

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, JUNE 3, 2025

On the 3rd day of June 2025, 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 Sharifa Adde, Yterenickia Bell; Jamie Carroll; Susan Hood; and Mark Perkins. Absent: None. The following City staff were present: ChaQuias Miller-Thornton (City Manager); Tomika R. Mitchell (City Clerk); Christine Hudson (Police Chief); Xavier Todd (Assistant Police Chief); Dr. Dwight Baker (Director of Human Resources & Risk Management); Richrd Edwards (Planning and Economic Development Director); and Laura Moore (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.

3. ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS/ PRESENTATION

A. Presentation on building a community brand by Kaitlin Messich, Studio Art Director with the Carl Vinson Institute of Government at UGA.

Kaitlin Messich, Studio Art Director at the Carl Vinson Institute of Government at the University of Georgia (UGA), presented an overview to the Council on UGA's brand development services. She explained that these services are specifically designed for municipalities and involve a collaborative process that engages the public, stakeholders, and elected officials to create a brand that authentically reflects the community.

Ms. Messich informed the Council that the estimated cost for the brand development services ranges from \$55,000 to \$85,000.

The Council discussed the presentation, noting that the information provided serves as a valuable starting point for future discussions on updating the City's brand.

B. Employee of the Month Recognition – May 2025

Dr. Dwight Baker, the Director of Human Resources and Risk Management recognized the Employee of the Month for May 2025, offering a brief explanation of the employees' outstanding contributions to the city. The recognition was awarded to Code Enforcement

Officer, Shennetha Smith from the Planning and Economic Development Department, acknowledging her hard work and dedication to the City of Clarkston.

C. Business of the Month Recognition – May 2025

Economic Development Coordinator, Jacob Bouie stated the purpose of this item was to recognize and celebrate outstanding local businesses that contribute to the vitality, growth, and community spirit of the City of Clarkston. Recognized for business of the Month for the month of May was Edwin Jarvis Print and CoWork.

As the Business of the Month, Edwin Jarvis Print and CoWork will receive a certificate of recognition, be highlighted on the City's website and social media platforms and be eligible for nomination as the Business of the Year.

D. To approve the following meeting minutes:

- 5/6/2025 – City Council Meeting
- 5/27/2025 – City Council Work Session

Councilmember Perkins made a motion to approve the following sets of minutes: 5/6/2025 and 5/27/2025. Vice Mayor Johnson seconded the motion. Mayor Burks called for the vote and declared the motion approved (6-0).

4. REPORTS

A. City Manager's Report

City Manager ChaQuias Miller-Thornton provided a brief report/update reporting on the following: New Administrative and Police Building at 736 Park North Blvd.; 2025 Ad Valorem Tax Millage Rate; FY 2024 Audit Preparation; Electronic Payment Capabilities and Interactive Software Options; Upcoming and Previous Events; New Hire; Recruitment Suspended; Purchasing and Procurement; and Infrastructure and Engineering update.

B. City Attorney's Report

- No report was given.

C. Council Remarks

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

D. Mayor's Report

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

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

6. OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business discussed.

7. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. To approve a proclamation designating June as “Caribbean American Heritage Month”.
- B. To approve a proclamation designating June as “Pride Month”.
- C. To approve a resolution authorizing a purchase agreement with Musco Sports Lighting, LLC, for the installation of field lights at the Soccer Field of Milam Park and committing \$100,000 in matching funds from SPLOST II for the Atlanta United GA 100 Pitch Grant.

Councilmember Carroll made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda Items 7A through 7C. Councilmember Perkins duly seconded the motion. Mayor Burks called for the vote and declared the motion approved (6-0).

8. NEW BUSINESS

- A. **Public Hearing** - To receive comments from the public regarding an ordinance to amend the text of the Clarkston Zoning Ordinance to provide housing typologies for each of the allowed residential housing types.

There were no public comments.

- B. Second read and adoption of an ordinance to amend the text of the Clarkston Zoning Ordinance to provide housing typologies for each of the allowed residential housing types.

Councilmember Perkins made a motion to approve an ordinance to amend the text of the Clarkston Zoning Ordinance to provide housing typologies for each of the allowed residential housing types. Councilmember Carroll duly seconded the motion. Mayor Burks called for the vote and declared the motion approved (6-0).

- C. **Public Hearing** - To receive comments from the public regarding an ordinance to amend the Clarkston Zoning Ordinance to add definitions and use regulations for child day care, adult day care, convenient stores, grocery stores, fitness centers, and small food retail.

Staff recommended deferral of this text amendment to the July 29th Work Session for further research of the definitions and categories.

There were no public comments.

- D. Second read and adoption of an ordinance to amend the Clarkston Zoning Ordinance to add definitions and use regulations for child day care, adult day care, convenient stores, grocery stores, fitness centers, and small food retail.

Councilmember Perkins made a motion to defer the consideration of an ordinance to amend the text Clarkston Zoning Ordinance, Appendix A, Articles IV and VII of the city code to the July 29th Work Session to allow staff additional time to research and provide more details and definition to several of the categories. Vice Mayor Johnson duly seconded the motion. Mayor Burks called for the vote and declared the motion approved (6-0).

- E. **Public Hearing** - To receive comments from the public regarding an ordinance to amend the Clarkston Zoning Ordinance to provide architectural design requirements for residential garages and carports and to provide building elevation requirements.

There were no public comments.

- F. Second read and adoption of an ordinance to amend the Clarkston Zoning Ordinance to provide architectural design requirements for residential garages and carports and to provide building elevation requirements.

Councilmember Hood made a motion to approve an ordinance to amend the text of the Clarkston Zoning Ordinance, Appendix A, Article V of the city code, to provide architectural design requirements residential garage and carport requirements and to provide architectural building elevation requirements to minimize the monotonous appearance of residential developments. Vice Mayor Johnson duly seconded the motion. Mayor Burks called for the vote and declared the motion approved (6-0).

- G. **Public Hearing** - To receive comments from the public regarding an ordinance to amend the Clarkston Zoning Ordinance to require a mix of land uses within projects in the Town Center (TC) zoning district for parcels over one-half (1/2) acre in size.

There were no public comments.

- H. Second read and adoption of an ordinance to amend the Clarkston Zoning Ordinance to require a mix of land uses within projects in the Town Center (TC) zoning district for parcels over one-half (1/2) acre in size.

Councilmember Carroll made a motion to defer this item to the July 29th Work Session. Councilmember Hood duly seconded the motion.

The Council briefly discussed the motion recommending additional study by staff on the land use.

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

- I. To consider an ordinance to increase the number of Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) members from three (3) to five (5), to remove term limits for HPC members, and to require advertising of opportunities to apply to serve as a member of the HPC.

Vice Mayor Johnson made a motion to approve an ordinance to amend the text of the Clarkston Code of Ordinances, Chapter 15, Article II, Subsection 15-33(c) to increase the number of Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) members from three (3) to five (5); to remove term limits for HPC members; and to implement advertising requirements for future appointments to the HPC.

The council briefly discussed the motion and the proposed term limits.

Mayor Burks called for the vote and declared the motion failed (3-3). Vice Mayor Johnson and Councilmembers Adde and Hood voted "yes". Councilmembers Bell, Carroll, and Perkins voted "No".

Mayor Burks broke the tie by voting "yes" and declared the motion approved (4-3).

- J. To consider the first adoption of an ordinance to amend the City Charter to be consistent with the State General Law concerning the minimum term of Municipal Court Judges.

Laura Moore, City Attorney provided a brief overview of the State General Law pertaining to the minimum term of Municipal Court Judges.

Vice Mayor Johnson made a motion to amend the City Charter to be consistent with the State General Law concerning the minimum term of Municipal Court Judges. Councilmember Perkins duly seconded the motion. Mayor Burks called for the vote and declared the motion approved (6-0).

This item will be placed on the next City Council Agenda for discussion.

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

The City Council went into Executive Session at 8:08 P.M.

9. EXECUTIVE SESSION

- A. To discuss a personnel matter.

The Council exited Executive Session.

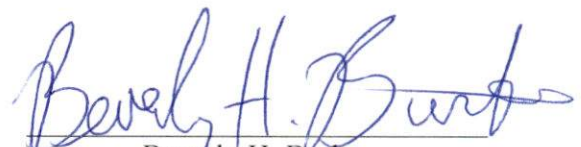
10. ADJOURNMENT

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

The meeting adjourned.

ATTEST:


Tomika R. Mitchell
City Clerk


Beverly H. Burks
Mayor