



**CITY OF FAIRBURN
CITY HALL
56 Malone Street
Fairburn, GA 30213
May 8, 2017
7:00 P.M.**

The Honorable Mayor Mario Avery

The Honorable Lydia Glaize
The Honorable Elizabeth Hurst
The Honorable Hattie Portis-Jones

The Honorable Alex Heath
The Honorable Pat Pallend
The Honorable James Whitmore

Stephen Hood
Stephanie Tigner
William Randy Turner

Interim City Administrator
Interim City Clerk
City Attorney

- I. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: Honorable Mayor Mario Avery.**
- II. ROLL CALL:** Council Members Lydia Glaize, Alex Heath, Pat Pallend, Hattie Portis-Jones and James Whitmore were present. Council Member Elizabeth Hurst was absent.
- III. INVOCATION:** was provided by Council Member Alex Heath.
- IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** was recited in unison.
- V. PRESENTATION:**

1. Fairburn Farmers Market-Fresh for Less Program (Council Member Portis-Jones)

Parks & Recreation Director Chapin Payne provided an overview of the Fairburn Farmers Market. She said last year there were (10) vendors at the Fairburn Farmers Market and this year there are (20) plus vendors on board. She reiterated the market would open on Friday, May 19th. Ms. Payne urged everyone to visit and to shop with us. She then introduced the Director of Programs for Wholesome Way Georgia Ms. Rachel Canes.

Ms. Rachel Canes provided a brief overview of the Wholesome Way program “Fresh for Less Program” and presented a presentation of the program to the Mayor and Council.

2. Fairburn Parks & Recreation Track & Field Team-State Championship Team (Parks & Recreation)

Parks and Recreation Director Ms. Chapin Payne announced the 2017 GRPA State Track and Field Team. She said this is the first year that track has been back in the City of Fairburn in a while. Ms. Payne said we started out with 55 kids; we thought we were only going to have 25, but we had to turn away 30 kids. Parks and Recreation Director Ms. Chapin Payne stated the kids went to State and brought home (5) 1st Place winners; (21) 2nd Place winners; (2) 4th Place winners; and (2) 5th Place winners. She introduced the coaching staff; Coach Fairchild, Berry, Carey, Scooby and Coach Vaughn. She acknowledged Council Member Glaize for her providing the team with a blessing before leaving and the Mayor Avery for his repetitive status calls. She thanked the entire Council for their support.

3. Presentation of the Essay and Art Winners from Georgia Cities Week

Council Member Glaize thanked Mayor and Council for voting in 2014 to become a part of the Georgia Cities Week. She said as a part of Georgia Cities Week each city identify and celebrate those items that are important. So, as a part of Georgia Cities Week, we coordinate an "Essay and Arts program." She said we had over 70 participants this year. Council Member Glaize then read a few of the essays aloud.

Council Member Glaize stated there were two schools that participated and they were Evoline C. West Elementary and Landmark Christian Academy. She then announced the winners: 1st Place Winner Turner Guerard, Landmark Christian Academy.

Essay Winners

Evoline C. West Elementary

Iyesiatu Koroma-1st Place
Jonathan Lara-2nd Place
Makaila Paige-3rd Place

Funniest

Nadia Nobles: 1st Place
Alex Gonzaz: 2nd Place
Terrell Kouame: 3rd Place

Landmark Christian Academy

Turner Guerard: 1st Place

Art Contest Winners

Evoline C. West Elementary

Kindergarten: Graycen McNulty

Everett Davis: 1st Grade

Jonathan Mance: 2nd Grade

Emily Perez Carrasco: 3rd Grade

Tailla Emore: 4th Grade

Landmark Christian Academy

Parker Guerard: 1st Place Elementary

Ellie McWilliams: 1st Place Middle School

4. Recognition of Fairburn Farmer's Market 2016 Volunteer of the Year - Ms. Elaine Beverly

Mayor Pro Tem Hattie Portis-Jones recognized Ms. Elaine Beverly for her volunteerism with the Fairburn Farmer's Market. She presented Ms. Beverly with a Certificate of Appreciation for her efforts.

Ms. Elaine Beverly thanked Mayor Pro Tem Portis-Jones for the honor. She said I have always felt like I was helping people, but to be here in Fairburn has been an honor for me. She thanked everyone for giving her the honor.

5. Georgia Renaissance Festival Proclamation

Mayor Avery read into the record, the proclamation recognizing the Georgia Renaissance Festival.

Whereas, in 1985 Mr. Jack Sias began the Georgia Renaissance Festival on 32 acres in Fairburn, Georgia; and

Whereas, the Georgia Renaissance Festival is a fair that recreates England's renaissance for entertainment purposes and is set as the 16th century, during the reign of King Henry VIII; and

Whereas, the Georgia Renaissance Festival is open for eight weekends during spring and early summer and is the largest Renaissance Festival in the Southeast; and

Whereas, the Georgia Renaissance Festival has ten performance stages that features

jousting, musicians and incorporates crowd participation to engage visitors in the comedic storytelling and wild animal shows, amongst others; and

Whereas, the Georgia Renaissance Festival features 150 artisans including handmade pottery, glassblowing, wire bending and a coin mint, with most artisans demonstrating their craft for the patrons to experience; and

Whereas, the Georgia Renaissance Festival also has various clothiers which specialize in period costumes, weapon smiths and a foundry that offers pewter items; and

Whereas, the Georgia Renaissance Festival is the largest attraction in the City of Fairburn with an annual attendance of over two hundred thousand visitors; and

Whereas, the Georgia Renaissance Festival was voted as a Top 20 Event in 2016 by the Southeastern Tourism Society.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mario B. Avery and the six members of the City Council for the City of Fairburn do recognize and honor Mr. Jack Sias and the Georgia Renaissance Festival for hosting a world class event and being an integral part of the Fairburn Community for over 30 years this 8th day of May, 2017.

Mr. Dave Durrell, Georgia Renaissance Festival Artistic Director accepted the proclamation on behalf of Jack Sias. Mr. Durrell announced “Student Day” will be held on Tuesday, May 9, 2017, and we are expecting over 7,000 kids. He thanked the Mayor and Council for the honor and for the 32 years the festival has been in the City of Fairburn.

5. Proclamation In Recognition of Georgia Cities Week

Council Member Glaize read the proclamation into the record recognizing Georgia Cities Week.

WHEREAS, city government is the closest to most citizens, and the one with the most direct daily impact upon its residents; and

WHEREAS, city government is administered for and by its citizens, and is dependent upon public commitment to and understanding of its many responsibilities; and

WHEREAS, city government officials and employees share the responsibility to pass along their understanding of public services and their benefits; and

WHEREAS, Georgia Cities Week is a very important time to recognize the important role played by city government in our lives; and

WHEREAS, this week offers an important opportunity to spread the word to all the citizens of Georgia that they can shape and influence this branch of government which is closest to the people; and

WHEREAS, the Georgia Municipal Association, the City of Fairburn and other member cities have joined together to teach students and other citizens about municipal government through a variety of different projects and information; and

WHEREAS, Georgia Cities Week offers an important opportunity to convey to all the citizens of Georgia that they can shape and influence government through their civic involvement.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mario B. Avery and the six members of the City Council for the City of Fairburn, do declare APRIL 23-29, 2017 as Georgia Cities Week. We encourage all Citizens, City Government Officials, and Employees to do everything possible to ensure that this week is recognized and celebrated accordingly, this 24th day of April, 2017.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

1. Marian Johnson, 363 Spence Road, addressed her concerns with the city event and theater schedules. She said the theater concert events for two seasons. Mrs. Johnson said the theater performance schedule avoids the fourth Friday beginning April through September. She said the city is competing with an existing building. Mrs. Johnson said the theater has been producing live stage plays in Fairburn since 1973; we moved into the building at 20 West Campbellton in 1975. Mrs. Johnson went on to say we purchased the building in 1980 and we bring over 4000 patrons to the City of Fairburn. She would like to work with the city on scheduling events.

2. Tiffany Howard spoke in favor of the Stimulate America Initiative STEM program. She said the organization became a 501C3 in 2011. She said she would like to partner with the city to assist high school and college students with scholarships and internships. She said this opportunity would be a comprehensive engagement for the students. Ms. Howard said by 2018 there will be a deficit of 2.4M unfilled jobs within S.T.E.A.M. She said the goal is to assist high school and college students throughout the State of Georgia.

VII. ADOPTION OF THE COUNCIL AGENDA:

Council Member Glaize made a motion to adopt the Council Agenda with Council Member Heath providing the second. **The motion carried.**

VIII. APPROVAL OF CITY COUNCIL MINUTES: City Council Minutes of April 24, 2017.

Council Member Whitmore made a motion to approve the City Council Minutes of April 24, 2017, with Council Member Portis-Jones providing the second.

Council Member Glaize stated there was a correction on page (5); add the word "ever."

Council Member Portis-Jones stated there was a correction on page (5); should be "occurred." The corrections were noted. **The motion carried.**

IX. AGENDA ITEMS:

1. 17P-002 Plat Review-Hicks and Jarrell Holdings, LLC (Planning)

Council Member Pallend made a motion to approve 17P-002 Plat Review-Hicks and Jarrell Holdings, LLC with Council Member Heath providing the second. **The motion carried.**

2. Extension of the Intergovernmental Agreement with Fulton County (Administration)

Council Member Glaize made a motion to approve the Extension of the Intergovernmental Agreement with Fulton County with Council Member Pallend providing the second. **The motion carried.**

3. Falcon Design Contract Extension (Engineering)

Council Member Pallend made a motion to approve the Falcon Design Contract Extension with Council Member Heath providing the second. **The motion carried.**

X. COMMENTS FROM COUNCIL:

Council Member Whitmore congratulated Parks and Recreation Director Chapin Payne for the programs that have been brought to the City. He said we need to have more comprehensive programs. He said that is why it is important for the referendum; to bring a recreation center to Duncan Park. He acknowledged the representatives of the Renaissance Festival and Council Member Lydia Glaize for the 4th Annual Georgia Cities Week event. Council Member Whitmore then thanked Mayor Pro Tem Portis-Jones for the Fairburn Farmers Market; he said your leadership speaks volume.

Council Member Heath stated on Tuesday, May 2nd the dedication ceremony for the James and Eric Berry Sports Stadium took place. He said I did not have an opportunity to speak, so I will make my comments tonight. Council Member Heath said the one thing that stands out with Mr. and Mrs. Berry is their loyalty to the community. He said for many years, Mr. Berry would cut the grass at the park without any help. Council

Member Heath said Eric Berry is with the NFL team Kansas City Chiefs. Council Member Heath said one thing he remembers about Eric Berry is that he did not forget about his roots. He said Eric Berry came back to the City of Fairburn and put a professional football field at the park to help the kids in the City. I wish they were here as I would have enjoyed giving them their accolades. Council Member Heath said the sign will be there for years to come and will pay homage to the Berry family. He then thanked the staff for the coordinating the event.

Council Member Glaize thanked her colleagues. She recognized Mayor Pro Tem Hattie Portis-Jones for bringing the “Wholesome Way” program to the City and taking the City of Fairburn to the next level. Council Member Glaize suggested for Mayor Pro Tem Jones to reach out to the essay contestants about the "Wholesome Ways" program. She then addressed Former Council Member Marian Johnson. Council Member Glaize said that Mr. and Mrs. Johnson had done a lot in the community. Certainly, they both have done a lot at the theater. Council Member Glaize said I have been to the theater several times and have brought students to the theater, and the arts are huge. I hope that we can straighten out the conflict; I’m sorry to hear this. She said the Georgia Renaissance Festival along with the James and Eric Berry Sports Stadium continues to place Fairburn on the map under the leadership of Mayor Avery. She said the park is thriving and naming the park after a father and son was so befitting. She acknowledged Parks and Recreation Director Chapin Payne for her accomplishments with the Track and Field team. Council Member Glaize thanked City Administrator Stephen Hood and Building and Property Director Mr. Harvey Stokes for helping the community outreach with South Fulton student athletes. She said this is the third year that we have gathered student scholarships both public and private with books, scholarships, and cash awards. She announced Donald Payne of the Baltimore Ravens was able to come back and speak to students as well as Former NFL vet and now House Representative Dewey McClain. Council Member Glaize acknowledged the Essay and Art Winners; fantastic.

Council Member Pallend echoed the comments made by Council Member Heath. He said "well-said Alex."

Council Member Portis-Jones recognized Former Councilwoman Marian Johnson. She addressed Mrs. Johnson's concerns about the conflict in the schedules for the theater and city events at the Frankie Mae Arnold Stage and Courtyard. She said we all our residents of the City; we can work this out. Council Member Portis-Jones said she had attended numerous shows at the theater. She congratulated Parks and Recreation Director Chapin Payne for her accomplishments with the Track and Field team. Council Member Portis-Jones acknowledged the children that participated in the Georgia Cities Week Essay and Art Contest. She acknowledged Landmark Christian Academy student Turner Guerard. Turner Guerard is now leading the second team with the Junior Litter Patrol to the Lightning Community. Council Member Portis-Jones spoke on the Farmers Market. She said, "I am thankful and

grateful for the support that I have been given for initiating the idea." It is truly about access for Fairburn's resident. I appreciate the support with bringing the EBT program. Council Member Portis-Jones acknowledged Ms. Rachel Canes. She also acknowledged Ms. Elaine Beverly for the Fairburn Farmer's Market 2016 Volunteer recognition. Council Member Portis-Jones announced St. John A.M.E. Church will be hosting a food giveaway on Saturday, May 13, 2017, at 1 pm. She urged everyone to come and bring your bag! She thanked the staff and the Mayors Executive Assistant Akilah Moody for the coordinating the Council Retreat. She said it was a well-done treat for Council and staff. She sent congratulations to E.C. West Elementary School and Landmark Christian Academy for participating in Georgia Cities Week. Council Member Portis-Jones closed by saying "there are so many gems in the City of Fairburn; Duncan Park, Georgia Renaissance Festival, Southside Theatre Guild, Frankie Mae Arnold Stage & Courtyard, the City's government and staff; thank you.

Mayor Avery publically apologized to Council Member Heath. He said I got caught up in the moment and forgot to allow you an opportunity to speak. I acknowledged that you did bring the idea forward. Mayor Avery thanked our staff for the awesome presentations. Mayor Avery recognized Executive Assistant Akilah Moody and Interim City Clerk Stephanie Tigner. He publically thanked the Street Department for keeping our facilities clean; thank you, Mr. Stokes. He announced the Duncan Park Pool and Splash Pad will be opening on Saturday, May 27, 2017. Mayor Avery said I would like to advocate for the seniors in allowing them to utilize the pool during their specified times. He reminded the Council about the grand opening of the Solstice Apartment Homes on Oakley Industrial. He said they are in the process of completing the pool and they will notify us when completed. He acknowledged the City of Fairburn for our representation at Fulton County Commissioners Joan Gardner's home going services.

XI. ADJOURN:

Council Member Heath made a motion to adjourn with Council Member Glaize providing the second. **The motion carried.** The meeting adjourned at 8:25 pm.

Interim City Clerk, Stephanie Tigner

Mayor, Mario Avery