

## MINUTES

### REGULAR MEETING OF MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF OCTOBER 19, 2015

Call to Order: The Regular Meeting of Mayor and Council of October 19, 2015 was called to order by Mayor David Lockhart at 7:00 p.m.

Invocation: The invocation was given by Dr. Leon Beeler followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

Roll Call: Mayor David Lockhart and Councilmembers Tommy Smith, Dabouze Antoine, Maudie McCord, Linda Lord and Latresa Akins.

Also present were Interim City Manager Al Wiggins, Director of Finance Mike Blandenburg, Deputy Fire Chief Matt Jackson, Major Chris Matson, Director of Public Works Jeff Eady, Director of Support Services Christine Terrell, Deputy Director of Planning and Zoning Jonathan Jones, Management Analyst Angela Redding and City Attorney Winston Denmark.

Approval of Minutes: Mr. Smith made a motion to approve the minutes of the Work Session and Regular Meeting of October 5, 2015 and the Special Called Meeting of October 12, 2015, seconded by Ms. McCord. Voting for the motion was unanimous.

Comment Dr. Leon Beeler thanked everyone for coming to the political forum and felt it was a success.

Mary Thomaston - stated she is concerned about the city and the way we look. She stated as a homeowner she has heard the City is considering changing some of the zoning for used car lots. She said there are 2 pieces of property that were once used car lots, and as a homeowner as she looks out her back door, she does not want to look at a used car lot. She is asking that if zoning laws are going to be changed, the citizens have the opportunity to attend and speak.

Herb Hamilton – stated the car lot in question is on the corner of East Street and Forest Parkway. He stated in 2012

he opposed it and it was denied due to the amount of space. He said he heard the Council is voting on making an exception to that one property and felt if there were going to be any zoning changes, it should be equally for anyone.

Gregory Hanes – asked that the City enforce the code on 18 wheelers on West Street, because no trucks are allowed.

Proclamation: Mayor Lockhart presented the Forest Park Fire Department Competition Team for their participation in the Georgia Fire Services Joint Conference Firefighter’s Competition in Jekyll Island.

Presentation: Ms. Edie Yongue of Keep Forest Park Beautiful presented the Business Beautification Award to Los Broncos Mexican Restaurant at 4510 Jonesboro Road.

Mr. Antoine made a motion to amend the agenda to add that Joan Burton, the Asst. Election Superintendent, is replaced and Ms. Lois Wright, our Election Superintendent hire a new Asst. Election Superintendent, seconded by Ms. Akins.

Ms. Akins stated she knows of a black voter that was turned away and was told he could not vote because he was sent out an absentee ballot. She said the same day, earlier, a white person came in to vote that had been mailed an absentee ballot and was allowed to vote. She felt no voter should be turned away.

Ms. Lord stated we only have one side of the story, we are in the middle of an election, and it would be hard to find someone else that quickly.

Voting for the motion were Mr. Antoine and Ms. Akins. Voting against the motion were Mr. Smith and Ms. Lord. Ms. McCord abstained. Mayor Lockhart voted no. The motion failed.

Mayor Lockhart stated due to the seriousness of the complaint, both parties should be heard from.

Mayor Lockhart asked for motion to amend the agenda and add an item to discuss directing the City Manager to inquire of the election staff and advise Council further.

Ms. Lord made a motion to amend the agenda to appoint Mr. Wiggins to delve into this matter and find out from all parties exactly what the situation is, seconded by Ms. McCord. Voting for the motion was unanimous.

Mr. Wiggins stated he could have something prepared as early as the close of business tomorrow or as late as noon the following date. He clarified Council would like a summarization of what occurred and what lead to the incident mentioned earlier.

Mayor Lockhart suggested Council direct Mr. Wiggins to investigate the specific allegation that has been brought before council tonight, to provide his view on best practices and provide his understanding of our current superintendent's recommendation regarding what action to take to address it.

Ms. Akins made a motion to direct Mr. Wiggins to investigate the specific allegation that has been brought before council tonight, to provide his view on best practices and provide his understanding of our current superintendent's recommendation regarding what action to take, seconded by Ms. Lord.

Mr. Wiggins added that a summarization would be a follow-up to the incident that was referenced earlier and asked to reserve the right to give additional information as to if we are evaluating the entire process to see if its working properly.

Voting for the motion was unanimous.

New On-Premises License: Request was made to consider a new On-Premises Consumption Alcohol License for liquor, beer and wine from Mexican Restaurant Las Tortas, Inc. Las Tortas, 5592-594 Ole Dixie Hwy., no exceptions noted.

Ms. Lord made a motion to approve the new on-premises consumption alcohol license from Mexican Restaurant Las Tortas, seconded by Ms. Akins. Voting for the motion was unanimous.

New On-Premises License: Request was made to consider a new on-premises consumption alcohol license for liquor, beer and wine from Los Broncos Mexican Restaurant LLC, Los Broncos, 4510 Jonesboro Road, no exceptions noted.

Ms. Lord made a motion to approve the new on-premises consumption alcohol license from Los Broncos Mexican Restaurant, seconded by Mr. Smith. Voting for the motion was unanimous.

Alcohol  
License:

Request was made to consider the renewal of a retail alcohol license for liquor, beer and wine from Chamunda Corporation, Dixie Package, 5310 Old Dixie Highway, no exceptions noted.

Ms. Akins made a motion to approve the renewal of the retail alcohol license, seconded by Mr. Smith. Voting for the motion was unanimous.

Appt. to  
Ethics Board:

Request was made to consider Ethic Board appointments for Ward 1 and Ward 4.

Ms. McCord made a motion to amend the request to consider Ethics Board appointments for Ward 1 and Ward 3, seconded by Ms. Lord. Voting for the motion was unanimous.

Mr. Smith made a motion to appoint Beverly Martin to the Ethics Board for Ward 1, seconded by Ms. Lord. Voting for the motion was unanimous.

Ms. McCord made a motion to re-appoint Ms. Annie Malone to the Ethics Board for Ward 3, seconded by Mr. Smith. Voting for the motion was unanimous.

Ordinance:

Request was made to consider an Ordinance to amend Chapter 2, Building Regulation and Code Enforcement, of Title 8, Planning and Development, of the Code of Ordinances by enacting Article Q, Foreclosed and Vacant Property Registry; to repeal any conflicting ordinances; to provide an adoption date; to provide an effective date; and for other purposes.

Ms. Lord made a motion to table this Ordinance, seconded by Mr. Smith. Voting for the motion was unanimous.

Managerial  
Assessment:

Mayor Lockhart asked what it is we are hoping to accomplish with the Managerial Assessment Proposal.

Mr. Antoine made a motion to hire Gaither and Company for Managerial Assessment, seconded by Ms. Akins.

Ms. Lord stated we do not need to spend \$45,000 for this assessment.

Mr. Wiggins stated a line item has not been established for this request and there is no source for the funds.

Voting for the motion were Ms. Akins, Ms. McCord and Mr. Antoine. Voting against the motion were Ms. Lord and Mr. Smith. The motion carried.

Resolution:  
Comcast: *Tabled from October 4, 2015 Meeting:* Consider a Resolution of the City of Forest Park finding Comcast in Default of Cable Television Franchise Agreement for failure to remit franchise fees in accordance with Cable Television Franchise Agreement and discuss pending settlement negotiations and authorization for Mayor to execute Settlement Agreement after approval by City Attorney.

No action was taken so the Resolution remains tabled.

Adjournment: Ms. Lord made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Antoine. Voting for the motion was unanimous.