

City of Fairburn

Mayor and Council Meeting Minutes
September 14, 2017



- I. Meeting Called to Order: The regular meeting of the Mayor and Council was called to order at 7:00 PM by the Honorable Mayor Mario B. Avery.
- II. Roll Call was taken by Assistant to the City Administrator, Ms. Hang Nguyen with the following members present:
 - The Honorable Mayor Pro-Tem Hattie Portis-Jones
 - The Honorable Councilwoman Lydia Glaize
 - The Honorable Councilman Alex Heath
 - The Honorable Councilman Pat Pallend
 - The Honorable Councilman James WhitmoreWith all members present, the city had a quorum and the meeting proceeded.
- III. Invocation was given by Bishop Greg Fann.
- IV. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited in unison.
- V. Presentation (None)
- VI. Public Comments: (Each speaker is granted three (3) minutes).
 1. Bishop Greg Fann of 501 Pullium Street spoke regarding new voting precincts. He would like the leadership of the city to inform residents on new polling sites. He stated that the South Fulton Ministerial Alliance would be hosting a candidate forum at Temple of Prayer on October 17th, 2017.
 2. Mr. Horace Cooper of 880 Buckingham Cove stated he has worked on several campaigns and he knows what voter suppression looks like. He has listened to council discuss advertising new voting sites. He said he doesn't know who council is trying to keep from voting, this looks like voter suppression. Also, at the last meeting he requested 60 days action regarding the proposed Warehouse on Oakley Industrial Park, instead Council approved 90 days. He states he will be watchful of what they are doing.

VII. Adoption of the Agenda: Motion to approve agenda was made by Councilwoman Glaize; motion, seconded by Councilman Whitmore.

Motion Carried
Vote: 6-0.

VIII. Approval of Minutes:

Motion to approve minutes with noted corrections was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Portis-Jones; motion, seconded by CW Glaize.

Motion Carried
Vote: 6-0.

IX. Agenda Items:

1. Authorization Agreement for Excess Capacity Reserves. Mr. Tom Ridgeway presented to Mayor and Council to authorize MEAG Power to make available to other participants any of Fairburn's excess capacity for reserves at \$ 2.40/kW for 2018. Motion to approve was made by CM Pallend; motion, seconded by Councilwoman Glaize.

Motion Carried
Vote: 6-0.

2. Approval to Purchase Vehicle for Recreation Department. Ms. Chapin Payne presented to Mayor and Council to approve the purchase of a Ford F150 from Allin Vigal Ford in the amount of \$25,087.00. Motion to approve was made by CM Heath; motion, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Portis-Jones.

Motion Carried
Vote: 6-0.

Comments: CW Glaize asked the finance department to show where request was approved in mid-year budget, and how will the vehicle be used? Ms. Payne replied to transport equipment, training, picking up donations, events, visiting Carrollton, Heard, Meriweather, Rueben, and Covington Counties. Glaize, asked what locations have been visited with track and field team? Ms. Payne stated, cross country is more local, basketball is more rural. CM Heath, asked how would a van be more efficient? Ms. Payne stated van was considered because there is more to haul, including transporting equipment and more, not so much transporting the youth. Motion to approve was made by CM Heath; motion, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Portis-Jones.

Motion Carried.
Vote: 6-0

3. Approval of Ordinance Authorizing Issuance and Sale of General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2017. City Attorney Randy Turner presented to Mayor and Council; to provide for the assessment and collection of an annual tax sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on such Refunding Bonds; and to authorize and, execute and deliver the documents that are necessary to validate the issuance and sale of such General Obligation Refunding Bonds; in the amount of \$7,365,000.00. Motion to approve was made by CM Whitmore; motion, seconded by CM Pallend.

Motion Carried.
Vote: 6-0

Attorney Turner recommended, approving another person to attest documents in the absence of the city clerk (permanent or interim), this would be a secondary person. CW

Glaize made motion to appoint Mrs. Akilah Moody as attestation officer; motion, seconded by CM Pallend.

Motion Carried

Vote: 6-0.

Attorney Randy Turner presented to Mayor and Council, Approval of Resolution authorizing the issuance and sale of Revenue Refunding Bonds, Series 2017, by the Downtown Development Authority; to execute and deliver Refunding Bonds in the amount of \$ 13,125,000.00 in Downtown Development Authority Revenue Refunding Bonds. Motion to approve was made by CM Pallend; motion, seconded by CM Heath.

Motion Carried

Vote: 6-0.

4. City of Fairburn's 2017 Millage Rate Adoption. Finance Director, Mr. Ed Holloway presented the 2017 Millage Rate, mayor and council must adopt the new millage rate annually. The adopted rate is used to calculate property tax revenue that is due the city. The 2016 millage rate was 9.56, the 2017 proposed rate is 9.55, a difference of .01 mills decrease. Motion to approve was made by CW Glaize; motion, seconded by CM Pallend.

Motion Carried

Vote: 6-0

5. Youth Initiatives. CW Glaize introduced youth initiatives regarding Jr. Litter Patrol, who are instrumental in working to keeping the city litter free. This initiative is requesting a separate line item in the budget. Motion to approve was made by CM Whitmore; motion, seconded by CW Glaize.

Motion Carried

Vote: 6-0.

Mayor Avery asked "if there was a dollar value." CW Glaize said, "\$2500."

6. GICH Line Item Increase (Georgia Initiative for Community Housing). GICH is administered through the Department of Community Affairs and helps communities improve their quality of life and economic vitality through the development of locally-based housing and revitalization strategies. CW Glaize requested this line item in the budget be increased to \$5000. Motion to approve was made by CM Heath; motion, seconded by CM Pallend.

Motion Carried

Vote: 6-0

7. Cities Vesting Schedule: CW Glaize requested this item be held for further information. Motion to table item was made by CW Glaize; motion, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Portis-Jones.

Motion Carried

Vote: 6-0

8. City of Fairburn 2017 Budget Discussion. Finance Director, Mr. Ed Holloway provided an executive summary on budget proposals. Mayor Avery inquired if a public hearing was required and the date of that hearing? Answer: Yes, a week and one day is required for advertising before meeting. The budget must be adopted by end of September with possible six day grace period. CW Glaize inquired about Accounting Clerk II position is an error; Mr. Holloway stated this item would be removed. He further stated, under finance, senior accountant cost is gone, this position is currently advertised at \$62,000 Holloway is asking pay increase to \$74,933, and also requesting removing Certified

Public Accountant requirement. He said local municipalities are currently paying finance directors \$72,000. CW Glaize inquired about the Finance Director's position's increase to \$90,000, she would like information on how the city administrator can make salary changes without council notification or ethical repercussions. She would like an inquiry on employee salary raises through the human resources department. Mayor Pro-Tem Portis-Jones had questions regarding the personnel budget. She is concerned about the vacant positions, and wants a report on all positions, who holds these positions, or vacancies and approved salaries. This will enable the governing body to see the total budget. She asked Mr. Holloway when can this be expected? (Mr. Holloway stated before Wednesday of the next week). Mayor Pro-Tem asked, "what is plan for budget adoption? Mr. Holloway suggested October 2, upon verification of grace day possibilities.

Mayor Avery asked when is adoption and special called meeting? Mr. Holloway would like to adopt on the 25th of September. Mayor Pro-Tem Portis-Jones would like to discuss at special called meeting, with the special called meeting being on September 22nd and adopting at council meeting on September 25th.

contract for termination clause. City Engineer Ms. Brendetta Walker clarified the DDA budget break down; Mayor Avery requested to place the DDA's request on hold until the mid-year review.

CW Glaize, inquired about Connect South Fulton, and stated city has not received any updates, or notifications from the organization.

CM Heath stated it was his understanding that it only affected the property along the parkway.

Mayor Pro-Tem Portis-Jones, stated the update she has received regarding connect South Fulton is that they recently conducted interviews for a director; however, she has not received an update. Mayor Avery will ask Mr. Hightower for an update.

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| X. | <u>Council</u> | <u>Comments:</u> |
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CM Whitmore: No Comment.

CM Heath: Thanked employees who worked in the storm, the street department were out in the rain directing traffic. The city had several trees to fall during the storm; however, the street department has picked them up. Thanks to the fire, police and street departments.

CW Glaize: Thank You to emergency management and public safety. Thanked those entities setting up the candidates forums. She encouraged the city to do their best in informing the public on the new voting sites. It is an honor and pleasure to serve in this capacity.

Mayor Pro-Tem Portis-Jones: Congratulated and Thanked the City Personnel who worked during the storm. She was out and the PD was out on Highway 138 and 29 directing traffic, the intersection was very busy with traffic coming in all four directions. The street, utility and electric departments were working hard to clear the streets. Secondly, she is happy to know the city is able to expand voter locations; the ideal was to make it convenient for residents. She is disheartened to hear the rumors of voter suppression in the city, and this is not what is happening here. The City has partnered with Temple of Prayer and Metro Atlanta Reentry Coalition for documentary premier, of "Released," on Tuesday September 26th. This documentary is sponsored by the Department of Justice. The premier will begin at 7:00 pm with refreshments served from 6:30 pm-7:00 pm. CM Whitmore and I was introduced last month at Rialto. We are very fortunate to be able to bring this to the city. Thank you to all colleagues for supporting and we hope to see you there.

CM Pallend: No Comment

XI. Adjournment:

With no further business of the City of Fairburn, motion to adjourn at 8:26 pm was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Jones; motion, seconded by CM Heath.

Minutes taken by:

Hang Nguyen, Assistant to the City Administrator

Compiled by:
Shana T. Moss
Interim City Clerk

Interim City Clerk

Mayor

I attest: