



CITY COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION

Monday, October 17, 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) 366.4720

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

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

AGENDA

VIRTUAL MEETING NOTICE

DISCLAIMER: For in-person attendance, all CDC requirements of Masks and Social Distancing is recommended.

To watch the meeting via YouTube - <https://bit.ly/3c28p0A>

The Council Meetings will be livestream and available on the City's

YouTube page - "**City of Forest Park GA**"

CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME:

INVOCATION/PLEDGE:

ROLL CALL - CITY CLERK:

PRESENTATIONS:

1. **Presentation by Superintendent of Schools**

Background/History:

Dr. Morcease J. Beasley, Superintendent of Schools would like to make a presentation to Council

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

2. 3rd Public Hearing and Adoption of the Ordinance to Establish the Ad Valorem Tax Millage Rate for the City of Forest Park, Georgia

Background/History:

The proposed Ordinance is to establish the Ad Valorem Millage Rate for the City Forest Park for 2022 in accordance with the State of Georgia Code Section 48-5-32. The proposed Millage Rate of 16.743 is the same as 2021.

3rd Read of Ordinance 22-16 – An ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FOREST PARK TO ESTABLISH THE FINAL AD VALOREM TAX MILLAGE RATE FOR THE CITY OF FOREST PARK, GEORGIA; TO PROVIDE FOR SEVERABILITY; TO PROVIDE AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

PUBLIC COMMENTS: (All Speakers will have 3 Minutes)

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA WITH ANY ADDITIONS / DELETIONS:

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

3. Council Approval of Council Work Session and Regular Meeting Minutes from October 3, 2022 and Special Called Meeting Minutes from October 12, 2022 - City Clerk

OLD BUSINESS:

4. De-Annexation Request of Parcel# 13014D A002Z – Department of Planning & Community Development

Background/History:

The applicant is requesting to de-annex parcel# 13014D A002Z, currently located in the City of Forest Park on Conley Road, to combine the subject property with an adjacent parcel owned by the applicant that is currently in unincorporated Clayton County. The subject property is currently undeveloped and is 0.96 acres.

At the Oct. 3, 2022 Council Meeting and Public Hearing, this item was tabled to the next Council Meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

5. Council Approval of allocating funds to the City Edge Project to administer Rapid Rental Assistance on behalf of the city – Executive Offices

6. Council Discussion on Purchasing Christmas Lights – Recreation & Leisure Services

7. Council Approval of Additional Funds for Waste Management Contract - Public Works Department

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)

ADJOURNMENT:

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 404-366-1555.

File Attachments for Item:

1. Presentation by Superintendent of Schools

Background/History:

Dr. Morcease J. Beasley, Superintendent of Schools would like to make a presentation to Council



CITY OF
FORESTPARK

City Council Agenda Item

Subject: Presentation by Superintendent of Schools

Submitted By: S. Diane White

Date Submitted: October 3, 2022

Work Session Date: N/A

Council Meeting Date: October 17, 2022

Background/History:

Dr. Morcease J. Beasley, Superintendent of Schools would like to make a presentation to Council

Cost: \$ -0-

Budgeted for: _____ **Yes** _____ **No**

Financial Impact: - None

Action Requested from Council:

None

File Attachments for Item:

2. 3rd Public Hearing and Adoption of the Ordinance to Establish the Ad Valorem Tax Millage Rate for the City of Forest Park, Georgia

Background/History:

The proposed Ordinance is to establish the Ad Valorem Milage Rate for the City Forest Park for 2022 in accordance with the State of Georgia Code Section 48-5-32. The proposed Millage Rate of 16.743 is the same as 2021.

3rd Read of Ordinance 22-16 – An ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FOREST PARK TO ESTABLISH THE FINAL AD VALOREM TAX MILLAGE RATE FOR THE CITY OF FOREST PARK, GEORGIA; TO PROVIDE FOR SEVERABILITY; TO PROVIDE AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES



CITY OF
FOREST PARK

City Council Agenda Item

Subject: 3rd Public Hearing and Adoption of the Ordinance to Establish the Ad Valorem Tax Millage Rate for the City of Forest Park, Georgia

Submitted By: Chiquita Barkley, CFO/Director of Finance

Date Submitted: September 28, 2022

Work Session Date: October 17, 2022

Council Meeting Date: October 17, 2022

Background/History:

The proposed Ordinance is to establish the Ad Valorem Milage Rate for the City Forest Park for 2022 in accordance with the State of Georgia Code Section 48-5-32. The proposed Millage Rate of 16.743 is the same as 2021.

3rd Read of Ordinance 22-16 – An ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FOREST PARK TO ESTABLISH THE FINAL AD VALOREM TAX MILLAGE RATE FOR THE CITY OF FOREST PARK, GEORGIA; TO PROVIDE FOR SEVERABILITY; TO PROVIDE AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Cost: \$ 0

Budgeted for: _____ **Yes** _____ **No**

Financial Impact:

No Cost

Action Requested from Council: Adoption of Millage Rate Ordinance 22-16

NOTICE

The Forest Park City Council does hereby announce that the millage rate will be set at a meeting to be held at Forest Park City Hall located at 745 Forest Parkway, Forest Park, Georgia on October 17, 2022 at 6:00 PM and pursuant to the requirements of O.C.G.A. 48-5-32 does hereby publish the following presentation of the current year's tax digest and levy along with the history of the tax digest and levy for the past five years.

CITY OF FOREST PARK CURRENT 2021 TAX DIGEST AND 5 YEAR HISTORY OF LEVY

CITY	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Real & Personal	653,907,188	686,632,924	798,201,427	681,843,495	779,757,855
Motor Vehicles	13,034,190	10,387,240	10,365,520	9,050,350	8,208,270
Mobile Homes	91,785	90,413	92,189	90,021	92,612
Timber - 100%	0	0	0	0	0
Heavy Duty Equipment	8,886	18,339	16,919	3,822	11,489
Gross Digest	667,042,049	697,128,916	808,676,055	690,987,688	897,113,084
Less M&O Exemptions	(41,993,224)	(44,621,507)	(238,530)	(402,999)	(44,719,479)
Net M&O Digest	625,048,825	652,507,409	808,437,525	690,584,689	852,393,605
Gross M&O Millage	0.023729	0.024093	0.019639	0.183693	0.020114
Less Rollbacks	0.006986	0.00735	0.002896	0.001563	0.003371
Net M&O Millage	0.016743	0.016743	0.016743	0.016743	0.016743
Net Taxes Levied	10,465,192	10,924,932	13,535,669	11,562,459	14,271,626
Net Taxes & Increase	493,810	459,739	2,610,738	(1,973,210)	2,709,167
Net Taxes & Increase	4.95%	4.39%	23.90%	-14.58%	23.43%

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A6 ♦ WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2022 ♦ NEWS-DAILY.COM

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ORDINANCE NO. 22-16

AN ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FOREST PARK, GEORGIA, TO ESTABLISH THE AD VALOREM TAX RATE OF THE CITY OF FOREST PARK FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022-2023; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

WITNESSETH:

Be it ordained by the Governing Body of the City of Forest Park, Georgia as follows:

WHEREAS, the Charter of the City of Forest Park, Georgia authorizes the City to levy and provide for the assessment of ad valorem property taxes on all property subject to taxation;

WHEREAS, the valuation of all property subject to taxation by the City has been determined according to the tax digest prepared by the Clayton County Board of Tax Assessors; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council, after hearing and after duly considering all such relevant evidence, testimony and public comments, has determined that it is in the best interests of, and necessary to meet the expenses and obligations of, the City of Forest Park, Georgia to set a levy at the millage rate of 16.743 for all property subject to ad valorem taxation by the City;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF FOREST PARK, GEORGIA AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. The ad valorem tax rate for the City of Forest Park, Georgia for the 2022-2023 fiscal year, on property subject to ad valorem taxation by the City is hereby fixed at a millage rate of 16.743 on the assessed value of property subject to ad valorem tax by the City less any applicable exemptions.

SECTION 3. Intention of the Governing Body. It is the intention of the governing body, and it is hereby ordained that the provisions of this ordinance shall become and be made a part of the Code of Ordinances, City of Forest Park, Georgia, and the sections of the ordinance may be renumbered to accomplish such intention.

SECTION 4. Approval of Execution. The Mayor is hereby authorized to sign all documents necessary to effectuate this Ordinance.

SECTION 5. Attestation. The City Clerk is authorized to execute, attest to, and seal any documents which may be necessary to effectuate this ordinance, subject to approval as to form by the City Attorney.

SECTION 6. Codification and Severability.

(a) It is hereby declared to be the intention of the City Council that all sections, paragraphs, sentences, clauses and phrases of this Ordinance are and were upon their enactment believed by the City Council to be fully valid, enforceable and constitutional.

(b) It is hereby declared to be the intention of the City Council that to the greatest extent allowed by law each and every section, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this ordinance is severable from every other section, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this ordinance. It is hereby further declared to be the intention of the City Council that to the greatest extent allowed by law no section, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this ordinance is mutually dependent upon any other section, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this ordinance.

(c) In the event that any section, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this ordinance shall, for any reason whatsoever, be declared invalid, unconstitutional or otherwise unenforceable by the valid judgment or decree of any court of competent jurisdiction, it is the express intent of the City Council that such invalidity, unconstitutionality or unenforceability shall, to the greatest extent allowed by law, not render invalid, unconstitutional or otherwise unenforceable any of the remaining sections, paragraphs, sentences, clauses, or phrases of the ordinance and that to the greatest extent allowed by law all remaining Sections, paragraphs, sentences, clauses, or phrases of the ordinance shall remain valid, constitutional, enforceable, and of full force and effect.

SECTION 7. Repeal of Conflicting Provisions. All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with this ordinance are hereby repealed.

SECTION 8. Effective Date. This ordinance shall become effective immediately upon its adoption by the Mayor and City Council of the City of Forest Park as provided in the City Charter.

SO ORDAINED this _____ day of _____, 2022.

Mayor Angelyne Butler

ATTEST:

_____ (SEAL)
City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

City Attorney

File Attachments for Item:

3. Council Approval of Council Work Session and Regular Meeting Minutes from October 3, 2022 and Special Called Meeting Minutes from October 12, 2022 - City Clerk



CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION

Monday, October 03, 2022 at 6:00 PM
Council Chambers and YouTube Livestream

MISSION STATEMENT

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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-Antonie Cooper, City Manager

S. Diane White, City Clerk

Mike Williams, City Attorney

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME: The meeting was called to order by Mayor Butler at 6:00pm and she read the Mission Statement.

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		✓
Allan Mears	Council Member, Ward 5		✓

Javon Lloyd, Public Information Officer, LaShawn Gardiner, Director Planning & Community Development, Shalonda Brown, HR Director, Letasha Clemmons, Fire Chief, David Halcome, Deputy Fire Chief, Bruce Abrahams, Economic Development Director, Bobby Jinks, Director Public Works, Nathaniel Clark, Police Chief, and Arthur Geeter, Purchasing Manager

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT: Dr. Marc-Antonie Cooper, City Manager**COMMUNITY INFORMATION/REMINDERS:**

- On Saturday, October 8, 2022, from 8:00 am to 12:00 noon the City's Clean Sweeps will be held at the recycling center, located at 327 Lamar Drive. You will be required to show proof of residency, as this event is only for Forest Park residents within the city limits. You may bring anything for disposal except the following - dirt, bricks, cement, eighteen-wheeler truck tires or unknown chemicals, flammable liquids, dangerous corrosive materials of any kind or acid. Car and pickup truck tires are acceptable but are limited to four per resident. For more information call (404)-366-4720 (press option 3 on the main menu).
- On October 7, 2022, is Food Truck Friday, from 5:00pm – 9:00pm held at 721 Main Street, Forest Park, GA. Come out and bring the family for tasty food, fun and fellowship.
- On October 8, 2022 at the Starr Park Amphitheater, 5031 Forest Parkway from 2:00pm – 6:00pm, we will have our Hispanic Heritage Festival for more information please contact Ms. Tenisha Dixon, tdixon@forestparkga.gov
- On October 15, 2022, Recreation and Leisure will have the Pink Panther Walk for Breast Cancer around Starr Park. Registration starts at 9:00am and the walk starts at 10:00am.
- On October 29, 2022 – Recreation and Leisure will host our Fall Festival/Ultimate Tailgate Experience for the UGA vs Florida game. The event starts at 12:00pm.
- information call (404)-366-4720 (press option 3 on the main menu).
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CITY OPERATIONS:

- **SPLOST Projects** – Per the Mauldin and Jenkins audit last meeting stating we had SPLOST Projects stalled since 2008. There were projects approved that were stalled specifically LCI Mainstreet Project Phase II, which was estimated to be 37.66% complete, Mainstreet Utilities project 21.91% complete and the Walkover Bridge over Forest Parkway (design & construction), which was estimated at 0.00% completed. Funding for both projects remains in the 2008 SPLOST accounts. There were twenty-two (22) projects approved in the 2008 SPLOST and Nineteen (19) finished, representing a rate of 86.36% completion. The LCI Mainstreet Project is currently under construction and the Walkover Bridge feasibility study is underway. There is

approximately \$1.2 million left in the 2008 SPLOTS for the pedestrian bridge design and construction and the rest has been rolled into the LCI Mainstreet project currently under construction.

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT/SHOUT OUT:

- **CONGRATULATIONS** – On September 26, the Forest Park Police Department held a promotional ceremony promoting Sergeant Sidney Jackson to the rank of Lieutenant and Master Police Officer Jimmie Arnold to the rank of Sergeant. Congratulations to you both!



- Congratulations Firefighter Brenton Lee and his wife on the birth of their new baby girl Ari'ella Lee, weighed six pounds and was born September 24th.

COVID-19 / MONKEY POX UPDATE: EMS Coordinator, Andrew Gelmini

Between 8/29 – 9/04 there were 81 new positive cases in Clayton County, a decrease from last month's 270 with only 5 hospitalizations and 0 deaths.

Case breakdown still shows approx. 58% of Cases to be female and 42% Male with any remaining to be unknown sex. Forest Park currently makes up 8.6% of County cases and shows tracking of 7 new cases last week. The 30 to 39 age group shows the highest percentage of positive cases.

We have Plateaued with vaccines from last month staying at 56% of County residents have received at least 1 dose of vaccine and 50% are fully vaccinated. 20% of vaccinated citizens have received the additional booster dose. The 35 - 64 age groups show the highest vaccination rate.

The CDC continues to encourage and recommend vaccination and boosters for Covid 19 which are available through several means. The current recommendations for vaccines are anyone 6 months and older. The current recommendation for boosters is at least 5 months after receiving the final dose of the first series for Moderna and Pfizer or 2 months after receiving the single dose Johnson and Johnson. A second booster dose is currently being recommended to people 50 and older with underlying medical conditions and should be administered at least 4 months after prior dose was received.

To locate a vaccine site. You can text your zip code to 438829 or call 1-800-232-0233 to find local vaccine providers. Contacting your Primary Care Physician or local pharmacy to see if they are giving vaccines and boosters or visit [vaccines.gov](https://www.vaccines.gov). The Clayton County Health District is giving vaccines based on availability and are rotating their locations to allow for easy access. They are requesting people wishing to receive the vaccine or booster to call and make an appointment at (678) 479-2223 or visit www.claytoncountypublichealth.org. All of this information is also available on the city website under the fire department tab under Covid 19.

Monkey Pox shows an increase in cases this month now totaling 1,785 cases in Georgia an increase of 340 from last month. Age group of 21-45 shows the largest numbers with men being primarily affected sex. Numbers are also showing 51% of cases in African Americans, 28% in Whites, and 17% in Asians. 38,500 Vaccines have been administered in Georgia for Monkeypox. It is important to understand that anyone, any race, any gender can contract this disease and that all should take precautions especially during activities of prolonged contact and especially intimacy to ensure safety.

The CDC continues to research the disease and its spread and is still working on the best course of action in vaccines and boosters to eliminate this outbreak. The CDC is recommending vaccines if interested and high risk, or with underlying medical conditions. This disease continues to show that it is rarely fatal and has only been listed in 3 deaths nationwide, all of which had other underlying health issues reported with the diagnosis.

For further information on the outbreak and vaccines visit: www.cdc.gov/poxvirus/monkeypox

PRESENTATION(S):**1. Update on Rental Assistance Program – Chief Executive Office****Background/History:**

On September 7, 2021, the City Council approved the City Edge Project to administer the city's rental assistance program for residents. The City Council set aside \$400,000 of fund from the 2021 American Rescue Program Funds to be administered under a fast-track rental program to help residents negatively affected by the pandemic stay in their homes.

City Edge gave an update on the Rental Assistance Program, the discussion was inaudible.

Comment/Discussion from Governing Body:

Councilmember James – The applicants on your waiting list, have they had services before or are they new?

Ashley Beeler - No they are all new. The ones that had reapplied I sent out new rejection letters letting them know the status of the disbursement program. I do have a list of them and if there is money for them again, I can reach back out to them.

Councilmember James – Thank you all for the services that you have provided for the residents. I know about 4 of them that have used your services, so thank you for that. As far as the Wrap Around Services, for those that have applied and gotten approved and received help before, are there Wrap Around Services that you provide to help them get on the right track, so they do not end up in the same situation again?

Ashley Beeler - I have referred them to some other programs. It depends on what their balance is. Some of them have a high balance and we can only cover so much. I send them to Clayton County or to the Community Services Authority, but they are out of money now. There is a website United Ministries, called UM Help.org that has a ton of resources on there. Click on find help and enter your zip code, and it gives you utilities, housing, food, whatever you need is on this website.

Councilmember Gutierrez – Thank you so much. One thing I would like to highlight is that you all treat your people with respect, even if it is a denial. I send a lot of people over and I just like to check in to make sure, from a city perspective, you all provide the best customer service, and I always get praise from you all in your willingness to help. I would like to do a community program, where people can learn more about your resources and even about the resources that I came across of organizations that help our people buy homes, that way they can transition away from the rental program. Specifically target to our community and the income here. Rent is not getting any lower, and a few of my neighbors have said they are renewing their leases, but it is at a higher rate. Thank you again for implementing this program and for treating our people with so much respect.

Councilmember Wells - Thank you for treating our people like people and for taking your time and dedication to assisting the residence of Forest Park. Hopefully, we will be able to come up with more funds to continue to assist them.

NEW BUSINESS:

2. **De-Annexation Request of Parcel# 13014D A002Z** – Department of Planning & Community Development

Background/History:

The applicant is requesting to de-annex parcel# 13014D A002Z, currently located in the City of Forest Park on Conley Road, to combine the subject property with an adjacent parcel owned by the applicant that is

currently in unincorporated Clayton County. The subject property is currently undeveloped and is 0.96 acres.

This is for PUBLIC HEARING at the regular meeting.

Comment/Discussion from Governing Body:

Lashawn Gardiner – You basic have touched on all the points.

Councilmember James – The property is zoned as single residents, correct?

Lashawn Gardiner – Right now it is RS single residence.

Councilmember James – With the petition to De-Annex it from the city, do you know or has the company that owns the property gave any indication of what they will allow, and will it still be zoned in the same way if it is under the county, or is it something different it will be zoned as?

Lashawn Gardiner - The applicants have not disclosed any potential development at the time of application. Based on the information right now in unincorporated Clayton County, the property is zoned RS 110, which is also residential, which is the county designated zoning.

Councilmember Antione – What will they be doing with the property?

Lashawn Gardiner - That information was not disclosed, but their intent is to combine it with other properties that they own and is adjacent to that parcel, so they can have access to it. Right now, the property is located on Conley Road, across the street from Hendricks Drive and the church in that area.

Councilmember Gutierrez – I just want to know what it is for, if it is a home and they want to just share that connection just tell us. Will it make a difference Mike, if they just tell us that and then turn around and make it into a liquor store?

Mike Williams – Once it is in the county, you lose all control.

Councilmember Mears – Once we pass it on, we will not have any control, because it will be in unincorporated. It is in the city so we would have to give them permission, right?

Lashawn Gardiner – Yes, the applicants are asking for permission for it to be annexed, and they have already gone through the process with the county, for permission, and they authorized them to come to us.

Councilmember Mears – So, they are not giving you any kind of idea of what they are planning to do with it?

Lashawn Gardiner - No.

Councilmember Mears – We have been hit with something like this before in the last couple of years. So, do we have any way of safeguarding us from that reoccurring?

Mike William – The only way to guarantee it is to deny the application.

Councilmember James – I would like to wait to see what is presented at the Public Hearing. I would like to talk to some people in the county, before we decide on whether we will allow them to De-Annex from the city. I would recommend tabling this, depending on the outcome of the public hearing.

Councilmember Antione – What is your recommendation on this?

Lashawn Gardiner – That would be a policy decision for the governing body to come up with. Staff do not have an objection, being they have gone through the county process, and also gone through our process with evaluation and analysis, before it was presented.

3. LIGHT PACKAGE FOR TRAINING CHIEF VEHICLE– Fire & EMS Department

Background/History:

FPPD would like to purchase an Emergency & Siren light package from ProLogic ITS. The FPPD command staff vehicles are required to have emergency lights & sirens. The cost of this package on this particular vehicle is \$10,531.23. We would like to purchase from the Fire Hose funding account 100-61-3520-53-1133. The vendor that has been selected is based upon the FPPD has been utilizing this vendor for a number of years. Their cost is very competitive (actually lower) than Dana Safety and the turn-around time for the service is very short.

Fund: 100-61-3520-53-1133 Amount \$10,531.23

Comment/Discussion from Governing Body:

Councilmember Mears- It is a good idea to get all our equipment, we are manning up now and want our fire and our police department to be on top. Anything that is critical needs to be taken care of and we need to get them what they need to work with.

4. Council Consideration of an Intergovernmental Agreement with the DDA-Legal

Background/History:

The staff is recommending that the city enter into an intergovernmental agreement with the DDA to memorialize the operating relationship between it and the city.

The agreement outlines the obligations of the city with respect to staff support for the DDA and the DDA's use of city facilities. It also provides that the DDA is responsible for its own financial management of its affairs.

This agreement is an update of the existing IGA that was agreed to between the Development Authority and the City in 2018.

Comment/Discussion from Governing Body:

Councilmember James - This will be for item 4 and 5, because it has the same wording. Article 2 under funding and appropriation, item B that talks about the annual amount to supplement the salary of the city Economic Development staff. Speaking for the URA, we pay directly from the URA account to staff. Not sure if this would be appropriate to have an amount to pay annually.

Mike Williams - The recommendation for the amount the DDA currently pays for the salary is 38,473.00. Then when we get to the URA, that one is 24,673.00. These are amounts that they are already being paid. We have a separate IGA, if you approve this it will go away, and this will be folded into it.

Councilmember James – With the set amount set in this IGA, do that mean if the board decide, for whatever reason, they are asking the staff to do additional duties, that they are not able to give them that increase on their own, they will have to come back or have the IGA amended?

Mike Williams – You could do either. My recommendation would be if for whatever reason you wanted to increase the amount of work and it merited additional adjustment to their compensation that you amend this agreement, so it is all wrapped up into one. Their paycheck is coming from the city, and it would be a simpler method to do that.

5. Council Consideration of an Intergovernmental Agreement with the URA - Legal

Background/History:

The staff is recommending that the city enter into an intergovernmental agreement with the URA to memorialize the operating relationship between it and the city.

The agreement outlines the obligations of the city with respect to staff support for the URA and the URA's use of city facilities. It also provides that the URA is responsible for its own financial management of its affairs.

This agreement is an update of the existing IGA that was agreed to between the Development Authority and the city in 2018.

Mike Williams – If I can add to that, the city entered into an IGA with the Development Authority, several years ago and that agreement is in the process of being updated. These two agreements are models based on that original document. This agreement is identical in most respects to the other agreements for the DDA, with one major exception for the executive director under this agreement is also your economic director. Whereas for the DDA, this board has the option of naming their own executive director, so the city does not have a role in that.

Councilmember James - Is there a way to not have Item B of the funding in there, so that we do not have to keep coming back and forth?

Mike Williams – You can opt to do it as a second agreement as it is now, take that out and have a letter agreement that relates to salaries and this agreement relating to the general operations, but we were trying to simplify the number of agreements going back and forth between all the boards.

6. Council discussion 2nd Round of ARPA Funding – Chief Executive Offices

Background/History:

The City of Forest Park received its second round of American Rescue Plan Funds from the US Treasury. Attached are several on-going city initiatives that have already been funded, and the staff is recommending funding to further progress the city.

The City Manager is seeking direction from the Mayor and City Council on actions to be taken to determine how these funds should be appropriated.

Comment/Discussion from Governing Body:

City Manager – There are several items that were listed; however, those items can change based on the council's decision, we are looking for directions on how to move forward. We also submitted a preliminary survey that could go out based on what the council states. We could look at changing questions or things of that nature, but we are looking for direction on this.

Councilmember James – I looked at NLC, National League of Cities website, as it relates to our relief funds; and some of the things that were outlined that the funds can be used for are some of the sentiments that the residents have asked me about. This included home repair and home weatherization, so I would like some type of funds to be used for home repair. We have a lot of seniors in our community that are on fixed income and have issues with their homes that need to be updated. So, as I understand it these funds can be used for that as well, also assistance with paying delinquent property taxes. I do not know if we have anyone in the city with delinquent taxes, but the funds can be used for that as well.

It also, states council and legal aid to prevent evictions and homelessness. This may be something we want to look at as well, I have had several residents getting eviction notices. We can direct them to someone and possibly use those funds to help with their counseling and legal aid. Temporary residence for people experiencing homelessness, not sure how this will work unless we partner with the hotel and motels in the area for temporary residency, for people that are experiencing homelessness.

Then there are benefits for survivors of individuals who died from covid. We have several Forest Park High School students that lost their parents due to covid and we have rallied ourselves around them as a school community. I don't know if those funds can be helped to help those that lost significant ones, the breadwinners due to covid. Those are some areas that I would like to consider using the funds for. Also, they have cash assistance, so that is an option as well.

Councilmember Antione – I would like to see these funds go to City Edge. Can we use those funds for private property, Mike?

Michael Williams – The way that the feds have set up the permitted usage, it looks like you can.

Councilmember Gutierrez – I would like some of the funds to go to City Edge, they have proven to be efficient, and they are from our community. We have talked about the dangers of the trees here in Forest Park, maybe some type of grant where the owners can match. One of my neighbors received a quote for 2 trees and it was almost 4,000.00. I understand it is a lot of work but the cost to remove trees is just not feasible to have it done. Just trying to come up with something, because of the dangers of these trees.

Then depending on how much it is to fix roofs and other repairs on homes, it can get pricey. After driving around my ward, I noticed people's gutters needed to be clean and leaves blown off the roof. I would like to be able to give some of those jobs to our youth, or for someone from the city to propose something that is feasible. I have gone around with some of my students doing that for some of my neighbors. It makes a lot of difference when your gutters are clean and some of the leaves are gone off your roof.

Councilmember Wells - I agree with what he said, on my way here while driving down Ash Street, there is a tree leaning. No, I do not think we should be fixing everything on private property, but if it puts the residence in danger, then yes. This is something those funds can be utilized for. Things like that is what we need to focus on. If you get the chance ride down Ash Street, toward the Food Depot there is a tree leaning onto Ash Street. We cannot help everyone, even though I would too, but situations like this that put our

citizens in harm way is what we should focus on, as well as City Edge helping those going through hard times.

Councilmember Mears - There are a lot of people that need help, and we are fortunate to be in the situation we are in, but we need to set up a committee to meet, council and prioritize the best way the money should be spent.

Councilmember James – What is the time frame to specify the funds to be allocated?

City Manager – The funds have to be spent I think by 2025.

Councilmember James - Do we have to say what we are going to use them for first?

City Manager - We definitely have to report that. We are audited annually and have to give them a list. That is one reason why we were approved previously. Mrs. Gardiner was working on that and reported it and they said it was acceptable. That is why they approved us for our second round. So, yes, we definitely have to report list by list what we are using it for.

Councilmember James – Then the second round just for transparency, is it 1.2 million?

City Manager – No it was 3.7 million, for a total of 7.4 million for the city.

Mayor Butler – We did put in here 250,000 for City Edge, but Mike when we get ready to vote, are we voting on what is currently in the agenda packet, or do we have to say specifically we want to send out a survey?

Mike Williams – You have to have a budget amendment, where you identify the revenue and its sources. That is not in front of you, but in terms of priorities so we can prepare for that, and direction from staff would be helpful.

Mayor Butler – So we will direct staff to move forward with the preparation of a budget amendment?

Mike Williams – With priority.

7. Council Consideration of Pay Increase for Council - Legal

Background/History:

It has been proposed that the City code be amended to provide for an increase in compensation for the members of the governing authority. The proposed ordinance will provide that said increase for Councilmembers be to \$38,635.56 annually and Mayor be to \$55,000 annually. If approved, it will become effective January 2024.

As required by law, ads giving notice of this proposed increase were run on Wednesday, September 14, 2022, Wednesday, September 21, 2022, and Wednesday, September 28, 2022.

Comment/Discussion from Governing Body:

Councilmember James – I am not in favor of this increase. When we first started negotiations, the numbers were brought back to us, and I objected due to the fact we were being compared to full-time employees. Those numbers I guess stayed. I know we wanted to first give our employees their increase, before we

considered this, and I thought we would come back to the table to discuss the amount. The amount is just too much.

Right now, the council makes 14,000 and the mayor makes 23,000, it may be a little more than that. To go from 14,000 to 38,000 for what I do, and I am not saying that I do not do anything, but as an elected official, I am more of a servant. I am here on the required days which is not much, it is not even part-time. To consider being paid a full-time salary and I am not required to be here 80 hours or 40 hours or 20 hours, I am not in favor of this, and I am not going to be voting in favor of it.

Councilmember Antione – I am totally in support of this, as a public servant, of course the amount that I wish I could do I cannot do. A lot of people come to me for a lot of help. I am in favor of it, because I know the amount, I would be able to do if I had it.

Councilmember Gutierrez – I am in agreement with Councilmember James and Councilmember Antione. I do not think it is enough, I think the bare minimum is there. The amount of critical thinking that goes into this, the amount of decision making, and just because something is bare minimum does not mean that is where we set the bar. Realistically that is what the job requirement is, if we were to amend or change this. I do not do what the bare minimum is, it is about making the space better than when you received it.

This will make the job more appealing; we are giving time; you can say the servant thing, but you are giving time. Time away from our family is something that is invaluable. When you think of wasting something think of time because that is what you are giving away. When you spend 20.00 and that is what you spend an hour earning at your job, then that is what you are giving away. I spend a lot of time away from my family and I think it would be fair, at least, to get paid at the minimum poverty line rate. I think the amount is too much, but it will start the conversation. I do not want there to be a split decision on this, I think as a council, we need to communicate more like Councilwoman James said and come to an agreement, but I am not opposed to getting a raise as an elected official.

I am up here and when you call me you know my genuine intention in what I do, and I also believe in giving people what they are worth. I go to all the certification classes I can go to learn more and come back and bring those resources to our city. I think it is only right that we get compensated at a rate that is fair.

Councilmember Wells - I am 100 percent in disagreement with this, and it is really embarrassing. I am going to read something from our mission statement, "No praises or raises for Mediocracy", some of us need to read this daily. When we ran to be in office, we knew how much money it was. Some people do it for money, some because they have never been recognized for anything, or whatever the reason was you did, you knew what the money was. Some people up here do absolutely nothing, some go to the facilities drunk, residents complaining about that. You do not see them in the community until it is time for elections, and they are knocking on your doors, but you do not see them after that. You do not see them unless it benefits them, not in the community talking to the residence to see the need of the community. If it do not make them look good they are not there.

So, no I do not think we should get a raise if you do not want to be here don't be here. I thought it was ridiculous when you cut the pay and wanted to get a paycheck every week, like we are one of the employees and we are not. Yeah, I know I do my money worth, I'm in the community fighting for the community, I am a voice for the community, and I am not running from the people I am running to them. I will not sit up here and vote for myself, if you want more money get a job, this is not your full-time job, and I would really like to know who put this on the agenda.

Who came up with the numbers because I had nothing to do with it? It is really embarrassing and Ms. Trudy Smith, I probably have never agreed with you, but I agree with everything you said. We have senior citizens here that are barely making, some at the senior center and people do not even go down there and talk to them. People are struggling to feed their family and we have stuff we could be doing, that we get paid to do and if you do not like the pay do not accept the job, and if you want more pay get a job.

Councilmember Mears – I also disagree, if you take a survey of the surrounding communities, we get paid well for what we do. The pay is higher than the other council members in the area. Like Mrs. James said, we are here part-time and get paid pretty good. All the programs that were brought up at first, the money can go to help someone that really needs it. So, I am not for it.

Councilmember James - We have a lot of benefits to our jobs as well we are able to go to training and get our expenses paid. I understand the quality and the amount of work that you do, and you want to get compensated for it and that you are spending time away from your family, but it is a choice. It is a choice, it is not required and most of us are passionate about what we do, and that passion leads us to sometimes do things out of the ordinary and not always get compensated for it. This is just too much, if we had talked about it beforehand and came up with a better number, then that would be ok, but this is just too much.

Councilmember Wells - Even if we sat down and came up with a thousand more dollars, I still would not agree with that. We are only here twice a month for a council meeting, some people are not in the community, some people are not doing anything for the community, but you want a raise. We have employees here working 2 and 3 jobs to provide for their family, that is like a slap to their face, it is a slap in the residence face because we volunteered to run for a position and now, we want to come back and take money from the people. We have people stealing money and nothing is being done about that. Go out and get it how you have to, but the residence of Forest Park should not have to give it to you.

Mayor Butler – Dr. Cooper, explain how you came up with the numbers.

City Manager – When I was asked to look into this, I came up with the numbers based on the fact we moved the starting pay for city employees to 17.00, which basically, I did for the council. I moved them to 17.00 an hour. Looking at the delta between council and mayor was about 43 and something percent, which puts council salary at 35k and the mayor about 50k. If you add in the expenses, it takes it up to about 41k for council and 56k for the mayor if you roll the expenses into it.

Councilmember Wells – When things like this come up, we should discuss it as a council. So, who idea was this, to even look at raises.

Mayor Butler – This is not foreign, when this administration came to be, one of the first points of discussions was the raise. At that time, it was decided not to move forward, because I said we need some wins under our belt we cannot just give ourselves raises, because there was the perception that we would have the votes to have it passed. At the last retreat this topic came up and it continues to come up, so the fact that it is on the agenda now should not be a surprise to anybody. I am not embarrassed nor am I ashamed of this request. I think that part-time mindset is why Forest Park was in the position that it was in.

To say that people are not doing anything, we all do something in our own respective rights. You cannot take a municipality that had a 15-million-dollar deficit and turn it into a billion-dollar working investment and say no one is doing anything. You cannot say that, when the zoning had not been updated since the 50's, so you cannot say that nothing is being done. The people see the pretty picture that is being put together, but what is going on behind the scenes and the pushing that it takes to get this stuff done. The residents wanted Starr Park and it had been talked about for eon, and this administration brought it to fruition. Phase

2 of Main Street is coming, the mini-Public Safety building over at Fort Gillem, the new City Hall is coming, and we have 51 million dollars' worth of partnership coming and pouring back into our city.

Councilmember Wells – That is what they are supposed to do.

Mayor Butler – I have the floor, mam. All these things could not be done if no one was not doing anything. I could go on and on of the stuff we are doing.

Councilmember Mears – I would like to say one thing.

Mayor Butler - No sir, save it for your closing comments.

Councilmember Mears – May I speak?

Mayor Butler – No, we are done. We are going into executive session after the regular meeting. Is there a motion to adjourn?

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

ADJOURNMENT:

It was moved to adjourn the Council Work Session meeting at 7:07pm.

Motion made by Councilmember Wells, Seconded by Councilmember Gutierrez.

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



CITY COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION

Monday, October 03, 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) 366.4720

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

DRAFT ACTION MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME: The meeting was called to order at 7:07pm by Mayor Butler and she read the Mission Statement

INVOCATION/PLEDGE: The invocation and pledge was led by Minister Justin 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		✓
Latresa Akins-Wells	Council Member, Ward 4		✓
Allan Mears	Council Member, Ward 5		✓

Javon Lloyd, Public Information Officer, LaShawn Gardiner, Director Planning & Community Development, Shalonda Brown, HR Director, Letasha Clemmons, Fire Chief, David Halcome, Deputy Fire Chief, Bruce Abrahams, Economic

Development Director, Bobby Jinks, Director Public Works, Nathaniel Clark, Police Chief, and Arthur Geeter, Purchasing Manager

PRESENTATIONS:

1. Presentation Ward 4 Yard of the Quarter Award – Legislative Offices

Background/History:

Presentation of the Ward 4 Yard of the Quarter Award

Comment/Discussion from Governing Body:

Councilmember Wells – I Initiated the keep Ward 4 Beautiful program, about 5 or 6 years ago, it was about beautifying the community and the city. Mr. Homero Arredondo, has a beautiful home with an immaculate yard. She wanted to thank him and his family for helping to keep Ward 4 beautiful and presented him with a Yard of the month sign and a \$25.00 gift certificate. She also thanked Ms. Wright for helping to choose the yard.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

2. Council Approval to De-Annexation Request of Parcel# 13014D A002Z – Department of Planning & Community Development - **PUBLIC HEARING**

It was moved to open the Public Hearing for De-Annexation of Parcel #13014D A002Z-PU

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

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

There were no speakers for or against the de-annexation

It was moved to close the Public Hearing for De-Annexation of Parcel #13014D A002Z-PU

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

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

It was moved to table this item until the next Council meeting.

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 Comment speakers:

Trudy Smith - The mayor read Mrs. Smith's comments - Is against the proposed rates for mayor and council because they are part-time positions and do not merit these raises. There are citizens working 2 and 3 jobs and do not receive this level of compensation. Also, this is not sustainable a fiscal action, the bonuses the employees received were

appropriate and were part of the Covid response money. Setting this type of increase in expenditure for years to come on an annual basis is inappropriate and you should be ashamed of yourselves as public servants for considering this.

Carl Evans - Wanted to thank the governing body and city employees for what they did on behalf of Mrs. Sandra passing. They went above and beyond, and he is thankful. All the disagreements over all the years, is because they all have a different vision for the city, but all love the city and want to see it move forward. Again, he appreciates all that attended the service and for sending such beautiful flowers.

LaWanda Folami - First off is the Edge project, the budget is supposed to be 350k, but the governing body has not had a conversation about the first fund of 400k that has been allocated, which is a disappointment, because no one is at the table talking. Second the De- Annex for property 110 should be a conversation, because if it is turned over to the county we could end up with another landfill. Lastly, there are the raises for the city council, I think consideration of what you are deciding on is the answer. No one is saying that you cannot get a raise, but the amount that you want is outrageous. 38k for council and 50k for the mayor, you know when you got out there and campaigned this is what you signed up for.

You all did not go to the table; you all went to the city manager and got some numbers. One thing for sure is the chain of command for this city is out of order. The mayor, council, city manager, this whole administration is out of order. When you cannot sit at the table to come up with a solution, then you are out of order. You can say what you want about the citizens out here, but at the end of the day, veto power does not override the taxpayers. There are a lot of people here today because they were invited. Some people here just want money, and not here because they are passionate. We send you to be training, and pay for it, so it is not like you are not being compensated.

Laverne Mitchell - Is a regular walker in the park and notice people not picking up after their dog. There was poop on the walking track, and she thought that dogs were not allowed on the track. She also wants to know why nothing is being done about people popping fireworks, anytime they want to. If people are paying taxes it seems like this should be able to be minimized, it is not good and makes her angry, because there is nothing she can do. It seems like no one around here wants to do anything. It is disturbing, she does not like it, and something needs to be done about it.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA WITH ANY ADDITIONS / DELETIONS:

It was moved to adopt the Council agenda with adding an Item #9 - Approval to give the Police Department a \$5,000 pay increase.

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:

3. Council Approval of Council Work Session from September 5, 2022 and Work Session and Regular Meeting Minutes from September 19, 2022 - City Clerk

It was moved to approve the Council Work Session Minutes from Sept. 5, 2022 and the Work Session/Regular Meeting Minutes from Sept. 19, 2022

Motion made by Councilmember Mears, Seconded by Councilmember Antoine.

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

NEW BUSINESS:

4. Council Approval of Emergency Light & Siren Package for Fire Training Chief Vehicle – Fire & EMS Department

It was moved to approve the Emergency Light & Siren Package for Fire Training Chief's Vehicle

Motion made by Councilmember Antoine, Seconded by Councilmember James.

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

5. Council Approval of an Intergovernmental Agreement with the DDA - Legal

There was no action taken on the IGA with the Downtown Development Authority

6. Council Approval of an Intergovernmental Agreement with the URA - Legal

It was moved to approve the IGA with the Urban Redevelopment Authority.

Comment/Discussion from Governing Body:

Councilmember James - The item 2b, what is the amount going to be for the funding and the appropriations?

City Attorney - For the URA 24,673.00

Councilmember James - We can always come back if we choose to go higher.

Motion made by Councilmember James, Seconded by Councilmember Antoine.

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

Voting Abstaining: Councilmember Mears

7. Council Approval of the 2nd Round of ARPA Funding – Chief Executive Offices

Mayor Butler- Is there a motion to direct staff to prepare a budget amendment to the priorities established by council?

Motion made by Councilmember Antione, Seconded by Councilmember James.

Comment/Discussion from Governing Body:

Councilmember James - Are we talking about the priorities that are already outlined, are we going to continue and just add to it?

Mayor Butler - The ones in the agenda?

Councilmember James – Yes, the ones in the agenda.

Mayor Butler - That could be a part of it in the work session.

City Manager - That can be a part of it, or it can be added to it.

Councilmember James - We will come back?

City Manager - Yes, we will bring it back.

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

8. Council Consideration of Pay Increase for Council - Legal

It was moved by Councilmember Antoine to approve the pay increase for Council.

The motion failed for lack of a second.

9. Council Consideration of \$5,000 Increase for Police Department - Legislative

It was moved to approve the \$5,000 increase for Police Department.

Motion made by Councilmember James, Seconded by Councilmember Mears.

Comment/Discussion from Governing Body:

Councilmember James - If you recall, I am working to increase both police and fire. I had put it on the table to give public safety, a 15% increase and a 10 percent increase for fire. In doing research it was found that there is such a difference in the lowest paid 33,000 to the highest paid which is 119,000 and that does not include the chief and deputy chief.

To do an across the board 15% increase will be disproportionate, 5000 to lowest paid employee and 17,000 for the highest paid employee. Knowing the money is there to give a 15% increase across the board, I went to the 15% for the lowest paid which is 5000, and we can let that be the across-the-board amount. So, I propose a 5,000 increase to the members of the police department, and I will be coming back with fire. Just know there are others around the state that is giving an increase to the public safety department. This is something we need to do to remain competitive; we have great recruits coming in and we want them to stay.

Councilmember Antoine - I am for it, but I will go with it if it is across the board.

Mayor Butler - Across the board for all employees.

Councilmember Antione - Yes mam.

Councilmember Gutierrez - Did you say the lowest paid employee is 33,000 and we are voting on a potential of 17.00, to put us at 38,000. How is that possible Dr. Cooper, I would like to know the numbers, how is someone getting 33,000 in our city.

City Manager – That was the last pay scale, they all have been bumped up to 35k, but 33,000 was the lowest.

Councilmember Gutierrez - But they are not anymore, right.

City Manager – No, they are at 35k now, all city employees are at 17.00.

Councilmember Gutierrez - I am not opposed to giving the public safety department raises, but like Councilmember James investigation, we are also working on some other stuff. I do not feel now is the time for that.

Councilmember Wells - I agree, if it was across the board, then yes. The fire and the police department are no better than each other, I say across the board for all employees. We have to get out of doing it for one department like one is better than the other. I would like to see all our employees successful and making enough to not have to go out and get 2 and 3 jobs. Then 33,000 a year and we want 38 and 55, I do not agree with that.

Councilmember Mears - I agree with the numbers, but we have to understand we are in good times right now. To bring wages up to livable or better. You have to want to do this job from the heart, because we may not always have the money to give. So, you really want to pick the employees that really want to do the job and reward them.

Councilmember Wells - What happened with the merit system we spoke about this about years ago. Some employees do not deserve raises, and we keep giving the same amount to everyone. There are people that are really working and putting their all into it and we are putting them on the same level as people that do absolutely nothing or the bare minimum. Is there an update on the merit system?

City Manager – When you say merit system what do you mean? Well got the evaluation and HR and I are working to get the plan. This year was to get the evaluation. Next year in the budget we were talking about a pool of money, we will come to the council and discuss pay increases across the board and how they would come about. We are not at that point yet and keep coming up with ways of wanting to give more money throughout the year.

Councilmember Wells -That is what we need to put a stop to by putting the merit system in place. When they do the evaluations, are the employees deserving the raises getting them?

City Manager – The evaluations were done this year, and we gave an across the board pay increase this year, but next year when we talk about budget that is one of the things we will talk about at the retreat, the merit system that will be put in place. That is what H.R. and I have been working on since we discussed this

last year. That is why we proposed an across-the-board increase instead of implementing a merit system that was not there.

Councilmember Wells - Do an across the board raise for everyone and then implement the merit system in place.

Voting Yea: Councilmember James, Councilmember Mears

Voting Nay: Councilmember Antoine, Councilmember Gutierrez, Councilmember Akins-Wells

Motion failed

10. Council Consideration of a Moratorium on Blood & Plasma Collection Centers - Legal

This item was discussed in Executive Session

CLOSING COMMENTS BY GOVERNING BODY:

Councilmember James – I wanted to say I had the pleasure to attend the Arnold Fountain Road naming ceremony. I learned so much history and was blown away by the information. The Clayton County Public School had a listing when you walk into the room, of the African American schools named by people of color; William Alfred Fountain Elementary, John William Arnold Elementary, M. D. Roberts Middle School, Roberta T. Smith Elementary, Alfretta A. Harper Elementary, James A. Jackson Elementary, Eula Ponds Perry Career Academy, Eddie J. White Middle Academy and Kay R. Pace Elementary School of the Arts. I learned the William Alfred Fountain High School, was built in 1952, located in Forest Park, Georgia, located near the Forest Park Chapel Elementary School, and Susie Perkins was the principal. Fountain High School started with grades 1-12 with approximately 1200 students attending. Mr. M.D. Roberts was appointed the first principal in June 1952 and retired in 1983.

I was able to take a picture of Mr. Eddie White, one of the speakers. He started working at 12 years old, and worked at Hapeville Colored Elementary School. In 1961 he was 25 years old when he became a teacher with Clayton County Public School. I was blown away to know this was the colored school that black people had to attend, until they integrated. The largest class was in 1965, with 100 students and one of our senators, Gail Davenport was a student there. The last class held at Fountain High School was in 1969.

Councilmember Antione – Thank you all for coming out and thank you for all the birthday emails. I wish you all a safe ride home and God Bless you all.

Councilmember Gutierrez – Thank you all for coming out, it is nice to see everybody. We have had a few successful events and I would like to shout out Economic Development, for the business breakfast, I was able to meet a lot of people. It is not only bringing businesses but connecting the current businesses here that we have with one another. It was a great networking opportunity.

We have a few events coming up, and I am excited our Atlanta teams are doing good. We have tailgate at the Starr Park coming up at our Fall Festival, for the Georgia vs Florida game. This Friday, our Food Truck Friday theme will be Spanish Heritage Month and we will be showing a movie at Leigh Park. Bring the family so you all can enjoy some of the local vendors. This Saturday we will have Hispanic Heritage Month, hosted by the city, to celebrate the cultures that we have here.

Councilmember Wells – Mr. Evans, again my deepest condolences to you on your loss of Councilwoman Bagley, thank you for being here. We as a council never agree on everything, and we are all different and that is why we are here. I stand firm on what I said the hitting of the gavel or being threatened to be put out do not bother me. I still feel how I feel, you know what you signed up for when you signed up for it. We serve the community, which is what we were elected to do, at the pay that we get.

Some people may agree that they need raises, I am one of those that do not. When I wanted to do better and I wanted better, I went out and got me a job. That is what I think others should do, even Councilmember Mears is working. Some people have made this their job and do nothing but the city business, but I am not one of those people. So, I will not vote for myself a raise, in the past yes, I did, because I felt like and still feel like I am one of the hardest working councilmembers up here. However, I had to look in the mirror and ask myself what did you sign up for? Who is your commitment to, is it about the community or is it about you?

There have been times when I have spent nights crying from having to argue with people up here, about giving back to my community; and I do not feel like that is something that I should do, when I am serving my community. Some people are selfish, all about themselves and all about money. Everyone knows that I am transparent, I am going to say what I have to say, go get a job. You want more money get a job, yes I will say you are not from here and you do not have to be to serve the people. Maybe that is why you do not come into the community, and maybe that is why you do not fellowship with the people, but I said what I said.

To our employees, I do not want you to feel like Councilwoman Wells do not care, I want you to have more money. I would rather give you the money they are trying to give themselves. I think that is something we should consider, give the 5,000 raises to everyone and I will support it. Again, this is not our full-time job and we do not deserve full-time pay. We were voted in to do a job, so do what the people elected you to do. Thank you all for coming out.

Councilmember Mears – I appreciate you all for coming and remember this is where you take care of your business. It is sometimes like live Atlanta Wrestling, sometimes it gets hot, sometimes it does not. You all come on out and see the show. Thank you for coming and we expect to see more of you this year.

Mayor Butler – I think it was Denzel Washington, who said “you will never be criticized by someone who is doing more than you, you will always be criticized by someone doing less”. The very nature of Economic Development is the creation of wealth in which a community can benefit and that is what we have been doing. Whether you choose to see it or not is your prerogative, but as I said before the momentum that this administration has generated over the last 4 years will not stop. A party is not economic development, anyone can throw a party. Talk to me when you are sitting at a table making multi-million-dollar deals.

Councilmember James - The name of the highway is Arnold Fountain Professional Club Highway. This Wednesday, coming up the Forest Park High School softball team will have their senior night and they will have their home game on the field here, so come out and cheer our team on. We are celebrating Hispanic Heritage at the High School all week and then Friday, there will be a dance.

As far as the fireworks that were being talked about, there is a noise ordinance, so we need to crack down on that. Don't we also have signs that say no dogs allowed in the park? We will find out and make sure that is enforced. Even if you are walking your dog in the neighborhood, please clean up after them. Check out the website, make sure you go to Ward 1, the neighborhood meetings are recorded, that I host every month. They are posted online, and you can go there and get information.

City Manager – I would like to ask everyone to keep our city clerk in your thoughts and prayers. She experienced the loss of her mom and brother, within weeks of each other.

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 for Personnel, Litigation or Real Estate matters at 7:48pm

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 reconvene back into Regular session at 9:21pm

Motion made by Councilmember James, Seconded by Councilmember Gutierrez.

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

It was moved to approve the terms of agreement with Clear Channel as discussed in Executive Session

Motion made by Councilmember James, Seconded by Councilmember Gutierrez.

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

It was moved to amend the agenda to add Item #10 "Consideration of a Moratorium of Blood & Plasma Centers collection".

Motion made by Councilmember Mears, Seconded by Councilmember James.

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

It was motion to adopt a Moratorium on the Collection of Blood & Plasma Centers Collection as discussed in Executive Session.

Motion made by Councilmember James, Seconded by Councilmember Gutierrez.

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

ADJOURNMENT:

It was moved to adjourn the Council Regular meeting at 9:22pm

Motion made by Councilmember James, Seconded by Councilmember Gutierrez.

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



CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL CALLED

Wednesday, October 12, 2022, at 5:30 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) 366.4720

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

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME: The Special Called Meeting was called to order at 5:30pm by Mayor Butler and she read the Mission Statement.

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 (Via Telephone)		✓
Allan Mears	Council Member, Ward 5		✓

NEW BUSINESS:

1. 1st Public Hearing for Discussion on the Ordinance to Establish the Ad Valorem Tax Millage Rate for the City of Forest Park, Georgia

Background/History:

The proposed Ordinance is to establish the Ad Valorem Millage Rate for the City Forest Park for 2022 in accordance with the State of Georgia Code Section 48-5-32. The proposed Millage Rate of 16.743 is the same as 2021.

1st Read of Ordinance 22-16 – An ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FOREST PARK TO ESTABLISH THE FINAL AD VALOREM TAX MILLAGE RATE FOR THE CITY OF FOREST PARK, GEORGIA; TO PROVIDE FOR SEVERABILITY; TO PROVIDE AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

The 1st Public Hearing and Reading of Ordinance to Establish the Ad Valorem Tax Millage Rate was read by the Mayor.

City Manager – This is basically setting the millage rate for the city at 16.743%, which is the same millage rate for the last four to five years, there is no change in the rate.

Mayor Butler – Stated that there will be 10 minutes for anyone for or against the ordinance.

It was moved to open the Public Hearing

Motion made by Councilmember James, Seconded by Councilmember Mears.

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

There was one speaker

Ms. Lois Wright - wanted clarification as to why we are having this meeting if the Ad Valorem Tax Millage Rate was not changing from last year's rate.

Mayor Butler – stated that we have to do this process each year for the millage rate.

It was moved to close the Public Hearing

Motion made by Councilmember James, Seconded by Councilmember Mears.

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

ADJOURNMENT:

It was moved to adjourn the Special Called meeting at 5:35pm.

Motion made by Councilmember James, Seconded by Councilmember Mears.

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

File Attachments for Item:

4. De-Annexation Request of Parcel# 13014D A002Z – Department of Planning & Community Development

Background/History:

The applicant is requesting to de-annex parcel# 13014D A002Z, currently located in the City of Forest Park on Conley Road, to combine the subject property with an adjacent parcel owned by the applicant that is currently in unincorporated Clayton County. The subject property is currently undeveloped and is 0.96 acres.

At the Oct. 3, 2022 Council Meeting and Public Hearing, this item was tabled to the next Council Meeting.

ORDINANCE NO. _____

AN ORDINANCE TO DE-ANNEX PROPERTY FROM THE CITY OF FOREST PARK, GEORGIA (PARCEL # 13014D A002Z) PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 36 TITLE 36 OF THE OFFICIAL CODE OF GEORGIA ANNOTATED; TO PROVIDE AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

BE IT ORDAINED AND IT IS HEREBY ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FOREST PARK as follows:

SECTION 1: The area currently within the City of Forest Park as described in Exhibit A, which is attached hereto and incorporated herein as part of this ordinance, is hereby de-annexed from the City of Forest Park pursuant to the property owner's request and application.

SECTION 2: This ordinance shall become effective on _____, 2022.

SECTION 3: The City Attorney or Community Development Director of the City of Forest Park is instructed to send a report that includes certified copies of this ordinance, the name of the county in which the property being annexed is located and a letter from the city stating that the intent to add the annexed area to Census maps during the next survey and stating that the survey map will be completed and returned to the Census Bureau, Department of Community Affairs, and to the governing authority of Clayton County within thirty (30) days after the effective date of the annexation as set forth above in the Section 2.

SECTION 4: The City Attorney or Community Development Director of the City of Forest Park is also instructed per HB 1385 requiring municipalities that have de-annexed territory to file a report identifying any property annexed to the Department of Community Affairs (DCA), the Legislative and Congressional Reapportionment Office of the General Assembly, and the appropriate county-level government, and also include a digital shapefile (GIS file) of the (de) annexed area;

SECTION 5: All ordinances and parts of ordinances in conflict with this ordinance are hereby repealed.

SO ORDAINED AND EFFECTIVE, this the 3rd day of October, 2022.

Angelyne Butler, Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

City Attorney

CITY OF
FORESTPARK

City Council Agenda Item

Subject: De-Annexation Request of Parcel# 13014D A002Z – Department of Planning & Community Development

Submitted By: LaShawn Gardiner

Date Submitted: September 6, 2022

Work Session Date: October 3, 2022

Council Meeting Date: October 3, 2022

Background/History:

The applicant is requesting to de-annex parcel# 13014D A002Z, currently located in the City of Forest Park on Conley Road, to combine the subject property with an adjacent parcel owned by the applicant that is currently in unincorporated Clayton County. The subject property is currently undeveloped and is 0.96 acres.

Cost: \$

Budgeted for: _____ **Yes** _____ **No**

Financial Impact:

No financial impact

Action Requested from Council:

Council policy decision.

File Attachments for Item:**5. Discussion and approval of allocating funds to the City Edge Project to administer Rapid Rental Assistance on behalf of the city – Executive Offices****Background/History:**

On September 7, 2021, the City Council approved to set aside funds from the first allocation of American Rescue Funds to aid with rental assistance specifically for residents of the City of Forest Park. From the second round of ARPA Funding the City Manager is seeking to allocate an additional \$300,000 in funds to the city's residential assistance program.

CITY OF
FORESTPARK

City Council Agenda Item

Subject: Discussion and approval of allocating funds to the City Edge Project to administer Rapid Rental Assistance on behalf of the city – Executive Offices

Submitted By: Dr. Marc-Antonie Cooper

Date Submitted: October 12, 2022

Work Session Date: October 17, 2022

Council Meeting Date: October 17, 2022

Background/History:

On September 7, 2021, the City Council approved to set aside funds from the first allocation of American Rescue Funds to aid with rental assistance specifically for residents of the City of Forest Park. From the second round of ARPA Funding the City Manager is seeking to allocate an additional \$300,000 in funds to the city's residential assistance program.

Cost: \$ 300,000

Budgeted for: X **Yes** **No**

Financial Impact:

Funding through ARPA Funds

Action Requested from Council:

Requesting approval of \$300,000 in additional ARPA Funding for the City Edge Project to Administer the city's Rapid Rental Assistance Program.

File Attachments for Item:

6. Council Approval of Purchasing Christmas Lights – Recreation & Leisure Services

Background/History:

The current Christmas lights are 10-15 years old and in need of replacement. The City Manager, along with Recreation and Leisure and Public has review the need for the upcoming Christmas holiday season and request \$50,000 to purchase a new set of lights.

CITY OF
FORESTPARK

City Council Agenda Item

Subject: Council Approval of Purchasing Christmas Lights – Recreation & Leisure Services

Submitted By: Tarik Maxwell

Date Submitted: October 12, 2022

Work Session Date: October 17, 2022

Council Meeting Date: October 17, 2022

Background/History:

The current Christmas lights are 10-15 years old and in need of replacement. The City Manager, along with Recreation and Leisure and Public has review the need for the upcoming Christmas holiday season and request \$50,000 to purchase a new set of lights.

Cost: \$ 50,000

Budgeted for: _____ **Yes** X **No**

Financial Impact:

N/A

Action Requested from Council:

Vote on the approval to purchase new Christmas lights.

File Attachments for Item:

7. Council Approval of Additional Funds for Waste Management Contract - Public Works Department

CITY OF
FORESTPARK

City Council Agenda Item

Subject: Additional Funds Waste Management Contract

Submitted By: Bobby Jinks

Date Submitted: October 3, 2022

Work Session Date: October 11, 2022

Council Meeting Date: October 11, 2022

Background/History:

At the June 6th City Council meeting, City Council approved an extension of Waste Management's Sanitation contract with the city for 120 days with some added additional terms. Per City Council's direction at the June 21st meeting, the previous procurement for a new sanitation contract was thrown out, and the RFP process started over with a recycling component. And at the September 19, 2022, Council meeting, City Council directed the city manager to cancel the sanitation RFP and continue to work with Waste Management.

Sanitation accounts are enterprise funds that generates revenue from the annual billing of residential accounts and the monthly billing of commercial and roll off accounts.

The current billed amount for commercial and residential accounts combined is \$1,500,000. As of July, and August 2022 the combined paid bills by Public Works was \$484,055.55, leaving a remaining balance of \$1,015,944.45, and averaging \$242,027.75 monthly. This leaves a shortage for the next 10 months of approximately \$920,277.50.

The currently billed amount for roll offs is \$1,300,00.00. As of July, and August 2022 the paid bills total was \$551,886.90, leaving a remaining balance of \$748,113.10, and average of \$374,056.55 monthly. This leaves a shortage for the next 10 months of approximately \$2,240,565.50.

Additionally, under the new financial arrangements that was approved by city council June 6, it is costing approximately \$21,000 a month to dispose of containers at the recycling center. This item was "**At No Charge**" previously until July 1, 2022.

With both of these items combined to complete the 22-23 Fiscal Year, we are asking council to appropriate approximately \$3,160,843.00 in additional funds from the city's reserve fund.

Cost: \$ 3,160,843.00

Budgeted for: _____ **Yes** x **No**

Financial Impact:

Action Requested from Council: - Approval of additional funds from the city's reserve fund