



City of Fairburn
Mayor and Council Meeting- Zoom
December 14, 2020
7:00 pm

- I. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm 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

The Honorable Mayor Pro-Tem Ulysses J. Smallwood
The Honorable Linda J. Davis
The Honorable Alex Heath

The Honorable Pat Pallend
The Honorable Hattie Portis-Jones
The Honorable James Whitmore

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

City Attorney Randy Turner was also present.

- III. The invocation was led by Bishop Aaron Lackey of Temple of Prayer Family Worship Cathedral.
- IV. Adoption of City Council Minutes:
Motion to Approve November 9, 2020, Council Meeting Minutes (Zoom) was made by Councilman Heath and the second was provided by Councilman Whitmore.
Vote: 6-0: Motion Carried.

Motion to Approve November 9, 2020, Executive Session Minutes (Zoom) was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Smallwood and the second was provided by Councilwoman Davis.
Vote: 6-0: Motion Carried.
- V. Adoption of the Council Agenda:
Motion to Approve the Council Agenda was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Smallwood and the second was provided by Councilman Whitmore.
Vote: 6-0: Motion Carried.
- VI. Presentation:
 1. Ms. Kimberly Dove, Fulton County School Board Member, and Dr. Anthony Newbold, Principal Global Impact Academy: Fulton County Board of Education. Dr. Newbold explained that Global Impact Academy exists to cultivate a forward-thinking and community-driven learning environment where students develop a passion for STEM learning and its real-world applications. Dr. Newbold stated that Global Impact Academy offers the following academic pathways for scholars: Advanced Mathematics, Advanced Science, Energy Systems, Engineering, Healthcare Science, and Information Technology. Ms. Dove, Fulton County School Board Member, detailed the many resources available on the Fulton County School's website.

2. Budget Award: Finance Department. Mr. John Hulsey, Public Service Associate; Government Training, Education and Development, explained to Mayor and Council that based on examination of the FY2019-20 budget document by a panel of independent reviewers, that the City of Fairburn's budget document has been awarded the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award from Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA). This award is the highest form of recognition in government budgeting.

VII. Public Hearing:

1. **Use Permit for Grace Baptist Church of Fayette**

Motion to open the Public Hearing was made at 7:51 pm by Councilman Whitmore and the second was provided by Councilman Heath.

Planning and Zoning Director Tarika Peeks stated that it is the opinion of staff that the use permit request to allow a church at 6225 Campbellton Fairburn Road is in conformity with the Comprehensive Plan and Future Land Use Map. The Future Land Use Map designates the subject property as Office, and the Office Character Area identifies a church and other places of worship as appropriate land use.

Attorney Joe Fowler, a spokesperson for the petitioner, stated that Churches are deemed to be compatible uses under the Residential classification of the Comprehensive Plan and asked for Approval from Mayor and City Council. Attorney Fowler noted that there was no objection from neighbors and that Grace Baptist Church of Fayette accepts the two conditions from the City of Fairburn.

There were no public comments.

Motion to close the Public Hearing was made at 7:55 pm by Councilwoman Davis and the second was provided by Councilman Heath.

Motion to Approve the Use Permit for Grace Baptist Church was made by Councilman Heath and the second was provided by Councilwoman Davis.

Vote: 6-0: Motion Carried.

VIII. Agenda Items:

1. **Office of the Mayor**

Mayor Elizabeth Carr-Hurst

For Mayor and Council to Approve the Public Relations Contract Renewal with Dickerson Communication in the amount of \$50,000. Mayor Carr-Hurst explained that Mr. Jeff Dickerson was appointed as the Communications Specialist and Public Advocate for the City of Fairburn on June 8, 2020. The contract renewal will cover the period of December 1, 2020 - September 30, 2020. Mayor Carr-Hurst stated the funding was approved during the adoption of the FY2020-2021 budget. Councilwoman Davis stated that the contract expired on November 30, 2020 and asked if we could sign a contract that already began. Attorney Turner stated that Mayor and Council could date a contract for December 1, 2020, if approved. Councilwoman Davis recommended that Mr. Dickerson provide detailed monthly reports be added to the contract if approved.

Motion to add detailed monthly reports to the Agreement was made by Councilwoman Davis, and the second was provided by Councilwoman Portis-Jones.

Vote: 6-0: Motion Carried.

Motion to Call for the Vote was made by Councilman Heath and the second was provided by Mayor Pro-Tem Smallwood.

Motion to Approve the Public Relations Contract Renewal with Dickerson Communication in the amount of \$50,000 was made by Councilman Heath and the second was provided by Mayor Pro-Tem Smallwood.

Vote: 4-3: Motion Carried.

Councilwoman Davis, Councilwoman Portis-Jones, and Councilman Pallend voted in Opposition of the Motion.

2. Fire Department

Chief Cornelius Robinson

For Mayor and Council to Approve the Purchase of a 2020 Fire Engine in the amount of \$375,000. Chief Robinson explained that the Assistance Firefighter Grant (AFG) was approved in the amount of \$357,142 in federal funding with a required contribution of non-federal funds in the amount of \$17,857.14. Chief Robinson stated that this unit would replace our 28-year-old E-One Fire Engine. Councilwoman Davis congratulated Chief Robinson and the Fire Department on receiving the grant. Councilman Heath asked why we choose not to get a 2021 model. Chief Robinson stated that the 2021 models are a lot more expensive. Motion to Approve the Purchase of a 2020 Fire Engine in the of \$375,000 was made by Councilwoman Davis and the second was provided by Councilman Heath.

Vote: 6-0: Motion Carried.

3. Engineering

Mr. Lester Thompson

For Mayor and Council to Approve Task Order #11 in the amount of \$25,000 with Pond and Company for Professional Engineering and Landscape Architectural Services. Mr. Thompson explained that the City of Fairburn entered into a Master Service Agreement with Pond & Company on July 22, 2019, for On-Call Professional Engineering and Landscape Architectural Services. Motion to Approve Task Order #11 in the amount of \$25,000 with Pond & Company for Professional Engineering and Landscape Architectural Services was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Smallwood and the second was provided by Councilwoman Davis.

Vote: 6-0: Motion Carried.

4. Parks and Recreation

Mr. John Culbreth

For Mayor and Council to Approve the Usage Agreement with the Department of Natural Resources for Kids Fishing Event. Mr. Culbreth explained that the Georgia Department of Natural Resources wishes to provide an opportunity for children under the age of sixteen to have successful fishing trips and thereby recruit them as anglers and conservationists. The Georgia Department of Natural Resources agrees to provide fish for stocking the pond, transport the fish to the pond, provide technical advice on how the pond should be stocked, and provide instructions on how the fish should be fed and the care they should receive. Mr. Culbreth stated that this would take place at Duncan Park. Councilwoman Portis-Jones asked the plan re-opening Duncan Park for citizens to walk around the lake. Mayor Carr-Hurst stated that the discussion would take place at the

beginning of 2021. Motion to Approve the Usage Agreement with the Department of Natural Resources for Kids Fishing Event was made by Councilman Heath and the second was provided by Councilwoman Davis.

Vote: 6-0: Motion Carried.

5. Property Management

Mr. Harvey Stokes

For Mayor and Council to Approve the Purchase of a 2021 Ford F-150 in the amount of \$28,029 for Gale Higgs, Deputy Director of Property Management. Mr. Stokes explained that the approval of a new position created the necessity for additional transportation within the department. Mr. Stokes furthered explained that this vehicle will be purchased from Allan Vigil Ford-Lincoln Government Sales. Motion to Approve the Purchase of a 2021 Ford F-150 in the amount of \$28,029 for Gale Higgs was made by Councilman Whitmore and the second was provided by Mayor Pro-Tem Smallwood.

Vote: 6-0: Motion Carried.

6. Utilities Department

Mr. John Martin

For Mayor and Council to Approve the Tree Trimmer Contract with Kendall Vegetation Services not to exceed the amount of \$60,000. Mr. Martin explained that this contract will include trimming and clearing of trees/vegetation from around the overhead circuits exiting both Substation 1- Spence Road and Substation 2- Hwy 29/NW Broad Street. Councilwoman Davis asked how the work was done previously and is this the first time the work has been contracted out. Mr. Martin stated in the past, staff has been doing the trimming and clearing of trees, but the workload is too much for staff to handle along with other daily assignments. Mr. Martin also stated this is the first time for this type of contract. Councilwoman Davis asked was the contract put out for bid and the terms of the Agreement. Mr. Martin specified that the work was put out for bid and awarded to the most experienced contractor. Lastly, Mr. Martin detailed that this contract was for \$60,000, and once the contractor reached that limit, they would need to come before Mayor and Council before any other work will be approved. Motion to Approve the Tree Trimmer Contract with Kendall Vegetation Services not to exceed the amount of \$60,000 was made by Councilman Pallend and the second was provided by Councilwoman Portis-Jones.

Vote: 6-0: Motion Carried.

7. Planning and Zoning

Ms. Tarika Peeks

For Mayor and Council to Approve the Resolution to Establish and Authorize the City of Fairburn Main Street Board. Ms. Peeks explained to Mayor and Council that as an Affiliate of the Georgia Main Street Program, the City is required by the Georgia Downtown Affiliate Network MOU (Memorandum of Understanding), which is renewed annually, to establish a Main Street Board. The Fairburn Main Street Board's mission is to promote historic preservation in downtown Fairburn, showcasing traditional assets of the community, while also incorporating the Four-Point Approach of design, organization, promotions, and economic development to recruit and retain new businesses. The Main Street Board will be managed by a seven (7) member Board of Directors, to include downtown business owners, commercial real estate professionals, corporate project managers, and Downtown Development Authority [DDA] Board Members. For the first year of the "Boards" establishment, the Board of Directors will serve a one (1) year term. Councilwoman Davis asked what the selection procedures were to select members for the Main Street Board. Ms. Peeks stated that a complete advertisement was posted to recruit volunteers. Motion to Approve the Resolution to

Establish and Authorize the City of Fairburn Main Street Board was made by Councilman Heath and the second was provided by Mayor Pro-Tem Smallwood.

Vote: 6-0: Motion Carried.

8. City Attorney

Attorney Randy Turner

For Mayor and Council to Approve the Resolution to Formally Accept the Dedication of Land for Public Improvements for Harris Road. Attorney Turner explained that the Georgia Department of Transportation has requested that the Mayor and City Council approve this Resolution formally accepting the dedication of land for public improvements. Motion to Approve the Resolution to Formally Accept the Dedication of Land for Public Improvements for Harris Road was made by Councilman Heath and the second was provided by Councilman Whitmore.

Vote: 6-0: Motion Carried.

9. City Attorney

Attorney Randy Turner

For Mayor and Council to Approve the MEAG Proposed Power Sale Agreement with the City of Norcross. Mr. Martin explained that the Agreement is to purchase 4,691 kW of Excess Capacity for \$28,146 and purchase 2,813kW of Excess Reserve Capacity for \$16,878 for this fiscal year. Mr. Martin stated that this would also accommodate any extended wintry months as well as upcoming developments. Motion to Approve the MEAG Proposed Sale Agreement with the City of Norcross was made by Councilman Whitmore and the second was provided by Councilman Heath.

Vote: 6-0: Motion Carried.

IX. Council Comments:

Councilwoman Davis wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

Councilman Heath wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Councilman Pallend hopes to be back to face to face meetings in 2021.

Councilwoman Whitmore wished all the citizens and staff a Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

Councilwoman Portis-Jones wished everyone Happy Holidays and reminded everyone to be safe so the numbers can decline in regard to the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Mayor Pro-Tem Smallwood wished everyone a Merry Christmas and congratulated Officer Lynch on his accomplishment.

Mayor Carr-Hurst asked for prayers for her family because 2020 has been a challenging year after losing an Aunt to COVID-19 and the sickness of her daughter. Mayor Carr-Hurst proclaimed that she is honored to serve as Mayor and is looking for all the great things happening in the City of Fairburn.

- X. Adjournment: At 9:18 pm, 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 Heath.

Vote: 6-0: Motion Carried.


Arika Birdsong-Miller, City Clerk


Elizabeth Carr-Hurst, Mayor