



**CITY OF FAIRBURN  
City Council Meeting Minutes  
City Hall  
56 Malone Street  
Fairburn, GA 30213  
January 27, 2014  
7:00 P.M.**

The Honorable Mayor Mario Avery

The Honorable Ron Alderman  
The Honorable Alex Heath  
The Honorable Marian Johnson

The Honorable Lydia Glaize  
The Honorable Elizabeth Hurst  
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. PUBLIC COMMENTS:**
  1. Rikuhel Nakamura, 15 Somerset Hills, Fairburn, GA., spoke about a sewage problem he is having and asked for assistance from the City. He said the odor is worse on cold days. He said this is an environmental issue.
  2. Horace Cooper, 880 Buckingham Cove, Fairburn, GA., thanked the City for allowing the Homeowners Association of the Parks at Durham Lakes to hold their meeting at City Hall on January 28, 2014. He said this will be an information meeting regarding the high rate of rental properties and what can be done to stop large companies from coming in purchasing property and renting them. He said other cities have fought this by adoption of ordinances.
  3. Sandra Grant, 818 Hartstone Court, Fairburn, GA., spoke on harassment and bullying toward her and her family.
  4. Olivia Grant, 818 Hartstone Court, Fairburn, GA., spoke on harassment and bullying toward her and her mother.

#### **IV. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:**

Council Member Alderman made a motion to adopt the Agenda placing items 1, 3, 4, 5, 7 and 9 on a Consent Agenda with Council Member Glaize providing the second.

Council Member Alderman made a motion to approve the Consent Items:

1. Legal Organ for the City of Fairburn for 2014
3. Appointments to the Development Authority and the Downtown Development Authority
4. Appointments to the Fairburn Ethics Board
5. Protective Clothing Replacement Purchase
6. 800 MHz Radio System User License Agreement
7. Purchase of 3-Reel Trailer for Electric Department
9. Professional Services Agreement with Mauldin & Jenkins for FY2013 Audit

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

#### **V. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:** Minutes of December 30, 2013 and January 27, 2014

Council Member Alderman made a motion to approve the Minutes of December 30, 2013 with Council Member Johnson providing the second. Council Member Portis-Jones recused herself because she was not on Council at the time of the meeting. **The motion carried.**

Council Member Johnson made a motion to approve the Minutes of January 27, 2014 with Council Member Heath providing the second. **The motion carried.**

#### **VI. APPROVAL OF AGENDA ITEMS:**

1. Approval of the Mayor's Appointments.

Mayor Avery said he was removing the appointment of Landscape Architect, Rick Sewell from the agenda item. Council Member Alderman made a motion to approve the appointments of Brenda James, City Clerk, Chip McCarthy as Police Chief and Randy Turner, Turner & Ross as the

City Attorney with Council Member Glaize providing the second. **The motion carried.**

8. Resolution by the Mayor and City Council to Support Legislation to Increase the City of Fairburn Hotel/Motel Tax to 8% and Propose Upon Approval of Such Legislation the Tax be Implemented in Accordance with Applicable Law

Council Member Heath made a motion to approve the Resolution to authorize the City Administrator in consultation with the City Attorney to pursue changes and take steps to obtain amendments to the City Charter and other laws applicable for the four purposes listed. Council Member Johnson provided the second.

Council Member Glaize asked that the conversation be continued regarding what projects there will be with the extra tax.

Council Member Alderman wanted to know the intention of adding the baseball/softball fields. Mr. Barber said this item was approved by the Mayor and Council and sent to the legislators and it never went through because we did not list anything to use the extra tax funds on. So we had to put something in this time. He said it should be used for tourism.

Council Member Glaize asked once they decide on the specific projects will they need to go back to the legislators. City Attorney Randy Turner said no.

Council Member Portis-Jones said during the discussion it was stated that a certain percentage must be used for tourism. She said she would like the City of Fairburn to explore using the Atlanta Convention and Visitors Bureau for comparison to what a Professional Services Contract might provide. Mayor Avery said an agency like the Atlanta Convention and Visitors Bureau has such a wide range when it comes to marketing and that is why it should be looked at.

Council Member Glaize said she would like to have meetings around the community to get feedback from the citizens. Council Member Johnson said there are town hall meetings coming up and maybe we could include this information in them also.

**After much discussion, the motion carried.**

## **VII. COMMENTS BY MAYOR AND COUNCIL:**

Council Member Alderman said he was glad to see the citizens out tonight and he looks forward to working with the two new Council Members.

Council Member Heath thanked everyone for coming to the meeting. He thanked the employees in advance for what they will be doing because it appears the weather is going to get very bad.

Council Member Hurst said she is looking forward to working with the new Council Members. She said she attended the Georgia Municipal Association Mayor's Conference and while there she went to a Public Safety Committee Meeting hosted by Mayor Vincent Williams of Union City. They talked about human trafficking. She said Atlanta is one of the fourteen cities that rank high for human trafficking. She said it is in Atlanta now but could filter into Fairburn. She said parents really need to watch their children. She said she will be working with GMA on the Public Safety Committee because this is very important to her. She said this was a great meeting and is looking forward to the year.

Council Member Glaize thanked everyone for coming out to the meeting and for electing her. She said she had the pleasure of attending the classes this weekend and earned 9 hours in Economic Development. She said she is excited about working with the employees and the citizens. She said Fairburn is a great city and she is honored to work for you and with you.

Council Member Johnson said tomorrow is her birthday and her heart is in Fairburn. She said she has two more years on her term and she is ready to serve and make it happen.

Council Member Portis-Jones thanked everyone for the support she received in being elected to Council in the City of Fairburn. She said she is looking forward to working with the employees and will continue to ask citizens to engage in their neighborhood. She said she would like to commend the staff on the inauguration ceremony. She said there were people from all over and they left with a great vision of Fairburn. She said she also attended the Georgia Municipal Association Conference and took Excellence in Utilities and Policy Development and Implementation. She said the networking was wonderful. She really enjoyed the conference and thanked the City of Fairburn.

Mayor Avery thanked the Water and Utility Department for the work they do. He said there will be a meeting on Thursday, January 30<sup>th</sup> for the Comprehensive Plan. He congratulated Council Members Glaize and Portis-Jones once again on their election. He acknowledged DDA/DA Board Members Rhonda Appleby and Pastor Danita Jones. He also acknowledged Nat Long of the South Fulton Neighbor Newspaper. He said he wanted to thank the entire staff for the inauguration. He gave a personal thanks to Brenda James, City Clerk and D'Avante Parks who spearheaded the inauguration. Mayor Avery announced the City of

Fairburn has a new Facebook Page and there are pictures of the inauguration on it. He said he also attended the Georgia Municipal Association Mayor's Day Conference and took a Business Law Class. He said at the conference the Mayors learned to be careful of "Consent" when it comes to opening the doors of your facilities to Home Owner Associations for their meeting because it could lead to a liability issue.

Council Member Alderman made a motion to go into Executive Session for a matter involving pending litigation with Council Member Portis-Jones providing the second. **The motion carried.**

#### **VIII. ADJOURN COUNCIL MEETING:**

Council Member Hurst made a motion to adjourn and go into Work Shop with Council Member Heath providing the second. **The motion carried at 8:31p.m.**

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Brenda B. James City Clerk

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Mario Avery, Mayor