

M I N U T E S

REGULAR MEETING OF MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF JUNE 19, 2017

Call to Order: The Regular Meeting of Mayor and Council of June 19, 2017, was called to order by Mayor David Lockhart at 6:30 p.m.

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

Roll Call: Mayor David Lockhart, Councilmembers Dabouze Antoine, Tommy Smith, Sandra Bagley, Allan Mears (via phone out of the state of GA) and Latresa Wells.

Also present were:

Chief Dwayne Hobbs	Interim City Manager
Mike Blandenburg	Director Finance
Elaine Corley	Director Recreation & Leisure
Jonathan Jones	Director PB & Z
Jeff Eady	Director Public Works
Christine Terrell	Director Support Services
Angela Redding	Management Analyst
Chief Eddie Buckholts	Fire
Major Chris Matson	Police
John O'Neal	City Attorney

Comment Period: Dianne Lunsford, 5585 Skyland Drive, read Ephesians 4:31-32 and discussed moving forward in unity and with the same goals.

Carl Evans, 4726 Burks Road, invited all to go through the Citizens Police Academy and the Neighborhood Watch Meetings on the third Thursday.

Eliot Lawrence, Sequoia Drive, commented on the recent Jazz Festival.

Angelyne Butler, 5530 Old Dixie, commented on the recent incidents that have unfolded in the media.

Deborah Jackson, 5530 Old Dixie, commented on the status of the City hiring a City Manager.

Som Dalamon, Jonesboro Rd., commented on his new business, Asian Community Center, that just opened in Forest Park.

Mattie Hartsfield, 5128 Middle Brook Drive, commented on the recent incidents that have unfolded in the media.

LaWanda Folami, 1080 Lloyd Drive, commented on the recent incidents that have unfolded in the media and also the unfinished lavatories and water fountain in the Council Chambers.

Felicia Davis, 627 Linda Way, commented on the recent incidents that have unfolded in the media.

Gregory Haynes, 538 High Drive, commented on the status of the City hiring a City Manager.

Approval of Minutes: Councilwoman Wells made a motion to approve the minutes of the Work Session and Regular Meeting of June 5, 2017. Councilman Smith seconded the motion. The motion carries unanimously.

Executive Session: Councilman Smith made a motion to permit Mayor Lockhart to execute that release and settlement agreement on behalf of the City of Forest Park. Councilwoman Bagley seconded the motion. The motion carries unanimously.

Ordinance: Ordinance by the City Council for the City of Forest Park, Georgia, to amend the 2016-2017 Operating Budget to appropriate additional funds to cover salaries and related Fire Emergency payroll tax costs for Emergency Management Services Mngmnt. Svcs. Department.

Councilwoman Bagley made a motion to adopt the Ordinance. Councilman Smith seconded the motion. The motion carries unanimously.

Ordinance: Ordinance by the City Council for the City of Forest Park, Georgia, to amend the 2016-2017 Operating Budget to appropriate additional funds to cover unexpected costs for Additional Funds several departments.

Councilman Smith made a motion to adopt the Ordinance. Councilwoman Bagley seconded the motion. The motion carries unanimously.

Request: Request by Rep. Valencia Stovall to host the 5th Annual
Rep. Stovall Career-Job Fair, to be held Thursday, September 21, 2017,
at the Forest Park Gymnasium.

Councilman Smith made a motion to grant the request from Rep. Stovall to use the gym for that purpose at that time. Councilwoman Bagley seconded the motion. The motion carries unanimously.

Resolution: Resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into a contract
Concrete with DAF to pour a concrete walkway and patio for the Police
Work Department Firing Range at Gillem Logistic Center.

Councilwoman Bagley made a motion to approve the Resolution. Councilman Smith seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion were Councilmembers Bagley and Smith. Those opposed were Councilman Antoine. Those abstained from voting were Councilwoman Wells. Councilman Mears (via phone from out of the state of GA) voted in favor of the motion. The motion carries.

Resolution: Resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into a contract
Contract w/ with The Drennan Company for a Sixteen (16) Police Firing
The Drennan Range Automated Target System.
Company

Councilwoman Bagley made a motion to approve the Resolution. Councilman Smith seconded the motion. The motion carries unanimously.

Resolution: Resolution by the City Council of the City of Forest Park
E911 Funding authorizing the use of E911 Funding to upgrade the existing
911 phone system.

Councilman Mears made a motion to approve the Resolution. Councilwoman Wells seconded the motion. The motion carries unanimously.

Resolution: Resolution of the City Council of the City of Forest Park
Sick Leave Days amending provisions of the personnel rules and regulations.

Councilwoman Bagley made a motion to approve this Resolution. Councilman Smith seconded the motion. The motion carries unanimously.

Legal Matters: None

Comments by Councilwoman Wells stated that Mrs. Lunsford could be part of the problem if she thinks we should look past the Mayor's recent actions. Councilwoman Wells stated that if it was anybody else, it would not have been looked past. Councilwoman Wells stated that we do need better leadership. Councilwoman Wells stated that she does respect Chief Hobbs but it's hard to be a Director of a department and try to be the City Manager. Councilwoman Wells stated that we need someone that's dedicated to only being our City Manager to move our city forward. Councilwoman Wells stated that she knows handling the Police Department is a lot and we need better leadership in Forest Park.

Councilman Antoine stated that he agrees with Councilwoman Wells and does not agree with the Mayor's apology. The citizens are embarrassed, the business owners are embarrassed, and I'm sure your family is embarrassed.

Mayor Lockhart stated that we are going to do everything in order even when we disagree. Mayor Lockhart stated that that's what makes a community, even when we don't see everything eye to eye. Mayor Lockhart stated that he was so proud to have been invited to and attend the Grand Opening of the Asian Community Senior Center, Jonesboro Rd. We thank you for coming tonight to speak and we welcome you to Forest Park, and we welcome the Asian Community to become a part of our cohesive community. Mayor Lockhart stated that we don't always agree and see eye to eye but we can all go in the same positive direction working together for the good of all us. Mayor Lockhart stated that he spent real time with Pastor Chaz Afzal at The Life Church. They have the new facility by the Rev. Grant Center and they will be having Vacation Bible School for the kids later this week.

Councilwoman Bagley thanked everyone for attending the Council meetings and to those that reached out to her while she was ill during the last Council meeting. Councilwoman Bagley stated that she too is disappointed in current events that are being unfolded in the media and to my recollection, none of us were there, none of us saw what happened. Councilwoman Bagley stated that she, personally, has the utmost faith in our Police Department. They have received international accreditation from CALEA

for several consecutive years. The URA and Development Authority meetings are open to the public meetings. I rarely see co-Council at those meetings. The meetings are listed on the City website. You can go on the City website and review the agendas and what's going on. The meetings are always advertised well in advance and we receive the emails from the City Manager's office. Councilwoman Bagley stated that yes, this is disappointing to see the reaction that is being gained in the media and the fact that this is an election year. Councilwoman Bagley stated that she is appalled at the behavior and we all have faults. This matter has already been discussed and this case has already been looked into. Councilwoman Bagley stated that she will continue to stand behind Forest Park Police Department, and behind the residents. She did not make campaign promises, she made campaign commitments. She put aside favor which means there is no friendship versus we get information at different times than other members of Council and Mayor. She stands behind every City Ward, not just Ward 3. She's a proud citizen since 1979 and lives and works here in the City for Forest Park Medical Group. Councilwoman Bagley stated that she's very disappointed but her full support stands behind the Mayor and our Police Department. They do a thankless job that none of us wants to do. Don't listen to hearsay, don't read it in the paper, and don't look it up on Facebook, but come out and hear it with your own ears.

Adjournment: Councilwoman Bagley made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Councilman Smith. The motion carries unanimously.