



**CITY OF FAIRBURN
CITY HALL
56 Malone Street
Fairburn, GA 30213
January 11, 2016
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

Tom Barber
Brenda B. James
William Randy Turner

City Administrator
City Clerk
City Attorney

- I. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:** by Honorable Mayor Mario Avery.
- II. SWEARING IN OF COUNCIL MEMBERS:** Elizabeth Carr Hurst, Patrick (Pat) Pallend and Andrew James Whitmore.

Mr. Keith Heard administered the Oath of Office to Council Member Elizabeth Carr Hurst.

I, **Elizabeth Carr Hurst** do solemnly swear or affirm that I will faithfully and truly perform the duties of council member of this City, that I will support and defend the United States Constitution, the Constitution of the State of Georgia, and the Charter of the City of Fairburn, to the best of my skill and ability and as to me shall seem to the best of interest and welfare of the City without fear, favor, or affection. I do further swear or affirm that I am not the holder of any unaccounted for public money due this State or any political subdivision or authority thereof, that I am not the holder of any office or trust under the government of the United States, any other state, or any foreign state which, by the laws of the State of Georgia, I am prohibited from holding; and that I am otherwise qualified to be a public officer according to the Constitution

and Laws of the State of Georgia. SO HELP ME GOD This 11th Day of January 2016

Mayor Avery administered the Oath of Office to Council Member Patrick (Pat) Pallend.

I, **Patrick (Pat) Pallend** do solemnly swear or affirm that I will faithfully and truly perform the duties of council member of this City, that I will support and defend the United States Constitution, the Constitution of the State of Georgia, and the Charter of the City of Fairburn, to the best of my skill and ability and as to me shall seem to the best of interest and welfare of the City without fear, favor, or affection. I do further swear or affirm that I am not the holder of any unaccounted for public money due this State or any political subdivision or authority thereof, that I am not the holder of any office or trust under the government of the United States, any other state, or any foreign state which, by the laws of the State of Georgia, I am prohibited from holding; and that I am otherwise qualified to be a public officer according to the Constitution and Laws of the State of Georgia. SO HELP ME GOD This 11th Day of January 2016

Bishop Lackey administered the Oath of Office to Council Member Andrew James Whitmore.

I, **Andrew James Whitmore** do solemnly affirm that I will faithfully and truly perform the duties of council member of this City, that I will support and defend the United States Constitution, the Constitution of the State of Georgia, and the Charter of the City of Fairburn, to the best of my skill and ability and as to me shall seem to the best of interest and welfare of the City without fear, favor, or affection. I do further affirm that I am not the holder of any unaccounted for public money due this State or

any political subdivision or authority thereof, that I am not the holder of any office or trust under the government of the United States, any other state, or any foreign state which, by the laws of the State of Georgia, I am prohibited from holding; and that I am otherwise qualified to be a public officer according to the Constitution and Laws of the State of Georgia. SO HELP ME GOD. This 11th Day of January 2016

III. ROLL CALL: All members were present which constituted a quorum.

IV. INVOCATION: was provided by Mayor Avery.

V. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: was recited in unison.

VI. PRESENTATION: None.

VII. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

1. Mr. Green, 2047 Broadmoor Way, spoke on the signage in the city. He said the city's signs are in bad shape. He requested council replace the signage in the city. He also addressed his concerns with Food Depot's parking lot and donation boxes in the area.
2. Donna Jenkins, 137 Durham Lake Parkway, thanked the City Manager for bringing in new construction to the city. She thanked the Fairburn Police Department for a job well done and acknowledged the police officers that performed a quality check at a neighbor's home when they were out of town. She said she feels safe when she travels knowing the police department is patrolling the area.
3. Matthew Miller, Shugart Farm, spoke on the Bohannon Road project. He said the Planning Department, Permit Department and City Administrator Tom Barber helped to make the project work. He said there will be an additional project coming in the future and thanked the Fairburn Police Department for a job well done.
4. Bobby Fountain, 11 Palmetto Pines Drive, introduced himself as one of the owners and operators of the family owned Shugart Farms. He said there is 4-5 million square feet of building coming out of the ground in the City of Fairburn and that is unheard of. He said these sites will produce 900 jobs. Mr. Fountain spoke on the management staff and requested that the city do not change the current administration. He closed by saying "Do not fix something that is not

broken”.

5. Bill Hare, Shugart Farms, spoke on his experience in the City of Fairburn. He said the project started in May 2015 to build the million square ft. building. He said the building will be completed next month. Mr. Hare said we could not have done any of this without the cooperation of the administration and commended the Mayor and the City Council for having high quality people on staff.
6. Sara Williams, 58 Mullis Street, said that she sent a letter to the Council in September of last year relating to raw sewage backing up in to her home. She said since September, the sewer has backed up twice once on September 25th and right before the meeting tonight. Ms. Williams said she has not heard from anyone. She said Mr. Ridgway said something will be done by the first of the year. She said the first of the year is here; “I have dealt with the problem for 13 years and I need a resolution”.

VIII. ADOPTION OF THE COUNCIL AGENDA: Council Member Heath made a motion to adopt the Council Agenda of January 11, 2016 with Consent Agenda Items # 1, #2, #4, #5, and #6 and hold item #3 with Council Member Glaize providing the second. **The motion carried.**

IX. CONSENT ITEMS:

Council Member Whitmore made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda Items

1. Legal Organ for the City of Fairburn for 2016
2. Appointment of the Mayor Pro-Tem for the 2016 Year
4. Appointment to the Planning and Zoning Commission
5. Appointment to the Downtown Development Authority and the Development Authority
6. Appointment to the Urban Redevelopment Agency

Council Member Hurst providing the second. **The motion carried.**

X. APPROVAL OF CITY COUNCIL MINUTES: City Council Minutes of December 14, 2015.

Council Member Hurst made a motion to approve the City Council Minutes of December 14, 2015 with Council Member Heath providing the second. **The motion carried.**

XI. AGENDA ITEMS:

3. Staff Appointments for the 2016 Year-***Held***

7. Mayor's State of the City Address

Mayor Avery presented the 2016 Mayor's State of the City Address "The Year of Managerial Success".

Mayor Avery thanked everyone for coming out to the meeting. He said "we are a blessed city". Mayor Avery said over an hour ago, there was an interview on TBN where over one million people in and outside of the country heard about our staff and the development going on in the City of Fairburn. He said every city government has its issues and concerns that need improvement. Mayor Avery said all of what has been seen today was embraced by this body. He acknowledged former Council Members Ron Alderman and Marian Johnson and the new Council Members Pat Pallend and James Whitmore. Mayor Avery provided an overview of some of Fairburn highlights from the presentation.

- Economic Development Growth
- Upscale Apartment Housing
- Addition of New Businesses on Highway 74
- Highlight of Management Staff Members and Successes
- Implementation Of a New Pay Standard
- Fairburn Fall Festival Highlights
- Christmas Tree Lighting and Fireworks Show
- Welcome New Council Members Pat Pallend and James Whitmore
- Constructed over 100 New Homes
- Development of I-85 and Highway 74
- Planned Completion of swimming pool at Duncan Park
- Over 1,000 new jobs coming to the City of Fairburn

Mayor Avery acknowledged State Representative Sharon Beasley Teague, State Senator Donzella James, Former County Commissioner Bill Edwards and Mayor Johnson of the City of Fayetteville and thanked them for coming out to the meeting.

XII. COMMENTS FROM COUNCIL:

Council Member Whitmore said he is humble and grateful for the opportunity to represent the citizens of Fairburn. He said this has been an amazing journey that started for him in August, 2015. He acknowledged his friend newly elected Mayor of Douglasville, Georgia Rochelle Robinson, State Senator Donzella James and Bill Edwards. He said he recalls one thing from his experience and that is to "Do the greatest good, for the greater number". Council Member Whitmore said his brother

Dr. J A. Whitmore shared an analogy that read “In surgery when you have a lot of blood, you need to stop the bleeding or you will have a dead patient; CPR; Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation, everyone you may suspect needing CPR, may not need it at all; sometimes rescue breathing is all that is required”. He said the Mayor & Council are the heart beat and lungs of the city, both need to work together to achieve greatness. He also thanked the staff, his family Patricia, Andrew, Quiana, Durell, Sheronda, Bunny and Moose and grandchildren Jackson and Dillon. He said his platform has been true and he plans to deliver with the assistance of his colleagues on recreation, police body cameras and transparency. He thanked Keith Heard and Ellen Samuels.

Council Member Whitmore appointed Ellen Samuels to the Ethics Board. He then said “The power of the people is greater than people in power”.

Council Member Heath said to not forget the people that elected you to that office; not to forget all of their hopes and desires and those things that you promised. He said if members keep that in mind, the City will go a long way. Council Member Heath said with the help of staff the City Council went out looking to bring housing and jobs to the area. He thanked everyone for coming out to support.

Council Member Hurst said as she enters into her third term she is very humbled to be sitting here. She said a year ago she went through a healing and during that time, she had to decide if she wanted to run again. Councilwoman Hurst said the prayers and encouragement of her mother brought her back to the point to run again. Council Member Hurst said she had a fantastic Campaign Committee. She said people called, contributed money, time and in-kind; the people came out of the wood works. She said I am very grateful and will not take it for granted. Council Member Hurst said I have always been concerned about employees especially those that could not speak for themselves. Council Member Hurst said she runs on “*Your Voice In Fairburn*” or “*The Voice of the People*”; I stand here tonight saying the same thing. She said I ran on body cameras for the police officers and our people, community policing, utility costs and I still stand firm on these issues. The issues are not just glorified; these issues are very near and dear to my heart. Council Member Hurst said she plans on working with everyone and doing what the people have asked her to do. She asked for prayers for her and the entire City Council to make unified decisions. She read a passage from the Martin Luther King Jr.’s ecumenical service “Yes, Jesus I want to be on your right or your left side; not for any selfish reason. I want to be on the right side or your left side, not in terms for political kingdom or ambition, but I just want to be there in love and in justice and in truth and in commitment to others, so we can make “*Fairburn*” a great place to be. (Fairburn was replaced by “New World”). She ended by saying “We can make Fairburn great”.

Council Member Glaize said it is an honor to serve the third year of a four year term. She said as a resident for almost three decades and raising (7) children, being involved in public and private school system and the body of Christ; I am blessed to be in this city for this long and serve you for these years. Council Member Glaize

said we do have a great staff; there are many in this city that work diligently. Do we have concerns; absolutely. She said there will be no nirvana on this earth, but we will continue to work hard to make this the best city that we can. Council Member Glaize asked for the support from the residents, business owners, clergy members and supporters. She spoke on her travels to Germany for the John J. McCloy Fellowship in September and said in Germany there is a group of people that stand united to move their country forward. She said Germany is 30 years in advance in technology, environmental, innovation and education; we want smart growth. She said she would like to see those things for Fairburn. She said health is extremely important to our community and said she would like to see pocket parks in the city where the residents can get out and walk. She also spoke on improving the Parks and Recreation programs and achieving those things the City Council has set out to do. When brethren dwell together in unity, God said there I have commanded the blessing. I say to you as we walk together unified on certain points that we are going to get there; we are going to achieve those things we set out to do. She went on to thank Mayor Avery, City Council, City Administrator Tom Barber and the entire City of Fairburn's staff. In closing, she said "We don't always agree, we don't always get alone, but we always do the work of the city". She thanked everyone for their support and coming out to the meeting.

Council Member Pallend thanked all of his supporters and those that came out to the meeting. He said he will do the best that he can. He said the city should run like a business. Council Member Pallend said we need to be fiscally strong, stable and pay attention to the budget and how we spend the city's money. If we do those things, it would make the City an interesting place for us and those who will come after us. He said he would like for the Council to stay focused on Oakley Industrial, Highway 74 and the downtown area. He said we are doing well here in Fairburn.

Council Member Portis-Jones welcomed the new members Pat Pallend and James Whitmore to the Council. She said we all want the same thing for Fairburn, but we may disagree or have differences on how to get there, but we all want the same thing. She went on to say we want a livable community because we live here we want the community to be inviting, we want to have fun, we want great sit down restaurants in the community and we want a fantastic Duncan Park. She said she and her husband have been in Fairburn since 1996. She said one of the things that stood out was Duncan Park and that she campaigned on restoring Duncan Park to a greater level. Council Member Portis-Jones said she has heard the citizens wanting to know about the swimming pool. She said the city has a lot going on, but there is a lot more we need to do. She thanked all of the city's staff for all of those things accomplished in 2015, but look forward to 2016. She closed by thanking all of the citizens and supporters for coming out tonight.

Mayor Avery thanked all of the State officials that were in attendance tonight. He said several pieces of legislation have helped the City of Fairburn accomplish a lot. He thanked the city staff and City Administrator Tom Barber for his leadership. He acknowledged Former Fairburn Mayor Betty Hannah, Greg Fann Sr., former City

Councilman of East Point, Fairburn Municipal Court Judge Monica Ewing and the City Attorney, Randy Turner. He also thanked everyone for coming to the meeting tonight.

XIII. ADJOURN:

Council Member Glaize made a motion to adjourn the meeting with Council Member Heath providing the second. **The motion carried.** The meeting adjourned at 8:38pm.

City Clerk, Brenda James

Mayor, Mario Avery