

CITY OF SOUTH FULTON, GEORGIA
VIRTUAL - WORK SESSION
Tuesday, February 8, 2022, 4:00 PM



COUNCIL WORK SESSION MEETING MINUTES

I. Call to Order

Minutes:

The meeting was called to order by Mayor khalid kamau at 4:00 PM.

The meeting is being conducted under special emergency circumstances due to the COVID19 (also known as the Coronavirus) pandemic. City Council members and staff are participating via conference call (Zoom). The meeting is being simulcast in realtime via the City's YouTube channel.

1. Roll Call

Minutes:

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
khalid kamau	Mayor	Present	
Catherine F. Rowell	District 1 Councilmember	Present	
Carmalitha Gumbs	District 2 Councilmember	Present	
Helen Z. Willis	District 3 Councilmember	Present	
Jaceey Sebastian	District 4 Councilmember	Present	
Corey A. Reeves	District 5 Councilmember	Present	
Natasha Williams	District 6 Councilmember	Present	
Mark Baker	District 7 Councilmember	Present	

Following the roll call by the City Clerk, a quorum was established.

II. Invocation - Pastor Warren L. Henry, Sr., City Chaplain

Pastor Warren L. Henry, Sr., City Chaplain, opened the meeting with an invocation.

III. Monthly Reports

2. Finance Report - Karen Slayton-Dixon, Finance Director

Minutes:

Report presented by Finance Director, Karen Slayton-Dixon.

3. City Attorney's Report - Vincent D. Hyman, City Attorney

Minutes:

Attorney Katherine Vernet indicated that the City Attorney submitted his report in writing.

4. City Manager's Report - Tammi Saddler Jones, City Manager

Minutes:

City Manager, Tammi Saddler Jones presented the following announcements and updates:

The FY2022 Budget will be added to the website this week.

The Rental and Mortgage Assistance Program will be administered by an outside vendor. An RFP will be solicited upon the development of the scope of work.

The State of Georgia recently contacted the City requesting additional payroll information for eligible first responders who may qualify for the Governor's (\$1,000) First Responders Grant. The City will provide the requested information as soon as possible.

The City Manager advised that more detailed information regarding the administration and eligibility for the following programs will be forthcoming.

\$500,000 Premium Pay

\$800,000 Public Safety Employees Responding to Health Emergency

Councilmember Willis requested that the City Manager bring back a plan by the next Work Session. She also requested that the City provide communication to the public safety employees updating them regarding the status of the eligible funding.

Mayor Khalid requested that staff research whether the Rental and Mortgage Assistance Program includes assistance with HOA fees.

IV. Public Comment

Minutes:

There were 40 people who submitted public comments as follows:

1. Linda Brittan, District 1 (Supports bonuses for police)

2. Ruth Webster Lewis, District 2 (Supports bonuses for police)
3. Teresa Carter, District 4 (Supports bonuses for police)
4. Melody Huff, District 2 (Supports entrepreneurs and small businesses in the City)
5. Drew de Man, District 7 (Questioned the process that has been used to discuss public safety bonuses and supports bonuses for all employees.)
6. Corey Critell, District 7 (Owns PHIT on Old National Highway and requests support of businesses)
7. Rose Marie Hodges, District 3 (Comment regarding speed enforcement)
8. Sonya Patterson, District 2 (Supports bonuses for police)
9. Adisa Arans, District 5 (Supports bonuses for police)
10. Nicholas Williams, District 2 (Supports bonuses for police)
11. David Rector, District 4 (Requests that City's elected officials work as a team)
12. Naeema Gilyard, District 4 (Supports operational audit)
13. Michelle Brewington, District 2 (Expressed concern about labeling the City as the Blackest City in America)
14. Ray Pollack, District 6 (Comment regarding changes in employee workdays)
15. Betty Archer, District 2 (Supports bonuses for police and in-person council meetings)
16. Correll Driskell (Expressed concern about labeling the City as the Blackest City in America and supports bonuses for police)
17. Clyde King, District 6 (Requests that City's elected officials work as a team)
18. Helen Vance, District 6 (Supports Summer Fridays legislation)
19. Glenda Collins, District 5 (Supports bonuses for police)
20. Harry, District 3 (Supports forensic audit and the pay increase for all employees)
21. Ursula Walker, District 3 (Concerned about Police Chief being on the news)
22. Marcia Clemendor, District 6 (Concerned about parking along Kimberly Mill Road)
23. Noreese Stephens, District 1 (Requests that City's elected officials work as a team and (Supports Summer Fridays legislation))
24. Will Brown, District 1 (Request sidewalks on Cascade Road and Danforth Road)
25. Reshard Snellings, District 1 (Supports the mayor and his position on bonuses for all employees including police officers. Supports forensic audit)
26. Jewel Johnson, District 1 (Supports operational audit)
27. Jay Parker, District 1 (Supports Mayor Khalid)
28. Jacqueline Perkins, District 6 (Supports speed bumps)
29. Melania Woodruff, District 1 (Supports Mayor Khalid)
30. Jason Tavares, District 3 (Supports Mayor Khalid)
31. Sandra Phillips, District 2 (Supports bonuses for police)
32. Juanita Marbury, District 1 (Concerned about growth and density near the Publix shopping center on Campbellton Road)
33. Richard Reid, District 1 (Concerned about trash and truck traffic in the Boat Rock and Fulton Industrial area)
34. Edwina Dixon, District 2 (Supports bonuses for police)
35. Brianna McGeehan, District 7 (Expressed concern about hazardous waste facility in District 7)
36. Kamilah Burrow, District 6 (Seeking assistance with allowing One Talent non-profit the ability to use the Southwest Arts Center)
37. Mel Keyton, District 4 (Supports bonuses for police and all employees.)

V. Presentations

Motion (Recess): Councilmember Rowell

Second: Councilmember Reeves
[Motion Approved]

Yea: 7 Baker, Gumbs, Reeves, Rowell, Sebastian, Williams, Willis
Nay: 0
Abstain: 0
Not Voting: 0

Minutes:

A motion was made at 6:01 PM to recess the Work Session to begin the Zoning Public Hearing.

The motion was approved unanimously.

Motion (Reconvene): Councilmember Rowell
Second: Councilmember Gumbs
[Motion Approved]

Yea: 7 Baker, Gumbs, Reeves, Rowell, Sebastian, Williams, Willis
Nay: 0
Abstain: 0
Not Voting: 0

Minutes:

A motion was made to reconvene the Work Session at 6:11 PM.

The motion was approved unanimously.

5. Overview of Auditing Process

A. Doug Moses and David Roberts, Mauldin and Jenkins

B. Kirkland Carden, Gwinnett County Commission, Internal Audit Committee

Minutes:

Doug Moses and David Roberts with Mauldin and Jenkins provided a report detailing the difference between the annual financial compliance audit report and other audits such as forensic and Operation/Performance. (Presentation on file in the City Clerk's Office).

Kirkland Carden, Gwinnett County Commissioner, provided his experience with an Operation/Performance audit and the benefits of implementing this type of audit.

The City Manager announced the City is conducting independent audits in the Parks Department and the Purchasing Department.

6. Return to In-Person Meetings - Tammi Saddler Jones, City Manager

Minutes:

The City Manager provided an update regarding operational details and safety protocols for the City's return to in-person Council Meetings set to occur on February 22, 2022 at the Southwest Arts Center. These protocols include wearing masks, continued sanitizing of facilities, using hand sanitizer, maintaining proper separation, asking symptom questions, increased signage and temperature checks.

Councilmember Rowell requested that the City examine hybrid meetings, virtual and in-person, for the work session as opposed to in-person for the Regular Meeting. Request that the virtual option be considered for the various boards and commissions.

7. Fire Pay Proposal – Chad Jones, Fire Chief

Minutes:

Fire Chief Chad Jones presented an overview of the proposed Fire Department Recommended Bonuses and Incentives Program.

The presentation was followed by a question and discussion period.

Councilmember Willis requests timelines for the implementation of the proposals.

8. Proposed Personnel Policies Revision and Plan For A Performance Appraisal Program – Niki Graham, Human Resources Director and Tammi Saddler Jones, City Manager

Minutes:

Niki Graham, Human Resources Director provided an overview of several proposed Human Resources Policy and Procedure Revisions.

The City Manager presented the proposed Employee Performance Appraisal Plan and Employee Retention efforts.

The presentation was followed by a question and discussion period.

Councilmember Willis requested that the City Manager explore a classification plan. The City Manager advised that staff will explore addressing this request during the mid-year budget.

Councilmember Rwell requested that staff share the employee benefits and incentives with all employees.

9. Discussion: \$2,500 ARP Bonus for All City Employees – Mayor khalid

Minutes:

Mayor khalid discussed potential employee bonus benefits for all employees.

Mayor khalid requested that Becky Taylor with the Georgia Municipal Association share additional information regarding the use of American Rescue Plan (ARP) funding by other governments.

Councilmember Rowell requested that the City Manager share her previous recommendations regarding the proposed use of ARP funding.

10. Georgia Power Resource Planning, Wan Smith, GA Conservation Voters Education Fund (may be discussed after 6PM Zoning Hearing)

Minutes:

Wan Smith with the GA Conservation Voters Education Fund presented a request for the City to intervene in the Georgia Power Integrated Resource Plan.

The presentation was followed by a question and discussion period.

Councilmember Willis requested that the City Manager reach out to the City's Georgia Power representative to come before the City Council to discuss their plan.

11. Council Comments

Minutes:

Mayor:

The mayor requested that the Council consider extending the start time for the Zoning Public Hearing to 7 PM. Given the time needed to discuss various topics, a longer Work Session may be warranted.

Recognized the passing of Larry Dingle and highlighted his work as a Black History Maker.

Congratulated William T. Robie, Sr. on his birthday celebration.

Encouraged citizens to visit the Clothes Story Exhibit at Southwest Arts Center through March 5, 2022 and to participate in the Genealogy workshop scheduled for February 12, 2022 at 10 AM.

Congratulated the students and participants at the recent forum at Banneker High School. A follow-up forum and workshop will take place on February 9, 2022 at 7 PM.

Congratulated PHIT Gym located at 7490 Old National Highway for being recognized as the Best Decorated BUiniseess.

The City Council will return to in-person meetings on February 22, 2022 at 4 PM at the Southwest Arts Center.

For more information, text Fulton to 33777.

District 1:

Urged the mayor to consider the purpose of the Work Session. The Council Meeting Schedule, as well as the CDRA Meeting Schedule, has been adopted by this Council. The addition of public comment to today's agenda extended the time of the meeting.

District 2:

Urged the mayor and staff to be consistent with the presentation times. Past practice allocated 10-15 minutes per presentation.

A District 2 Town Hall Meeting will be held on February 28, 2022. For more information and other events, please visit CouncilwomanCarmalithaGumbs.com.

District 3:

Urged the mayor to consider not making unilateral decisions regarding the agenda and process. Council is developing legislation to address how the Work Session agenda is developed.

A Human Trafficking Forum sponsored by Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. is being held on February 15, 2022 at 7 PM. In addition to Councilmember Willis, State Representative Debra Bazemore and Police Cheif Keith Meadows will be participants.

District 4:

Announced that District 4 will soon have a legislative specialist to assist citizens this month.

Urged the mayor and council to be mindful of the public perception and actions that affect the City.

District 5:

Announced that he is collecting books for the month of March. Book drop locations are available at each fire station.

District 6:

No Comment.

District 7:

Congratulated the students and Mayor khalid for their participation at the recent forum at Banneker High School. A follow-up forum and workshop will take place on February 9, 2022 at 7 PM.

Thanked Mayor khalid for agreeing to place the Envision South Fulton (Development Authority) report on the March Work Session agenda. The Authority recently closed on a project on Old National Highway with Butler and Butler that will be of great benefit to the City.

VI. Executive Session

When an Executive Session is Required, one will be called for the following issues: 1) Personnel, 2) Litigation or 3) Real Estate

Motion (Recess): Jaceey Sebastian

Second: Councilmember Willis

[Motion Approved]

Yea: 7 Baker, Gumbs, Reeves, Rowell, Sebastian, Williams, Willis
Nay: 0
Abstain: 0
Not Voting: 0

Minutes:

A motion was made at 9:08 PM to recess for an Executive Session to discuss Real Estate, Litigation and Personnel.

The motion was approved unanimously.

Motion (Reconvene): Councilmember Baker
Second: Councilmember Rowell
[Motion Approved]

Yea: 6 Baker, Gumbs, Reeves, Rowell, Sebastian, Willis
Nay: 0
Abstain: 0
Not Voting: 1 Williams

Minutes:

A motion was made to reconvene from Executive Session at 10:30 PM.

The motion was approved 6-0. Councilmember Williams did not vote.

The City Clerk reported that there was no formal action taken in Executive Session.

VII. Adjournment of Meeting

Motion (Adjourn): Councilmember Reeves
Second: Jaceey Sebastian
[Motion Approved]

Yea: 7 Baker, Gumbs, Reeves, Rowell, Sebastian, Williams, Willis
Nay: 0
Abstain: 0
Not Voting: 0

Minutes:

A motion was made to adjourn the Work Session at 10:31 PM.

The motion was approved unanimously.



Corey E. Adams, Sr., City Clerk
