

MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING OF MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF JANUARY 19, 2016

Call to Order: The Regular Meeting of Mayor and Council of January 19, 2016 was called to order by Mayor David Lockhart at 7:10 p.m.

Invocation: The invocation was given by Mr. Carl Evans followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

Roll Call: Mayor David Lockhart and Councilmembers Tommy Smith, Dabouze Antoine, Sandra Bagley, Latresa Akins and Allan Mears.

Also present were Interim City Manager Al Wiggins, Director of Finance Mike Blandenburg, director of Public Works Jeff Eady, Deputy Director of Recreation and Leisure Services Sharon Smith, Chief Eddie Buckholts, Deputy Director of Planning and Zoning Jonathan Jones, Management Analyst Angela Redding, Major Chris Matson and City Attorney John O'Neal.

Comment Period: Ms. Lawanda Folomi – asked Council to consider giving Mr. Wiggins the opportunity to be City Manager. She stated the City has a Hall of Famer in the field of Cricket and she has invited her here.

Ms. Petula Samuels – stated she is happy to be here and she is happy to say Forest Park has embraced Cricket and is now being played at Forest Park High School.

Ms. Mary Thomaston – said on October 3, 2015, there was a fire at 4666 Jonesboro Road and that building is still standing and asked how long is the City going to allow the owner of the property not do something because it is an eyesore.

Ms. Frances Elder –she stated Clayton County Water Authority and the City dug a hole in her yard in 2011 and was told they would be back and wanted something done about this.

Gregory Hanes – stated the City started out in 2015 with chaos and was hoping 2016 would be a better year and everyone could work together. He said from what he is hearing now, we are going to be just as divided as we were for the last few years.

Felicia Davis - stated while serving on the URA, she has done her best to serve your interests and every rule that she was presented with, she followed. When people came to her she brought them to Fred, when she had questions, she put them in an e-mail. She stated she stands on her word, her honor, her integrity and never did she violate anything. She stated three board members never met and felt Project Victory would be a good project for the City. She said other than being introduced, she never had additional meetings with the introducer. She said she does this voluntarily and accepts nothing, she violates nothing and serves with people that would never do that.

Approval of Minutes: Ms. Akins made a motion to approve the minutes of the Work Session and Regular Meeting of January 4, 2016, seconded by Mr. Antoine. Voting for the motion was unanimous.

Grant Memorial: Mayor Lockhart presented a proclamation to the family of Rev. Charles Grant recognizing the completion of the Grant Memorial on Main Street in June, 2015.

Keep Forest Park Beautiful: Ms. Edie Yongue informed everyone that the Award for the best Residential Christmas Decorations went to Ms. Elton Adams on Longleaf Drive. Certificates were also awarded to Mr. Vincent Green, Mr. Lewis Huynh and Ms. Lisa Gibbon.

Retail Alcohol Licenses: The following were presented for consideration:

- 1) new retail alcohol license for beer and wine from Boon Investments, Inc., Twin Pic, 4869 West Street, no exceptions noted
- 2) new retail alcohol license for liquor, beer and wine from Tipsys Package Store, LLC, Tipsys Package Store, 819 Forest Parkway, Suite A, no exceptions noted
- 3) new on-premises consumption alcohol license for liquor, beer and wine from RC Fiesta Palace, LLC, RC

Fiesta, 4140 Jonesboro Road, Suite A-1, no exceptions noted

- 4) renewal of a retail alcohol license for beer and wine from Eckerd Corporation, Rite Aid #11787, 833 Forest Parkway, no exceptions noted

Mr. Smith made a motion to approve all of the above Licenses, seconded by Mr. Mears. Voting for the motion was unanimous.

Resolution -
HUD FUNDING:

Request was made to consider a Resolution by the Mayor and City Council of Forest Park, Georgia, to apply for HUD Funding through the Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG) for Curb and Gutter, Sidewalks, and Storm Water Piping on West Street from South Avenue to Cash Memorial and a Neighborhood Stabilization Officer and to accept the HUD Funding through the CDBG Program once it becomes available; to repeal all Resolution and parts of Resolutions in conflict herewith; to provide an effective date; and for other purposes.

Ms. Akins made a motion to approve the Resolution, seconded by Mr. Antoine. Voting for the motion was unanimous.

Resolution -
Brd. Member to
Development
Authority:

Request was made to consider a Resolution by the Mayor and Council of the City of Forest Park, Georgia to appoint a Board Member to the Development Authority to replace resigned Board Member Councilman Allan Mears; and for all other purposes necessary to accomplish this transaction and effectuate this intent.

Mr. Mears made a motion to appoint Roy Lunsford to serve on the Development Authority, seconded by Mr. Smith. Voting for the motion were Mr. Smith, Ms. Bagley and Mr. Mears. Voting against the motion were Mr. Antoine and Ms. Akins. The motion carried.

Ordinance-
Green
Infrastructure:

Tabled from December 7, 2015 agenda is the Ordinance to amend Title 6 ("Public Works"), Title 8 ("Planning and Development"), and Title 9 ("Licensing and Regulation") of the Code of Ordinances, City of Forest Park, Georgia, to revise certain provisions to facilitate the use of Green Infrastructure or Low Impact Development Technologies; to provide for codification, to provide for severability; to repeal

conflicting ordinances; to provide an adoption date; to provide an effective date; and for other purposes allowed by law.

Ms. Akins made a motion to remove this item from the table, seconded by Mr. Antoine. Voting for the motion was unanimous.

Ms. Akins made a motion to approve the Ordinance, seconded by Mr. Antoine. Voting for the motion was unanimous.

Removal of
Felicia Davis
From the URA:

Request was made to discuss removal of Felicia Davis from the Urban Redevelopment Agency, including notice of charges and hearing schedule.

Mr. Antoine made a motion to remove this item from the agenda, seconded by Ms. Akins. Voting for the motion were Mr. Antoine and Ms. Akins. Voting against the motion were Mr. Smith, Ms. Bagley and Mr. Mears. The motion failed.

Mayor Lockhart stated since this is a statutory procedure, and if Council is so inclined to hold a hearing, then Council would need to list the charges, provide Ms. Davis with those charges and set a hearing date.

Mayor Lockhart stated from the information they received this evening, he does not presume Ms. Davis to be in violation of the code but this reading, absent an effective defense, could equate to these charges:

- 1) Using race and/or minority status as a requirement prior to awarding bids
- 2) Circumventing the appropriate channels to negotiate, discuss and/or obtain information from potential purchasers of Gillem Logistics Center property
- 3) Recommending that the URA hire separate legal counsel than the City's
- 4) Shouting over the Chairman at a URA meeting
- 5) E-mailing demands to the Executive Director and failing to include the Chairman in the communication
- 6) Meeting with a quorum of the URA outside the public advertised meetings and that such conduct equates to inefficiency, neglect of duties or misconduct in office

Ms. Akins stated she did not think these are legitimate reasons, and are made up because someone wants her removed for personal reasons. She stated she did not believe these are reasons to have someone removed.

Mr. Antoine felt these are not charges and said this City will never move forward because of race issues. He said if we have problems with board members, they could be solved without coming to the Council meeting.

Mr. Smith made a motion to formulate a list of charges and hold a hearing, seconded by Ms. Bagley. Voting for the motion were Mr. Smith, Ms. Bagley and Mr. Mears. Voting against the motion were Mr. Antoine and Ms. Akins. The motion carried.

It was the consensus of Council to hold the hearing on January 29th.

Ms. Bagley made a motion to present Felicia Davis with a list of charges, those being:

- 1) Using race and/or minority status as a requirement prior to awarding bids
- 2) Circumventing the appropriate channels to negotiate, discuss and/or obtain information from potential purchasers of Gillem Logistics Center property
- 3) Recommending that the URA hire separate legal counsel than the City's
- 4) Shouting over the Chairman at a URA meeting
- 5) E-mailing demands to the Executive Director and failing to include the Chairman in the communication
- 6) Meeting with a quorum of the URA outside the public advertised meetings and that such conduct equates to inefficiency, neglect of duties or misconduct in office

The motion was seconded by Mr. Mears. Voting for the motion were Mr. Smith, Mr. Mears and Ms. Bagley. Voting against the motion were Mr. Antoine and Ms. Akins. The motion carried.

Mr. Smith made a motion to schedule a Hearing date before Mayor and Council on January 29, 2016 at 7 p.m. in the Council Chambers during which time Ms. Davis will have a chance to be heard in person or by counsel, seconded by Ms. Bagley. Voting for the motion were Mr. Mears, Mr. Smith

and Ms. Bagley. Voting against the motion were Mr. Antoine and Ms. Akins. The motion carried.

Position
of City
Manager:

Ms. Akins made a motion to appoint Al Wiggins as the permanent City Manager, seconded by Mr. Antoine.

Mayor Lockhart stated the Charter provides two statuses of City Manager, an indefinite City Manager and the other option is with a contract. Mayor Lockhart stated to change his current status, would require a contract with a maximum status of 2 years.

Ms. Akins withdrew her previous motion.

Ms. Akins made a motion to appoint Mr. Wiggins as City Manager and authorize the Mayor to execute an employment agreement/City Manager Agreement, seconded by Mr. Smith. Voting for the motion was unanimous.

Adjournment:

Mr. Mears made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Smith. Voting for the motion was unanimous.