



CITY OF FOREST PARK
MAYOR & COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
AUGUST 5, 2019 7:00 P.M.

Call to Order:

The Regular Meeting of Mayor and Council of August 5, 2019 was called to order by Mayor Angelyne Butler at 7:09 p.m.

Invocation:

The Invocation was given by Pastor Ellis (Liberty Ministries Family Worship Center) followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

Roll Call:

Mayor Angelyne Butler
Councilmembers: Kimberly James, Dabouze Antoine, Sandra Bagley, Latresa Wells and Allan Mears

Also present were City Manager Angela Redding, Director of Finance Ken Thompson, Director of Public Works Jeff Eady, Capt. David Flagg of the Department of Fire and Emergency Services, Director of Support Services Christine Terrell, Deputy Director Recreation and Leisure Services Abbey Jones, Major Jamie Reynolds, Interim Director of Planning, Building and Zoning Mike Tuttle, City Clerk Shalonda Brown, City Attorney Michael Williams and Management Analyst LaShawn Gardiner.

Comment Period:

Carl Evans – thanked the governing body for all the things that are going on right now. He stated he would like to see if we could get speed limit in recreation area around Starr Park reduced to 15 miles per hour, it is extremely dangerous and as far as the animal control ordinance, livestock should not be allowed in the city limits, because farm animals do not belong in a city. It mentions a pen could not be within 500 ft. from a structure, and another section talks about 1/5 acre lot, and if you have a 1/5 acre lot with a house, you will not have 500 ft. from the structure. The wording should be looked at before passing the ordinance.

Willie Finch - thanked the Mayor and Council, Fire Department and Police Department



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during the loss of his son, for the love he was shown. He asked if the city has any plans for Rosetown Community in the next 5 to 10 years.

Carolyn Harris – stated she lives at the Park at Fort Gillem, and something was said earlier about the noise ordinance and getting the construction workers at Fort Gillem to not work after 2 a.m. She stated the dirt is flying directly into her house. She lives in the circle behind where they are doing construction. She stated they are being awakened all during the night, and was wondering how you can get them to stop working after dark.

Samuel Ibanez - asked for a moment of silence for those in El Paso, and stated these tragedies should not have happened. He stated he is seeing certain members of the Council getting nervous during this election. Mr. Ibanez stated he received a call from a councilmember stating that he or someone has been taking up signs. He stated let's keep it real because we are all grown people and he has better things to do. Mr. Ibanez stated he has asked that the podium be setup in front of the room in order to see the visitor's faces who are speaking. He stated the minutes that are not used from the previous person should be passed on to the next person for public comments.

Ms. Johnson - stated she has been coming here for a while and there is still no resolution to the land that Waste Management apparently owns behind her house. She just found out they put the clean-up and mowing on GA Power and GA Power comes in every couple of years. She wants to know why something can't be done and communicate with these people. She stated all she wants is the land behind her house cut so the rats stop coming over. She stated when the



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storm came through, people cut up their trees, collected their debris and put it in nice stacks, and hers sat there for 3 weeks.

Lawanda Folami – stated she has a few issues with Waste Management. She stated maybe the city should venture out and find another garbage collection company. She asked what the protocol is for the signs that are being placed around the city for all these events. Every time you look around they are being picked up by Public Works. She wanted to know what is being done to minimize where the event signs are being placed and how much is it costing the residents for these signs. She also asked why we can't all work together and just do one big thing together instead of individually. We should put away our differences and conduct business in a professional manner.

Rep. Stovall - thanked Councilman Ward 5, Chief Clark, Public Works for their support at the 3rd annual Clayton County Back to School Event on last Friday. It was a huge success. She has a disagreement with employers being charged for the recent job fair sponsored by Councilwoman of Ward 4. She expressed her concerns and stated she has hosted a career job fair for the past 6 years and never charged. She wants to know where in the budget were these funds placed and did all the members of the Governing Body agree with this project, and if not, suggests looking at changing the city's policies so that when constituents ask questions, everyone will be on the same page.

She stated also last year the Governing Body submitted a request to the delegation about changing how Development Authority Members can be removed. She said it is still in the Committee and the bill is not dead and hoping to



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get the bill to the House Floor and hopefully to the Senate.

Approval of Minutes:

Councilwoman James made a motion to approve the minutes of the Work Session and Regular Meeting of July 15, 2019. It was seconded by Councilwoman Bagley. Voting for the motion was unanimous.

Agenda Items:

Councilwoman James stated to all that are being recognized tonight will have dinner sponsored by Mr. Michael Williams of Wilson, Morton and Downs, LLC and Mr. Billy Freeman of Technique Concrete. Councilwoman James thanked the sponsors.

Proclamation to Bell's Shoe Repair:

Mayor Butler presented a Proclamation to Mr. and Mrs. Larry Bell of Bell's Shoe Repair for 42 years of outstanding service within the City of Forest Park.

Proclamation to Sparkle Adams:

Mayor Butler issued a Proclamation to Sparkle Adams in recognition and appreciation for the many devoted years of service given to this City, State and the Community.

Proclamation for Family, Career and Community Leaders of America:

Mayor Butler presented a proclamation for Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) for their outstanding accomplishments, achievements and continued efforts to become strong leaders in the community.

FCCLA Team Recognition:

Mayor Butler also recognized the team for competing and winning Bronze, Silver and Gold medals at the FCCLA National Leadership Conference in Anaheim, California.

Consider an Ordinance With the Respect of Keeping Animals:

Request was made to consider an Ordinance amending the Code of Ordinances, City of Forest Park, Georgia with the respect to the



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keeping of animals; to repeal conflicting Ordinances; to provide an effective date; and for other purposes.

Councilman Antoine made a motion to table this Ordinance. It was seconded by Councilwoman James. Voting for the motion was unanimous.

Consider an Ordinance Prohibiting Dockless Mobility Devices:

Request was made to consider an Ordinance amending the Code of Ordinances, City of Forest Park prohibiting certain shareable dockless mobility devices; to repeal conflicting Ordinances; to provide an effective date; and for other purposes.

Councilman Mears made a motion to approve the Ordinance. It was seconded by Councilwoman Bagley. Voting for the motion was unanimous.

Consider a Resolution Supporting Level 1 Freeport Exemption:

Request was made to consider a Resolution supporting Level 1 Freeport Exemption authorizing the Mayor to notify the Election Superintendent to issue the call for an election as required by O.C.G.A. § 48-5-48.2(d); repealing prior Resolutions in conflict and for other purposes.

Councilman Mears made a motion to approve the Resolution. It was seconded by Councilwoman James. Voting for the motion was unanimous.

Consider the Approval to Award the Project to renovate the Council Chambers:

Request was made to consider the approval to award the project to renovate the Council Chambers to Four Points Construction.

Councilman Mears made a motion to award the project to Four Points Construction. It was seconded by Councilwoman Bagley. Voting for



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the motion were Councilman Mears, Councilwoman Wells, Councilwoman Bagley and Councilwoman James. Councilman Antoine voted against the motion. The motion carried.

Consider the Approval to Award the Project to renovate the Indoor Pool:

Request was made to consider the approval to award the project to renovate the indoor pool to United Pools.

Councilman Mears made a motion to award the project to renovate the indoor pool to United Pools. It was seconded by Councilwoman James. Voting for the motion were Councilman Mears, Councilwoman Wells, Councilwoman Bagley and Councilwoman James. Councilman Antoine voted against the motion. The motion carried.

Request for “Watch for Children at Play” sign:

Request was made to consider a request for “Watch for Children at Play” signs in Ward 3.

Councilwoman James asked if it was necessary to vote for this.

City Attorney Williams stated he did not see a need to vote on this but did not know the policy on it.

Mrs. Redding stated it does not require approval by the governing body and the Public Works Department has been notified.

Request to have City Event with Rare Breed Motorcycle Club:

Request was made for approval to have a City event with Rare Breed Motorcycle Club.

Councilwoman Wells made a motion to approve this request. It was seconded by Councilwoman James. Voting for the motion were Councilman Mears, Councilwoman Wells, Councilman Antoine and Councilwoman James. Voting against the motion was Councilwoman Bagley. The motion carried.



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**Approval of Commercial
Sanitation pricing:**

Request was made for the Governing Body to Approve Commercial Sanitation pricing beginning August 2019.

Councilman Mears made a motion to approve this request.

Mr. Williams stated for the record, this should be a housekeeping item because when the contract was approved it included what envisioned that these rates would go into effect.

The motion died for lack of a second.

Mrs. Redding stated since this did not pass, we will be reducing our revenue because we will be assuming the cost increase in the contract for commercial sanitation.

Mr. Williams stated when the Council approved the contract with Waste Management, the increase in the rates was in the contract and those rates are ultimately paid by the property owners who receive the services. He stated it was expected the Council would come back and increase the rates by the same amount as the rates in the increase in the contract.

Councilwoman James stated we have less than 180 days now to make a decision on Waste Management and we wanted a special meeting to get more details about Waste Management. She asked if we are able to do so.

Mr. Williams stated that you always for the length of the contract have the right to terminate with 180 day notice. As per the contract, there is a buyout clause that goes down each year.



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Mr. Williams stated he assumed the increase in the rate would go onto the property owners because there has been no increase for the past 10 years.

Councilman Mears made a motion to approve this request. It was seconded by Councilwoman James. Voting for the motion were Councilman Mears, Councilman Antoine, Councilwoman Wells and Councilwoman James. Voting against the motion was Councilwoman Bagley.

Legal Matters:

Mr. Williams stated it has come to his attention we need to add to our moratorium a moratorium on new assembly uses in the Main Street Overlay District. This will be for 180 days.

**Agenda Amendment:
Approval of Moratorium
on Assembly Uses:**

Councilman Antoine made a motion to add to the agenda approval of a Moratorium for any proposed assembly use within the Main Street Overlay District. It was seconded by Councilwoman Bagley. Voting for the motion was unanimous.

Councilwoman Bagley made a motion to approve this moratorium. It was seconded by Councilwoman Wells. Voting for the motion was unanimous.

Mr. Williams explained the City has in place a policy as it relates to additional compensation for police and fire employees, if they obtain degrees, there is incremental increase. A question has come up where employees are bringing forth requests for increases in compensation for degrees they have had for years and now requesting the increase. The recommended policy position is that you require employees to report their obtaining of a degree within a specific period of time in order to be



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eligible for that increase. The recommendation is within a year of obtaining that degree.

Mrs. Redding stated this includes advance certifications because there are pay increases for these also. We want to establish a time frame so we are not receiving a record of a degree received years ago.

Councilman Antoine felt this should be extended not only to police and fire, but other departments as well. Mr. Williams stated that is a conversation that staff has been wanting to have with the council as either a budget retreat or some other retreat because that is a significant policy decision to make because of the potential cost to the city. He stated there is a desire to discuss this and extend something for all employees.

Mayor Butler wanted to know how long we will give those that already have their degree time to turn in before this goes into effect.

Mrs. Redding stated for those employees with existing degrees, they will be given 30 days. Mike Williams stated new employees or current employees who meet the requirements for additional pay going forward would have to report it within a year.

**Agenda Amendment:
Reporting of Degrees/
Certifications for
Additional Compensation:**

Councilman Mears made a motion to amend the agenda and approve that employees are required to report obtaining a degree within one year of obtaining such degree or certification and those employees with existing degrees and or certifications be allowed a transition period of no more than 30 days to turn in those degrees or certifications. It was seconded by Councilwoman Bagley. Voting for the motion was unanimous.



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**Governing Body
Comments:**

Councilman Mears - stated we have the Good Shepard Clinic in Morrow and they offer free medical attention for older people without insurance. The City Manager will be contacting a representative to speak to the citizens.

Councilwoman Wells - thanked everyone for coming out and thanked Justin from the Rock Church of Atlanta for helping out and for that wonderful prayer.

Councilwoman Bagley - thanked everyone for coming out and reminded everyone school is back in session and there are some new laws concerning school buses. She stated there were comments made about the sign request and that it was done for attention or to get credit, she is making sure we don't have a process already in place.

Councilwoman James - thanked Carla for coming out and if you want to help in her effort, she advised to please see her. She stated she is going to see what she can do about Ms. Johnson's grass issue.

Councilman Antoine - thanked everyone for coming out and offered his condolences to Major Reynolds and Ms. Jones. He thanked Ms. Wells for her event she held and those that supported it. He stated for Ward 2, there are sidewalks coming.

Councilwoman James - stated Mr. Brown, a long time citizen in her Ward, recently died. She encouraged everyone to keep all those going through bereavement in your prayers.

Mayor Butler - stated that she will be at Holland Park on August 9th at 6:30 p.m. and asked the developers to compile some responses



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to the complaints we have been hearing. She stated we are hearing the complaints and we are planning on addressing them accordingly. She stated to Ms. Jones and the passing of her father, she had several candid conversations with her father and out of those dialogues there was an idea that she had of a history preservation project because he shared so much of the history in Forest Park. Mayor Butler stated she feels bad because she has had the idea for months, but has not acted on it. She stated she wants to make sure she reaches everyone that has history of Forest Park to put it all together and store it somewhere so we don't lose the history of Forest Park.

Executive Session:

Councilwoman James made a motion to recess the regular meeting and enter into Executive Session to discuss personnel, litigation, real estate matters and legal matters. It was seconded by Councilman Wells. Voting for the motion was unanimous.

The Governing Body entered into Executive Session at 8:21 p.m.

Councilwoman Bagley left during Executive Session.

Councilwoman Wells made a motion to adjourn Executive Session and reconvene the Regular Meeting at 9:27 p.m. It was seconded by Councilwoman James. Voting for the motion was unanimous.

Adjournment:

Councilwoman Wells made a motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting. It was seconded by Councilwoman James. Voting for the motion was unanimous.