



**CITY OF FAIRBURN
City Council Meeting Minutes
City Hall
56 Malone Street
Fairburn, GA 30213
February 23, 2015
7:00 P.M.**

The Honorable Mayor Mario Avery

The Honorable Ron Alderman
The Honorable Elizabeth Hurst
The Honorable Lydia Glaize

The Honorable Alex Heath
The Honorable Marian Johnson
The Honorable Hattie Portis-Jones

City Administrator:
City Clerk:
City Attorney:

Mr. Tom B. Barber
Mrs. Brenda B. James
Mr. Randy Turner

- I. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: By Honorable Mario Avery.**
- II. ROLL CALL:** All Members of Council were present which constituted a quorum.
- III. INVOCATION:** Provided by Pastor Taylor.
- IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Recited in unison.
- V. PUBLIC COMMENTS:**
 1. Lavon Morris Grant, 4889 Triger Lane, Fairburn, GA. 30213, representative of Macosh Healing Network, announced their first Annual Conference, "Not So Sexy Issue", regarding domestic violence in the African American Community. She said the Conference will be Monday, March 30, 2015 at the Library on Enon Road. She said they are bringing in National Speakers and would like for the City of Fairburn to attend. She said Macosh Healing Network would also like to partner with the police on the Southside to work on prevention strategies throughout the Southside in conjunction with the City Council Members and Mayors regarding domestic violence. She said there are a lot of resources that need to be brought to the Southside from the City of Atlanta. She said they have chosen Fairburn as their Platform City. She distributed flyers

regarding the Conference and encouraged everyone to spread the word.

2. Marnessa P. Vital, 15 Kates Bridge, Newnan GA. 30263, Executive Director of GRASP Inc., said they are a 501C3 Non-Profit Organization and since 2006 they have served over 1000 students and parents in our High School College and Career Readiness Program. She said since 2012 they have served approximately five hundred students in this Community through the In-School-Suspension Step-by-Step Program. She said the recidivism rate is less than 9% and they have reduced the number of days students are out of school by 50%. She said in this program a student will serve from three to ten days out of school which will cut half the time so they can return back to the academic setting in a timely manner. As a contracted vendor with the Fulton County Board of Education they want the Mayor, City Council Members and the Stakeholders in the community to know that GRASP Inc. is here to serve as a dedicated transparent and accountable entity. She said January 22, 2015; there was a 2 year audit review of their finances and management of which they passed with a superior rating. She said GRASP Inc. has been offered to conduct their services in local counties as well as her home state of Ohio and in Virginia. She said they have a vested interest in the City of Fairburn and she hopes to be allowed to continue to service the City. She thanked Dr. D'Avante' Parks for his exceptional Black History Exhibit. She said she took several students over to the museum and they asked many questions.
3. Jaylin King, 3029405 Georgia Tech Station, Atlanta, GA. 30332 said a few months ago he was hired by a company called Young Entrepreneurs and this summer he will be running his very own business in the City of Fairburn. He said he has a painting company and through the internship he will be hiring student painters over the summer. He said he is asking for support from the community and Mayor and Council for he cannot do this by himself. He said he has spoken with Council Member Portis-Jones and Torri Martin. He said he has information regarding the business and was told to speak with Dr. D'Avante' Parks.
4. Lisa Elliott, 96 Greene Street NE, Fairburn, GA. 30213, said her family has been here since 1969 and spoke about the Black History Museum. She actually brought in some items from family members. She said it was such a wonderful exhibit. She thanked the City for the Museum.
5. Dr. Danny Allen, 230 Misty Walk, Fairburn, GA. 30213, spoke about the Black History Museum and said it was spectacular. He said on behalf of the South Fulton Little League he would like to thank the community for allowing them to serve. He said there are a number of challenges before us, however; we are going to make it quite a success in the City of Fairburn. He said the Opening Day for South Fulton Little League is March 28, 2015. He said traditionally the Mayor throws out the first pitch

but he is asking if Council Member Glaize could throw out the first pitch. Council Member Johnson asked if all of them will throw one out.

6. Rachel Davis, 600 Carlton Road, Apartment 130, Palmetto, GA. 30368, thanked the Mayor and Council for giving the children an opportunity at the Youth Center, Duncan Park and the Black History Museum to have something to do. She said growing up and seeing what has happened in the last couple of years gives her something positive to look forward to with her child. She said she has seen Mayor Avery so many times at Duncan Park and the Youth Center and she appreciates him taking the time to show his support to the young people because in a few years, the young people will be taking care of the older people. She said Dr. D'Avante' Parks does so much in the community and he treats her child like his own. She said the Football League had an Honorary Luncheon and out of twenty one students, sixteen of those students were from Duncan Park. She said they have A and B Honor Roll on second semester of last year and first semester of this year and it is very hard because the students have practice three nights a week but they do what they need to do to get the grades. She encouraged the Mayor and Council to keep having activities because movie nights during the summer took a load off her shoulders and she really appreciates everything.

VI. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA:

Council Member Glaize made a motion to approve the Agenda placing items 1 through 11 on Consent Agenda, items 12 through 16 remained on Regular Agenda. Council Member Alderman provided the second. **The motion carried.**

VII. APPROVED CONSENT ITEMS:

Council Member Hurst made a motion to approve Consent Items:

1. Approved the Renewal of Residential Sanitation Contract Extension with Waste Industries effective May 1, 2015, ending May 1, 2018.
2. Approval of the Group Health Insurance Contract with United Healthcare for a 12-month period, effective April 1, 2015 for their ZIR/UG Employee Health.
3. Approval of the Employee Insurance Contributions and Conditions for the 2015-16-Plan Year beginning April 1, 2015.
4. Approval of the 100% Health Insurance Deductible Reimbursement of the participant's in-network deductible expense incurred for medical claims, and zero percent of out-of-network medical claims for the 2015-16 Plan

Year.

5. Approved the Agreement between the City of Fairburn and the South Fulton Little League for use of the Fields and Facilities at Duncan Park during the year of 2015.
6. Approved the Revision of the Tree Bank Ordinance Chapter 74, Article II, Section 74-40(2).
7. Approved the Amendment to the Tree Protection Ordinance Chapter 74, Article II Section 74-34.
8. Approval of the Task Order 2015.112 with Integrated Science & Engineering for Malone Circle and Washington Street Sewer Rehab Design in an estimated amount of \$33,920.00.
9. Approval of the Task Order 2015.113 with Integrated Science & Engineering for the Sanitary Sewer Inflow & Infiltration Study in an estimated amount of \$31,160.00.
10. Approved the Resolution Supporting the Application to the Georgia Downtown Renaissance Partnership.
11. Approved the Purchase of the Ford F-250 Crew Cab Truck for the Fire Department from Virgil Ford-Lincoln Government Sales for an amount not to exceed \$24,078.00.

Council Member Glaize provided the second. **The motion carried.**

VIII. APPROVAL OF CITY COUNCIL MINUTES: Council Minutes of February 9, 2015

Council Member Alderman made a motion to approve the Council Minutes of February 9, 2015. Council Member Heath made a correction on page 10 under his comment; change 8 complaints to 6 complaints. Council Member Hurst made corrections on page 4, under item 3; second paragraph change the word and to a; and on page 5, under item 4; fifth sentence, delete the word up; and on page 6; under item 6; last sentence in the first paragraph take out the word is; and change the word recommended to recommending; and on page 8, under item 7, second paragraph; change the word ten thousand dollars to one thousand dollars; and on page 9, under second paragraph, fifth sentence; change the word residence to residents. Council Member Heath provided the second. **The motion carried.**

IX. APPROVAL OF AGENDA ITEMS:

12. Purchase of 2016 Ford Explorer Pursuit Vehicles for the Police Department

Council Member Heath made a motion to approve the purchase of 2016 Ford Explorer Pursuit Vehicles for the Police Department from Wade Ford for \$79,719.00 with Council Member Johnson providing the second.

Council Member Heath asked is there a reason the Police Department is going to the Ford Explorers as opposed to the other patrol cars. Chief McCarthy said yes, the vehicle has more room and they are all wheel drive during inclement weather. He said they are for supervisors only.

Council Member Glaize asked if any cars will be surplused as a result of purchasing new vehicles. Chief McCarthy said yes, some of them will be surplused or auctioned. He said at this time some of the officers are going to the Police Academy and he would like to allocate some of the cars to go with them.

Council Member Portis-Jones said over the past year there have been numerous requests for police cars and she has lost track. She asked Chief McCarthy if he could tell her who the cars are for and which ones are being replaced. Chief McCarthy said yes, every officer is assigned a car and they are on call 24/7. He said he has an extra 4 or 5 cars for those officers whenever they are put in the shop for any length of time. He said all of his detectives and officers have cars. Council Member Portis-Jones asked why we purchased so many cars this year. Mayor Avery said during the time the fleet of police cars was being overhauled is when the new Council Members came into office.

Chief McCarthy said they purchase cars once a year. The inventory is 5 or 6 vehicles and every officer has a car.

Council Member Portis-Jones asked if a spreadsheet could be provided for the inventory of the police cars.

Mayor Avery said some old police cars are still being used. He asked if we have any that are being rotated out of service. Chief McCarthy said yes, we do have some that are rotated out of service and we are behind schedule getting them on GovDeals.

Council Member Heath asked about the mileage on the cars that are surplused. Chief McCarthy said the minimum mileage is from 80,000 to 120,000 miles. Council Member Heath asked when do we get rid of a car with high miles. Chief McCarthy said when they accumulate 80,000 miles we should look at the administrative function and 100,000 miles we should get rid of them. **After discussion, the motion Carried.**

13. Purchase of 2015 Ford F-150 Super Cab Truck for Code Enforcement

Council Member Heath made a motion to approve the purchase of a 2015 Ford F-150 Super Cab Work Truck from Vigil Ford-Lincoln in the amount of \$21,245.00 for the Code Enforcement Department with Council Member Johnson providing the second.

Council Member Hurst asked if some of the employees were using their personal cars with the emblem on the side. Chief McCarthy said no. Council Member Hurst said she saw a young lady from Code Enforcement in a Ford Escape. Chief McCarthy said that vehicle was originally purchased for Rita Fernandes when she was employed at the City. Mr. Stokes said the car belongs to the Police Department and it is an unmarked car and the truck replaces the car.

Council Member Portis-Jones asked what does surplus mean, does it mean to sell the vehicle. Chief McCarthy said yes.

Council Member Johnson asked about cars being purchased for the Code Enforcement Department. Chief McCarthy explained that the Crown Victorias are passed down from the Police Department to the Code Enforcement Department and they just started purchasing vehicles. Council Member Johnson asked how many cars are assigned to Code Enforcement. Chief McCarthy said 4 and an extra car in the event one is in the shop. **After discussion, the motion carried.**

14. Lease Agreement with Atlanta Technical College for the Administration Building

Mr. Barber gave an overview of the Agreement with Atlanta Technical College to approve a 4 month Lease Agreement with no rental fee and charge ½ of the utilities which are currently being paid 100% by GMC. He said the City will maintain control of the conference room on the top floor. So after the introductory period from March through June, they would pay 14.00 per sq. ft. lease rate for 6000 sq. ft. for the rest of 2015. He said he hopes we can build out the bottom floor and work up a floor plan to rent the third classroom building to them and they move and occupy the space for January 1, 2016.

Council Member Glaize made a motion to approve the Lease Agreement with Atlanta Technical College with the Administration Building for a ten-month period beginning March 1, 2015 with Council Member Heath providing the second.

Council Member Hurst asked for clarification regarding Atlanta Technical

College paying ½ of the utilities in that building. She asked how much are the utilities running. Mr. Barber said no, he is assuming we will be paying a part of the utilities. He said right now GMC is paying all the utilities and in return of that they get to use the whole building without rent. He said when this deal goes into place GMC will use 1/3 of the building and GMC will pay 1/3 of the utilities; and we will pay the difference. He said Atlanta Technical College's Accreditation is due in the fall and one of the components of their review is whether they have a remote operation running as of May, 2015.

Council Member Johnson asked if they have access from the lower level. Mr. Barber said yes, Harvey is going to remove the handle from the 2nd floor stairwell door to prevent access into GMC.

Council Member Hurst said we need to be prepared for issues with GMC when Atlanta Technical College arrives.

Council Member Portis-Jones asked about the renewal term of 45 days for notification on page 2, Article 4 of the contract and said that is a very narrow window and is it standard. Attorney Turner said he has no objection of 45 to 60 days. Council Member Glaize said the shorter the window the better.

Mayor Avery thanked the staff and Council Member Glaize for all they have done to get Atlanta Technical College. He said he agrees with Council Member Hurst there will be problems with GMC. He said once we got rid of the non-compete clause, GMC knew they would experience some discomfort, however; if we can help Atlanta Technical College be successful with their accreditation this will be good for the City of Fairburn.

Council Member Portis-Jones asked Council Member Glaize why this relationship is important with Atlanta Technical College and how will it benefit the City; and the student population in particular.

Council Member Glaize said the newest class is Economics of Education. She said when you have an educated population you have a working population that can pay taxes and buy houses. She said this means you have an economically viable city. She said it took the non-compete clause from GMA to start having some good dialog. She said it took relationship building because we did have some repairing between Atlanta Technical College and our City. She said it takes vision, you cannot have a technical college everywhere and we are in their areas. She said there are 5 public high schools between here and East Point and the graduation rate is from 60 to 72% and that means there is a dropout rate of almost 30%. She said those folks are coming back into our community without skills and a GED

and without a high school education which contributes to poverty, low wages and low annual salaries. She said businesses attracted to this area will not come. She said the GED Program will start in March and there will be 3 Certification Programs that will consist of Safe Serve, Warehousing and there is a third program. She said she believes we are going to grow our relationship and our programming in this community with our children in the high schools of the entire South Metro Area. She thanked Mayor Avery, City Administrator Tom Barber, Atlanta Technical College and Georgia Military College. She said moving forward we are going to have to make better relationships because if you anticipate a problem you can anticipate a resolution. Mr. Barber said you cannot overstate the benefit of having a Council Member who can speak with them about education. He said we are subsidizing \$430,000 per year and we need the revenue.

Council Member Portis-Jones said this past week some of them attended the South Metro Economic Outlook at the Georgia International Convention Center and they had several panelists that were talking about the film industry here in Georgia and the Metro Area. She said our neighbor, Mayor Williams of Union City was on the panel and he was talking about the film and production studio that is coming to the City and some opportunities. She said there was also an individual on the panelist from Clayton State who runs their Educational Program to educate people for production jobs related to the industry and they receive certificates within a 6 to 9 month window. She said she had an opportunity to speak with the individual and as a City we need to have a conversation on how to bring some of that programming to Fairburn through GMC or Atlanta Technical College. She said she sees a window for us to educate our workforce for the high paying jobs that they are tallying from the film industry perspective but the window is short and we need to respond quickly and get educated as to what those opportunities are and she would like to speak with the Mayor, Council and the City Manager regarding what steps we should explore in the future for this opportunity. She said she applauds the effort and this is the first step for us to educate our workforce. **After discussion, the motion carried.**

15. Discussion of Monthly Concert Series at the Stage

Mayor Avery said one of the things we need to consider when we are considering Ron Simpson to contract with us is that he has an affiliation with similar concepts to conduct shows at the City of Riverdale's Amphitheater. Mr. Barber said none of Mr. Simpson's facilities are similar to ours because his venues are bigger, however; Riverdale, Fayetteville and Marietta are some of the ones he has done. He said the advantage for us is he also consulted with us during the design of the stage.

Council Member Glaize asked why we are considering bringing in a third party for a venue that is a fifth of the size of the venues that he works with when we already have an event planner to do the concert series. She said the concert series in the past were budgeted around \$1,100 to \$1,500 and the event planner has already done this before. She asked if some of the bond money is being used for the events. Mr. Barber said the stage is partially bond money and partially hotel motel tax. She said she thought the concert series would be free and open to give the citizens some gratification and satisfaction of participating by being in a place that is paid for. She said she did not think we would be having 6 to 8 concerts at a cost of \$5000 each and paying a third party for any additional fees. She said it would be very costly and it was not in the budget. She said she needs more clarification. Mr. Barber said Dr. D'Avante' Parks can do anything, however; he cannot do everything. He said he does not want to burn Dr. Parks out because these events would require a Venue Manager who would work at night. He said he has a vision for the stage and his vision is to drive business into the downtown area; and to do that we will need to have more than a once a month or once a year event. He said we have to drive more volume to the restaurants for them to be successful and this would encourage other restaurants to come in the city. He said if we get Dr. Parks to host events every week he will have to be replaced because it would kill him. He said he feels obligated to protect Dr. Parks from himself because he will take on anything we can think of and he will do it. Mayor Avery said he has spoken with the Mayor in the City of Riverdale and he has went and observed how they utilize their stage; and they have a huge turnout with their events. He said they host events approximately 2 or 3 weekends out of the month and one of the things he had to take into account is no offense to Dr. Parks or his previous Executive Assistant Ellen Samuels because what they have done is suitable, however; the kind of talent we are talking about bringing in we must have professional help. He said he is looking at the time he spends talking to vendors and different governments about the Festival and he knows Dr. Parks works more than forty hours a week, especially this time of year. He said we are trying to bring viable options and if we are going to protect this City and bring the downtown area to another level we have to do things different. Mr. Barber said this is not a decision that has to be made this year, however; Mr. Simpson's idea for the stage is that it needs to be a splash to get people to come to a venue that no one has ever heard of and with that being said he advocate a no ticket to start with but if we do it that way we will never ticket the place. He said we have the potential to sell corporate sponsorships and paying for them.

Council Member Hurst said we are looking at proposed 6 part series at \$5000 per event for the performers. Mr. Barber said that is what Mr. Simpson has recommended, however; we can budget less. Council Member Hurst said we have not discussed Mr. Simpson's fee and asked

what his fee is going to be. Mr. Barber said the \$5,000 is for the performance and Mr. Simpson's fee to operate the lights and sound system. He said we would pay for staffing the restrooms, the cleaning of the bathrooms and security. Council Member Hurst said this is a lot to take in tonight and she is not prepared to make a decision tonight. Mr. Barber said if we want to use the stage by April, we cannot wait until March 23, 2015. Mayor Avery said we have a pastor who is asking to use the venue for Easter Sunrise Services, however; in this case if Council feels they need to hold off to getting more information, he does not want us to go off course.

Council Member Heath asked if the upper deck of the building beside the stage was leased to S. J. Collins. Mr. Barber said no, just the patio. He said the patio is on the bottom and the deck is on the top. He said the deck is ours and S. J. Collins subleases the patio to Oz Restaurant.

Council Member Johnson asked about the community groups and if they are different from hiring someone we are trying to bring in. Mr. Barber said yes.

Council Member Portis-Jones said from hearing the nature of these questions we really need to have a strategic plan. She said it is very costly and these are proposals from other specific staff or cities with amphitheaters. She said she would like to hear what is an initial year proposal and if there are some compromises. She said the amphitheater is new to the City of Fairburn and we need to know how to operate it because if we don't, how will we know what to expect from a vendor. She said she is glad Mr. Barber brought this for discussion, however; we need to plan this for next year or the following year. She said this is too much too soon for this year.

Council Member Johnson said she does not believe we can wait that long, we have to get something going and she does not consider this an amphitheater because it is not big enough. She said she would think this is a plaza.

Council Member Glaize said this discussion should not be in a meeting where we are on the clock because we need more time to think. She said we should have a meeting where we can bring together ideas and involve the public and residents with ideas instead of giving us an April deadline. She said we have a Recreation Committee and she would like to get the Event Coordinator, Dr. Park's input.

Council Member Heath said he knows we are trying to protect Dr. Parks, however; he would like to know if he could oversee the stage this first year. He said after the first year we could get someone to help him. Dr.

Parks said yes. Council Member Heath said to get this going and to see the participation from the citizens; he would like to see our City get acquainted with one another.

Council Member Johnson said we were not asked to make a decision tonight it was only a discussion. She said the sound system will cost some money even if we get Dr. Parks to do it.

Council Member Alderman said he asked Dr. Parks if he has someone else to bring in their own sound system. Dr. Parks said yes. Council Member Alderman said we should allow Dr. Parks to do it this year, however; he does like the idea Mr. Simpson has about the venue. He said we should look at other venues and try to find out what to do; and suggested we should do it in house this year until we can come up with a better solution.

Mayor Avery said we need enough members of Council and Dr. Parks to be able to get the information together and plan as to how we will do this.

16. Discussion of Stage Rental Fees

Council Member Glaize made a motion to move the Stage Rental Fee on the Agenda with two full time people in the rest rooms. Council Member Johnson provided the second.

Council Member Portis-Jones asked about the Rental Fee Schedule under the category for the schools and churches and all others for the cleaning fee. She asked why we would not need it, should this be standard. Mr. Barber said they will be charged the cleaning deposit and if they clean it up they will receive their deposit back and if they don't we will keep the deposit and clean it up. Council Member Portis-Jones asked if the fee was adequate enough. Mr. Barber said yes, other organizations are doing the same thing and he plan to have two people in the restrooms. Mayor Avery said Coach James Berry has a person who does a great job cleaning the restrooms and last season during a tournament at Duncan Park he actually observed the restrooms being cleaned 3 times within an hour; and he could not believe the condition the public did to the ladies' restroom.

Council Member Hurst asked if the Stage Rental Fees are \$600 for non-residents and \$400 for residents up to 5 hours; and who will monitor this. Mr. Barber said yes, the fees are correct and we will have to get someone from the City to monitor this, however; we will eventually need a Venue Manager for nights and weekends that can setup and take down at the events. Council Member Hurst said if no one is there they will stay as long as they want to stay. She asked about the length of time it will take for the setup and takedown. Dr. Parks said 1 hour is allowed to setup, 3 hours for the event and 1 hour to clean up. He said the cleanup could take all night

depending on whether there is another event scheduled.

Council Member Johnson asked if this is just for the use of the stage. Dr. Parks said we are considering a P. A. System but not amplified music.

Council Member Glaize asked if there is an opportunity for off duty police officers to secure the start and the end to be compensated until we get enough events.

Mayor Avery asked if this will be a situation with the police officers hourly rate of pay. Chief McCarthy said yes and no, it depends on whether it is someone who contracts with a police officer or the police department; or whether it is an off duty police officer who would be paid time and a half.

Council Member Portis-Jones asked what is the downside for off duty officers for us to contract with them. Chief McCarthy said the officer would be paid overtime.

Council Member Glaize said there are so many opportunities for this type of venue. She said Landmark could use it for graduation and award nights and she agrees with Mr. Barber, we will need a venue manager but we have an option to use someone on the inside to get started. She said we should get the pricing voted on and the two individuals who would like to use the venue can do so. She said we could use the off duty police officer if this is going to be done quickly.

Council Member Johnson asked if the \$600 and \$400 fees include the staff for the restrooms. Mr. Barber said this is only the rental fees however; the contract will include the staff fees.

Council Member Hurst asked if we have to carry some type of liability insurance at the stage in the event someone is hurt. Mr. Barber said it is a part of our insurance coverage.

City Attorney Randy Turner said it may be a good thing to add under user responsibility, providing security for your venue. He said we should enter into a contract whereas the contractor can transfer much of the risk over to a third party.

Council Member Hurst said we may have to pay an additional liability fee for that area down at the plaza because we should not have to eat the insurance to cover someone else who is having the event. Attorney Turner said we are renewing our insurance program and we could ask the broker about the insurance coverage. Mr. Barber said we also need to add EMS.

Council Member Portis-Jones said she is concerned how we are making large decisions that put the City at risk and have not had time to talk through these and we should have had a copy of a contract from other venues. She said we should not make decisions of the overall use of the venue because we were only going to decide for the two individuals who would like to use the venue in the near future.

After much discussion, the motion passed to bring the Rental Fees to the floor to vote. Council Members Glaize, Alderman, Johnson, Heath and Hurst voted “Yes” and Council Member Portis-Jones voted “No”.

Council Member Alderman made a motion to adopt the Rental Fee Schedule and with Council Member Heath providing the second.

Council Member Alderman amended his motion to adopt the Fee Schedule and add security and EMS with Council Member Heath providing the second.

Council Member Glaize made a substitute motion to hold the adoption of the Fee Schedule with Council Member Portis-Jones providing the second. **Council Member Glaize withdrew her substitute motion.**

Council Member Portis-Jones made a substitute motion to establish a fee for Open Word Church for the Easter Sunrise Service and for the bride’s wedding including security and EMS. Council Member Johnson provided the second. **The motion carried.**

X. MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Council Member Alderman said he feels good about the United Health Care Plan. He thanked the lady who spoke on recreation. He said he had two children who grew up in Fairburn and they had a lot going on at Duncan Park and he hopes we have additional activities there for the children in the near future. He announced that Collin Grier of Landmark Christian School was in the State Wrestling Championship in Macon and finished second in the State at 132 lbs. He said the Grier family is known for wrestling.

Council Member Heath had no comments.

Council Member Hurst congratulated D’Avante’ Parks on the Black History Museum. She said it was phenomenal and very organized. She said he never ceases to amaze her. She said there was a lot of collaboration with him getting the things he needed for the artifacts and she made sure she called him this morning to get her items back. She said it was an excellent job. She invited everyone to attend the first Listen Learn and Lead Forum scheduled for March 21, 2015. She asked if everyone will keep their ears and eyes open for the

venue listed in the neighbor's newspaper. She wished everyone a great week. She said today has not been a very good day for her but through it all things work out as the master plans it. She thanked the Mayor for bringing his picture to the Black History Museum.

Council Member Glaize said Dr. Parks did a great job with the African American Museum. She said it is amazing how well Dr. Parks did in such a short length of time. She thanked him and those who collaborated with him to make the Museum a success. She said he is such a great leader and he has unearthed another part of who he is and what he brings to the city. She said she wanted to make a public apology regarding what she said at the last meeting that the GRASP Program was aired on television. She said it was the Long Term Suspension Program at the County level and it has nothing to do with the GRASP Program because the GRASP Program is a Short Term Program. She offered her apologies to Manresa Vital and the GRASP Program. She thanked the parent and her son who came and spoke on recreation, Dr. Allen who spoke on the South Fulton Little League, Ms. Morris Grant who spoke on women in domestic violence, Ms. Elliott who spoke on the youth's activities and the City Attorney Randy Turner.

Council Member Johnson said some important business has been taken care of tonight.

Council Member Portis-Jones said she echoes what has been said about the Black History Museum. She said there were a lot of people who heard about the museum and there were some people who did not know about it. So next year, we want to increase our advertisement. She said the Museum is needed, wanted and now it is going to be expected. She congratulated the Fire Department, Interim Fire Chief Hood and Former Fire Chief Weller for the ISO Rating. She said that is a benefit for both the businesses and the residents. She said the ISO Rating should be added in the Newsletter and the South Fulton Neighbor. She thanked Rachel Davis for her comments about youth recreation and Mr. King a young entrepreneur for coming to the City, and all who spoke. She congratulated the Grier family, a wrestling legacy and that speaks volumes about the youth. She congratulated her pastor Dr. Hart on his Tenth Year Anniversary at St. John AME Church on last week. She said the message from the guest Pastor Elder Berry Hudson was about the youth. He said if a church does not have youth involved it is a church destined to die. So with the youth engaged in her church as well as all the churches in the City of Fairburn, we have a bright future and for that she thanks you.

Mayor Avery thanked Dr. Parks for the Black Art Museum and everyone who assisted him with the Museum. He congratulated Pastor Hart for his Tenth Year Anniversary Service and said he is a great man. He announced the City Council Retreat will be on Saturday at 8:30am and they will leave City Hall at 7:45am. He announced there will be a Fit-N-Run at 8:00am at Duncan Park on

Rivertown Road and encouraged everyone to come and support the event. He announced the First Youth Leadership Academy. He said the students were very impressed by the staff. He thanked Torri Martin and D'Avante' Parks who assisted putting the Academy together.

XI. ADJOURN COUNCIL MEETING:

Council Member Alderman made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:15pm with Council Member Heath providing the second. **The motion carried.**

Brenda B. James City Clerk

Mario Avery, Mayor