



CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION

Monday, November 21, 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
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 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

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME: The meeting was called to order at 6:00pm by Mayor Butler 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		✓
Hector Gutierrez	Council Member, Ward 3		✓
Latresa Akins-Wells	Council Member, Ward 4		✓
Allan Mears	Council Member, Ward 5		✓

Javon Lloyd, Public Information Officer, Joshua Cox, IT Director, Chiquita Barkley, Finance Director, Jeremi Patterson, Deputy Finance Director, LaShawn Gardiner, Director Planning & Community Development, Shalonda Brown, HR Director, Fire Chief Latosha Clemons, Bobby Jinks, Director Public Works, Police Chief, Nathaniel Clark, and Arthur Geeter, Purchasing Manager

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT: Dr. Marc-Antonie Cooper, City Manager

COMMUNITY INFORMATION/REMINDERS:

- **RUNOFF EARLY VOTING – Starts Sunday, November 27 – Friday, December 2 – GENERAL RUNOFF ELECTION DAY IS DECEMBER 6, 2022.** In Clayton County Early and Advance voting schedule is Sunday, November 27 – 12pm – 5PM, and Monday, November 28 thru Friday, December 2, 2022, for 8am – 7pm. For more information or to find an advance voting location visit the Clayton County Board of Elections at www.claytonelections.com.
- Saturday, December 3rd – City of Forest Park's Annual Holiday Parade and Celebration – parade starts 6:00pm – 8:00pm. Parade begins at 6:00pm at the old Bank of America drive-thru and concludes at the Starr Park Amphitheater. The following road closures are expected in advance of the festivities –
 - Intersection of Main Street and Phillips Drive
 - Intersection of Main Street and Ash St (Main Street Fountain)
 - Intersection of Lake Drive and Forest Parkway
- Saturday, December 10, 2022 @ 11:00 am - 2:00 pm at the City of Forest Park Senior Center, 5087 Park Ave – Breakfast with Santa/Trots-for-tots.
- Saturday, December 17, 2022, from 12:00 pm – 4:00pm Recreation and Leisure will host a Holiday Give Back at City of Forest Park Recreation Center.
- The City of Forest Park will be closed in observance of the Thanksgiving Holiday Thursday, November 24 and Friday, November 25, 2022, reopening at 8:00am, Monday, November 28, 2022.

CITY OPERATIONS:

- We are continuing to work with Waste Management on several operational issues, as well as negotiate a new contract to bring forth to City Council for approval. We had a meeting with their new District Manager Mr. Travis Blank and am confident we will improve this matter and close on a contract soon.
- MARTA Board Voted to advance plan for Rapid Bus lines in Clayton County. The City of Forest Park City Council, along with the councils for Jonesboro, Lovejoy, Riverdale, and Lake City, and the Clayton County Chamber voted in support of updating the Locally Preferred Alternative (LPA) for State Route 54 in Clayton County from commuter rail to bus rapid transit (BRT). Forest Park will be on of 17 proposed stops and connect East Point Rail station to Mountain View, Forest Park, Clayton State as well as other locations in Clayton County.

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT/SHOUT OUT:

- I would like to thank all City of Forest Park staff and let them know we truly appreciate their understanding and patience, as well as their willingness to embrace the changes we are going through. With the implementation of our new payroll processing solution, as well as correcting several past issues we know that there has been and will be glitches in the process implementation. However, staff has worked with us

and been patient in allowing the corrections to be made and updated. Please know that as we are working through these issues and doing all we can to minimize any negative impacts to staff or operations. We will continue to communicate with staff on our progress.

NEW BUSINESS:

- 1. Council Discussion on a Resolution & Agreement with the Atlanta Regional Commission to Update City's Comprehensive Plan – Planning & Community Development Department**

Background/History:

To request assistance from the Atlanta Regional Commission to update the Comprehensive Plan by October 31, 2023.

City Manager –We are looking for them to engage with us to assist this year to have it updated by October 31, 2023.

Comments from Governing Body:

There were no comments

- 2. Discussion to Execute a Non-Residential Gas Extension Contract with Atlanta Gas Light Company for the new Public Safety Building at Gillem - Department of Planning and Community Development**

Background/History:

Background/History: Atlanta Gas Light Company will construct, own, operate and maintain a service line of suitable capacity from its main gas line to the new Public Safety Building at Gillem. The signed contract will allow Atlanta Gas Light Company to prepare for construction and move forward with ordering materials and installation.

Comments from Governing Body:

Councilmember Antoine – Will there be any noise during the construction around the neighborhoods.

James Shelby – It is an Industrial Park; I do not know if it is going to disturb the warehouses or not. I think the answer is probably no.

Councilmember Gutierrez – It is a valid question because I had one of the residents hit me up and say they are building something over there. I do not know what they are building but I will call her back and see where it is that it is happening. So, the noise disturbance is mainly on the industrial side and the residents will not hear anything on their side?

James Shelby – The fire station is located on the interior of the industrial park so; I cannot see how it is disturbing the neighbors unless it is other warehouses being built by other companies. Our fire station is across the street from the Amazon and should not be causing any noise issues at all. If you have not had the chance to go out there you should because the building is spectacular and blends in with the existing buildings that are out there already. We are on target to be completed by April or May.

Councilmember Akins-Wells – I would like to see something set up for the residents. Maybe we can charter something, like we did before with the Kroger warehouse, to give them insight into what is going on and what is new out there. I think that is something to put together for the residents as well as the council members since they have not been over to Fort Gillem.

James Shelby – I will get with Dr. Cooper and see what we can come up with.

Mayor Butler – I think Bruce is working on something as well.

City Manager – Also, council woman this will be added into the monthly city manager's report, from Mr. Shelby.

3. **Council Discussion on Upgrading the Chamber AV System** – IT Department

Background/History:

Over the course of the past few months, we have experienced unexpected issues with the AV equipment in the council chambers. Most of the equipment is relatively new as it was upgraded a couple of years ago. Upon investigation of the AV issues we have experienced, it seems the most recent upgrade was completed with some limitations due to budget constraints at the time. This is impacting the quality and performance of the system today. I am asking for additional funds be added to the budget to complete the upgrades and updates needed to resolve the AV issues.

Comments from Governing Body:

Councilmember James – The items that were upgraded before were not under warranty or did we not get it completely done, I do not understand?

Joshua Cox – This was before my time, but my understanding after reaching out to the company is previously, they did a couple of different options for the upgrade and the one that was selected was adding in on top of what we already had instead of starting from scratch. A lot of the issues we are seeing today is, because they are tied into old cabling. We can basically go back and undo the short cuts that were taken before and redo it the right way.

City Manager – This is something that we can take over to the new facility once we start building that as well.

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 at 6:10pm for Personnel, Litigation or Real Estate.

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

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

It was moved to reconvene back into Council Work Session at 6:24pm

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 Council Work Session Meeting at 6:24pm

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

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

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