



City of Fairburn
Mayor and Council Meeting Minutes
January 13, 2020
7:00 p.m. @ City Hall

- I. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by the Honorable Mayor Carr-Hurst.
- II. Roll Call was taken by City Clerk, Arika Birdsong-Miller with the following members present:

Mayor Elizabeth Carr-Hurst
Councilmember Elect Linda J. Davis Councilmember Hattie Portis-Jones
Councilmember Elect Pat Pallend Councilmember Elect James Whitmore
Councilmember Ulysses J. Smallwood

Councilmember Alex Heath was absent.

The attendance of Council constituted a quorum and the meeting proceeded.

- III. The invocation was led by Bishop Aaron Lackey of Temple of Prayer Family Worship Cathedral UCOGIC.
- IV. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited in unison.
- V. Swearing-In of Councilwoman Linda J. Davis
The Oath of Office was administered to Linda J. Davis by Mr. Horace Cooper.
- VI. Swearing-In of Councilman James Whitmore
The Oath of Office was administered to James Whitmore by Bishop Aaron Lackey.
- VII. Swearing-In of Councilman Pat Pallend
The Oath of Office was administered to Pat Pallend by City Attorney Randy Turner.
- VIII. Presentation: There was no presentation.
- IX. Public Comments:
 1. Ms. Penelope Ladlow, 132 Strickland Street, thanked Fairburn Police for cleaning up the drug activity in her neighborhood. Ms. Ladlow made a request for street lights to be installed on Spring Street to assist with keeping the area crime free.

Mayor Carr-Hurst stated this issue will be referred to Mr. Lester Thompson for evaluation.
 2. Mr. Ricky Blackwell, 110 Orchard Street, requested bodycam footage for a traffic citation on August 16, 2018 for the entire incident. Mr. Blackwell accused the officer of unnecessary roughness and verbal abuse.

Mayor Carr-Hurst stated this issue will be referred to Chief Mathis and Mrs. Birdsong-Miller.

3. Thomas Cochran, 467 Fire Leaf Way, complimented Chief Mathis and the Fairburn Police Department for the Blue Light/Shop with a Cop program. Mr. Cochran also thanked the Police Department for patrolling St. John AME Church on New Year's Eve during their Watch Night Service.
4. Ms. Anatavia Benson, 605 Birkdale Drive, stated that since the year 2017, she has been a proud resident of the City of Fairburn. Ms. Benson thanked Officer Lynch for speaking to her children to help calm them when she received a traffic citation.
5. Ms. Annette Shepard, 300 Fairview Drive, is concerned about an article in the South Fulton Neighbor that states AT&T Mobile will put a cell tower in front of her house.

Mayor Carr-Hurst stated this issue will be referred to Mr. Steven Jackson and Ms. Tarika Peeks.

6. Ms. Yolanda Jackson, Virlyn & Smith Rd, has been a resident of Fairburn for 23 years and is pleased with the growth of the City. Ms. Jackson inquired about the City's plans for expansion of Highway 74 to help ease traffic.

Mayor Carr-Hurst stated this issue will be referred to Mr. Lester Thompson to share plans of expanding Highway 74.

7. Ms. Sharon Collier, 23 Golightly Street, stated that she is concerned with people speeding on her street and requested speed bumps be installed.

Mayor Carr-Hurst stated she will receive a response from staff.

- X. Adoption of the Council Agenda. Motion to approve the Council Agenda was made by Councilman Whitmore and the second was provided by Councilwoman Davis.

Vote: 5-0: Motion Carried.

- XI. Adoption of Consent Agenda Items: Agenda Items #3 and #5 were moved to the Consent Agenda. Motion to approve the Consent Agenda items was made by Councilman Smallwood and the second was provided by Councilwoman Davis.

Vote: 5-0 Motion Carried.

The Consent Agenda Items were:

1. Fire Department

Chief Cornelius Robinson

For Mayor and Council to approve the sole source purchase of 11 sets of GLOBE manufactured bunker gear from Bennett Fire Products in the amount of \$28,457 from the budget line item 100-3500-53-1710 Uniform/Clothing.

2. Community Development

Mr. Lester Thompson

For Mayor and Council to approve Task Order #3 with Pond & Company for Professional Engineering & Landscape Architectural Services.

- XII. Adoption of City Council Meeting Minutes from December 9, 2019 was presented and approved. Motion to approve the Council Meeting Minutes was made by Councilwoman Davis and the second was provided by Councilman Smallwood.

Vote: 5-0 Motion Carried.

XIV. Agenda Items:

1. Office of the Mayor

Mayor Elizabeth Carr-Hurst

- Appointment of Mayor Pro-Tem 2020
Councilwoman Davis motioned to appoint Ulysses J. Smallwood as Mayor Pro-Tem for the City of Fairburn for 2020. Councilwoman Portis-Jones provided the second.
Vote: 5-0 Motion Carried.
- Appointment of City Attorney for 2020
Mayor Pro-Tem Smallwood motioned to appoint Randy Turner as the City Attorney for the City of Fairburn for 2020. Councilwoman Davis provided the second.
Vote: 5-0 Motion Carried.
- Appointment of the City Clerk for 2020
Councilman Pallend motioned to appoint Arika Birdsong-Miller as the City Clerk for the City of Fairburn for 2020. Councilwoman Davis provided the second.
Vote: 5-0 Motion Carried.
- Appointment of Police Chief for 2020
Councilman Whitmore motioned to appoint Stoney Mathis as the Chief of Police for the City of Fairburn for 2020. Councilwoman Portis-Jones provided the second.
Vote: 5-0 Motion Carried.
- Appointment of Fire Chief for 2020
Mayor Pro-Tem Smallwood motioned to appoint Cornelius Robinson as the Fire Chief for the City of Fairburn for 2020. Councilwoman Davis provided the second.
Vote: 5-0 Motion Carried.
- Legal Organ of the City of Fairburn for 2020
Mayor Pro-Tem Smallwood motioned to appoint the South Fulton Neighbor Newspaper as the Legal Organ for the City of Fairburn for 2020. Councilwoman Davis provided the second.
Vote: 5-0 Motion Carried.

2. Finance Department

Ms. Angela Jackson

For Mayor and Council to approve the budget amendment to cover operating and capital expenditures. Ms. Jackson explained that the funds will be transferred between accounts to ensure there is not a deficit at the 2019 fiscal year end. Councilwoman Davis asked what the Finance Department was doing to ensure that this issue does not occur in 2020. Ms. Jackson stated that the department is holding quarterly budget status meetings with each department to ensure accounts do not exceed their budgetary amounts.

Vote: 5-0 Motion Carried.

3. City Attorney

Mr. Randy Turner

For Mayor and Council Motion to approve the appointment of Attorney Brenton Bean (Freeman, Mathis & Gary, LLP) as outside counsel for employment and personnel administration matters. Attorney Turner explained Attorney Bean is currently working on behalf of the City of Fairburn on two claims and is the preferred firm panel attorney for the City's employment practices liability insurance carrier. Attorney Turner also stated that if Attorney Bean is appointed it will allow the city to take advantage of different trainings offered through Freeman, Mathis & Gary LLP. Motion to appoint Attorney Brenton Bean as outside counsel was made by Councilwoman Davis and the second was provided by Mayor Pro-Tem Smallwood.

Vote: 5-0 Motion Carried.

4. City Attorney

Mr. Randy Turner

For Mayor and Council to approve comprehensive revision to the City's Code of Ethics. Attorney Turner explained that the Ordinance being proposed is a comprehensive revision of Section 2-35 of the City Code of Ordinances, which section is the City Code of Ethics. Motion to approve the comprehensive revision to the City's Code of Ethics was made by Councilwoman Davis and the second was provided by Councilman Whitmore.

Vote: 5-0 Motion Carried.

XV. Council Comments:

Councilman Whitmore thanked all the citizens for attending the meeting and wished everyone a Happy New Year.

Councilwoman Davis reminded citizens of National Day of Service on Martin Luther King Jr. Day in the City of Fairburn.

Mayor Pro-Tem Smallwood thanked the Police Department for their fast response when his grandson needed emergency attention after swallowing a Tide Pod.

Councilman Pallend encouraged citizens of Fairburn to come to the meetings so that Council can get feedback from the community.

Councilwoman Portis-Jones thanked the citizens for their civic engagement.

Mayor Carr-Hurst stated that she attended the funeral for Brandon McCrary, a citizen and employee of Union City that was killed on his way to work. Mayor Carr-Hurst stated the experience reminded her that we should cherish every day because tomorrow is not promised.

XVI. Executive Session: No executive session.

XVII. Adjournment: At 7:59 p.m., with no further business of the City of Fairburn, the Motion to adjourn was made by Councilwoman Davis and the second was provided by Councilman Whitmore.



Arika Birdsong-Miller, City Clerk



Elizabeth Carr-Hurst, Mayor