

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, APRIL 2, 2024

On the 2nd day of April 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); Melissa L. Peñate (Interim City Clerk); and Irene Vander (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.

Councilmember Perkins motioned to modify item 7A to “Approved referring the matter of the status and appointment to the City Council Task Forces to the Development and Civic Engagement Standing Advisory Committee, seconded by Vice Mayor Johnson. Mayor Burks called for the vote and declared the motion approved (5-0).

2. ROLL CALL

All Councilmembers were present.

3. ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS/ PRESENTATION

A. To approve minutes the following meetings:

- 03/05/2024 – City Council Meeting
- 03/26/2024 – City Council Work Session
- 03/26/2024 – Executive Session Meeting

Vice Mayor Johnson made a motion to approve the following meeting minutes: 03/05/2024 – City Council Meeting, 03/26/2024 - City Council Work Session, and 03/26/2024 – Executive Session Meeting, seconded by Councilmember Carroll. Mayor Burks called for the vote and declared the motion approved (4-0-1), Councilmember Hood abstained.

4. REPORTS

A. Planning/Economic and Development Report.

- Provided an update from the Planning & Economic Development department and the Public Works Department and the Transportation & Environmental Committee Meeting

- There was discussion about the 13 recommendations that were given to the committees regarding the Bracket Triangle Park. Recommendations were provided.
- Designing a Clarkston 101 program to equip residents, businesses and partners with tools on how residents can become leaders of our community, how to do business in the city and bring our business partners together.
- The Church Street monument sign issues are being corrected.

B. City Manager's Report

- Interim City Manager, Tammi Saddler Jones gave an update on the following:
 - Smith Street Park – Will Johnston, CEO of Microlife, will work with a group of volunteers to begin to put plans into motion around Earth Day. Public Works will do some seating in the park as well.
 - Food Giveaway – April 6, 2024, at a new location at City Hall beginning at 10:00 a.m. There will be 300 boxes of food. First come first serve.
 - The City of Clarkston has partnered with Dekalb Pro Bono to offer free legal services to low-income tenants facing a variety of issues. For more information call 470-386-9979.
 - Juneteenth event will be on Saturday, June 15, 2024, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Market Village.
 - Vendors interested in participating in the Juneteenth event please contact Jacob Bouie at jbouie@cityofclarkston.com, or Yolanda McGee at ymcgee@cityofclarkston.com.
 - Food Giveaway – June 15, 2024 beginning at 10 a.m. More information to come.

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: Eric Davis and Sean Waters.

6. OLD BUSINESS

No items discussed.

7. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approved referring the matter of the status and appointment to the City Council Task Forces to the Community Development and Civic Engagement Standing Advisory Committee.
- C. Adopt Resolution No.2024-016 by the Clarkston City Council to declare a vacancy in the office of the Councilmember and to call a Special Called Election to fill the unexpired term of former Councilmember Awet Eyasu.
- D. Adopt Resolution No. 2024-017 Authorizing, Among Other Things, Amending the FY2023 Operating Budget from \$12,357,457 to \$12,469,977.
- E. Adopt Resolution No. 2024-018 to approve a renewed contract with Sears Pool Management Consultants, Incorporated in the amount of \$75,825, to be funded out of the Parks Budget, for lifeguard and pool management services for Milam Pool.
- F. Approve Resolution No.2024-019 to Declare Certain Vehicles to be Surplus Property.
- G. Approve a contract with Russell Landscaping for Streetscape Right-of-Way Mowing and CSX Right-of-Way Mowing in the amount of \$70,000 to be funded out of the 40-4000-523140.
- H. Approve the purchase of white and yellow roadway reflectors to be installed on a section of East Ponce de Leon to improve traffic safety in the amount of \$10,000 to be funded out of SPLOST.
- I. Approve Resolution No.2024-020 designating the City Clerk as Open Records Officer.
- J. Approve Resolution No.2024-021 designating “Georgia Cities Week” from April 21 to April 27, 2024.

Motion to move item 7B to new business to 8F was made by Councilmember Perkins, seconded by Councilmember Carroll. Mayor Burks called for the vote and declared the motion approved (4-0).

Councilmember Perkins made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda, seconded by Vice Mayor Johnson. Mayor Burks called for the vote and declared the motion approved (5-0).

8. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Approve Ordinance No.496 amending Chapter 2 of the City Code regarding Administration to delegate to the City Manager the Authority to Purchase Goods and Services and to Enter Into contracts on Behalf of the City, Subject to Certain Conditions and Limitations.

This item was presented as a discussion for the Mayor and Council. It will be discussed further at the April 30th work session.

- B. Adopt Ordinance No.497 to repeal existing and adopt new Article III of Chapter 5 of the City’s Code regarding Floodplain Management and Flood Damage Prevention.

Motion to adopt Ordinance no.497 to repeal existing and adopt new Article III of Chapter 5 of the City’s Code regarding Floodplain management and Flood Damage Prevention was made by Councilmember Hood, seconded by Councilmember Perkins. Mayor Burks called for the vote and declared the motion approved (5-0).

- C. Adopt Resolution No.2024-22 to allocate and amount not to exceed \$60,000 from the SPLOST Fund to Demolish the 40 Oaks Nature Preserve Farm House.

Motion to adopt Resolution No.2024-22 to allocate and amount not to exceed \$60,000 from the SPLOST Fund to Demolish the 40 Oaks Nature Preserve Farm House was made by Vice Mayor Johnson, seconded by Councilmember Bell. Mayor Burks called for the vote and declared the motion approved (5-0).

- D. Adopt Ordinance No.498 to Amend Chapter 16 of the City Code, regarding Streets, to enact a Street Name Change Procedure.

Motion to adopt Ordinance No.498 to amend Chapter 16 of the City Code, regarding Streets, to enact a Street name Change Procedure was made by Vice Mayor Johnson, seconded by Councilmember Bell. Mayor Burks called for the vote and declared the motion approved (5-0).

- E. Adopt Resolution No.2024-023 repealing Council Chambers Capacity Limit.

Motion to adopt resolution No. 2024-023 repealing Council Chamber Capacity Limit was made by Councilmember Bell, seconded by Councilmember Perkins. Mayor Burks called for the vote and declared the motion approved (5-0).

- F. Adopt Ordinance No. 495 by the City of Clarkston to amend the City Charter to authorize the city manager to purchase certain goods and services and to enter into certain contracts on behalf of the City.

Move to defer adoption of Ordinance No.495 by the City of Clarkston to amend the City Charter to authorize the City Manager to purchase certain goods and services and to enter into certain contracts on behalf of the City to our next regular scheduled work session and council meeting was made by Councilmember Perkins, seconded by Councilmember Bell. Mayor Burks called for the vote and declared the motion approved (5-0).

9. ADJOURNMENT

Councilmember Carroll made a motion to adjourn. Councilmember Bell duly seconded the motion. Mayor Burks called for the vote and declared the meeting adjourned (5-0).

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

ATTEST:

Melissa L. Peñate
Interim City Clerk

Beverly H. Burks
Mayor