



CITY COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION

Monday, April 15, 2024 at 7:00 PM
Council Chambers and YouTube Livestream

Website: www.forestparkga.gov
YouTube: <https://bit.ly/3c28p0A>
Phone Number: (404) 366.4720

FOREST PARK CITY HALL
745 Forest Parkway
Forest Park, GA 30297

The Honorable Mayor Angelyne Butler, MPA

The Honorable Kimberly James
The Honorable Hector Gutierrez
The Honorable Allan Mears

The Honorable Dabouze Antoine
The Honorable Latresa Akins-Wells

Ricky L. Clark Jr, City Manager
Randi Rainey, City Clerk
Danielle Matricardi, City Attorney

DRAFT MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME: Mayor Butler called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

INVOCATION/PLEDGE: The invocation and pledge were led by Dr. Paden.

ROLL CALL - CITY CLERK: A quorum was established.

Attendee's Name	Title	Absent	Present
Angelyne Butler, MPA	Mayor, At-Large		✓
Kimberly James	Council Member, Ward 1		✓
Dabouze Antoine	Council Member, Ward 2		✓
Hector Gutierrez	Council Member, Ward 3		✓
Latresa Akins-Wells	Council Member, Ward 4		ZOOM
Allan Mears	Council Member, Ward 5		✓

Jeremi Patterson, Deputy Finance Director; John Wiggins; Finance Director; Nina Robinson; Senior Staff Accountant; LaShawn Gardiner, Director of Planning & Community Development; Kwame Marshall, Multi-Media Specialist; Diane Lewis, Deputy HR Director; Rochell Dennis, Project Manager; Geoff May; Deputy Chief Operations; Dorothy Roper-Jackson, Court Administrator, Joshua Cox, IT Director; Rodney Virgil, Level 2 Support Engineer; Derry Walker, Code Enforcement Director; Pauline Warrior; Senior Management Analyst, Chief Criss, PD; and Danielle Matricardi, City Attorney.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA WITH ANY ADDITIONS / DELETIONS:

It was moved to approve the agenda with the deletion of item 7 and add the Approval of MSI as the Official Broker of Employee Benefits to be effective immediately.

Motion made by Councilmember James, Seconded by Councilmember Antoine.

Voting Yea: Councilmember James, Councilmember Antoine, Councilmember Gutierrez, Councilmember Akins-Wells, Councilmember Mears

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

1. **Council Approval of Council Work Session and Regular Meeting Minutes from April 1, 2024**-City Clerk

It was moved to approve the minutes as printed.

Motion made by Councilmember Mears, Seconded by Councilmember James.

Voting Yea: Councilmember James, Councilmember Antoine, Councilmember Gutierrez, Councilmember Akins-Wells, Councilmember Mears

PUBLIC COMMENTS: (All Speakers will have 3 Minutes)

There were three (3) Public Comment Speakers:

John Randle-

Mr. Evans -

Mr. Ibenez-

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT:**CEREMONIAL:****Proclamation recognizing Georgia Cities Week April 21-27, 2024****Background/History:**

Georgia Cities Week is an annual event in the state of Georgia dedicated to celebrating and raising awareness about the importance of cities and local government. Typically held during a designated week in April, it aims to highlight cities' role in providing essential services, fostering community engagement, and driving economic growth.

During Georgia Cities Week, municipalities across the state organize various activities and events to engage residents and promote civic pride. These activities may include open houses at city facilities, educational programs about local government functions, community service projects, environmental initiatives, arts and cultural events, and recreational activities for residents of all ages.

The Mayor and the Council took pictures.

Proclamation recognizing the City of Forest Park as a Purple Heart City-Legislative Offices**Background/History:**

The Purple Heart is a military decoration awarded to members of the armed forces who are wounded or killed in action. Designating a city as a Purple Heart City allows communities to express gratitude and support for veterans and their families. Mayor Butler would like to present a Proclamation proclaiming the City of Forest Park as a Purple Heart City.

The Mayor and the Council took pictures.

Proclamation in Recognition of our Communication Officers for Telecommunicators Week-Police Department**Background/History:**

The Forest Park Police Department currently employs 11 Communication Operators who handle incoming emergency and non-emergency calls from citizens 24/7, 365 days a year. These operators are responsible for dispatching calls for service to both police and fire personnel.

Each year, during the second week of April (April 14-20, 2024), the telecommunications personnel within the public safety community are honored. This week-long event, established in 1981 by Patricia Anderson of the Contra Costa County Sheriff's Office in California, serves as a time to recognize and express gratitude to those who dedicate their lives to serving the public. It's an important week dedicated to raising awareness of their hard work and unwavering commitment.

The Mayor and the Council took pictures.

Proclamation recognizing Steaven L. Misher as the official Poet Laureate for the City of Forest Park**Background/History:**

Mr. Steaven L. Misher is a professional poet with a passion for poetry; he is also the author of four poetry books and the founder of The Poetic Outreach that Empowers & Transforms (P.O.E.T.) Foundation and the co-founder of The Poets' Place, LLC, and has been chosen to be the City's official Poet Laureate.

The Mayor and the Council took pictures.

PRESENTATIONS:

2. **Presentation by The Forest Park Ministers Association and Proclamation presented to The Forest Park Ministers Association on behalf of Councilwoman James-Legislative Offices**

Background/History:

The Forest Park Ministers Association is a non-profit organization that supports the City of Forest Park's vision by partnering with elected governmental officials, businesses, charities, and local and surrounding communities. To highlight its purpose, the Forest Park Ministers Association would like to give a brief presentation. Followed by receiving a proclamation on behalf of Councilwoman James.

3. **Presentation on Autism Awareness Month 2024: Building Community Within Forest Park-Recreation and Leisure**

Background/History:

Autism Spectrum Disorder, also known as ASD, is a developmental disability caused by differences in the brain. Individuals with ASD often have problems with social communication and interaction or restrictive or repetitive behaviors or interests. According to studies conducted by the CDC in 2020, within Georgia, around 1 in 46 children aged 8 were identified with Autism. Studies also show that early detection can help children with Autism achieve optimum health and reach their full potential when they reach adulthood. April is Autism Awareness Month where it strives to bring social and community awareness about autism acceptance and promotes inclusion and connectedness for people with autism as cases continue to rise. On Saturday, April 27, 2024 at 9:00 am in the rear parking lot of the Elaine Corley Recreation Center, the Recreation & Leisure Services Department will host its first annual Autism Awareness Walk to bring more awareness to the City of Forest Park.

4. Presentation on the February FY23-24 Financial Report-Finance Department**Background/History:**

The Finance Department is presenting FY2023-2024 Monthly Financial review of the City's financials. The purpose of the monthly financial review is to help us know how healthy the City's cash flow is and help evaluate department performance to see if the executive office needs to reallocate resources to achieve the financial goals for the City.

NEW BUSINESS:**5. Council Approval of a Property & Liability Brokerage Services – Executive Offices**

It was moved to approve Gallagher Risk Management Services as the city's Broker for Property & Liability Services.

Motion made by Councilmember Antoine, Seconded by Councilmember James.

Voting Yea: Councilmember James, Councilmember Antoine, Councilmember Gutierrez, Councilmember Akins-Wells, Councilmember Mears

6. Council Approval of the Budget Amendment for Special Revenue - Finance Department

It was moved to approve the Budget Amendment for Special Revenue.

Motion made by Councilmember Antoine, Seconded by Councilmember Mears.

Voting Yea: Councilmember James, Councilmember Antoine, Councilmember Gutierrez, Councilmember Akins-Wells, Councilmember Mears

7. Council Approval to enter into a contract with Garrard Construction to make exterior repairs to the Rite Aid Building in the amount of \$28,319.00-Planning and Community Development Department. This item was deleted from the agenda.

It was moved to approve to immediately designate MSI to be the Official Benefits Broker for the City of Forest Park.

Motion made by Councilmember James, Seconded by Councilmember Antoine.

Voting Yea: Councilmember James, Councilmember Antoine, Councilmember Gutierrez, Councilmember Akins-Wells, Councilmember Mears

8. Council Approval of certain Purchases for the Fire Department-Fire Department

It was moved to approve certain Purchases for the Fire Department.

Motion made by Councilmember James, Seconded by Councilmember Gutierrez.

Voting Yea: Councilmember James, Councilmember Antoine, Councilmember Gutierrez, Councilmember Akins-Wells, Councilmember Mears

9. Council Approval to Authorize the Police Department to Submit and Accept an Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) Canine Grant- Police Department

It was moved to approve to Authorize the Police Department to Submit and Accept an Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) Canine Grant.

Motion made by Councilmember James, Seconded by Councilmember Antoine.

Voting Yea: Councilmember James, Councilmember Antoine, Councilmember Gutierrez, Councilmember Akins-Wells, Councilmember Mears

10. Council Approval to Accept the Donation of a Bloodhound-Police Department

It was moved to approve the Donation of a Bloodhound.

Motion made by Councilmember James, Seconded by Councilmember Antoine.

Voting Yea: Councilmember James, Councilmember Antoine, Councilmember Gutierrez, Councilmember Akins-Wells, Councilmember Mears

11. Council Approval of the Special Facilities Request at Starr Park and sponsored by Legendary WIGO 1570 AM and Operation Push Too, LLC for Saturday, May 11, 2024 between 12pm-6pm-Recreation and Leisure Department

It was moved to approve of the Special Facilities Request at Starr Park and sponsored by Legendary WIGO 1570 AM and Operation Push Too, LLC for Saturday, May 11, 2024 between 12pm-6pm; and for them to provide a Certificate of Insurance.

Motion made by Councilmember James, Seconded by Councilmember Antoine.

Council Comments/Discussion:

Councilmember James wanted to know if there were any other stipulations to be identified.

Mr. Clark noted that they provide a Certificate of Insurance for a total of 1 million dollars. The second condition is that they provide ample security, determined by the Recreation Director based on the size of the event.

Councilmember James amended her motion to include the addition of security based on Director Maxwell's recommendations.

Motion made by Councilmember James, Seconded by Councilmember Mears.

Voting Yea: Councilmember James, Councilmember Antoine, Councilmember Gutierrez, Councilmember Akins-Wells, Councilmember Mears

CLOSING COMMENTS BY GOVERNING BODY:

EXECUTIVE SESSION: (When an Executive Session is required, one will be called for the following issues: Personnel, Litigation or Real Estate)

It was moved to recess into Executive Session at 8:27 p.m. for Personnel, Litigation, or Real Estate matters.

Motion made by Councilmember James, Seconded by Councilmember Mears.

Voting Yea: Councilmember James, Councilmember Antoine, Councilmember Gutierrez, Councilmember Akins Wells, Councilmember Mears

It was motioned to reconvene into the Council Regular Session at 8:44 p.m.

Motion made by Councilmember James, Seconded by Councilmember Mears.

Voting Yea: Councilmember James, Councilmember Antoine, Councilmember Gutierrez, Councilmember Akins Wells, Councilmember Mears

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, those requiring accommodation for Council meetings should notify the City Clerk's Office at least 24 hours prior to the meeting at 404-366-4720.

ADJOURNMENT:

It was moved to adjourn the Regular Session at 8:45 p.m.

Motion made by Councilmember James, Seconded by Councilmember Antione.

Voting Yea: Councilmember James, Councilmember Antoine, Councilmember Gutierrez, Councilmember Akins Wells, Councilmember Mears