



# CITY COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION

Monday, June 17, 2024, at 7:00 PM  
Council Chambers and YouTube Livestream

Website: [www.forestparkga.gov](http://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

## APPROVED MINUTES

**CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME:** The meeting was called to order by Mayor Butler at 7:16 pm.

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

**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-via telephone		✓
Latresa Akins-Wells	Council Member, Ward 4		✓
Allan Mears	Council Member, Ward 5-via telephone		✓

John Wiggins, Finance Director; Jeremi Patterson, Deputy Finance Director; Nina Robinson, Finance; James Shelby, Project Manager; Diane Lewis, Deputy HR Director; Director; Nigel Watley; Deputy Public Works Director; Fire Chief Latosha Clemons; Deputy Fire Chief David Halcomb; Geoff May; Fire Department, Rodney Virgil, Level 2 Support Engineer; Pauline Warrior, Senior Management Analyst; Javon Lloyd, PIO; Derry Walker, Code Enforcement Director; Tarik Maxwell, Rec and Lesure Director; Rochelle Dennis, Interim Economic Director; Talisa Clark, Procurement; Brandon Criss, Police Dept.; Dorothy Roper-Jackson, Court Director, and Danielle Matricardi, City Attorney.

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

It was moved to adopt the consent agenda.

Motion made by Councilmember James, Seconded by Councilmember Antoine.

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

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

It was moved to adopt the agenda with the addition of the 2023-2024 budget amendment approval.

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:**

1. **Council Approval of Council Work Session and Regular Meeting Minutes from May 20, 2024, June 3, 2024, and June 5, 2024, Special Called Meeting - City Clerk**

It was moved to approve the minutes as printed.

Motion made by Councilmember James, Seconded by Councilmember Antoine.

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 speakers:

**John Randle**- wanted to thank the Mayor, the police chief, his staff and everyone for their support. He noted that the police did a great job of catching the person who killed his brother. He said Officer Moore checked on him everyday and helped him cope with what was happening. He noted his only complaint was the speeding up and down Burkes and Yancy Road and the illegal drug activities on City View. He asked the chief to patrol that area more.

**Elder Cook** – noted that every Friday of the month they meet at the fountain downtown Forest Park to pray for the community, city council leaders, all authorities, and anyone who needs prayer. He noted on June 28<sup>th</sup> they will be having a Health Fair partnership with Height Health. Elder Cook noted there will be free health screenings and if you preregister and show up you will receive a gift. The location is 549 Lamar Drive in Forest Park Georgia from 11-2 pm.

**Dr. Payden** – noted that their church experienced catastrophic damage in 2022. He noted that they are now able to go back in and they would like them to attend the Grand Opening. It will be Sunday, July 28<sup>th</sup> at 4 pm, at Living Word Church of God in Christ, located at 4640 Beavers Road, Forest Park Georgia.

**CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

**Ricky L. Clark Jr., City Manager** – gave an overview of the city operations for the month of May. He noted in May that the first presentation of the fiscal year 24/25 budget has been completed and look forward to any comments on it. He noted that the city offices would be closed for Juneteenth. Mr. Clark stated the governing body will be attending the GMA Conference this weekend. He noted Friday was Fun Friday and the Ward three event is this weekend. He gave an overview of different city departments. Mr. Clark noted that there are 9 new businesses throughout each Ward. He noted that the Home Program still has 62 applicants and 10 contractors. He stated that the park monument signs will be going up before the year's end, the City Center's exterior modeling is 95 percent complete. He gave an overview of other Capital projects and events going on.

## **CEREMONIAL:**

### **Proclamation in recognition of Pride Month- Executive Offices**

#### **Background/History:**

Pride Month, celebrated in June, honors the LGBTQ+ community, its history, struggles, and achievements. It commemorates the Stonewall Riots, a pivotal event in the fight for LGBTQ+ rights that began on June 28, 1969. Pride Month serves as a reminder of the progress made toward equality and the remaining work. It celebrates diversity, inclusivity, and the right to love and live authentically. Various events, including parades, marches, festivals, and educational activities, aim to promote awareness, foster acceptance, and advocate for equal rights during this month.

The Mayor and Council took pictures.

## **PRESENTATIONS:**

### **2. “We are One Clayton” Festival – Presentation by Chief Latosha Clemons**

We are One Clayton Festival is a celebration of diversity and unity !!! This brief presentation will be done by Fire Chief Latosha Clemons.

**Chief Clemons**- noted that her time was going to be presenting.

**Tonya Clarke**– noted that they have an event coming called “We Are One Clayton”, that focus on diversity, equity and inclusion. She noted that Clayton County is a place that accepts and welcomes all members of the community.

**Adam Ivory**- noted the festival will be held on Saturday, September 21, 2024, and will be located at International Park at the upper fields at 2200 Walt Stevens Way.

**Elizabeth Duncan**- stated the festival is to celebrate unity and diversity in Clayton County. She noted It will Highlight the importance of living, working, and engaging as one. She notes there are 5 levels of sponsorship to assist with the execution of the festival. This includes vendors, food trucks, panel discussions, children's activities and performances of different cultures.

**Chief Clemons** noted she passed along the different sponsorships to the City Clerk. She noted there is a mission behind all the events, and they are trying to bring all cultures and events together, under one umbrella.

**Comments/Discussion from Governing Body:**

**Councilmember James-** thanked and congratulated them.

**Councilmember Antione-** congratulated them.

**Councilmember Gutierrez-** stated he was proud of them and hoped the rotation would bring it to Forest Park, in the future.

**Councilmember Akins-Wells-** congratulated and thanked them.

**Councilmember Mears-** thanked them.

**3. Financial Reporting of the FY2023-2024 Monthly Financial Report****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.

**PUBLIC HEARING:****4. Public Hearing regarding the adoption of the FY'24-25 Budget - Executive Offices**

It was moved to recess the regular meeting and enter into a Public Hearing for the adoption of the FY'24-25 Budget.

Motion made by Councilmember James, Seconded by Councilmember Antoine.

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

It was moved to open the Public Hearing.

Motion made by Councilmember James, Seconded by Councilmember Antoine.

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

There was one speaker in favor of the adoption of the FY'24-25 Budget.

**LaWanda Folami** -noted she is for the budget and would like the city to have a line for the seniors for a van and furniture. She also noted she would like parks and recreation to have something in the budget for scholars to receive rewards, trophies, and banquets.

There were no speakers in opposition of the FY'24-25 Budget.

It was motioned to close the Public Hearing

Motion made by Councilmember James, Seconded by Councilmember Antoine.

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

It was motioned to reopen the regular Meeting.

Motion made by Councilmember James, Seconded by Councilmember Antoine.

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

#### CONSENT AGENDA:

**5. Council Approval on the Renewal of JustFOIA-Open Records Request Software-Executive Offices**

There was a motion to approve the Renewal of JustFOIA-Open Records Request Software.

**6. Council Approval on the Purchase of Bunker Gear-Ratification-Fire and EMS Department**

There was a motion to approve the Purchase of Bunker Gear-Ratification.

**7. Council Approval of Task Order 2024.02b for additional renderings and animation of the City Center project- Planning and Community Development Department**

There was a motion to approve Task Order 2024.02b for additional renderings and animation of the City Center project.

**8. Council Approval of Task Order for CROFT to perform Design Development, Construction Documents/Permitting, and Construction Administration for Starr Park-Planning and Community Development Department**

There was a motion to approve Task Order for CROFT to perform Design Development, Construction Documents/Permitting, and Construction Administration for Starr Park.

**9. Council Approval of Task Order FDC 2024.05 for Falcon Design to perform General Contractor Procurement and Construction Administration for the Rite Aid Renovation (Grapevine) Project-Planning and Community Development Department**

There was a motion to approve Task Order FDC 2024.05 for Falcon Design to perform General Contractor Procurement and Construction Administration for the Rite Aid Renovation (Grapevine) Project.

**10. Council Approval of purchasing one (1) Sutphen Heavy Duty Rescue Fire Truck for use by the Fire & Rescue Department – Procurement Division**

There was a motion to approve purchasing one (1) Sutphen Heavy Duty Rescue Fire Truck for use by the Fire & Rescue Department.

**11. Council Approval on the Extension of HVAC Maintenance Contract with ABM-Public Works Department**

There was a motion to approve the Extension of HVAC Maintenance Contract with ABM.

There was a motion to approve all items on the Consent Agenda.

Motion made by Councilmember James, Seconded by Councilmember Antoine.

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

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

**12. Council Approval of an Ordinance Increasing Hotel-Motel Tax to 8%– Executive Offices and Legal**

There was a motion to approve an Ordinance Increasing Hotel-Motel Tax to 8%.

Motion made by Councilmember Antoine, Seconded by Councilmember James.

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

**13. Council Approval of a Memorandum of Understanding Between the City of Forest Park and Clayton County for GIS Services–Planning and Community Development Department**

There was a motion to approve a Memorandum of Understanding Between the City of Forest Park and Clayton County for GIS Services.

Motion made by Councilmember James, Seconded by Councilmember Antoine.

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

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**14. Council Approval on GMA Pension Plan Agreement and Adoption of Ordinance–Executive Office**

There was a motion to approve the GMA Pension Plan Agreement and Adoption of Ordinance.

Motion made by Councilmember Antoine, Seconded by Councilmember Mears.

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

**15. Council Approval on the Transition of the Police Department's Cellular Services from Verizon Wireless to T-Mobile – IT Department**

There was a motion to approve the Transition of the Police Department's Cellular Services from Verizon Wireless to T-Mobile.

Motion made by Councilmember James, Seconded by Councilmember Antoine.

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

**16. Council Approval of Sound Equipment Services (Annual Contract with 2 Options to Renew): Request for Bids No. 041924 for use by Recreation & Leisure Department–Procurement Department**

There was a motion to approve Sound Equipment Services (Annual Contract with 2 Options to Renew): Request for Bids No. 041924 for use by Recreation & Leisure Department.

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

**17. Council Approval of Clorox Park Use Request For “Culture Day” – Recreation & Leisure Services**

There was a motion to approve Clorox Park Use Request For “Culture Day.”

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

**18. Council Approval of Fee Waiver for Fort Gillem Army Base Park Use Request For Family Day – Recreation & Leisure Services**

There was a motion to approve of Fee Waiver for Fort Gillem Army Base Park Use Request for Family Day.

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

**19. Council Approval of a Budget Amendment FY 23-24**

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

**CLOSING COMMENTS BY GOVERNING BODY:**

**Councilmember James**- thanked everyone for coming out and noted this Thursday is her Ward Meeting at 696 Main Street. She noted she was excited to go to the GMA Conference this weekend and bring back valuable information to enhance the city further. She requests for the next meeting that the URA Board give a report. She noted they are having a strategic planning meeting on June 26<sup>th</sup> from 8-to 5 pm.

**Councilmember Antione**- thanked everyone for coming out.

**Councilmember Gutierrez** – thanked everyone for coming out and noted he is in Las Vegas at the National Association of Latino Elected Officials Conference. He noted he is learning a lot, and they had a class on Workforce Development and how to build the programs with the city. He noted it is not the municipality to get people jobs but to make sure they have the opportunities and can make the connections needed. He noted Code Enforcement is doing a celebration in Ward 3, but he will be at the GMA conference. He thanked the public speakers and agreed that they need to put their seniors and children at the forefront.

**Councilmember Akins-Wells**- thanked everyone for coming and the directors for all they do. She wanted to put on record that she thinks the bidding process needs to be more transparent. She noted she would like to see the bids and wants to make sure they are doing what is best for the city and giving people an opportunity. She wants to make sure the process is fair. She noted that Perkins Park looks amazing and thanked them for helping to move the community forward. Councilmember Akins-Wells noted that Fun Friday is from 7-11 pm. She noted Erica Dawson,

and her band would be there and encouraged the people to come out and fellowship with the community. She noted Tuesday is Wellness with Wells and is the first before the last. She noted they will have a biggest loser and she is looking for someone to sponsor it.

Mayor Butler noted that Justin was drafted to the LA Chargers. She noted she went to Blue Star Studio, and they are building a set for a movie and a few actors have been there. Mayor Butler noted she cannot wait to learn the name of the movie so people can support it. She read a note she received that stated "embrace the gift of the present moment because it is the only time we truly have control over."

**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 8:11 p.m. for Personnel, Litigation, or Real Estate matters.

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

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

It was moved to adjourn the Executive Session and reconvene the Regular Session Meeting at 8:51 pm.

Motion made by Councilmember James, Seconded by Councilmember Antione.

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

**ADJOURNMENT:** It was moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:51 pm.

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.