

3921 CHURCH STREET ♦ CLARKSTON, GEORGIA 30021
(404) 296-6489 ♦ WWW.CLARKSTONGA.GOV

Mayor Beverly Burks

Councilmembers:

Awet Eyasu

Laura Hopkins

Jamie Carroll

Yterenickia Bell

Debra Johnson

Susan Hood

Shawanna Qawiy, Interim City Manager

CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

**Tuesday, January 11, 2022 7:00PM
ZOOM**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL/ PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Councilmember Laura Hopkins was absent. All other Councilmembers were present.

Councilmember Carroll made a motion to add Executive Session to the end of the agenda to discuss legal matters and put in Consent Agenda Items 7B, 7C, 7D, and 7E. Councilmember Bell duly seconded the motion. Mayor Burks called for the vote and declared the motion approved (5-0).

3. ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS/ PRESENTATION

A. Approve Minutes: Special Called City Council Meeting 1/4/2022, and Work Session 1/4/2022

Councilmember Hood made a motion to approve Special Called City Council Meeting on 1/4/2022 and Work Session on 1/4/2022. Councilmember Johnson duly seconded the motion. Mayor Burks called for the vote and declared the motion approved (5-0).

4. REPORTS

A. Planning/Economic and Development Report

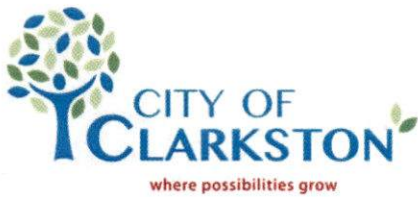
- Certificate of Occupancy's
- Business Licenses are up for renewal, please contact the City to make an appointment to meet with City staff.
- Market Street SPLOST Project is moving forward.
- Damaged fence on Mell Ave., which is in the process of being taken care of.

B. City Manager's Report

- General Fund is 92.8% of the budget spent.
- City of Clarkston is closed to the public in-person but is available via virtual, by phone, and by appointment on Tuesday's and Thursday's from 10:00am – 2:00pm.
- Electric Vehicle Charging Project is moving forward with the design.
- Staff is working to create a survey for a community needs assessment.

C. City Attorney's Report

- The City Attorney's report will be given during Executive Session.



D. Council Remarks

- The current Councilmembers welcomed the newly and re-elected officials and the newly and re-elected officials expressed their thoughts pertaining their positions.

E. Mayor's Report

- Mayor Burks gave a brief overview of weekly calls from the State regarding COVID. She also stated she attended an event that President Biden and Vice President Harris spoke at to encourage the people to take care of the Voting Rights Act that they have in terms of Congress. She also acknowledged Dr. Martin Luther King.

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any member of the public may address the Council, during the time allotted for public comment. Each attendee will be allowed 3 minutes for comments at the discretion of the Presiding Officer. The public comment period will be limited to 40 minutes, and it is not a time for dialogue. If your public comment contains a series of questions, please submit those to the City Clerk in writing. This will facilitate follow-up by the council or staff. The City Council desires to allow an opportunity for public comment; however, the business of the city must proceed in an orderly, timely manner.

Citizen, Jimmy from a local lounge expressed that his business is currently struggling.

6. OLD BUSINESS

7. NEW BUSINESS

A. Approve the selection for Vice-Mayor.

Councilmember Bell made a motion to approve Councilmember Eyasu as Vice-Mayor. Councilmember Johnson duly seconded the motion. Mayor Burks called for the vote and declared the motion approved (5-0).

B. Approve to continue services with the City Attorney with a 7% increase from rates established for 2020.

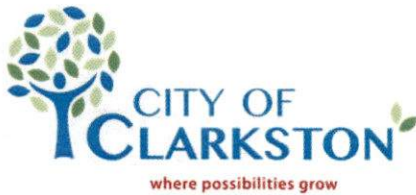
This item was approved under the Consent Agenda.

C. Approve the resolution authorizing the reappointment of the Municipal Court Judge.

This item was approved under the Consent Agenda.

D. Approve the resolution authorizing the reappointment of the Solicitor.

This item was approved under the Consent Agenda.



E. Approve the resolution authorizing the reappointment of the Auditor.

This item was approved under the Consent Agenda.

F. Approve the resolution authorizing the renewal of the City Services Agreement with the Clarkston Community Center.

Interim City Manager gave a brief overview of the City Services Agreement with the Clarkston Community Center stating the center will designated space the to City and residents for \$2,500 on a quarterly basis.

Sami Luay, Executive Director of Clarkston Community Center gave a brief overview of the history of the center.

Vice-Mayor Eyasu made a motion to approve the contract agreement with the Clarkston Community Center. Councilmember Bell duly seconded the motion. Mayor Burks called for the vote and declared the motion approved (5-0).

G. Approve the allocation of \$10,000 of the ARPA funds to purchase COVID rapid tests and distribute them to Clarkston residents.

Interim City Manage Qawiy gave a brief overview of the purchase made for 250 COVID rapid tests for about \$4,000.

Councilmember Johnson also presented a brief update regarding the purchase of COVID rapid tests and a mass distribution of rapid tests by the Commissioner's Office. Ms. Qawiy and Councilmember Johnson will work together on getting tests for the citizens and employees.

The Council briefly discussed this item.

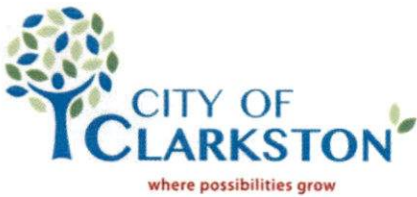
Councilmember Johnson made a motion to allocate \$100,000 for the purchase of COVID rapid test for the city. Councilmember Carroll duly seconded the motion.

Interim City Manage Qawiy gave overview on the current amount of ARPA funds. Each pack of test (*two per pack*) cost \$17.00.

Councilmember Hopkins entered the meeting at 7:50 p.m.

The Council continued the discussion pertaining to COVID tests.

Mayor Burks called for the vote and declared the motion approved, (5-0-1); Vice-Mayor Eyasu abstained.



EXECUTIVE SESSION

Councilmember Carroll made a motion to enter Executive Session to discuss a legal matter. Councilmember Johnson duly seconded the motion. Mayor Burks called for the vote and declared the motion approved (6-0).

The Council discussed a legal matter in Executive Session.

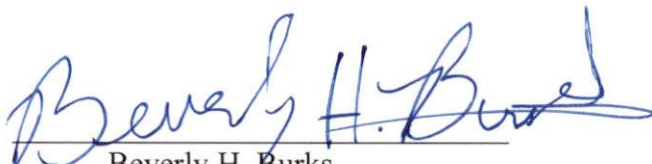
Councilmember Hood made a motion to end Executive Session and conclude the regular meeting. Councilmember Bell duly seconded the motion. Mayor Burks called for the vote and declared the motion approved (6-0).

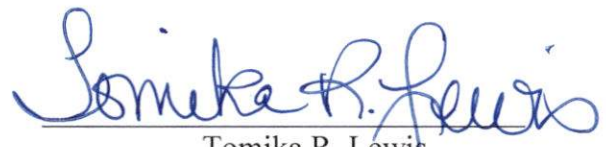
8. ADJOURNMENT

Vice-Mayor Eyasu made a motion to adjourn. Councilmember Johnson duly seconded the motion. Mayor Burks called for the vote and declared the motion approved (6-0).

The meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

ATTEST:


Beverly H. Burks
Mayor


Tomika R. Lewis
City Clerk