

MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING OF MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF JANUARY 20, 2015

- Call to Order: The Regular Meeting of Mayor and Council of January 20, 2015 was called to order by Mayor David Lockhart at 7:00 p.m.
- Invocation: The invocation was given by Mr. Ray Goodman followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.
- Roll Call: Mayor David Lockhart and Councilmembers Tommy Smith, Dabouze Antoine, Maudie McCord, Latresa Akins and Linda Lord.

Also present were City Manager Frank Brandon, Director of Finance Mike Blandenburg, Director of Support Services Christine Terrell, Chief Eddie Buckholts, Al Wiggins, Director of Planning and Zoning, Jeff Eady, Director of Public Works, Major Chris Matson, Sharon Smith, Deputy Director of Recreation and Leisure Services, Angela Redding, Management Analyst and Winston Denmark, City Attorney.

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

- Comment Period: Roy Lunsford: stated he felt the URA Board has a different agenda instead of the city's wellbeing. He felt having only two bidders is because of track record and there is always something negative about the City.

Keisha Crockett – thanked Ms. Akins for going above and beyond with her help. She also thanked Ms. Corley and Mr. Brandon for help with Unidos students being able to utilize the swimming pool for a grant they are writing. She also thanked Willie Freeman, he always had a solution. She also suggested additional basketball courts for children.

Robin Kemp – thanked Planning and Zoning for the National Endowment of the Arts funding. She stated there are empty houses and we need to get the downtown area going. She

also stated the budget and minutes should be placed on our website in a timely manner. She asked laws be enforced as far as cutting trees and replacing them. She also stated there is a water problem, a smell coming from the faucets on Lyndale Circle, and asked for help.

Lawanda Folomi – stated she sees development and restoring of the abandoned houses. She also agreed we need to bring Main Street alive. She also asked the status of the Mayor’s veto on the termination of the City Manager. She also stated the URA Board members have the right to make their own professional opinions.

Mayor Lockhart stated with respect to the pending litigation discussed in Executive Session, he asked Council for a motion to instruct our attorneys to begin the process of arranging a settlement in keeping with the recommended settlement.

Mr. Smith made a motion to instruct the City Attorney to prepare the necessary settlement agreement.

Mayor Lockhart this does not approve the settlement agreement but would result in a settlement agreement that would be proposed for review and further consideration.

The motion was seconded by Ms. Lord. Voting for the motion was unanimous.

Grace Kennedy: Mr. Wiggins introduced the Project Manager, General Manager and Warehouse Distribution Manager of Grace Kennedy Foods, a food distribution company located at 103 Forest Parkway.

Resolution - Request was made to consider a Resolution to set Qualifying
Qualifying Fees: Fees for General Election for the office of Council Ward 3, Ward 4 and Ward 5.

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

Resolution: Request was made to consider a Resolution by the Mayor
(CDBG Funding) 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 to resurface the Walking Track in Starr Park and to accept the HUD funding through the CDBG Program once it becomes available; to repeal all Resolutions and parts of Resolutions in conflict herewith; to provide an effective date; and for other purposes.

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

Grant Application: Grant Application submittal to the National Endowment of the Arts by Planning and Zoning – no action was taken.

Vehicle Policy: Vehicle Policy – no action was taken.

Other Business: Mr. Antoine asked Major Matson for an update on the lawsuits pending with the Police Department. Mr. Antoine asked the City Attorney to provide the Council with information and details about these lawsuits.

Mr. Antoine stated he had been getting complaints from residents on West Street about harassment and curfews, and asked Major Matson to explain the curfew Ordinance. Major Matson stated he would look into it.

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