



**CITY OF FAIRBURN
City Council Meeting Minutes
City Hall
56 Malone Street
Fairburn, GA 30213
January 26, 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 Council Member Glaize.
- IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGEANCE:** Recited in unison.
- V. PRESENTATIONS:**

Council Member Glaize thanked her colleague Ron Alderman who serves on the Education Board for Georgia Municipal Association. She said GMA has made a lot of changes to the classes and they are very pertinent to City Government. She said Council Member Alderman has served on the board for quite some time and she is very proud of him; and to be serving with him in the same City. She commended him for all the work he has done for education and training. She congratulated Council Member Hattie Portis-Jones for developing a portfolio of 42 credits and receiving a Certificate of Recognition. She said we thank God for the work she has put in this year. She said Council Member Hurst serves as a Board Member for the National League of Cities and she always make sure we have a presence on the National level; and we will be in Washington, D. C. in a couple of weeks. She commended Council Member Alex Heath who goes and participates in the classes. She thanked Mayor Avery for sitting in on the Ethics class at the Mayor's Day Conference and said it was an honor to be in class with the Mayor. She thanked all her

colleagues for serving in their capacities and for those who will continue to move forward in their pursuit in learning how to govern better.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

1. Homer Knight, 148 Durham Lake Parkway, Fairburn, GA. 30213, thanked the Mayor and Council for serving and said they are doing a fantastic job. He said he is the new president of the Durham Lakes Home Owners Association. He introduced the Vice President Orlanda King, who has been a resident for 7 years, Secretary Greg Sanders, who has been a resident for 8 years, Treasurer Rufus Wells, who has been a resident for 4 years; and Mark Smith, who was not present. He said we are here to work with the City and our community. He said we want to partner with the City and build one hundred homes this year in a price range from \$300,000.00 to \$400,000.00. He said we are putting together a team of real-estate agencies, developers and contractors to sell homes. He said we are working to move the Durham Lakes forward to make this City a better place.
2. Leigh Ann Green, 475 Swanson Road, Tyrone, GA. 30290, said she represents 255 lots in the Brookhaven and Durham Lakes Subdivision. She said there are several builders who are ready to come in the community. She said she is happy to be here in support of the City and to help in any way she can. She introduced Reggie Jackson who is an investment builder. Mr. Jackson said he is excited and looks forward to coming into the community. Council Member Glaize asked what is the name of the company and he said the name of the company is Compass Contracting from Athens, Georgia. Council Member Portis-Jones asked what is the price range for the homes they plan to build. Ms. Green said they will be in the mid- three hundred thousands. Council Member Glaize said she knows there are a variety of schools in the City, however; Landmark Christian School is a private school and it is a great school. She said it should be noted as one of the schools of choices.

VII. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:

Council Member Heath made a motion to adopt the Agenda placing items 1, 2, 4 and 5 on Consent Agenda and remove item #3. Council Member Glaize provided the second. **The motion carried.**

VIII. APPROVAL OF CONSENT ITEMS:

Council Member Hurst made a motion to approve the following Consent Items:

1. Approval of the Professional Services Agreement with Mauldin &

Jenkins, LLC in the amount of \$35,000.00 for the 2014 Fiscal Year Regular Audit and Single Audit.

2. Approval of the Change Order #3 with Preswick Companies in the amount of \$31,956.11 for Improvements surrounding the Manor on Broad Street.
4. Approved to Amend Task Order 2014-01 with T-Squared Solutions in the amount of \$30,000.00 for the 2015 Calendar Year.
5. Approval of the Task Order #13 with Moreland Altobelli Associates, Inc. in the amount of \$18,000.00 for Right-of-Way Acquisition on Bohannon Road.

Council Member Portis-Jones provided the second. **The motion carried.**

IX. APPROVAL OF THE COUNCIL MINUTES: Council Minutes of January 12, 2015 Meeting

Council Member Portis-Jones made a motion to approve the Minutes of January 12, 2015 with Council Member Glaize providing the second. **The motion carried.**

X. MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Council Member Portis-Jones said Council Member Glaize complimented all her colleagues for their achievements and forgot to pat herself on the back. She said Council Member Glaize received a Certificate of Achievement for 42 credits from GMA. She said this is the last meeting for Gene Fritz and she has enjoyed working with him this past year; and appreciates how much he has done for the City of Fairburn. She said he will be missed and she hopes he will be leaving us with a Transition Succession Plan. She thanked Mr. Fritz for his years of service.

Council Member Johnson said we will miss Gene Fritz and his presence; and wished him the best of luck in his retirement. She said her birthday is Wednesday and she has lived in Fairburn since 1959. She said she grew up in a small farm community in Illinois, with a two room school. She said her father was a fifth through eighth grade teacher and he was her teacher. She said her mother was a music teacher. Council Member Johnson said she is still playing music at the church and has been involved with Children, PTA, Scouts, little league, dancing and tennis for over forty years. She said she has been on the Council for 12 years. She said she is in her third term and she served one year to fill the seat of Gene Wiggins. She said her heart and soul is in Fairburn. She said she has forty years in the theater and she intends to be here a while.

Council Member Glaize wished Council Member Johnson a happy birthday and said it is an honor to hear her story. She thanked her for the work she does and said we appreciate her. She said it has been a pleasure to work with Gene Fritz for twelve months and said anyone who does excellent work will always be missed. She wished him much joy and success in his retirement. She announced David Scott is putting on a special presentation on February 7, 2015 and every year he recognizes all military nominees. She said she would like to report that Fairburn has two children who have potential appointments to the academy which are Thomas McMurray, Naval Academy and Cortrey Gilliam, U. S. Coast Guard. She said these are hardworking young people doing great things. She thanked Harvey Stokes for the upgrade to keep Duncan Park clean. She asked Tim Cox and Tom Barber when we would get updates for Duncan Park and the Walking trail.

Council Member Hurst wished Council Member Johnson a happy birthday and wished her many more. She congratulated Council Member Glaize and Portis-Jones on their Certificate of Achievement from GMA. She said this was the first time in seven years that she has not gone to GMA. She said she loves GMA, it is a good organization and you learn a lot. She said she was in Alabama attending a Missionary Conference where she sits as an Area Superintendent. She said she was doing the work of the Lord instead of the work for the City. She said goodbye to Gene Fritz and said it has been a fantastic seven years working with him; and he will be missed. She said she hopes whoever we hire will be able to at least fill one of his shoes because both shoes are going to be hard to fill. She wished him good luck in his retirement and to go out and enjoy himself. She thanked everyone for coming to the meeting and said Chief Hood is doing a fantastic job. She thanked Council Member Ron Alderman for serving on the GMA Board.

Council Member Heath wished Council Member Johnson a happy birthday. He said this is the type of atmosphere that he cherishes with his fellow Council Members. He said we may agree to disagree at times but there is more time that we come together; and we do things without any animosity. He said some are here because they want to be here and we have great leadership. He said Council Member Portis-Jones and Council Member Glaize are great. He commended the City Administrator and said when he went in office in 2010, a lot of things were going on that were not being told to us appropriately. He said now he has the satisfaction of knowing that because he has seen such a turnaround in our finances, that we now have reserves. He said he attended an Emergency Management Class a few days ago and he was appalled at some of the cities that have experienced some of the things that have taken place at other cities such as floods; and planes crashing into buildings. He said these are some of the things we do not think about. He said the Fireman and Policeman put their lives in jeopardy in these situations and this is why he is so supportive of the Fire and Police Department. He said Chief Hood is being watched and so far everything is great. He said Captain

Vernal Sutherland went through the FBI Academy. He thanked City Attorney Randy Turner and said he does not know what we would do if it was not for him. He said he still do not know what MEAG means. Council Member Alderman said it means Municipal Electric Authority of Georgia. He said Gene Fritz will be thoroughly missed. He said Mr. Fritz was a Flight Engineer at Eastern Airlines and to go from that to being a Utility Director is completely different. He said being a pilot is the ultimate but he is glad Mr. Fritz made the decision to come and work for the city. He said he appreciates everything Mr. Fritz has done.

Council Member Alderman said he was glad Council Member Johnson had another birthday. He said he believes in education and he has three college degrees. He said he has been on the GMA Education Committee for 5 years and we have made a lot of changes with the 3 hour classes. He said the classes are scheduled at the Savannah Conference from Friday to Tuesday. He said there is no limitation on the Critical Issue Classes or the Mobile Workshops and now you can take as many as you like; and still get credit. He said we are going back to the Taste of Savannah this year because a lot of people were rained out last year and more hotels will be added. He said he believes a lot of good things are going to happen. He said he remembers when he received all 4 of his Certificates on a State level and it was very exciting. He congratulated Council Member Portis-Jones and Council Member Glaize for their Certificates of Achievements. He said Council Member Portis-Jones was appointed to the Federal Policy Council. He said he is excited to see his people get involved in different areas and for Council Member Hurst working the way she does with the NLC. He said Gene Fritz will be missed and he wished him a great retirement.

Mayor Avery commended the Council Members who received their certificates. He said the City is represented and Council Member Elizabeth Hurst and Council Member Ron Alderman are members of Board. He said there is a class called Money, Money, Money and they used the City of Fairburn's Downtown Area as an example. He said there is a luncheon with MEAG regarding policy issues with energy that is going through legislature. He said there was a meeting today with all the Mayors and Commissioners of Fulton County. He said they discussed how to spend more time learning how to keep from taking each other to court. He thanked Gene Fritz for his years of service. He said the City is being talked about all over the nation. Georgia has the biggest delegation in the U. S. Conference at the White House. He said the Ethic Class at GMA was one of the greatest classes he has ever taken. He wished Council Member Johnson a happy birthday. He said David Scott will be hosting a special presentation for students to receive Military Service Awards. He said he is an Atlanta native and he encouraged everyone to watch the Atlanta Hawks game tonight.

Council Member Portis-Jones wished Council Member Johnson a happy

birthday.

Gene Fritz thanked the Mayor and Council for letting him serve at the City. He said it has been a pleasure to work with staff and he noticed the only people left who were here when he came is his good friend Harvey Stokes and Chief Hood who now holds another position. He said it has been fun trying to keep up with Mr. Barber. He introduced his wife Carol Fritz.

Council Member Alderman announced that Council Member Alex Heath is a Member of the Public Safety and Crime Prevention Committee with NLC and said he appreciates all the work he has done.

XI. ADJOURN COUNCIL MEETING:

Council Member Alderman made a motion to recess and go into Executive Session at 7:45 pm to discuss a personnel matter with Council Member Glaize providing the second. **The motion carried.**

Brenda B. James City Clerk

Mario Avery, Mayor