

REVISED
MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING OF MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF NOVEMBER 3, 2014

Call to Order: The Regular Meeting of Mayor and Council of November 3, 2014 was called to order by Mayor David Lockhart at 7:30 p.m.

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

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

Also present were City Manager Frank Brandon, Director of Finance Mike Blandenburg, Director of Support Services Christine Terrell, Director of Public Works Jeff Eady, Director of Planning and Zoning Al Wiggins, Major Chris Matson, Management Analyst Angela Redding and City Attorney Mike Williams.

Approval of Minutes: Ms. Akins made a motion to approve the minutes of the Work Session and Regular Meeting of October 20, 2014 and the minutes of both Special Called Meetings of October 27, 2014, seconded by Mr. Antoine. Voting for the motion was unanimous.

Comment Period: Pamela Lake - thanked the Public Works employees for their service and stated the URA would like to have placed on the agenda, to begin the process of getting a public relations firm to help us in our business with the City. She asked this placed on the agenda.

Ms. Wanda Folomi - stated we are not moving forward. She thanked the police department and EMS department. She would like the members of the URA to have more information concerning things happening in the City. She stated the citizens are not happy and want to know what is going on with Fort Gillem., what we are spending and what we are receiving.

Proclamation: Ms. Redding introduced the Family, Career and Community Leaders of America Chapter at Babb Middle School. They attended the National Conference in San Antonio, Texas as well as the Georgia National Fair in Perry, Ga. Mayor Lockhart presented the students with a Proclamation.

Renewal of Alcohol Licenses: Request was made to approve the following alcohol licenses:

RENEWAL OF RETAIL ALCOHOL LICENSE FOR BEER AND WINE

- All American Quality Foods, Inc. Food Depot, 792 Morrow Road, no exceptions noted
- SNZ, Inc. Chevron Food Mart, 4441 Jonesboro Road, no exceptions noted
- Refresh Investments, Inc. Texaco Food Mart, 503 Forest Parkway, no exceptions noted
- Neelam Investments, Inc., Happy Food Mart, 5971 Ash Street, no exceptions noted
- Shree Dharm, Inc. Royal Food Mart, 5604 Old Dixie Highway, no exceptions noted

RENEWAL OF RETAIL ALCOHOL LICENSE FOR LIQUOR, BEER AND WINE

- Golden Bridge Enterprise, Inc. Holiday Bottle Shop, 791 Morrow Road no exceptions noted

RENEWAL OF ON-PREMISES CONSUMPTION ALCOHOL LICENSE (BEER ONLY)

- Forest Wing and Fish, 4430 Jonesboro Road, no exceptions noted
- Rio Grande Restaurant, LLC, Rio Grande Restaurant, 4609 Jonesboro Road, no exceptions noted
- Rio Grande Restaurant, LLC, Rio Grande No. 2, 5592 Old Dixie Highway, no exceptions noted

**RENEWAL OF ON-PREMISES CONSUMPTION ALCOHOL
LICENSE FOR BEER AND WINE**

- B & E Bowling, Inc. Funtime Bowl Forest Park, 4839 Jonesboro Road, no exceptions noted
- Golden Gate Restaurant, Inc. 4353 Jonesboro Road, no exceptions noted

**RENEWAL OF ON-PREMISES CONSUMPTION ALCOHOL
LICENSE FOR LIQUOR, BEER AND WINE**

- JB'S Billiards, LLC, JB's Billiards & Bar, 4148 Jonesboro Road, no exceptions noted
- Restaurant Forest, 5025 Jonesboro Road, no exceptions noted

Ms. Lord made a motion to approve the request for alcohol licenses, seconded by Mr. Smith. Voting for the motion was unanimous.

Resolution-
Utility Service
Partners:

Request was made to consider a Resolution of the City of Forest Park Mayor and City Council authorizing the City Manager to enter into an agreement with Utility Service Partners Private Label, Inc. d/B/A Service Line Warranties of America (SLWA) to provide services to the Community; provide for severability and provide for an effective date.

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

Appointment
Of Solicitor:

Mr. Antoine made a motion to appoint Ms. Kristal Holmes as Solicitor for the City of Forest Park, seconded by Ms. Akins. Voting for the motion were Mr. Antoine, Ms. Akins and Ms. McCord. Voting against the motion were Mr. Smith and Ms. Lord. The motion carried.

Approval to
Change Council
Pay Period:

Request was made to approve the Councilmembers pay period from monthly to bi-weekly.

Mr. Dabouze made a motion to instruct our City Attorney to draft a proposed Ordinance that would change the structure of the Councilmembers pay from monthly to bi-weekly, seconded by Ms. Akins.

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

Approval to
Attend
Conference:

Request was made to approve Councilman Antoine to attend the Power and Policy 2014 Conference in Washington, D.C.

Mr. Antoine stated this should not be on the agenda since we have a budget set for this. He asked the City Attorney if the Council does not vote for this he still has his ward money for this trip. Mr. Williams replied yes.

Mr. Smith felt that Mr. Antoine should not be voting on this matter.

Mayor Lockhart asked for instruction from the City Attorney. Mr. Williams stated the path the Council is going down is that in the future all council travel may be subject to a vote. It should be considered given the fact you have already approved the budget for this type of travel. He stated he has previously provided guidance about what Council could use ward money for and since it is official city business, it could be used for that as well. He stated if you put this to a vote, you will be setting policy for all future travel. Mr. Williams stated this is not a conflict of interest in that he is not benefitting in a personal way and does not see a conflict in him voting on it.

Mayor Lockhart asked who makes the call on whether he should be excluded from considering the vote. Mr. Williams stated when there is a conflict of interest, the individual who is subject to the conflict, should make that decision. They are the person subject to any discipline related to that and does not believe the Council has the ability to preclude him from voting.

Ms. Akins stated we should take it off the agenda and let him decide if he wants to use his ward money since it's already in the budget and accounted for.

Mayor Lockhart stated the Council does not have to vote on this unless there is a motion.

Ms. Lord stated the Council should vote on this only if the Council feels it is in city's interest to go.

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

Ms. Akins made a motion to approve the request for travel and accommodations through the budget item that has been allocated for Mr. Antoine, seconded by Mr. Antoine.

Mr. Antoine asked Mr. Williams if the vote does not pass, he can still use his ward money. Mr. Williams stated yes.

Mayor Lockhart stated if council rejects this request, and Council is expressing their opinion that this not city travel, it doesn't seem to be any more acceptable to use ward money that it would travel money.

Ms. McCord stated she does see where this trip would benefit the City and the classes GMA offers would be more appropriate. She stated she has always been told ward money is to be used inside your ward and then you have a travel expense.

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

Mayor Lockhart asked the City Attorney, the Council had already approved this travel for Councilman Antoine but when it came up for specific consideration and the council rejected the request, the question was asked if he could use his ward money. He asked for direction as to where we stand concerning this trip.

Mr. Williams stated the City has previously authorized each council member to expend funds referred to as ward funds within their discretion and have previously given some guidance as to what those types of expenditures could be and one of them was any expenditure that the city would otherwise be authorized to incur if it is official city business He stated something like this could be paid for out of ward funds and that is his opinion.

Mr. Williams stated as a policy perspective, if you are now injecting the council into the discretionary use of your ward

funds then anytime anyone uses ward funds, someone else can say they disagree and you remove the discretion. The same applies to the travel budget.

Mr. Williams suggested that if the Council does not want him to use ward funds for this, then a motion would be in order to that effect.

Mayor Lockhart stated we now have a request that has been denied and we have the understanding that city travel can be paid for with ward money, but have not answered the question as to if he can use his ward money for this.

Mr. Williams stated the city has granted each individual council member discretion over certain portion of the city's funds and it is within your discretion how it is spent, but it is not your individual funds, but he has discretion over how they are expended.

Mayor Lockhart stated he felt we should address the expenditure of the ward funds so this can be resolved one way or another.

Ms. Lord made a motion that no city money, ward money or travel money be used for the trip to Washington, D.C. , seconded by Ms. McCord. Voting for the motion were Mr. Smith, Ms. Lord and Ms. McCord. Voting against the motion were Ms. Akins and Ms. Antoine. The motion carried.

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