there was a proper investigation done, do not think the Chief of Police should have had anything to do with it from the start and hand picking who the investigator who was going to be; I do not feel that a victim should be a victim and a judge; that was unethical to me and something definitely needs to be done about that, I have spoken to the City Attorney, as to whether or not there was a clause or something in our charter that states where the mayor can veto ordinances or resolutions, but it says nothing about an appeal hearing. And we you have three affirmative votes, that is it, you cannot come in and recuse yourself and un-recuse yourself; that like being in a courtroom and somebody committed murder, somebody killed your family member and you recuse yourself and then when they do not get life, you come back and say, oh, no I do not like that, I want to un-recuse myself, it does not like that, and I am not an attorney, and I know better, so something needs to be done about the whole process, about how everything was done, because it was not right. Chief Horton is not my friend, I have known him for seven months, just like the rest of you. But, if it was one of you, if it was Chief Clark, a captain, a police officer, whoever, the process should have been fair and it was not fair, and if you have a heart, you can look at what happened, you can listen to read the minutes, you can listen to it and it was not done properly and so, we do need to revisit that, we do need to file some complaints because it was unethical and should not have happened. Again, we have great things going on in Forest Park, everything is not all bad, although some people want to make it seem like it is, it is not. I do feel at the end of the day, most of us have the city's best interest at heart, and I am definitely one of them, I am not going to sit here and let someone dog us out because we do not get along the way they want us to get along and they do not get along with us. Thank you all so much and have a blessed night.

Councilmember Mears – I would like to thank the Police Department and the Fire Department; I think they are God sent for the work and hard things that they do. Thanks to Chief Clark and his department, we had a big bust at Kroger, there was a big theft ring there and with their service and with our diligent police we broke that up. The Fire Department, like CM Wells said, coming out there supporting the city, they are doing a wonderful; and we have new recruits coming in. The main thing you got to have a city our size is support and safety. Also, thanks to Public Works for that tree work that Dr. Cooper spoke about. There was 15 plus trees across the power lines and streets and Public Works did an exceptional job getting them out of the way so that emergency services could get to them, and they could get out and go to work, get food and whatever and I am so proud of our Public Works Department. Last week, going back to Mother's Day, I would appreciate the people that sent me Mother's Day cards would put your return address so I could thank you. Everyone have a nice evening.

**Mayor Butler** – I want to thank everyone for being present with us this evening. One of the principals I cherish most is our great constitution. One of the most salient principles that set us aside from other countries around the world is our 1st Amendment, Freedom of Speech and Freedom of the Press. Our individual freedom of expression is a fundamental human right, that while bestowed upon us all is not sans consequences. As such what is said and done, what is typed, text, or printed or what is taken or "gifted" shall be noted and leveraged, for what is truly in the City's best interest.

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

Motion made by Councilmember James, Seconded by Councilmember Antoine to recess into Executive Session at 8:02pm.

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

Motion made by Councilmember James, Seconded by Councilmember Adkins Wells to reconvene from Executive Session back into the Regular meeting at 8:52pm.

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

Motion was made by Councilmember James and seconded by Councilmember Akins-Wells to purchase 460, 470, 480 and 490 Springdale Drive for a combined purchased price of \$22,000.

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

Motion was made by Councilmember James and seconded by Councilmember Mears to retain a law firm of Parker Po for certain real estate services.

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

Motion was made by Councilmember Wells and seconded by Councilmember Gutierrez to enter a contract with the firm, Bondurant, Mixson & Elmore to dispute the mayor's veto on the appeal of Chief Horton.

Voting Yea: Councilmember Antoine, Councilmember Gutierrez, and Councilmember Akins-Wells, Voting No: Councilmember James and Councilmember Mears

#### ADJOURNMENT:

Motion made by Councilmember James, Seconded by Councilmember Mears to adjourn the May 17, 2021, Council Regular meeting at 8:52pm.

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

