



**CITY OF FOREST PARK MAYOR & COUNCIL  
CITY COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION - CANCELLED DUE TO WEATHER**

Monday, May 03, 2021 at 7:00 PM  
Council Chambers, Virtual Meeting Via Zoom and YouTube Livestream

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

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

## AGENDA

The Honorable Mayor Angelyne Butler, MPA

The Honorable Kimberly James      The Honorable Dabouze Antoine, Mayor Pro-Tem  
The Honorable Hector Gutierrez      The Honorable Latresa Akins-Wells  
The Honorable Allan Mears

Dr. Marc-Antonie Cooper, City Manager  
Sharee Steed, City Clerk  
Mike Williams, City Attorney

### VIRTUAL MEETING NOTICE

**DISCLAIMER:** Mayor and Council Meeting is accessible to the public or media through web or teleconference. For in person attendance CDC requirements of Masks and Social Distancing will be adhered.

To join the meeting via Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89028641266?pwd=M1NEa1hPclJ3eUo2eHBNOGJ2d21BZz09>

**Webinar ID:** 890 2864 1266

**Passcode:** 205119

**Join Zoom by Phone (One Tap Mobile):** Please dial 1 301 715 8592

*Meeting ID and Password are above*

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The Council Meetings will be livestream and available on the City's YouTube page "City of Forest Park GA".

*Please Subscribe to our YouTube page for notifications!*

**CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME:**

**ROLL CALL-CITY CLERK:**

**INVOCATION/PLEDGE:**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS: (There is a 3 MINUTE LIMIT)**

**ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA:**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

1. **Council Approval to Adopt the Council Work Session & Regular Meeting Minutes from April 19,2021** - Sharee Steed, City Clerk

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

2. **Approval of Body Worn Camera Policy-** Public Safety Director/Chief of Police, Nathaniel Clark.
3. **Approval of Cleaning Services Contract for the Police Department-** Public Safety Director/Chief of Police, Nathaniel Clark.
4. **Approval of Human Resource Departments Budget/Amendment/Transfer of Funds –** Diane Lewis, Benefits Specialist and Darquita Williams, Interim Finance Director

**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. Council Approval to Adopt the Council Work Session & Regular Meeting Minutes from April 19,2021** - Sharee Steed, City Clerk



**CITY OF FOREST PARK MAYOR & COUNCIL**

**City Council Work Session**

Monday, April 19, 2021 at 6:00 PM

Council Chambers, Virtual Meeting Via Zoom and YouTube Livestream

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

**YouTube:** <https://bit.ly/3c28p0A>

**Phone Number:** (404) 366.1555

**FOREST PARK CITY HALL**

745 Forest Parkway

Forest Park, GA 30297

**DRAFT Work Session Minutes**

The Honorable Mayor Angelyne Butler, MPA

The Honorable Kimberly James

The Honorable Dabouze Antoine

The Honorable Hector Gutierrez

The Honorable Latresa Akins-Wells

The Honorable Allan Mears

Dr. Marc-Antonie Cooper, City Manager

Sharee Steed, City Clerk

Mike Williams, City Attorney

**CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME:** The meeting was called to order by Mayor Butler at 6:00pm

**ROLL CALL-CITY CLERK:**

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

**DIRECTORS PRESENT:** A. Girard Geeter, Procurement Manager; Darquita Williams, Interim Finance Director; Shalonda Brown, Director of Human Resources, James Shelby, Director of Planning & Zoning, Bruce Abraham, Director Economic Development, Bobby Jinks, Director Public Works, Tarik Maxwell, Director of Parks and Recreation, Nathaniel Clark, Police Chief, and Latosha Clemons, Deputy Fire Chief

## PRESENTATIONS:

### 1. Status update on City's Zoning Ordinance - James Shelby, Director of PBZ and Collaborative Firm

James Shelby, Director of PBZ introduce Ms. K.C. Krzic of the Collaborative Firm, who gave a detailed presentation on the update of the City's Zoning Ordinance (**comments were not recorded**)

#### Questions/Comments from Council:

**Councilmember Antoine** – For those that do not know, what this presentation says to me is that Forest Park is moving in a new direction and it seems like a new city has just been adopted within Clayton County. Even though we were founded in 1908, just listening to how you have the district/zoning maps, if you look at the other Clayton County cities, Morrow for example, they are zoned more for commercial. Why is there no Wal-Mart, Kroger, Fridays, Zaxby's, Costco, LA Fitness, because we are zoned industrial. With this zoning, we are changing the entire city, so for those that do not know Forest Park and you are coming into the City, it will be a new city. You cannot put something new in Atlanta, but you can in a city who never had it. Are you saying we are going more commercial or what?

**K.C. Krzic** –You must give them a path, maybe they wanted to come to Forest Park, but your ordinances were too restrictive for them, so now we create the things that everyone and the market is asking for you will find them coming here. Your development patterns will have to go through this entire process. We can write it, but we have no ownership of the land, but if we can start creating those paths for new development, retail, outdoor dining, working with your entire staff with every project, the zoning ordinance is just one piece of the whole puzzle. Your capital improvement projects are going to feed into this, and you will have your own little renaissance here.

**Councilmember Gutierrez** – Echo Councilmember Antoine sentiments, this is incredible, and it is not just one perspective, but a 360 staff, elected officials and everyone that lives here in the city, I just want to point out now that we have this public information, we are hearing what the public is saying, now it is time to hold elected officials accountable and let us deliver the things that the citizens want.

### 2. Mauldin & Jenkins will provide and update on Audit

David Roberts with Mauldin & Jenkins gave an Executive Summary of the Audit

## CITY MANAGER'S REPORT: Dr. Marc-Antonie Cooper

Dr. Marc-Antonie Cooper, City Manager gave the following report:

### COVID-19

Anyone testing positive for COVID positive contact Shalonda Schoolmaker with Healthy Life Atlanta at678-671-8336 - they have aftercare resources for individuals in need.

Clayton County is establishing Vaccination Strike Teams to serve all residents of the county. Contact Stacy Tolbert (404)-427-6276 or Carla Cooper (678)209-5600.

## **CITY OPERATIONS**

### **Fire Department**

- Introduced the class of 16 new recruits of the Forest Park Fire Department (Captain Baker).

### **Police Department**

- The Forest Park Police Department currently has 3 recruits in the academy scheduled to graduate end of next month.
- 3 Recruits are scheduled to start the academy April 26, 2021.
- 3 new officers (recruits) are scheduled to be hired by April 21, 2021.
- We are hiring Police Officers in the City of Forest Park, GA if interested please contact Recruiting at 404-366-4141.
- Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA) has awarded for the 7<sup>th</sup> time in a row accreditation to the Forest Park Police Department,

### **City Operations**

- The Forest Park Ministers Association in partnership with the City of Forest Park's Public Works Division held a Clean Up on the Southside of Our City last Saturday April 17, 2021. More of these clean ups are in the plans for other sides of the City, and we will make sure that they are announced prior to the event.
- Recreation and Leisure Department Summer Camp 2021 registration started today April 19, 2020. The Summer camp runs from June 7 – July 30 for children ages 4-12. The cost is \$50 per child – per week. There are limited slots available so to register or find out more details about summer camp or about all the other awesome programs the city has to offer visit [www.forestparkga.gov/parksrec](http://www.forestparkga.gov/parksrec).
- Exterior Construction (canopy, deck, etc.) has and will be commencing at 751 and 771 Main Street, both buildings are owned by the Re-Development Authority.
- Strive Atlanta is offering a FREE 7-week Training Program to get the skills you need for a career in the high-demand industry of logistics. You could obtain a certification in Logistics and Inventory Controls. The March 2021 Information Sessions will be held virtually on Thursday's at 10:00am. For virtual meeting information and/or to apply for the program visit [www.strive.org/atlprograms](http://www.strive.org/atlprograms).
- Congresswoman Nikema Williams (GA-05) announced that FEMA has begun accepting applications for funeral assistance for Georgians who have lost loved ones to COVID-19. Congresswoman Williams helped pass the funeral assistance program as part of the American Rescue Plan. Georgians who paid for funeral expenses after January 20, 2020, for an individual whose death may have been caused by or was likely the result of COVID-19 can apply for up to \$9,000 of assistance per funeral through FEMA's dedicated call center at 844-684-6333; TTY 800-462-7585, Monday-Friday, 9 AM ET - 9 PM ET. No online applications will be accepted. For more information visit [www.fema.gov/disasters/coronavirus/economic/funeral](http://www.fema.gov/disasters/coronavirus/economic/funeral).

[assistance/fac](#)

**COVID-19 UPDATE:** Deputy Fire Chief, Latosha Clemons

As of April 11, 2021, there has been over 22,740 cases in the Clayton County. Clayton County continues to account for 2.6% of the total cases in Georgia, and Forest Park representing 9.5% of cumulative Cases, not a significant change over the past couple of months. Per Stacy Tolbert, the (CCHD) Clayton County Health Department has begun the process of sending out Vaccine Strike Team, the first trial run was scheduled for five homes in Riverdale and three people were able to be vaccinated. Any residents that meet the following criteria please reach out to Carla Cooper at 678-209-5600; Janna McWilson at 404-276-4412 or Stacy Tolbert at 404-427-6276.

**Criteria Required:**

- Homebound (*cannot* leave their home)
- Medically disabled (on medical equipment beyond oxygen)
- Alzheimer's (difficult to leave home)
- Physically Disabled (very difficult to leave home)
- Shelter(s)
- Domestic Violence Shelter
- Homeless population (this will require additional collaboration)

**Vaccines:** Clayton County Board of Health continues to provide vaccines for all residents of Clayton County at Mundy's Mill High School as stated last Council Meeting.

To date, there has been over **(5, 321,111) million** vaccines administered in the State of Georgia

Following the guidance and recommendations of the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Georgia Department of Public Health (DPH) is pausing J&J (Janssen) vaccinations in Georgia until further notice. The FDA and CDC are reviewing data involving six reported cases of a rare and severe type of blood clot occurring in women aged 18-48 about a week after vaccination. None of the six cases are in individuals vaccinated in Georgia.

Vaccination remains one of our best tools for stopping the spread of COVID-19, along with basic prevention measures, continue to wear a mask to protect yourself and others; cover your nose and mouth; social distance – maintain at least 6 feet of distance when possible; choose safe social activities and handwashing – wash hands frequently and avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

3. **Discussion to Approve Resolution 2021-18 - Georgia Department of Natural Resources - Georgia Section 319(h) Non-Point Source, Implementation Grant FY2021 Green Infrastructure - LaShawn Gardiner, Management Analyst and James Shelby, Director of PB&Z**

**Background and Summary:**

The Georgia Section 319 (h) Non-Point Source Implementation Grant award period for FY 2021 is open for green infrastructure projects that improve and enhance urban water quality and reduce non-point source pollution. There are 2 potential sites in the City of Forest Park, (1) Starr Park-Construction and Design and (2) the Police Department Headquarters Design. Both projects will include retrofitting and enhancing existing infrastructure. The total projected cost is \$12,450,000.00. The grant requires a cost-ration of 60% federal dollar maximum and 40% non-federal match minimum toward the total project cost. The City is requesting \$350,000.00. The total maximum federal award to any individual project is

\$400,000.00.

**James Shelby, Director of PB&Z** - In 2020, Clayton Water Authority developed a watershed improvement plan for the West Jesters Creek watershed to identify and prioritize areas for stormwater improvements roughly between Forest Parkway and Mount Zion Road. The watershed improvement project identified two stormwater improvement projects in Forest Park that drain to West Jesters Creek: one at Starr Park and another at the Police Department. The Existing concrete channel does not currently provide infiltration or water quality improvements, an enhanced dry swale is proposed in this location. The practice would collect, treat, and convey flows from the playground and gravel walking path to the existing drop inlet, which will be retrofit as an outlet control structure. Considering its location in Starr Park, this is a high visibility project with an opportunity to provide for public education on green infrastructure. GAEPD can allocate up to 400k through their 319(h)-grant program to supplement local government funds to address stormwater problems relating to stormwater quality and quantity from "non-point" sources. Forest Park, CCWA, and their consultants have met with GAEPD and developed an application to receive this funding for these two sites to improve stormwater management in the West Jesters Creek watershed via green infrastructure.

We are asking the Council's approval of the resolution to allow staff to submit a grant application to GA Environmental Protection Division.

**Questions/Comments from Council:**

**Councilmember Antoine** – Mr. Shelby, I am sure you are familiar with Clayton County Water Authority has in their budget, where they go out and clean the sewers, what is that program called, and do you know if it is budget for this year or not? Clayton Water Authority will come out and investigate any water system issues in Forest Park that has not been cleaned, but we will have to call and request this service from them.

**Mr. Shelby** – This is entirely different and does not have anything to do with maintenance. This is a grant that will help with the Jester Creek's environmental issues. Jester Creek traverses through Starr Park, there is a concrete **inlite** that the water is coming into, we are going to create something that looks much better than that. The architects are going to incorporate this into their designs for the park.

I will give this information to Bobby Jinks, Director of Public Works to contact Clayton County Water Authority and request their services.

**Councilmember James** – The total projected cost of \$12,450,000.00, do we have that already, who is going to doing to work and will all the funds be used to do these two projects? The additional monies we are getting the two projects that you described, will cost that much? The money we have to put up front is \$350,000 in order to be award the \$12,450,000 grant.

**Mr. Shelby** - We have already allocated \$12,000,000 in our capital projects, \$5 to \$6 million is allocated through SPLOST and the rest is coming from bond issue. The money is there for Starr Park, this is additional monies that we are getting. \$450,000 is the cost, \$250,000 will go towards Starr Park and the remaining \$200,000 will go to the drainage system behind the Police Department. Clayton County Water Authority is really sponsoring the one behind the Police Department and we are doing the one for Starr Park. We are using our match with money we already allocated for the Starr Park project, which we using as our match to the \$450,000, we do not have to come out of pocket for any

**Councilmember Antoine** – Help us understand how detailed is this project?



**Mr. Shelby** – Starr Park is a renovation project that will include things like ballpark, walking trails, fitness walking trails, expansion of the swimming pools to include pool house expansion, basketball, and volleyball courts, and possibly a skate park. All of these are included in the \$12million, this project will enhance that project by creating the greenspace through Starr Park. It will be educational component to teach children about water infiltration and how we keep our creeks clean, which will traverse through the Park. This is an added attraction to what we are currently doing. This is going to be unique for Forest Park.

#### 4. Discussion to Approve the replacement of Two (2) Pumpers and One (1) 75' Quint Aerial - Fire Department

##### Background and Summary:

The Fire Department is seeking approval for replacement of two Pumpers and one 75' Quint Aerial. The Pumpers to be replaced are Engine 1, Rosenbauer with 41,000 miles (equivalent to 142,000 road miles) and structural body frame issues, Engine 2, a 2002 E-one) with 125,000 miles (equivalent to 427,500 road miles) and Quint 3 (2010 E-one) with 61,000 miles (equivalent to 208,000 road miles).

The replacement allows for continuity of units and service/maintenance with warranty agreements for parts and labor. It further allows our current reserve pumper, Engine-3, a 1992 E-one pumper with unknown number of miles due to the odometer being replaced to be circulated to the Training Division to aid in Fire Department Driver.

Operator Training for (FAO)'s, Fire Apparatus Operators.

Current, Engine-1, Engine-2, and Quint-3 will move into reserve roles in order to provide the Department with reliable reserve units. These units have reached usable service life for service delivery to the community of Forest Park.

The purchase cost is \$1,945,738.00 and these items are budgeted in the Fire Department's allocated SPLOST funds.

Replacement Age:

- A. Engine 2 (24 years)
- B. Engine 3 (29 years)
- C. Quint 3 (11 years)

**Latosha Clemons, Deputy Fire Chief** – NFPA recommends replacing Fire Trucks between 10-15 years of age, but most certainly any vehicle over 25 years of age should be officially retired.

#### 5 Indicators Fire Department is ready for new Fire Apparatus

##### 1. Maintenance cost have exceeded their worth

Departments that spend at least \$75,000 o repairs and maintenance over the course of five (5) years to keep an apparatus on the road, roughly (\$15,000/year) should purchase new apparatus to last for the next 20 years

##### 2. Intangible

Upholding the mission of the organization by providing the highest level of customer service to the community.

Low morale, new apparatus is invaluable to fire department employees, professional service to the community increases

**3. Failure of major components**

Our community depends on not only the crew but the fleet of vehicles to be ready for any fire emergency they respond to, if one or several components on your apparatus are making it difficult to complete these assigned missions and thus putting lives at risk, then it's time for an update.

A repair might make sense if the cost is low enough and damage is not severe, but critical damage to the apparatus major component (engine, transmission, pump) is often expensive and difficult to repair. (not 100% stability in that)

**4. Outdated Equipment**

Though some outdated equipment is easy to replace, other integral pieces of the apparatus body are not. Example: electrical components that support current equipment may not support newer equipment; it may not be compatible with the upgraded electrical signals required to operate more modern equipment

**5. Apparatus no longer meets industry status**

In 2009, NFPA (National Fire Protection Association) published the Standard for Automotive Fire Apparatus. This document outlines all the necessary features and equipment that departments are legally required to have in place, some may require painless upgrade to your current truck while some may require the purchase of a new one.

**Questions/Comments from Council:**

**Mayor Butler** – These three units that we are retiring, your plans are to put them in reserve?

**Deputy Chief Clemons** – Yes, with any apparatus, it is good to have fire trucks to go into reserve status, in the event that one of our trucks should breakdown, you will need something to go into. Per standards it is good to keep items in reserve for 5 years.

**Councilmember Mears** – I wish you could incorporate new turn-out gear, there is no sense for a city our size and the funds from SPLOST, and our firemen are having to wear wet/dirty gear if they have to respond to back-to-back fires. Things like that should be readily available. I would like you and your team to work on including this in your next purchase for each shift to have two (2) turn-out gears.

**Deputy Chief Clemons** – You are obviously right, the health and safe of your personnel is important. We will work with the City Manager to include in next fiscal budget.

**Mayor Butler** – This is for all department, we have Sister Cities that are in need of supplies and equipment, so if there is anything that you are going to surplus or retire, etc, once we go through the process to keep this in mind as we build these relationships and if we know a particular need, we can keep that on the radar to make sure we are really fulfilling the mission of the Sister City relationship.

**Councilmember Antoine** – For those that do not know what Sister Cities is, it is a partnership that the City of Forest Park has partnered with a city in Haiti and the goal is from training equipment, medical and educational; it is just like churches partnering together. When we go to Haiti next month, if there is an old fire truck that could be transferred over there, this is why we partnered with another city, so that whatever the things we do not use, other cities can. I too, would like to see that we could possibly help another city.

**Councilmember Gutierrez** – Let us know let this fall through the waste line, what Councilmember Mears spoke about, let us put a deadline on it and get these uniforms to our firefighters and not wait until later. If you can move on that, it would be appreciated.

**Councilmember James** – The company that was selected and gave the proposal for the equipment, how did we select this particular company?

**Arthur Geeter, Procurement** – The company that was selected is Sutphen, we got them from the cooperative state contract called Southware, this is where we get all the police cars and fire cars. We will receive a 20% discount of the bid, by going through the cooperative and we get most of our large purchase from this source. They have already done the bidding process.

**5. Discussion to Approve the Legislative Offices Budget Amendment/Transfer of Funds - Sharee Steed, City Clerk and Darquita Williams, Interim Finance Director**

**Background and Summary:**

In an effort to create a balance budget, the following budget amendments are being proposed to fix our shortcomings. Proposed transfers are coming from line items that have not been utilized and are anticipated to not be completely utilized by the close of the FY21. This transfer will not have a negative impact on any of the involved line items. Requesting a total of \$18,900 in transfers from the following:

Transfer \$6,000 from 100-20-1110-52-3913 Public Relations to 100-20-1110-52-3919 Employee Appreciation Event

**Ward 2**

Transfer \$5,000 from 100-20-1110-52-3704 Meetings/Conventions to 100-20-1110-52-3908 Ward 2 Projects

**Ward 3**

Transfer \$6,000 from 100-20-1110-54-2506 Capital Outlay to 100-20-1110-52-3950 Day of the Dead Event

Transfer \$350.00 from 100-20-1110-52-3705 Meetings/Conventions to 100-20-1110-52-3924 Hispanic Heritage Month

**Ward 4**

Transfer \$5,000 from 100-20-1110-52-3706 Meetings/Conventions, \$2,200 from 100-20-1110-52-3920 Forest Park Day to 100-20-1110-52-3918 Friday Nights

**Darquita Williams, Deputy Finance Director** – These are line items that went over budget, looking at the overall budget of the department, there are some line items that appear they will not be utilize and I had a conversation with City Manager and Ms. Steed, these will balance out the budget and when we are closing out the department will not be over budgeted.

**Questions/Comments from Council:**

**Councilmember James** – I want to make sure that we do not get here again. When we set the budget and go over the budget, we need to think about making these adjustments beforehand. How did we get so far over budget in these Ward projects, if money is not there, then we do not need to spend it? I do not mind transferring the funds if we have it. This is addressed to the Council, because it is our budget that we

are discussing. If the money is not there, we need to move it before we make the expense and think we need to follow a certain protocol, the same way we hold the directors accountable for staying within their budgets, we, as a Council, need to do the same. We need to make sure that we are checking with the Finance Director and City Manager to make sure that we are not going over budget. If we see that we are going over budget, then we can make those adjustments first and not do them afterwards.

**Councilmember Wells** – That is why we have a Finance department, we know we have a budget for our events.

**Councilmember Gutierrez** – When I budget for my events, I never had event of this magnitude, I just wanted to have events that celebrated Hispanic Heritage and I just made a number that was not enough, so I will not do that again. These were very successful events and we are moving money from areas that are not being used, so thank you Finance for that and I apologize for misjudging my expenditures.

**Ms. Williams** – Dr. Cooper and I have met to address the issue and so we have come up with an action plan going forward to ensure that we are catching overages on the front end or doing a better job at budgeting the events beforehand.

**6. Discussion to Approve the Police Department's Budget Amendment/Transfer of Funds - Chief Nathaniel Clark and Darquita Williams, Interim Finance Director**

**Background Summary:**

The Police Department needs funds to test new applicants and copier expenses. The Police Department is requesting the following budget amendments/transfers. These transfers will not have a negative impact on any of the involved line items.

Transfer \$1,300 from 100-31-3210-52-2201 Office Equipment Maint. to 100-31-3210-53-1103 Copier Expense

Transfer \$1,000 from 100-31-3210-52-3712 Training to 100-31-3210-52-1202 Psychological Services

**Questions/Comments from Council:** There were no comments/discussion

**7. Discussion to Approve the Executive Offices Budget Amendment/Transfer of Funds - Dr. Cooper, City Manager**

**Background and Summary:**

The Executive Offices is in need for a budget amendment/transfer of funds. Requesting to transfer \$10,000 from Education, Seminars & Travel 100-21-1320-52-3701 to the following:

\$3,000 - Consulting Services - 100-21-1320-52-1002

\$5,000 - Printing - 100-21-1320-52-3401

\$2,000 - Office Supplies - 100-21-1320-53-1102

This transfer will not have a negative impact on any of the involved line items.

**Questions/Comments from Council:**

**Councilmember James** – Asked the City Manager to speak on this.

**Dr. Cooper** – As with several line items we found in this budget year, some of these line items, as Councilmember Wells mentioned, there were monies moved out of these line items at different times of the year to cover other line items, and technically you have things/funds coming in that were spent that really was supposed to go in these line items. Basically, at this point, we looked at the Executive Office, as you know we are going through the whole budget process right now, and to get us through the year of this budget year this is what we estimated we would need in those line items.

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

**ADJOURNMENT:**

It was motioned to adjourn the Council Work Session of April 19, 2021 at 7:44pm.

Motion was made by Councilmember Mears and seconded by Councilmember Akins-Wells  
Voting Yea: Councilmember James, Councilmember Antoine, Councilmember Gutierrez, Councilmember Akins-Wells, Councilmember Mears



**CITY OF FOREST PARK MAYOR & COUNCIL**  
**City Council Regular Session**

Monday, April 19, 2021 at 7:00 PM

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**Draft Regular Meeting Minutes**

The Honorable Mayor Angelyne Butler, MPA

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

Dr. Marc-Antonie Cooper, City Manager  
 Sharee Steed, City Clerk  
 Mike Williams, City Attorney

**CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME:** The meeting was called to order by Mayor Butler at 7:44pm.

**INVOCATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Invocation was done, and pledge was led by Pastor Paul Fortson

**ROLL CALL - CITY CLERK:** All was present, and a quorum was established

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

**DIRECTORS PRESENT:** A. Girard Geeter, Procurement Manager; Darquita Williams, Interim Finance Director; Shalonda Brown, Director of Human Resources, James Shelby, Director of Planning & Zoning, Bruce Abraham, Director Economic Development, Bobby Jinks, Director Public Works, Tarik Maxwell, Director of Parks and Recreation, Nathaniel Clark, Police Chief, and Latosha Clemons, Deputy Fire Chief

**PRESENTATION(S):**

**1. Ward 4 Yard of the Quarter - Councilwoman, Latresa Akins-Wells**

**It was motioned to table this item.**

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

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

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** (Please adhere to the 3-minute time limit) – There was one (1) speaker

**Lawanda Folami** – I want to thank Nathaniel Clark for keeping our accreditation and our police services, thank you from the Concerned Citizens of Forest Park for a good job. I also stand with Holland Park in Ellenwood; they are still seeking an answer on the issues they are having. I called Dr. Cooper, not sure if you received the message or not, to speak with you about what is happening to the constituents of Holland Park. Madame Mayor, Ward 3 Councilmember is calling constituents asking them to knock on doors to bring to other tenants the attention that there is a 3–6-month expense that is coming from you all and that you all are going to relocate them, that should not be said unless it is in writing.

**ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA:**

**It was motioned to Adopt the Agenda for the April 19, 2021 Regular Meeting as printed.**

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

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

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**2. Council Approval to Adopt the Council Work Session & Regular Meeting Minutes from April 5, 2021 and the Special Called Meeting Minutes from April 8, 2021 - Sharee Steed, City Clerk**

**It was motioned to Adopt the Council Work Session and Regular Meeting Minutes from April 5, 2021.**

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. City Manager would like to confirm the hiring of the new Director of Finance**

Dr. Cooper, City Manager asked Council to confirm Shaquita Winters Burke as the new Finance Director for the City of Forest Park. Ms. Burke has over 27 years of experience in creating Finance departments from ground up, well versed in zero based budgeting aspect that we are looking to bring to the city and help restructure the Finance department. She has an MBA and spent the last few years with the Vicksburg School District, working with bonds issues.

**It was motioned to Approve the hiring of Shaquita Winters Burke as the new Director of Finance.**

Motion made by Councilmember Antoine, Seconded by Councilmember James.

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

- 4. Approval of Resolution 2021-18 - Georgia Department of Natural Resources - Georgia Section 319(h) Non-Point Source, Implementation Grant FY2021 Green Infrastructure - LaShawn Gardiner, Management Analyst and James Shelby, Director of PB&Z**

**It was motioned to Approve Resolution 2021-18 - Georgia Department of Natural Resources - Georgia Section 319(h) Non-Point Source, Implementation Grant FY2021 Green Infrastructure**

Motion made by Councilmember James, Seconded by Councilmember Antoine.

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

- 5. Council Approval of the Replacement of Two (2) Pumpers and One (1) 75' Quint Aerial to be paid from Fire Department's SPLOST funds - Deputy Chief Clemons and Darquita Williams, Interim Finance Director**

**It was motioned to Approve the Replacement of Two (2) Pumpers and One (1) 75' Quint Aerial to be paid from Fire Department's SPLOST funds**

Motion made by Councilmember Mears, Seconded by Councilmember James.

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

- 6. Council Approval of the Legislative Offices Budget Amendment/Transfer of Funds - Sharee Steed, City Clerk and Darquita Williams, Interim Deputy Finance Director**

**It was motioned to Approve the Legislative Offices Budget Amendment/Transfer of Funds**

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

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

- 7. Council Approval of the Police Department Budget Amendment/Transfer of Funds - Chief Nathaniel Clark and Darquita Williams, Interim Finance Director**

**It was motioned to Approve the Police Department Budget Amendment/Transfer of Funds**



Motion made by Councilmember James, Seconded by Councilmember Antoine.

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

**8. Council Approval of the Executive Offices Budget Amendment/Transfer of Funds - Dr. Cooper, City Manager**

**It was motioned to Approve the Executive Offices Budget Amendment/Transfer of Funds**

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

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

**CLOSING COMMENTS BY GOVERNING BODY:**

**Councilmember James** – We had the Neighborhood Meeting for the month of April and will be downloaded to the City's website soon, and here are some highlights; James Shelby, Director of Planning and Zoning spoke about the capital projects to include Starr Park renovations, the new city center, which will combine city hall, fire and police and the administrative offices. He also spoke about the Premium Industrial Park in the form of Gillem Logistics Center which will house a mini public safety area with new buildings for fire and police, Main Street scape phase 2a and 2b getting started, Aerotropolis Model Mile, which expands Main Street to the Farmers Market with walking & bike trails. Be on the lookout for Open Houses & Public Hearing for LCI \$150,000 improvements and to visit the city's website for the surveys and he reminded the citizens this will not affect your taxes; all this money is from SPLOST funds and pilot program at the Gillem Logistics Center. Bobby Jinks, Director of Public Works spoke on how the department is busy will grass, road repairs, planting spring flowers, cleaning the parks, traffic signs and fleet maintenance. We had a special guest from MARTA, Dominique Hollman, who spoke about all the routes are being restored as of Sat., Apr. 24<sup>th</sup> and share the safety protocol to ensure that everyone is safe and feel safe riding the buses; trip times have been adjusted in Clayton, so please check the schedules at [www.itsmarta.com](http://www.itsmarta.com); the BRT (Bus Rapid Transit) a new project coming in our area, currently taking input from residents on this at [www.connectclayton.com](http://www.connectclayton.com) and put in comments until May 15<sup>th</sup>. Deputy Chief Clemons gave an update on the Fire Department and the new recruits, Clayton County Health Department vaccine strike team. Sgt. Zackery from the Police Department spoke the CALEB accreditation we received for the 7<sup>th</sup> year, announced the Neighborhood Watch meetings have started back, have new recruits started in April and some coming in May, with some graduating from training, crime in the city is at a 10year low. Mr. Fleming from Zoning Department shared information about the increase code violations and spoke on each violation. Danita Hamid, Economic Development spoke to us about the remodeling at 651 & 671 Main Street, Amazon is estimating their completion will be in the fall and they will have job fairs. Darquita Williams, Interim Finance Director reminded us that we are open to the public and drive-thru services are available and we are working on getting on-line payment options and Tarik Maxwell, Parks & Recreation told us parks and recreation, the summer soccer programs occurring this summer and the aqua-top and indoor pool programs. Please visit the city website to view the entire video of the meeting on Ward 1 page. We must write our own story, in my opinion, we are the best city, very diverse culturally and economically. We have everything from multi-million-dollar investors that live in our city to two parent households, single parent households, seniors, and young adults that all reside in our city. We have Asian, Hispanic, Blacks, Whites and mixed race and they all reside in our city, we are progressive, major developments are in process and forthcoming. Forest Park is a safe city, thanks to our Police Department, yes, we have more work to be done, but a lot has already be accomplished. Let us promote those who are saying positive things about our city and our communities and not the negative ones. Mark your calendars for May 15<sup>th</sup>, we will celebrate the Class of 2021 with a caravan, like last year, and thanks to all the Departments who are assisting with this event. Also, on that day at Stanford Field, behind Kiwanis Stadium, the Seniors will be celebrating at the football

game at 1pm. Information will be on the website about the route on that day and donations are being accepted, so that every senior will have a banner on their car, you can Cash App \$forestparkhspts2020. Thank you everyone for spending time with us tonight.

**Councilmember Antoine** – Thank you for joining us. Thanks to the Police and Fire Departments on their new recruits and the changes that are happening in Planning and Zoning. I will be working with the Strike Team to reach those that are homebound. Congratulations to our new Finance Director and City Manager. Thanks to Ms. Sharee Sneed, Ward 2, you have a bench on 2<sup>nd</sup> Street and a barbeque grill, we have a safety component on College Street and Slaton where it is hazardous for an accident to happen. Next month there will be a community meeting for Warren and Elizabeth Streets.

**Councilmember Gutierrez** – Thanks everyone for listening in. I am excited about everything that has happened tonight, the new firefighter class, seeing people who look like us, really touched my heart. It is good to see, especially when negative things get highlighted more than when what is happening here, so when we started our own training and doing it within the community and changing someone's life, by giving them the opportunity to change their career. Welcome to the new Police Officers that at the academy, the new Finance Director, and the new City Manager. Upcoming events Food Truck Friday, May 7<sup>th</sup> with a Mother's Day theme and our Ward 3 cleanup on May 8<sup>th</sup>, I hope to have more volunteers and reminder to the employees, we did pass a policy where 2 days in the year, you can volunteer and use it as time worked, please take advantage of that, you can contact the HR Department to get further details. I want to address a comment that was made, keeping my constituents aware of things, is something that I do, and I am sad that it was taken out of context, but I did share with my constituents the different options that the city was experiencing and just as a reminder this whole thing was started by the Clayton Crescent, when you posted that article, Ms. Robin Kemp, got the wheel rolling. Councilmember Wells received calls and she forwarded to me and I went out and had a meeting with the constituents and brought their concerns to council. This has been going on for years and we are now trying to solve it. If you want to be part of the resolution become part of it, if you find fault you can do that as well, it is all about love, preach, teach, and spread love. I apologize for giving the different options, which was taken out of context. Holland Park we are working on the situation.

**Councilmember Akins-Wells** – I would like to piggyback off Councilmember Gutierrez's comments about Holland Park, for a lot of years this has been an issue and things were said, but not followed through. So, I appreciate you for attempting to keep the residents informed. Wellness with Wells on tomorrow from 6pm – 7pm and on Saturday, April 24<sup>th</sup>, myself and Felicia Palmer founder of Jesus Jewels will be having a Health and Wellness Community Event, from 10am – 2pm at 528 Suite D Forest Parkway, with line dancing hosted by Nick Fitness, so come out and enjoy the event, we are just trying to bring the community together because there is so much hate and negative things going around and bringing one another down, we need to do things to bring us together. Welcome again to our City Manager and I hope and pray that you will do the right thing and I have faith that you will, thank you in advance. Thanks to Captain Baker and the Fire Department for making the changes and welcome to the new recruits. Thanks to everyone for joining us tonight.

**Councilmember Mears** – There was a Clayton County officer killed today and we need to keep the family in prayer. Police and Fire put their lives on the line everyday and when we are at home warm and safe, they are out getting wet and fighting. We owe them a lot of gratitude for what they do. I am happy to see we are expanding and doing well, which means the city is getting better. Thanks to both Police and Fire and to Interim Finance Director for the job she has done for the city.

**Mayor Butler** – I echo a lot of the sentiments shared by my colleagues, but I want to expand upon the CALEB accreditation, it is not just we received this the 7<sup>th</sup> time, but it is the first time the City was awarded an advance accreditation and that is to be commended and I want to thank you Chief Clark, for the work you did in bring this to fruition. Regarding Holland Park at Gillem, we all know that the root of the problem did not occur with this administration, but

I want you to understand that we are truly committed to bringing a solution. And yes, some information was prematurely spoken on, but it is important that we really allow the process to play out, because we do not want what could be an amicable conversation/possible solution to become adversary. So, we have hit a bit of a roadblock, and we are not ready to fully discuss what the options are, I do want you to know that in conversations with the apartment complex management company has not been as forthcoming as we had wanted them to be. We would like the residents to assist the city in speaking with the City Attorney, Mike Williams, in gathering some information, which will help us in trying to figure out we are moving forward. There is not one answer here, so we are trying to explore all our options and once we have something we can stand on, we will be coming back with some solutions for us to have a holistic conversation.

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

**It was motioned to recess into Executive Session at 8:17pm.**

Motion made by Councilmember Mears, Seconded by Councilmember James.

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

***NOTE: Councilmembers Antoine and Akins-Wells left the meeting at 9:30pm***

**It was motioned to reconvene from Executive Session back into Regular Meeting at 9:33pm**

Motion made by Councilmember James, Seconded by Councilmember Gutierrez.

Voting Yea: Councilmember James, Councilmember Gutierrez, Councilmember Mears

**It was motioned to approve and authorize settlement of litigation with Dwayne Hobbs as discussed in Executive Session.**

Motion made by Councilmember James, Seconded by Councilmember Gutierrez.

Voting Yea: Councilmember James, Councilmember Gutierrez, Councilmember Mears

**ADJOURNMENT:**

**It was motioned to adjourn the April 19, 2021 Regular Council meeting at 9:45pm.**

Motion made by Councilmember Mears, Seconded by Councilmember James.

Voting Yea: Councilmember James, Councilmember Gutierrez, Councilmember Mears