MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF CLARKSTON, GEORGIA
HELD IN-PERSON AND BY TELECONFERENCE, ZOOM AUDIO/VIDEO
IN SAID CITY ON TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2024

On the 6th day of February 2024, at 7:00 p.m., the City Council of Clarkston, Georgia met in regular session in-person and by teleconference, Zoom Audio/Video in said City. Mayor Beverly Burks called the meeting to order. The following members of the City Council were present: Vice Mayor Debra Johnson and Councilmembers Awet Eyasu; Jamie Carroll; Susan Hood; Yterenickia Bell; and Mark Perkins. Absent: None. The following City staff were present: Tammi Saddler Jones (Interim City Manager); Dan Defnall (Finance Director); Christine Hudson (Police Chief); Rodney Beck (Public Works Director); Lisa Cameron (Planning & Economic Development Director); Tomika R. Mitchell (City Clerk); and Stephen Quinn (City Attorney).

NOTE: Items appearing in these minutes are in the order they were discussed, not necessarily in the order they appeared on the agenda.

1. CALL TO ORDER
   The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL
   All Councilmembers were present.

   Councilmember Hood made a motion to remove Item 7E from the Consent Agenda and add it as Item 8G; Acknowledged Items E and F were not discussed at the previous Works Session but added to this Council Meeting agenda; Add a discussion from the previous Work Session -an ordinance to repeal existing and adopt new Article III of Chapter 5 of the City's Code Regarding Floodplain Management and Flood Damage Prevention as Item 8H; and Add a resolution by the City Council of the City of Clarkston, Georgia, consenting to the Housing Authority of the County of Dekalb, Georgia, exercising its powers within the City of Clarkston for the purpose of financing a proposed multifamily housing project at 1086 Montreal Rd. as Item 8I. Councilmember Eyasu duly seconded the motion. Mayor Burks called for the vote and declared the motion approved (6-0).

3. ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS/ PRESENTATION
   A. To approve minutes the following meetings:
      - 01/09/2024 – City Council Meeting
      - 01/30/2024 – City Council Work Session

   Vice Mayor Johnson made a motion to approve the following meeting minutes: 01/09/2024 – City Council Meeting (with the noted correction) and 01/30/2024 - City Council Work Session. Councilmember Carroll duly seconded the motion. Mayor Burks called for the vote and declared the motion approved (6-0).

4. REPORTS
   A. Planning/Economic and Development Report.
      - Planning/Economic and Development Manager, Lisa Camera gave a brief report about on the following topics:
         - New Code Compliance Officer started employment on January 28th.
         - Two applications received for board member positions of the Planning & Zoning Board
         - City of Clarkston selected to do a Film Production
         - Met with staff regarding Business License process and working to get a meeting with the Business License Manager at the County to discuss the delays in the process
         - Meeting scheduled with HOAs President of the Cottage Homes to discuss the Pocket Park
         - Will schedule a Special Called Meeting for the DDA for Board member selection
   B. City Manager's Report
      - Interim City Manager, Tammi Saddler Jones gave an update on the following:
         - Monday, February 19th – City Offices Closed to observe Presidents Day
         - The City Manager's Office held an "All Staff Meeting" to discuss various items
         - Staff had a kick-off meeting with Dept. of Transportation regarding the Safe Street 4 All "SS4A" Grant
         - Gave a brief overview of events she attended as the Interim City Manager

   C. City Attorney's Report
      - No report.

   D. Council Remarks
      - The Councilmembers briefly gave an overview of meetings and events they attended, and projects they are currently working on.

   E. Mayor's Report
      - Mayor Burks gave a brief overview of meetings and events she attended and other news of the city.

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS
   The following citizens presented comments to the Mayor and Council: Chris Brusing, Luay Sami, Kim Ault, and Rasheed Mahamed.

6. OLD BUSINESS
   A. To refer the Brockett Triangle Pocket Park recommendations back to the Transportation and Environment Committee.

   Mayor Burks stated the Brockett Triangle Pocket Park recommendations will go back to the Transportation and Environment Committee for the committee members to engage with staff to bring a plan with a timeline back to the City Council.

7. CONSENT AGENDA
   A. To approve a resolution awarding the bid for Grant Solicitation Services to CHA Consulting, Inc. and authorizing the Mayor to execute the contract in the amount of $50,000 annually to be funded out of the American Rescue Plan Act (APPA).
   B. To approve a resolution authorizing a temporary month-to-month extension to the Waste Management contract.
   C. To approve a resolution authorizing a contract with Railroad Outdoor, LLC for digital billboard advertising at the City of Clarkston exit on Hwy 285 in the amount of $1,900 per month.
   D. To approve an ordinance amending Chapter 22, Article II of the City Code Regarding Stream Buffer Protection to Clarify the Purpose and Intent of Such Article.
   E. To approve appointing City Councilmembers to Standing Advisory Committees and other city committees. *(This item was removed from the Consent Agenda and added to New Business.)*

Councilmember Eyasu made a motion to approve Items A-D on the Consent Agenda. Councilmember Caroll duly seconded the motion. Mayor Burks called for the vote and declared the motion approved (6-0).

8. NEW BUSINESS
   A. To approve a resolution awarding the bid for Sanitation Services to Waste Pro of Ga, Inc. for Solid Waste Collection and Recycling Services and authorizing the Mayor to execute the contract in the amount of $347,363 per year to be funded out of the Sanitation Fund.

Councilmember Carroll made a motion to approve the contract for Sanitation Services to Waste Pro of Ga, Inc. for Solid Waste Collection and Recycling Services in the amount of $347,363 per year to be funded out of the Sanitation Fund. Vice Mayor Johnson duly seconded the motion.

The Council briefly discussed this item.

Vice Mayor Johnson exited the meeting during the discussion.

Mayor Burks called for the vote and declared the motion approved (3-1-1). Councilmember Hood voted "no" and Councilmember Eyasu abstained. Vice Mayor Johnson was absent during the vote.

   B. To approve increasing the FY 2024 Sanitation Assessment Fee to cover residential garbage and recycling services.

Councilmember Carroll made a motion to increase the FY 2024 Sanitation Assessment Fee to $317 per service address.

Vice Mayor Johnson returned to the meeting.

Vice Mayor Johnson duly seconded the motion. Mayor Burks called for the vote and declared the motion approved (4-2). Councilmembers Hood and Eyasu voted "no".

C. To approve the selection of the most responsive and responsible vendor for the City Manager Executive Search Firm and authorize the Mayor and City Attorney to negotiate a contract with the selected vendor.

Mayor Burks stated the top two most responsive and responsible vendors were Sumter Consulting and Slavin Management Consultants for consideration of the City Manager Executive Search Firm.

Councilmember Eyasu made a motion to select Slavin Management Consultants as the vendor to provide City Manager executive recruiting services to the City of Clarkston. Vice Mayor Johnson duly seconded the motion.

The Council briefly discussed this item.

Councilmember Perkins encouraged Slavin Management Consultant to provide an opportunity for the City staff and possibly the community members at appropriate times to be involved in the input and the process.

Mayor Burks called for the vote and declared the motion approved (6-0).

D. To approve a resolution authorizing a Use of Meeting Space Agreement with the Clarkston Community Center in the amount of $20,000 for 2024.

Councilmember Perkins recused himself of this item due to a conflict of interest and exited the meeting.

Councilmember Eyasu made a motion to approve a resolution authorizing a Use of Meeting Space Agreement with the Clarkston Community Center in the amount of $20,000 for 2024. Councilmember Hood duly seconded the motion. Mayor Burks called for the vote and declared the motion approved (5-0).

Councilmember Perkins returned to the meeting.

E. To approve a resolution authorizing a take-home vehicle for the Interim City Manager for business use.

Councilmember Eyasu made a motion to approve a resolution authorizing a take-home vehicle for the Interim City Manager for business use. Councilmember Bell duly seconded the motion.

The Council briefly discussed this item.

City Attorney, Stephen Quinn provided clarification of the City's vehicle insurance coverage.

Mayor Burks called for the vote and declared the motion approved (6-0).

F. To approve an ordinance amending and restating the GMEBS Defined Benefit Retirement Plan Adoption Agreement for the Employees of the City of Clarkston.

Finance Director, Dan Defnall stated the city's GMEBS Defined Benefit Retirement Plan through GMA had their legal counsel updated to the city's defined plan, which was written many years ago, to bring it up to date to the current code with the IRS rules and laws. This did not change any terms or conditions.

Vice Mayor Johnson made a motion to approve an ordinance amending and restating the GMEBS Defined Benefit Retirement Plan Adoption Agreement for the Employees of the City of Clarkston. Councilmember Bell duly seconded the motion. Mayor Burks called for the vote and declared the motion approved (6-0).

G. To approve an ordinance to repeal existing and adopt the new Article III of Chapter 5 of the City's Code Regarding Floodplain Management and Flood Damage Prevention.

Mayor Burks stated this item was deferred at the previous Work Session to the February 27th Work Session and the March City Council Meeting.

H. To approve appointing City Councilmembers to Standing Advisory Committees (SAC) and other city committees.

Mayor Burks stated this item was on the Consent Agenda and moved to a discussion item for further discussion. She stated the SAC were fine but some of the task forces needed to be re-evaluated, which could be done at a later date.

Public Safety and Legal Committee
Chair: Yterenickia Bell
Vice-Chair: A wet Eyasu
Members: Mark Perkins

Transportation and Environment Committee
Chair: Awet Eyasu
Vice-Chair: Jamie Carroll
Members: Susan Hood

Housing and Infrastructure Committee
Chair: Jamie Carroll
Vice-Chair: Susan Hood
Members: Mayor Beverly H. Burks

Community Development and Civic Innovation Committee
Chair: Mark Perkins
Vice-Chair: Debra Johnson
Members: Yterenickia Bell

Business and Economic Development Committee
Chair: Susan Hood
Vice-Chair: Yterenickia Bell
Members: Mayor Beverly H. Burks

Equity, Inclusion, and Opportunity Committee:
Chair: Debra Johnson
Vice-Chair: Mayor Beverly H. Burks
Members: Awet Eyasu

Vice Mayor Johnson made a motion to appoint the City Councilmembers to the Standing Advisory Committees. Councilmember Eyasu duly seconded the motion. Mayor Burks called for the vote and declared the motion approved (6-0).

I. To approve a resolution by the City Council of the City of Clarkston, Georgia, consenting to the Housing Authority of the County of Dekalb, Georgia, exercising its powers within the City of Clarkston for the purpose of financing a proposed multifamily housing project at 1086 Montreal Rd.

Vice Mayor Johnson made a motion to approve a resolution by the City Council of the City of Clarkston, Georgia, consenting to the Housing Authority of the County of Dekalb, Georgia, exercising its powers within the City of Clarkston for the purpose of financing a proposed multifamily housing project at 1086 Montreal Rd. Councilmember Perkins duly seconded the motion.

The Council briefly discussed this item.

Mayor Burks stated she met with the president of the Dekalb Housing Authority agreed to provide the city $90,000 each year to go to the Housing Trust Fund. The Council will have to define the role for the Housing Trust.

Mayor Burks called for the vote and declared the motion approved (6-0).

9. EXECUTIVE SESSION

A. To discuss a real estate matter.

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

The Council exited Executive Session after the real estate matter was discussed.

10. ADJOURNMENT

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

The meeting was adjourned at 8:18 p.m.

ATTEST:

Tomika R. Mitchell

Tomika R. Mitchell
City Clerk

Beverly H. Burks

Beverly H. Burks
Mayor