



REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY, MARCH 04, 2024, at 7:00 PM

CITY HALL BUILDING

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

A. Invocation - Pastor Malcolm Lewis - Beacon of Light Church

B. Pledge of Allegiance

C. Add Items to Agenda

15A - E-911 Intergovernmental Agreement

15B - Cobb-Marietta Coliseum Agreements

Motion made by Anderson, Seconded by Adams.

Voting Yea: Anderson, Leverette, Myrick, Adams, Elder, Lamar

2. CONSENT AGENDA – INFORMATION AND UPDATE

(No action required by Council – See Specific Department Director before a Meeting)

3. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approve Bills

B. Approve Legal Bills

C. Approve Minutes of Regular Council Meeting

Motion made by Myrick, Seconded by Leverette.

Voting Yea: Anderson, Leverette, Myrick, Adams, Elder, Lamar

4. EXCEPTION TO CONSENT AGENDA

5. CITIZENS REPORT

Joy Anderson is concerned about the East Meets West Project. Mr. Kimbrough stated it is in litigation and cannot be discussed.

Bo Traylor asked if there would be a drop box available for water payments and stated he had not seen any Police in his area within the last 6 months. Mayor Clemons stated they were discussing the

drop box location. Chief Hamilton stated he would put his address on zone patrol and have more officers in the area.

Tim Adams is concerned about the Police Department not being downtown and crime going up in our area, he would like the charter to be addressed and asked if the 911 dispatchers are being taken care of. Mayor Clemons stated the officers will be all around the city and the dispatchers are being taken care of.

Ann Turner is concerned about the location of the Police Department.

Sarah Parker is concerned about the location of the Police Department.

Quintasha Swanson invited everyone to come out on March 23 for Keep Cobb Beautiful.

Derek Caffè is concerned about there not being enough sewer capacity to build his duplex and he invited everyone to come out on April 6 for the downtown walk sponsored by Create Austell.

6. GAS SYSTEM REPRESENTATIVE

Ollie Clemons

Attorney Kimbrough stated that gas rates are down, and they are purchasing gas to fill the tanks. January was a very good month due to the cold weather.

7. FINANCE REPORT

Valerie Anderson, Chairperson

Denise Lowe, Director

A. Monthly Financial Report

B. 2022-23 Budget Revision

In November 2022, the city agreed to purchase police vehicles from Ford Motor Company. Knowing the transactions would take many months, in December 2022, an escrow account was established by Ford Motor Company to pay Wade Ford as the vehicles were delivered. This budget amendment records this transaction for the 2022-23 fiscal year.

ACCOUNT ID	DEPARTMENT DESCRIPTIONS	ACCOUNT DESCRIPTION	FROM	TO	CHANGE
100-3200-54-2200	Police Admin & Patrol	Vehicles	0	1,300,000	1,300,000
100-0000-39-3500	Revenue	Capital Lease Proceeds	0	1,300,000	1,300,000

Motion made by Anderson, Seconded by Elder.

Voting Yea: Anderson, Leverette, Myrick, Adams, Elder, Lamar

8. GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

Devon Myrick, Chairperson
Elizabeth Young, Director

A. No Report

9. POLICE DEPARTMENT

Sandra Leverette, Chairperson
Scott Hamilton, Police Chief

A. Monthly Stats

Chief Hamilton introduced the Austell Police Foundation Board Members and thanked them for their service.

10. FIRE DEPARTMENT

Meredith Adams, Chairperson
Brandon Merritt, Fire Chief

A. January Fire Report

11. PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Marlin Lamar, Chairperson
Bo Garrison, Director

A. Community Garden Grant – Austell City Agriculture Plan Presentation

The City Agriculture Plan has been awarded to the City of Austell in the amount of \$75,000. This funding will be instrumental in aiding the city with its community garden and gardens programs, along with the beautification of select areas throughout the city. As a part of our commitment to transparency and collaboration to the Council, Mayor and residents of Austell, the attached garden presentation outlines the next steps to foster citizen engagement through town hall meetings, public forums, and surveys and to solicit feedback, input and suggestions on matters pertaining to the improvements to be made to the City Community Garden. We look forward to keeping the City officials and residents informed about the progress and outcomes of the City Agriculture Plan Grant.

March 23, 2024 from 11:00-1:00 is the opening of the Garden - everyone is invited to attend.

12. PARKS DEPARTMENT

Devon Myrick, Chairperson
Darrell Weaver, Director

A. Building Maintenance Department - Threadmill 3rd Floor Build Out

The Building Maintenance Department is diligently working to complete the 3rd floor build out for our Finance and Police Departments. They are about 50% done and ahead of schedule. We anticipate the 2 departments will be moved in and settled by the end of March 2024.

B. Parks Department joined the Professional Trail Builders Association (PTBA)

The Parks Department is excited about our new membership to the Trail Builders Association (PTBA). PTBA is the trade association for the trail industry including professional trail contractors, designers, and consultants. PTBA currently represents 130+ private sector companies who employ 2000 trail builders worldwide. Since our beginning in 1976, PTBA member companies have designed, built, and maintained tens of thousands of miles of trail. PTBA represents the leading edge in sustainable trail development; we believe in trail design, construction, management, and advocacy that enhance resource protection, recreational opportunities, economic development, active citizens, and connected communities worldwide.

C. Veterans Memorial Park Tank Fence

The Veterans Memorial Park fence was installed last month around the Tank. We are in the final steps for the completion of the park.

13. COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

Melanie Elder, Chairperson

Darrell, Weaver, Director

A. February 2024 Code Enforcement Report

B. Alcohol Privilege License Renewal Requests

Attached is a listing of Alcohol Privilege License Renewal requests received. Each applicant has conducted and passed the required background checks by the Austell Police Department. Staff recommends approval of each of the requests listed.

Prime Convenience, Inc (Chevron Food Mart) 2920 Veterans Memorial Highway, Austell GA 30168 (Tibebu Amenie)

SCD Austell (South Cobb Diner) 5850 Love Street, Austell GA 30168 (Matthew Hsiao) La Salsa Restaurant

LLC 2856 Veterans Memorial Highway, Austell GA 30168 (Luis Villanueva)

Motion made by Elder, Seconded by Anderson.

Voting Yea: Anderson, Leverette, Myrick, Adams, Elder, Lamar

C. 2024 CDBG Subrecipient Agreement

It is the recommendation of the Community Affairs Department that the Mayor and Council approve the acceptance of the Program Year 2024 CDBG Cobb County Subrecipient Agreement.

The 2024 CDBG Funds in the amount of \$28,117.17 will be used for continued park improvements.

Motion made by Elder, Seconded by Anderson.

Voting Yea: Anderson, Leverette, Myrick, Adams, Elder, Lamar

14. HUMAN RESOURCES

No Report

15. ATTORNEY, DUPREE & KIMBROUGH

A. E-911 Intergovernmental Agreement

This agreement is between Cobb County & the City of Austell in regard to Cobb County taking over the 911 Center for the City of Austell.

Motion made by Elder, Seconded by Anderson.

Voting Yea: Anderson, Leverette, Myrick, Adams, Elder, Lamar

B. Cobb Marietta Coliseum Agreement Amendment

This amendment is to change the verbiage for the financial piece due to the City of Marietta backing out of the agreement. The City of Austell will not be affected.

Motion made by Elder, Seconded by Lamar.

Voting Yea: Anderson, Leverette, Myrick, Adams, Elder, Lamar

16. MAYOR'S REPORT

A. No Report

17. ADJOURN

Motion made by Myrick, Seconded by Adams.

Voting Yea: Anderson, Leverette, Myrick, Adams, Elder, Lamar

Dellie Clemons, Jr.

Mayor

4/4/2024

Elizabeth Young

Attest