



**CITY OF FOREST PARK MAYOR & COUNCIL**  
**City Council Regular Session**  
Monday, March 15, 2021 at 7:00 PM  
Virtual Meeting Via Zoom and YouTube Livestream

**Website:** [www.forestparkga.gov](http://www.forestparkga.gov)  
**YouTube:** <https://bit.ly/3c28p0A>  
**Phone Number:** (404) 366.1555

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

## APPROVED MEETING MINUTES

The Honorable Mayor Angelyne Butler, MPA

The Honorable Kimberly James      The Honorable Dabouze Antoine  
The Honorable Hector Gutierrez      The Honorable Latresa Akins-Wells  
The Honorable Allan Mears

Shalonda Brown, Interim City Manager  
Sharee Steed, City Clerk  
Mike Williams, City Attorney

**CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME:** The Meeting was called to order by Mayor Butler at 7:01pm

**INVOCATION / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Rev. M. Clinkscales provided the Invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance

**ROLL CALL-CITY CLERK:** All were present, and 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, Mayor Pro-Tem		✓
Hector Gutierrez	Council Member, Ward 3		✓
Latresa Akins-Wells	Council Member, Ward 4		✓
Allan Mears	Council Member, Ward 5		✓

## PRESENTATIONS:

**1. Presentation of the Yard for the Quarter in Ward 3 - Councilmember Gutierrez**

Councilmen Gutierrez presented the Yard of the Quarter Award to the Quinto-Vélez family of 4457 Berkshire Road, who have lived in Forest Park for over 20 years.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS: (3 MINUTE LIMIT) There were two (2) speakers for Public Comments**

- **Robin Kemp** – There was a story about public comment period for the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers that closes on March 26<sup>th</sup> and it has to do with the Corp proposed cleanup plan of the plume on the North side of Ft. Gillem, coming from the north dump. It has been my observation that quite a few people were not even aware of this long-standing problem over there, I just wanted to make everyone aware that if you had any thoughts about it to please take a look the story we wrote, try to work around the technical terms and just look at the plan which in plain English basically means, sticking microbes into the ground, feeding the microbes and letting them eat the bad stuff and that's basically what they are proposing. And it is also Sunshine Week in the world of Journalism and open records and I just wanted to let everyone know that we are going to have a seminar on Friday, a zoom meeting and will announce the time probably tomorrow, if anyone is interested in learning more about open records and open meetings, we are happy to teach you about them.
- **Chris Deluca** – I live behind the waste management and they are doing some things that do not quite equal up with the code that you have in place. They are facilitating animals, noise pollution at all hours of the night, they are operating 24 hours a day, and air pollution. They tell me that they work for the city and there is nothing I can do about them. I want to know if there is anything the mayor and council or city management, if there is anything you can do to help the community with this terrible problem we have. What do we do about them blatantly violating our code and the laws?

**Councilmember Wells** – Mr. Deluca and I have had many of conversations about this and I do not want you to think it is falling on deaf ears, I have been fighting against waste management for years now, but I cannot do it on my own, although it is in Ward 4, I am the only one fighting the battle, so I am glad you called in, because our City Attorney is here, our Interim City Manager is not here, but we have the Public Safety Director, and we are working on some things and hopefully we can get an update because my goal, a lot of our goals, is to get waste management out of our community and out of a residential area. City Attorney, can you address the issue with Code Enforcement do not want to enforce the ordinances when it comes to waste management, they are not exempt, because they are causing a disturbance in our community.

**City Attorney** – Code Enforcement and the applicable staff, where violations are identified they need to enforce the code.

**Councilmember James** – Mr. Deluca, I will reach out to you to discuss this with you as well.

**Councilmember Gutierrez** – I think it starts also with this narrative, we are here and can stick up for this, but you live there and having that experience. Hearing your story and everything that is happening is going to help push this forward and getting out of there and into a space where there are no residents living in the area next to trash.

**ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA WITH ANY ADDITIONS / DELETIONS:**

***Motion was made to amend the agenda by adding two (2) Resolutions – Resolution Authorizing a Joint Offer for 5163 Old Dixie Hwy and Resolution Authorizing a Joint Offer for 5265 Old Dixie Hwy.***

***Motion made by Councilmember James, Seconded by Councilmember Akins-Wells.***

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

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

2. ***Approval of Council Work Session and Regular Meeting Minutes from March 1, 2021***

***It was motioned to adopt the Council Work Session and Regular Meeting Minutes from Mar. 1, 2021.***

***Motion made by Councilmember Mears, Seconded by Councilmember Akins-Wells.***

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

**NEW BUSINESS:**

3. **Approve an Agreement Between Georgia Power Company and the City of Forest Park to Provide Engineering and Design Services Related to Street Lighting Poles for Main Street Phase 2-** Director of Planning, James Shelby, Interim City Manager, Shalonda Brown

***It was motioned to Approve an Agreement with GA Power Company to provide Engineering & Design Services related to Street Lighting Poles for Main Street Phase 2.***

***Motion made by Councilmember Akins-Wells, Seconded by Councilmember Gutierrez.***

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

4. **Approval of Resolution 2021-13 for a Community Garden –** Tarick Maxwell, Recreation & Leisure Director and LaShawn Gardiner, Financial Analyst

***It was motioned to Approve Resolution 2021-13 for a Community Garden.***

***Motion made by Councilmember Akins-Wells, Seconded by Councilmember Gutierrez.***

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

5. **Approval to Adopt Ord. 2021-08 Records Management and Retention Policy -** Sharee Steed, City Clerk

***It was motioned to Adopt Ordinance 2021-08 Records Management and Retention Policy***

*Motion made by Councilmember James, Seconded by Councilmember Gutierrez.  
Voting Yea: Councilmember James, Councilmember Antoine, Councilmember Gutierrez,  
Councilmember*

*Akins-Wells, Councilmember Mears*

6. **Approval of Recruitment Police/Fire Initiatives** - Nathaniel Clark, Public Safety Director

*It was motioned to Approve the Recruitment Police/Fire Initiatives*

*Motion made by Councilmember Akins-Wells, Seconded by Councilmember Gutierrez.  
Voting Yea: Councilmember James, Councilmember Antoine, Councilmember Gutierrez,  
Councilmember Akins-Wells, Councilmember Mears*

#### **ADDENDUM ITEMS:**

7. **Resolution to Authorize Joint Offer for 5163 Old Dixie Hwy**

*It was motioned to Approve the Resolution to Authorize Joint Offer for 5163 Old Dixie Hwy*

*Motion made by Councilmember Akins-Wells, Seconded by Councilmember James.  
Voting Yea: Councilmember James, Councilmember Antoine, Councilmember Gutierrez,  
Councilmember Akins-Wells, Councilmember Mears*

8. **Resolution to Authorize Joint Offer for 5265 Old Dixie Hwy**

*It was motioned to Approve the Resolution to Authorize Joint Offer for 5163 Old Dixie Hwy*

*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:**

**Councilmember James** – Thanks to everyone who is watching us online and those who will watch later, we appreciate you for your support here in city and we are looking forward to doing some great things in the city and make sure that you tune in the third Thursday's and take advantage of the neighborhood community meeting, that I host virtually. Congratulations to the Forest Park High School Girls Basketball Team for being in the State Runoffs. Thanks to everyone that participated in the Unity and Healing in the Community, it was a very successful and got a lot of positive comments from it. I have been asked to host something like it again, we will see, thanks to all, it is on the website for you to look at.

**Councilmember Antoine** – Thank you for everyone that turned in, share the word great things are happening in the best city in America.

**Councilmember Gutierrez** – Thank you for turning in and listening and we have a lot of things lined up and we are giving away food on March 27<sup>th</sup> and April 3<sup>rd</sup>; do not forget to contact the organizations that have resources for utility bills and rental assistance. Thanks for the public comments, and Ms. Kemp for making everyone aware. We are

reopening and I am excited about that, but make sure that you are taking yourself, we are still in a pandemic and continue to follow the CDC protocols and if you can get vaccinated, please go ahead and do so.

**Councilmember Akins-Wells** – Thanks to everyone for joining us tonight and our special guest who came out tonight and presenting. Wellness with Wells begins tomorrow at 6pm and on April 3<sup>rd</sup> from 3pm – 5pm, Living Faith Tabernacle will be hosting an Easter Extravaganza and I, representative of Ward 4, will be giving out 100 Easter baskets to the kids in Forest Park, do not have to be a resident of Ward 4. If you want to donate Easter baskets to give away, you are welcome to do that.

**Councilmember Mears** – I would like to thank MARTA for giving our wonderful city a look and I am looking forward to seeing good things come, and I am in Ward 5 and if there is anything that we as Council can do to assist, please contact us. Thank everyone for tuning in tonight and congratulate the Girls Basketball Team.

**Councilmember Antoine** – We have the Collaborative Firm here with us and I would like to say hello and you have a conference coming up, Mr. Hightower, please come and give us information about it.

**Michael Hightower, Managing Partner for The Collaborative Firm, LLC** – Thank you Madame Mayor and Council. This Thursday, March 18<sup>th</sup> is the Virtual 19<sup>th</sup> Annual South Metro Development Outlook Conference from 8am – 12pm, and MARTA is one of our co-sponsors. We have MARTA's CEO Jeff Parker is one of our keynote speakers, and we will have Congressman David Scott, who represents this area, Lt. Governor Jeff Duncan from GA, Mayor Keisha Bottoms, Henry County Development Authority Chairman Turner, talking about the great the stuff the southern part of the region is doing.

Mayor Butler – I have said it before, and I will say it again truly a new day in Forest Park and all these projects and initiatives that we have going forward is just indicative of such.

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

**Motion was made to Recess into Executive Session at 7:22pm**

**Motion made by Councilmember James, Seconded by Councilmember Akins-Wells.**

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

*For the Record - Councilmembers Dabouze and Wells left the meeting at 8:54pm.*

**Motion was made to Reconvene back into the Regular Meeting at 9:28pm**

**Motion made by Councilmember Mears, Seconded by Councilmember Gutierrez.**

**Voting Yea: Councilmember James, Councilmember Gutierrez, Councilmember Mears**

**ADJOURNMENT:**

**Motion was made to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 9:29pm.**

**Motion made by Councilmember James, Seconded by Councilmember Mears.**

**Voting Yea: Councilmember James, Councilmember Gutierrez, Councilmember Mears**