



CITY COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION

Monday, March 21, 2022, at 7:00 PM
Council Chambers and YouTube Livestream

MISSION STATEMENT

It is the mission of the City of Forest Park to enhance, strengthen, and grow our city by collaborating with our community to provide the highest level of service. Striving to be recognized as a diverse community that values and respects all members. We will strive to provide fair, professional, and courteous service through transparency and open communication. As we work to achieve this mission, we will have integrity beyond reproach while employing fiscal discipline and innovation. In this work there are no praises and raises for mediocrity.

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

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

Dr. Marc A. Cooper, City Manager
S. Diane White, City Clerk
Mike Williams, City Attorney

APPROVED MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME: The meeting was called to order by Mayor Butler at 7:03pm and read the Mission Statement.

INVOCATION/PLEDGE: The invocation and pledge were led by Minister Cook.

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, Mayor Pro-Tem		✓
Latresa Akins-Wells	Council Member, Ward 4 - Via Zoom		✓
Allan Mears	Council Member, Ward 5		✓

DIRECTORS PRESENT: Chiquita Barkley, Finance Director, Darquita Williams, Deputy Finance Director; Shalonda Brown, Human Resources Director, Latosha Clemons, Fire Chief, Bruce Abraham, Director Economic Development,

Tarik Maxell, Director of Recreation & Leisure, Bobby Jinks, Director of Public Works, Joshua Cox, IT Director, James Shelby, Planning & Community Development Director, Michael Brunson, Deputy Chief of Police and Javon Lloyd, PIO Director

PRESENTATIONS:

1. Proclamation presented to Jamilah A. Hud-Kirk – Legislative

Mayor and City Council presented Ms. Jamilah A. Hud-Kirk with a proclamation from the City for being selected as Principal of the Year.

Ms. Hud-Kirk – (INAUDIBLE) hope, our focus is not on closing the achievement gap, it is on closing the opportunity gap. We welcome anyone in this room and those who are watching abroad, who want to pour into our students and children who wants to be a part of this history to join us, celebrate us, to contact us and we are welcoming all to contribute. Because if we truly say that we believe in equity and access, that means all of us have a responsibility in ensuring that we do that for our students, who eventually will be taking care of us. So, I challenge you to join me in congratulating our scholars for the wonderful work they have been doing, especially past a pandemic, they are working extremely hard, the staff and teachers are working extremely hard, and I cannot be prouder to be their leader at this time. So, thank you for this distinct honor, I will not forget it and I am very truly grateful and blessed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: (All Speakers will have 3 Minutes) There were no Speakers for Public Comments

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA WITH ANY ADDITIONS / DELETIONS:

It was moved to adopt the agenda with adding the Swearing in of Board Appointees as Item No. 9.

Motion made by Councilmember Mears, Seconded by Councilmember James.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

2. Council Approval of Council Work Session and Regular Meeting Minutes from March 7, 2022 - City Clerk

It was moved to approve the Council Meeting Minutes from March 7, 2022, with the corrections that was submitted.

Motion made by Councilmember James, Seconded by Councilmember Gutierrez.

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

NEW BUSINESS:

3. Council Approval of a Resolution 22-11 to Accept the State Fiscal and Recovery Funds for Public Safety Officials and First Responders Pay Supplement – Executive Office

It was moved to approve Resolution 22-11 to Accept the State Fiscal and Recovery Funds for Public Safety Officials and First Responders Pay Supplement

Motion made by Councilmember James, Seconded by Councilmember Antoine.

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

4. Council Approval to Reallocate TAD Dollars for Gillem Infrastructure – Finance Department

It was moved to approve the reallocation of TAD dollars for Gillem Infrastructure.

Motion made by Councilmember James, Seconded by Councilmember Mears.

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

5. Council Approval of an Ordinance 22-02 to Provide for a Residential Rental Property Inspection Program – Department of Planning & Community Development

Mayor Butler – Are we approving this item and you are coming back with more?

City Attorney – We will be coming back with a separate Fee Resolution and Ordinance that would apply to everything.

It was moved to adopt Ordinance 22-02 to Provide for a Residential Rental Property Inspection.

Motion made by Councilmember James, Seconded by Councilmember Mears.

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

6. Council Approval Planning Commission Appointment– Department of Planning & Community Development

It was moved to approve the appointment of Donald R. Williams.

Motion made by Councilmember James, Seconded by Councilmember Mears.

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

7. Council Approval on the Downtown Development Authority Member Appointments and Approval of Resolution 22-12 – Economic Development Department

It was moved to approve the DDA reappointment of Angelyne Butler, and the appointments of Floyd Holland III and Dhaval Shah.

Motion made by Councilmember James, Seconded by Councilmember Mears.

Voting Yea: Councilmember James, Councilmember Antoine, Councilmember Gutierrez, and Councilmember Mears

Abstain: Councilmember Akins-Wells,

8. Council Approval of Urban Redevelopment Authority Member Appointments and Resolution 22-13 – Economic Development Department

It was moved to approve the URA appointments of Avery Wilson, Debra Patrick, Marisol Sconiers, Elliot Lawrence, and Kimberly James.

Motion made by Councilmember James, Seconded by Councilmember Mears.

Voting Yea: Councilmember James, Councilmember Antoine, Councilmember Gutierrez, and Councilmember Mears

Abstain: Councilmember Akins-Wells

ADDENDUM(S):

9. Swearing of Board Appointments - Legislative Department

Mayor Butler gave the oath of office to the following:

Yayha Hassan – Urban Design Review Board and Donald R. Williams – Planning Commission Board

CLOSING COMMENTS BY GOVERNING BODY:

Councilmember James – I would like to thank everyone for coming out, please mark your calendars for Saturday, May 21st, it where we as a city will celebrate the class of 2022. There will be a caravan celebrating them, traveling the streets of Forest Park. There are flyers that gives you the route of the caravan, so, let us celebrate them on that day beginning at 11:00am. Following with a celebration in the park, more details to come. Congratulations to Mayor Butler on her first “Walk with the Mayor” on this past Saturday, thanks to everyone and you are appreciated. Also, the Pop-Up Shop, that Mr. Maxwell and the Recreation & Leisure sponsored on this past Saturday, which was formerly called the Community Yard Sale, but renamed “Pop-Up Shop.” Please come out and celebrate the things that are happening in Forest Park.

Councilmember Antoine – Thank you for attending this meeting and be sure to spread the word about the good news that is going on in the best city in Clayton County. Congratulations to our Principal of the Year, for the whole counties, for the work that you do. Big shout out to our great city manager, which has been elected to the National Forum for Black Public Administrators (NFBPA) Board of Directors for a two-year term. I appreciate what you do for us and being that light that we all need to go in the right direction. Shout out to all the departments for the wonderful work that I see throughout the city, it is not me, I have received emails, calls constituents throughout the city, saying how beautiful the city and the wards are looking. We are going in the right direction, because when we all come together you see movement and progress.

Councilmember Gutierrez – Hello and thank you for coming out, it is nice to have a crowd and not as hostile as last meeting. On March 22nd, in celebration of women’s month, we will be having a women’s panel, with some powerful women participating. I will be facilitating this event, to name a few of the panelists – our mayor, Angelyne Butler, Emily Moreno, an entrepreneur, and owner of EM Shapewear; our fire chief Latosha Clemons; Sharon Vance, student leader from Forest Park High; Jennifer Choe, program manager for Civic Engagement and GALEO and Nancy Howard. The event will be held at 850 Main Street on tomorrow at 6:00pm and I hope to see you there, please remember to register because there will be giveaways given out. We had an event scheduled with school board

member Sabrina Hill from 3pm to 5pm this Wed., Mar. 23rd at the library, but due to the thunderstorms reported for that day, we are rescheduling it for April 13th at the same time, more information coming. Food Truck Friday will not be at the Fountains, due to Zaxby's is coming to that location; we will be relocating, with Councilmember Antoine's permission, to Lee Park. So, Food Truck Friday will be on April 1st from 5pm to 9pm at Lee Park, the theme will be Easter, with the movie 'Space Jam'. Lastly, we implemented this program last year, but due to the pandemic there was not much activity, but in Forest Park, you can adopt a road and we had our first submission from the Fort Gillem Prince Hall Masons Lodge, they will be adopting Forest Park Drive, by Forest Park Elementary. I would like to applaud them for that, because it is the small things that will get us headed in the right direction in taking pride in our own community. Congratulations to our principal of the year, it is beautiful that we have you here in our city. It is not easy work to be called out of the whole county the principal of the year. I am happy that you are developing that culture and our children get to see you every day and not just your work you do as a principal, but everything else, as an author and powerful woman for this month, so thank you. I am sorry, I want to take back the statement "the crowd is not as hostile," I always appreciate you all regardless, it was me, trying to make a joke.

Councilmember Akins-Wells – Thanks everyone for coming out and congratulations to you, principal Hud-Kirk, a phenomenal woman, and principal; I have had the pleasure of working with you on a few things so congratulations. Kudos to you Councilman Gutierrez for all the work that you put into the community, you do a great job. Congratulations Angelyne on your first walk with the mayor. Everyone, have a blessed night and thank you for coming out.

Councilmember Mears – I too am glad to see everyone hear and would like to see this place packed at every meeting; congratulations to our beautiful principal, we need to keep her here in Forest Park, somewhere, we cannot let her go. Congratulations to the gentlemen who stepped up and accepted the appointments to the boards, which is one of the things that make the city strong, a strong board headed in the right direction.

Mayor Butler – Thank you all, I do want to echo the sentiments of my colleagues with our principal of the year. When I saw the post, I immediately reached out her and I learned a lot about the history of Fountain Elementary, so, we just need a whole presentation on just that itself but thank you so much for what you are doing and your commitment to our youth. Thank the council for a robust agenda today; I do want to say that the walking with the mayor route planner, is Fitness with Zay, Mr. Xavier Ross, from Forest Park High School. And he has the fun task of doing it again next month, and then we are going to rotate it throughout each ward; we are going to keep it at Starr Park for April, but in May we are going to rotate to each ward. I attended the NLC conference along with Councilmember James, and my main takeaway for the conference, was that I believe that for the first time in a long time we have our congressional representative Nikema Williams, our senator Ralph Warnock and Senator Ossoff, but then our president. They are all in unison here, so the money is there and there is a lot of it out there. I have charged Dr. Cooper, and I am sure he is going to bring the charge down to the directors and I believe my governing body would agree that we all go to make sure that we do our responsibility and take the initiative to get some of that money that is out there; they have done their part now it is time for us to do our part. Again, to Councilwoman James on what she is bringing forth with the homes and the property values, it is a double-edged sword, we want the property values to increase, but we do also want to protect our residents; we were the lead article in the Atlanta Business Chronicle, which said that the median home prices for Forest Park has increased by 67% since March 2020. So, it is a lot to be proud of, but we do want to make sure that we protect our residents as well. I would like to thank Councilmember Gutierrez, for the wonderful opportunity to allow me to serve on his panel tomorrow, but then I also have an awesome opportunity to go to Michigan to serve panel for the National Forum for Black Public Administrators (NFBPA) and I will be leaving just short of hearing Dr. Cooper being officially sworn in as a board member. On March 29th the South Metro Development Group, which is with Michael Hightower, I have the opportunity to present and speak on the magnificent things that are going on in Forest Park and I have another interview coming up. Between Javon Lloyd, Dr. Cooper, and the council, you are keeping me busy, but it is all in the best of light and is truly again, keeping Forest Park on the map and in the news for stuff that is positive, so thank you all for that, I love it.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: (When an Executive Session is required, one will be called for the following issues: Personnel, Litigation or Real Estate) - **There was no Executive Session**

ADJOURNMENT:

It was moved to adjourn the Regular Council meeting at 7:40pm.

Motion made by Councilmember James, Seconded by Councilmember Gutierrez.

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

APPROVED