



## CITY COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION

Monday, November 07, 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](http://www.forestparkga.gov)  
**YouTube:** <https://bit.ly/3c28p0A>  
**Phone Number:** (404) 366.4720

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

The Honorable Mayor Angelyne Butler, MPA

The Honorable Kimberly James  
The Honorable Hector Gutierrez  
The Honorable Allan Mears

The Honorable Dabouze Antoine  
The Honorable Latresa Akins-Wells

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:**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS: (All Speakers will have 3 Minutes)**

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

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

- 1. Council Approval of Council Work Session and Regular Meeting Minutes from October 17, 2022 - City Clerk**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

2. **Council Approval to Endorse a Bus Rapid Transit Alternative** – Executive Offices
3. **Council Approval of Certificate Allocating Local Option Sales Tax Proceeds** - Legal
4. **Council Approval of Information Technology Hardware Surplus** - Information Technology Department
5. **Council Approval Resolution 22-24 Accepting the BJA FY 2022 Bullet Proof Vest Reimbursement Program Funding** – Grants/Police
6. **Council Approval to Purchase Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus** – Fire & EMS Department
7. **Council Approval to Add Email Addresses for City Boards** - Legislative
8. **Council Approval of a Home Repair Grant Program and Guidelines** – Executive Office

**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 of Council Work Session and Regular Meeting Minutes from October 17, 2022 -**  
City Clerk



## CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION

Monday, October 17, 2022, at 6:00 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.

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### **DRAFT MINUTES**

**CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME:** The meeting was called to order by Mayor Butler @ 6:00pm and 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, Joshua Cox, IT Director, Chiquita Barkley, Finance Director, LaShawn Gardiner, Director Planning & Community Development, Shalonda Brown, HR Director, David Halcome, Deputy Fire Chief, Bobby Jinks, Director Public Works, and Arthur Geeter, Purchasing Manager

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

- Early Voting starts today October 17 - November 4, 2022. This is not a municipal election; all elections questions should be directed to the Clayton County Board of Elections (770)-477-3372.
  - Weekend voting will be held on Saturday, October 22, and Sunday October 23, 2022.
  - Saturday voting – October 29, 2022, and optional Sunday Voting October 30, 2022.
  - The last day to request an absentee ballot is October 28, and your ballot must be in your local County Board of Registrar's Office hands by the time polls close on Election Day, November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2022, to be counted. Remember residents do not need an excuse to request an absentee ballot.
- 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.

**CITY OPERATIONS:**

- In observance of National Breast Cancer Awareness Month, we are asking city staff to wear pink on Friday, October 21. We will be showcasing our staff via our Social Media page to show our support of the survivors and their families, as well as the family's that loss a loved ones to cancer.
- The City of Forest Park submitted for GMA's Visionary Cities Award. The awards are presented at the Cities United Summit and recognize cities that have executed innovative projects utilizing collaboration, furthering inclusiveness, and equity, increasing civic engagement and contributing long-term value to the community.
- The attached link from the Clayton Daily News regarding all the Events for the weekend of October 7-9 in the City of Forest Park. PIO Javon Lloyd is doing an awesome job getting events/information published. [GET OUT THERE: 5 things to do in the Clayton County area this weekend, October 7-9 | Clayton News Photo Slideshows | news-daily.com](#)

**EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT/SHOUT OUT:**

- Congratulations to our Economic Development Team, and its Director Bruce Abraham on a successful Business Appreciation Breakfast. Thank you for all the businesses that participated, and those expression interest in future participation. We are looking forward to more events and collaborations.



- On Thursday, October 13, Deputy Director’s Nigel Wattle, Public Works, Diane Lewis, Human Resources, and Deputy Chief Michael Brunson, Deputy Clerk Michelle Hood, Director LaShawn Gardiner all attended the Emerge Atlanta one-day professional development symposium sponsored by the NFBPA.
- Forest Park Police Officer Sheena Johnson received an award from the Knights of Columbus 50th Annual Public Safety Appreciation Day.
- Congratulations – Planning and Community Development Director LaShawn Gardiner graduating from the 2022 Leadership Clayton Class. This is a nine-month program engaging emerging and existing leaders to broaden their knowledge of community issues, sharpen leadership skills, and challenge themselves and other to seek solutions to key issues affecting our community. GREAT JOB LaShawn.



- 1<sup>st</sup> Employee Fun Day at Starr Park, which was held on Friday, October 14. Thank you, Mayor and City Council thank you for your participation and for allowing staff the time to enjoy the festivities. I would like to extend a big Thank You to Director Shalonda Brown, Director Tarik Maxwell, and Director Bobby Jinks and all their staff members for the set up, and execution of such a wonderful time for all. We hope to do many more in the future to show staff just how much they are appreciated.

**PRESENTATION(S):**

1. **City of Forest Park 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Financial Reporting for Fiscal Year 2022-22**– Finance Department

**Background/History:**

Presentation of COFP 1st Quarter Financial Report for Fiscal Year 2022-2023

**Chiquita Barkley, Finance Director** - Gave an overview of the past, present, and future of the city financial state. The total Revenue was projected at \$34,687,289. The amount that has been collected totals \$7,622,349 which is 22 percent. We are on schedule to exceed revenue projections for this year if we stay on target.



The past misapprehensions will take time and patience, as the items I have identified: financial inaccuracies, improper setup of funds which is work in progress, no consistency in processing and lack of collaboration between finance and departments dated back to 2019.

The present consists of correcting past account issues, being transparent and enforcing accountability. They are still trying to bring aged collections current, working to establish financial GAAP policies, and having staff trained so that they are more efficient and knowledgeable when dealing with payables and other areas of finance.

In the future Incode will push out the cloud ERP system so that we can hopefully do away with E-Gov which we currently use. There will be training for city staff users on financial software processes and policies and there will be an accounts payable options for ACH payments for city vendors. However, finance has a lot of work to do to become current and more efficient.

Our accomplishments to date consist of collected delinquent revenues owed to the city. Real estate taxes equal \$409,722 and personal property taxes of \$264,202. The resolution to tax issues for 2018-2021 and received federal taxes refund in the amount of \$681,925.75. ADP Payroll is expected to launch in November. We have been working to remove former employees from the bank authorizations and update it with current staff. Two of our employees, Nakeeta Davis and Leigh Corley received their Level I Certification in Governmental Accounting, which is a plus. The Empower contributions and loans have been brought current through the first week of October, however; it still requires an audit to be completed for the last 2 years.

#### **Comments/Discussions from Governing Body:**

**Councilmember James** – Thank you so much for what you are doing in our financial department. You said there are some things that should not be housed in finance. Can you give me some examples of what you are talking about?

**Finance Director** – Because of the lack of understanding of the processing of requisitions and purchase orders, we have various departments that bring over their invoices or send an email for finance to create their purchase orders. That is a conflict, finance should not create the purchase order and then pay it. That is room for fraud, which is one component.

The biggest component that we have is personnel files that we currently house and that predates anybody in here. We have tons of personnel files and finance should not have personnel files, so they need to be put back in their proper place. We are going to do that with ADP.

**Councilmember James** – I was one of those that had paper payroll. Can the reimbursement checks go electronic? When I submit my receipts, they come back in paper form.

**Finance Director** – We can do that once we go to the ACHP for Peaceful Vendors, but reimbursement checks do not go through payroll, it goes through the payable process. Once we launch the components, then absolutely.

**Councilmember James** – Empower contribution, in the past we had employees that had issues with reimbursement and paying their loans back. When you say that everything is current, do you know if those employees have gotten their reimbursement?

**Finance Director** – I am not sure what you are speaking of when you say reimburse.

**Councilmember James** – There was an issue where loan payments were taken out of their checks and for whatever reason empower was not getting the payments.

**Finance Director** – That was the problem, the payment was being taken from the employee paycheck, but was not being submitted to empower. To bring the accounts current the monies that had been extracted from their payroll checks when I went through and started going forward and trying to put the monies in the proper place, those monies were then uploaded to Empower. They are not due a refund the money still went into the Empower account towards their loans. The thing is now for me to go back the last 2 years to try and audit their files to make sure that no one has overpaid.

**Councilmember James** – That is where the audit would come in at, and I know this predates you.

**Finance Director** – It does, but I have been working with this for several months, we also submitted for amortizations of those loans and of those retirement plans to where we will go back, and whatever percentage they would have accrued during the time of default, then we will correct that wrong. So, if they are getting loans and they are not being paid they need to let me know, because I pay them every Friday on payday. We are still working through this and righting the wrong for those employees. The very last loan document that I received was in June and that predates the entire process, when we learned of all of this

**City Manager** – These loans are not affecting anyone credit or credit report. They are borrowing from themselves, so it is not being looked at. Even if you default on the loan, it is coming out of your payroll, and it will be converted over to income that you are going to have to file on your taxes. I just wanted to clarify that.

**Councilmember Antoine** – Good job in 6 months you have turned it around, I am proud of you. Thank you so much for what you are doing for the city. You need help obviously, how many people do you need to have a full staff?

**Finance Director** – About 3

**Councilmember Antione** – You need that help, so let us know what we can do on that part. Page 3 on the circle graph, miscellaneous and revenues can you give a list of three things that goes in there.

**Finance Director** – The aging, sanitation, and property taxes, those are from prior years. So, all that money is captured there. It is money that we did not identify, nor did we expect it. We always keep our figure cross that we can collect.

**Councilmember Antione** – How many was that?

**Finance Director** – It was three.

**City Manager** – it was about 2.3 million

**Councilmember Gutierrez** – Thanks for the presentations, the charts help. Today, I stopped by the police department, and I asked a gentleman how we treat you. He mentioned to me that he was treated very well but could not pay for his ticket online. Our ticket payment process is that something we can approve upon or is that another technology.

**Finance Director** – To my knowledge it is already out there for everyone to use. P.D. has an online portal for them to pay for their tickets.



**City Manager** – It depends on what the ticket was for and if he was past his date. If it were a ticket for him to appear he could not pay for it online. PD do have capabilities for tickets to be paid online.

**Councilmember Gutierrez** – He said he was playing with his phone, and he got a ticket for that. I was just curious if that was one of the programs that was getting updated, but you saying it is already in place.

**Finance Director** – That is my understanding. With that in mind, we are looking to do that with all property taxes, for citizens to be able to pay online. We can, add that as a caveat.

**Councilmember Akins-Wells** – Thank you so much for all your hard work. I know it has not been easy and it is not going to get easy anytime soon. You mentioned about everyone going paper, which is going to be tough. I do not know how cost-effective it would be, but have you thought about doing the prepaid cards to have the checks loaded on it? Is that something that we can do?

**Finance Director** – It is only a few people. I think my first month here councilmember James, and Councilman Mears came on Board with this.

**Councilmember Mears** – Wanted to thank her for what she is doing and said that she is doing a wonderful job.

## **PUBLIC HEARING:**

### **2. 2nd Reading & Public Hearing 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.

**2nd 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**

#### **3rd Public Hearing for Regular Meeting**

#### **It was moved to open the public hearing on the Millage Rate**

Motion made by Councilmember James, Seconded by Councilmember Antoine.

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

There were no speakers for or against the Millage Rate

#### **It was moved to close the Public Hearing for the Millage Rate**

Motion made by Councilmember James, Seconded by Councilmember Antoine.

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

**NEW BUSINESS:**

3. **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 Manager** – This is based on the conversation in the last meeting of things, which were requested by Councilmember James, and other councilmembers on their priority list. This was that urgent of a matter, that it should not wait. If the council would allocate those funds, it would be reduced from AARPA allocation to continue to help our residents, because we do have several residences that have applied for funding and are currently on hold.

**Comments/Discussion from Governing Body:**

**Councilmember Antoine** – How do the people doing the program get paid?

**City Manager** – There is an administrative fee, and those costs went down, because they lost one person, but the program is still going on, so they are getting an administrative cost, which is minor to the entire program. The last few months when the funds started running low, they started reallocating those cost to help with the residence rental payments. The last couple of months they did not receive any payment on that.

4. **Christmas Lights/Decorations** – 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 reviewed the need for the upcoming Christmas holiday season and request \$50,000 to purchase a new set of lights.

**City Manager** – This is a request to replace not only some of the lights that we previously had that are no longer useful, but to replace them with some of the newer lights that you see in the picture, with some of the arches and things that public works and recreation and leisure thought would be more festive in the city.

**Comments/Discussion from Governing Body:**

**Councilmember James** – Agrees with this and thinks the upgrade is needed. Wanted to know if the wreaths are included in this, or just lights?

**City Manager** – To his understanding it is just lights because the cost starts going up. There are new additions like having the logo engulfed in lights and different things of that nature.

**Councilmember James** – Can we look at possible upgrading the wreaths, because they are old and worn?

**City Manager - Ok**

**Councilmember Antoine** – Wanted help understanding how they got the numbers of 10-15 years.

**City Manager** – Bobby has been here for twenty plus years, and many of those lights were there when he came.

**Bobby Jinks, Public Works Director** – The wreaths on Main Street were refurbished about 12-14 years ago and basically all the ornaments you see out there were here when I came here. The only thing that has been added is lights around the track and the Christmas tree. As far as ordering they are on a timeline and if they want to order it needs to be done immediately, or it will not make it in time for them to get them up.

**Councilmember Antione** – How did you produce the year of how old the lights are?

**Bobby Jinks** – I have been here 31 years and we have been putting the same ones up and they sent the wreaths off 12-14 years ago to be refurbished.

**Councilmember Gutierrez** – Thanks for the history of our lights. He is in support of it. He remembers going to the GMA conventions and meeting people that sell these nice lights. I can remember Bobby telling me that people take the bulb part of the lights out and the whole thing goes dark, so keep that in mind when purchasing them.

**Bobby Jinks** – Technology has increased since that, we would change from regular to LED, but still screw them in. We cannot replace every fixture in one year because it is expensive.

**Mayor Butler** – If this is the company, it is, it did come from GMA. I am excited, thank you.

**5. Waste Management Contract - Public Works Department****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 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.**

**Comments/Discussion from Governing Body:**

**City Manager** – One reason we have come to the council to ask about this is, because council knows that sanitation is billed on our billing annual statements, with the property taxes. We are asking that these funds be allocated to ensure the funds are there to cover sanitation for this year, and it will be discussed with the upcoming budget.

We ask that these funds be appropriated so that we can pay the bills, while we negotiate with Waste Management to come to terms with the new contract, per council direction. We are asking for the budget amendment to cover that and recover that money as the property taxes are paid for the upcoming year, which is why we are setting the millage price tonight. Property taxes and millage bills will go out and those funds will come back to the general fund, we want to make sure the funds are there to cover while we are going through negotiation with Waste Management.

**Councilmember James** – I am in favor to make sure the funds are there. I know we went about 10 years with no increase to the residence and commercial for their sanitation services. When was the last increase that was communicated to the residence and/or commercial about sanitation? The reason I ask is, because typically with our sanitation it does not cost the city anything. We receive money in, and it accounts as a surplus at the end of the year that we can use. When was the last time commercial or residential had an increase?

**City Manager** – That is what we are talking about and again it is built on property taxes, and it is an enterprise fund and that is where the funds come from. They are not coming out of the general fund appropriation. I will let Bobby answer the last time it was done.

**Bobby Jinks, Public Works Director** – The previous contract has a breakdown of estimated increase for each year. Last year it went up 3.6 percent. Each year it does what the economy does. In here I saw it stated if we sign, back when we did the first one it was going to be a minimum of 10 percent increase, due to inflation.

**City Manager** – When was the last time we had the actual increase?

**Public Works Director** – It was 2019.

**Councilmember James** – The annual property taxes, when is that?

**City Manager** – If the council vote and approve it, property taxes will be going out within the week.

**Councilmember James** – Will we be incurring this deficit for the city or are we putting in place some compensation that will come to the residents and the business owners, since they have not had an increase since 2019?

**City Manager** – This is just money we are asking to appropriate to make sure we have it, while we go through negotiation. Once we go through negotiation and bring that back to council, whatever those rates are we will have to discuss it, and that would be cost that is passed on the following year on the next year property increase not this year.

Previously, we looked through the numbers before the RFP was cancelled, we had enough to absorb what was going to happen, but with the current rates that are being charged, if we continue, we would be in a deficit. As that money comes in from property taxes being paid annually, we do not see that it is going to be 3.1 million dollars. It will be less because we collect on an average of 279.96 per resident. So, we will collect the funds to be able to cover the cost, but we just need to make sure we already have the monies there, in case of a delay in property taxes or anything coming in.

**Councilmember James** – When we do incur the increase of whatever it may be, we made the increase so that it is not something that would happen every year. We allocated enough so that the CPI interest rate or whatever goes up would not affect our residents. I want to make sure we have that in place too.

**City Manager** – Yes, mam

**Councilmember Antoine** – Is this the first time we had this shortage?

**City Manager** – It is the first time since I have been here, I am not sure what happened previously. It may look like a shortage, but it is an appropriation to make sure we do not hit a shortage. We are trying to be more pro-active than re-active.

**Councilmember Antoine** – Within the contract did they change our garbage days because I am seeing garbage getting picked up the next day on Tuesday? Do you know about that?

**Public Works Director** – Dr. Cooper and I have put some fire in some places, and it seems not to be doing much good. When we go into negotiation, I would like extra time to address some of these issues. I brought this to their attention on Friday, to see if we would have a fresh start on Monday. I sent out an email at 7:30 to see if they would be on schedule and to let me know if they got behind. Yes sir, Mr. Jinks, it is on schedule, when I walked in, I found out something different.

**Councilmember Gutierrez** – Not that there is a problem with Waste Management, I do not like the way we cancelled the RFP and now we only have one choice. It is like we gave them all the cards and I am disappointed in us as a cancelling for just giving this to one person. There is no competition and there is complacency, so we are going to get charged whatever they want to charge, because there is only one person competing. Nothing against Waste Management, I hope they step their game up because trash is being picked up late.

**Public Works Director** – If Dr. Cooper and I have any say so, there will be repercussions in this contract, because there have not been any in the past 20 years. They could do what they wanted to and there was no financial repercussion for them, but if we have our way, there will be repercussions if they do not hold up to their part of the contract.

**Councilmember Akins-Wells** – Mike, can you tell us where we stand as far as the negotiation process, because it is costing us more monthly without having a contract?

**City Attorney** – We have a contract that runs through the end of the year at the rates they presented in the RFP response. That is how we are operating now, notwithstanding these hiccups with operational matters.

The next meeting is on the 25<sup>th</sup>, with Waste Management representatives here at city hall. They have been given a draft contract and we will receive a response and begin actual negotiation.

**Councilmember Mears** – I can see they have us in a tuff spot, because there are only 2 or 3 that are big enough to handle our problem. If we can take the money and give it to the city like we got it, the increase is going to come eventually. Everything has gone up, food prices and everything, so you cannot expect it to stay low. It is going to be a hardship for some people with gas and everything going up. If we can recover most of our money, I will accept, because we are going to have to pay the increase anyway.

**Mayor Butler** – Can you clarify something. When Waste Management did not provide a service public works would come to the rescue and just pickup, and that had been going on for a significant period. Now public work is removing themselves, and rightfully so to an extent and allowing waste management to fulfill their obligation to the city, which is to provide services regardless of how late it may be. This explains why the services may be delayed some, because public works are no longer picking up their slack.

**City Manager** – Not only that public works does not have the workforce to do it. The elevated issues that came to city manager in the past were turned over to Mr. Jinks, and what we found out is it was Waste Management going back out to pick it up, it was public works going to drop the trash off. We understand the late setouts because you do have those, but when there is an entire block that is something that is different.

This goes back to the email from Councilmember James, about getting the communications out to the residents about recycling and other options of what we have. We have not put out those pamphlets yet, we are still working on that. We do have information out there regarding recycling and things of that nature, with some changes that were made before any negotiations happened. It was about the type of products picked up, how they were picked up (mattress, etc.) things of that nature.

The first meeting we had with Waste Management, they agreed to go back to doing what our contract had stated, that is one reason we are back to doing what the contract stated. They are supposed to be picked up on their regular days, the type of trash and debris. All those things are supposed to be put back into place without all the changes that was made.

Changes were arbitrarily made by Waste Management and dictated to the city and never communicated to the residents. That is one reason you had residence calling us asking why they must call in to get yard debris picked up. Well, that was a change made by Waste Management and the city was not aware of it. That will all be communicated in the contract with a new number to their customer service call center, that they say they have, to get that information out to the residents. The only reason it has not already gone out is because we are waiting to finalize it so we can send all the information to go out and not in pieces.

**Councilmember Akins-Wells** – So public works was going out to pick up trash on the days they were missing the trash?

**City Manager** – Somewhat, yes.

**Councilmember Akins-Wells** - These complaints that you all say we get; I would like to see some of them. Of course, trash pickup is late sometimes, which is everywhere with whomever receives the contract. I would like to see this because I never receive them. To vote on something, I would like to be knowledgeable, so I would have to see them.



**City Manager** – I agree with you councilwoman, when they come into the city manager the job is to handle the complaint and not let it get to council. We will let you and the rest of the council see those complaints we have received; we have a folder full of them.

**Councilmember Antoine** – In your negotiation, can you add that businesses and residents cannot wait till the next day for trash to be picked up. You have businesses that put out trash every single day that needs to be picked up and it is not getting picked up then they are putting out more trash and it is really piled up. That is a big concern.

**City Manager** – Councilman the businesses are build monthly and they pay for how many times a week they want their trash picked up. Once we negotiate these prices we can come back and start looking at how many times we as a city require businesses to be picked up.

One of the things we would not want with certain restaurants is for trash to be sitting out there 2 or 3 days, because it brings vermin and rodents, things like that. The city may put the criteria there (I am not saying this is what is going to happen) that restaurants need to be picked up Monday, Wednesday, and Friday or whatever we deem necessary.

**Councilmember James** – I would also like to include in the contract the trash can itself, so that they are required to pull it back themselves. They leave the can out sometimes 3 or 4 days after it has been dumped. One resident just leaves their trash can out there and brings the trash to the corner, while the can sits out there the whole time. It needs to be communicated to residents

**Councilmember Akins-Wells** – What you are saying about the city making Waste Management pickup multiple times, if the businesses are paying once a month, then we should enforce them to have it done not Waste Management.

**City Manager** – The businesses pay how many times they will have Waste Management to pick up. The city may put the criteria on the commercial businesses such as, for instant restaurants, you cannot throw your food out and have it there for a whole month before you pick it up again. You must pay for at least 3 days a week to have this picked up or whatever the city deems.

**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 at 7:02pm**

Motion made by Councilmember Antoine, Seconded by Councilmember Gutierrez.

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



# 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](http://www.forestparkga.gov)  
**YouTube:** <https://bit.ly/3c28p0A>  
**Phone Number:** (404) 366.4720

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

The Honorable Mayor Angelyne Butler, MPA

The Honorable Kimberly James  
 The Honorable Hector Gutierrez  
 The Honorable Allan Mears

The Honorable Dabouze Antoine  
 The Honorable Latresa Akins-Wells

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

## DRAFT MINUTES

**CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME:** The meeting was called to order at 7:02pm by Mayor Butler and she read the Mission Statement.

**INVOCATION/PLEDGE:** Invocation and pledge was led by Dr. Lula Gholson

**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, Joshua Cox, IT Director, Chiquita Barkley, Finance Director, LaShawn Gardiner, Director Planning & Community Development, Shalonda Brown, HR Director, David Halcome, Deputy Fire Chief, Bobby Jinks, Director Public Works, and Arthur Geeter, Purchasing Manager

**PRESENTATIONS:****1. Presentation by Superintendent of Schools**

**Dr. Morcease J. Beasley**, Superintendent of Clayton County Schools gave an update on the schools within Clayton County and City of Forest Park.

**Dr. Beasley** - Is joined by Chief of Communication Jada Dawkins and wanted to highlight a few things. He is pleased to announce that the graduate rate is almost 80 percent, as a county it is at 79 percent. He is very pleased to share that Forest Park High School has finally hit the 80 percent mark and wanted to say congratulations.

We are hoping to have everyone at 90 percent by 2026, there is one high school that is still in the seventies at 77 percent and that is Drew High School, but we are moving in the right direction. I would like to make sure we encourage parents to make sure the students are completing Career Pathways. We know from the data that when the students complete a pathway, they graduate at a rate between 94-98 percent.

There is only about 50 percent of the students completing a pathway right now. They have an opportunity to earn up to thirty-two credits, it only takes three credits to complete a pathway, so they have many options and opportunities.

We do have a virtual learning program this year, and we have about nine hundred students learning virtually, and everyone else is face to face. The process of designing the new Forest Park Middle School has begun, and our goal is to get the design approved in the upcoming months. We will then do the groundbreaking and get the old building demolished, so we can get to building the new facility.

Thanks, mayor, and all of you that may have participated in the Reimagining America Schools opportunities, where we can hopefully create a seamless relationship between the school and the community. We are excited that forest Park Middle School, that cluster will be one of our community school locations.

We expect that our parents will be engaged and informed about all the resources that will be available to them in that space. Mr. Hector is going to help us do an excellent job of making sure that our parents are connected to all the resources and opportunities; to ensure students and families have what they need to learn.

**Councilmember Antione** – Would you like to mention SPLOST?

**Dr. Beasley** – In March of 2023, we will put out another referendum SPLOST 7, 6 Early Learning Centers, 4 Elementary Schools, a new North Clayton High School, a modernized Lovejoy High School, and HVAC athletic facilities. If this county votes yes, we will be able to bring those things to fruition.

**Councilmember Gutierrez** – Thank you for being here, that shows your dedication to come and inform our people here in Forest Park and you are always welcome. Our community school initiative here In Forest Park, we are blessed as a county to be one of those hubs, and we are also blessed to be able to invest in positions like this. You always have our support, three of us work for the county, and I know Councilwoman Wells and Councilman Mears are always supporting our school with events and other things. Thanks for coming out and informing our people of the great things going on here in our county. There is a 5k this weekend at Lake Spivey, so come on and walk it out for mental health.

**Councilwoman Wells** – Thank you for being here, giving us and our community the information we need. Thanks for your hard work and everything you have done to contribute to Clayton County. I am very excited about Forest Park High School because it was a mess when I was there.

**Dr Beasley** – Forest Park had an increase in advancement placement scores. We need to do a better job making sure you get that data; so, you can tweet about what is going on with your schools.

**Councilmember Mears** - Thank you for being here. My wife, father, and his sisters all graduated from Forest Park Middle when I was at Forest Park High School, which goes back to railroad time. It is time to build it over.

**Councilmember James** – I do not always complain, I want to put that on the record. Thank you so much for all you do for our city and our schools and our county. I appreciate it.

**Mayor Butler** – I want to thank you, I have sat in many settings in which people would speak about the past as it relates to Clayton County Public Schools, but in present tense. Each time I correct them know that you cannot mix the two. I tell them what Clayton County School is currently. There is information like this that people cannot wrap their heads around that we have changed, we have progressed, we have grown and evolved into this fantastic school system, and you are the leader of it: and I thank you for everything that you have done.

As a municipality we know people into the school system, but it is also the community, so we must do our part and we are doing our part. I just want you to know that this is truly a partnership, and I am so grateful to work with you.

**Dr. Beasley** – Thank you correcting them, because we cannot describe even our country on what happened in 1865, that is our history; so, let us talk about and focus on where we are today. I can assure you this school system because I am here in Forest Park, they are moving in the right direction and all of you should be very proud.

## **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**

#### **It was moved to open the Public Hearing for the Millage Rate**

Motion made by Councilmember James, Seconded by Councilmember Gutierrez.

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

There were no speakers for or against the Millage Rate

#### **It was moved to close the Public Hearing for the Millage Rate**

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 adopt the ordinance for millage rate of 16.743**

Motion made by Councilmember Mears, 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 two (2) speakers:

**Melanie Carter** – Is back to see if she would get the speed breaker she asked about, because no one contacted her. She asked, do all the council members have to live in Forest Park, pay taxes here or own a house here? She stated that she was trying to figure out something. You call my house and ask do you have my support; I need to know when I come here, do you all support me and my family? You ask if you could get my vote, and I say yes, I am asking for a speed breaker, and I do not know where I am with it. You are talking about Christmas lights, but you are not talking about saving lives and kids. I did get one good thing out of this when the superintendent spoke, it is all about the kids.

**Carl Evans** – Has a concern about the new telephone system. You have disconnected the direct line that citizens have had for years to reach people. There have been multiple citizens complaining that they do not get to talk to a person anymore, all they get is a voicemail; and no returned call and I have experienced it too. I would like to see the city go back to real customer service, because he does not want to talk to a machine. He still has things that have not been taken care of. He has limbs that have been out over a year and have not been picked up, there is also a pile that has been out for over a month that no one has picked up. There is a problem with the street sweeper not backing up to get what it misses. I suggest you do not make it harder for the people or do away with the direct lines and have better communication. For instance, National Night Out a lot of citizens had no clue you were having the program that night. So, we need to work on communication in this city.

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

**It was moved to adopt the council agenda as printed.**

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

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

### **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**

**It was moved to approve the minutes from October 3rd and Special Called meeting minutes of Oct. 12th.**

Motion made by Councilmember Antoine, Seconded by Councilmember Mears

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

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

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

**It was moved not to approve the de-annexation of Parcel #13014D A002Z**

Motion made by Councilmember James, Seconded by Councilmember Mears.

**Governing Body Comments/Discussions:**

**Councilmember Antione** – Wanted to know why she was not in favor.

**Councilmember James** – It is less than an acre or so across from Hendricks Drive and there is a home right next to it, and if we De-Annex it we have no control over what goes there, right now it is zoned as residential. With the county the adjacent property is also zoned residential, but by chance if they want to change the zoning, we do not have any control over it. During her conversation with the county there is no issue working with different municipalities when it comes to development, and she thinks it would be in the best interest of the city not to de-annex it.

**Mayor Butler** – Was a conversation had about them annexing the unincorporated area to Forest Park, instead of de-annexing Forest Park, annexing in unincorporated?

**City Manager** – This was a request from the applicant to the county to de-annex, which is why they came to us to ask for permission to de-annex, but the conversation about annexing into the city has not been had.

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

**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

**It was moved to approve allocating funds to City Edge Project**

Motion made by Councilmember Antoine, Seconded by Councilmember James.

**Governing Body Comment/Discussion:**

**Councilmember James** – Wanted to know if they could also implement a housing repair, to the services.

**City Manager** – That is something that will be brought back on November 7<sup>th</sup>, because we have not had that discussion with them or any agency, but the city cannot facilitate it, but it will be a discussion.

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

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

**It was moved to approve the purchase of new Christmas lights for the city**



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

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

**It was moved to approve additional funds for the Waste Management contract**

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

**CLOSING COMMENTS BY GOVERNING BODY:**

**Councilmember James** – Congratulation to all the staff members, recognized during the city managers report. Welcome to all the new staff members. Regarding the speed break, I know that there is a process that it must go through before it can be placed. I am not sure of your address and what has been done, but we can investigate that. As far as the question about serving on the council, yes you do have to live in the city, you do not have to own though. In fact, you would have to live in your perspective ward unless you are the mayor, then you can live wherever in the city.

As far as direct communications are concerned, we cannot go backwards, but I have had a couple of people call that were not aware of the number change. I know we have done some online things to make sure the residence is informed, so maybe we need to do a letter to the residence. We can do some sort of palm card with the actual extensions or something to make sure people are educated. Then maybe we can have a go to operator, where they can press zero and go straight to someone, and that person can direct them to the perspective area.

This is the third Thursday, which is when I do my Ward meeting. There will be subject matter experts there at 696 Main Street and we will also be broadcasting live. The information will also be available online, and it will be at 5:00 pm, and there will be information available about what is going on in each of the departments.

I would also like to say congratulations to Ms. Brown and her team for putting on the Employee Appreciation Day. Big shoutout to public works and the tug of war, they beat everybody. One of the guys made a statement: we carry the city on our shoulders. That is why they are the strongest, but we will be ready the next time. Ms. Brown said we would do something for the employees in the spring also.

Early voting started today and there are eight locations where you can early vote. One of those locations is at our senior center. Voting is from 8-7p Monday- Friday, Saturday, October 22<sup>nd</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup> 9-5p., Sunday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>-30<sup>th</sup> 2-5 pm. Then on regular voting day you will go to your area poll. Ward 1 polling area has moved from Forest Park Middle School to Dr. Beeler's Church on Main Street.

**Councilmember Antione** – Thank you all for coming out. Tonight, is going to be very cold. We have the only Men, Women & Children Shelter on Thurman Road. If you know of anybody that is going to be outside in the cold that is where they would call to get some help. I would like to give a shoutout to Captain Whitehead and his staff that came in. I would like to give a shoutout to Bruce, the only one that sent me a card to say thank you out of all the three hundred employees, for voting for the check. I would like to give Ms. Diane's, staff a shoutout for the programs we receive every month after the meetings, all of this must be typed up. Do not think your work is going unnoticed, thank you for all you do for us.

**Councilmember Gutierrez** – Welcomed the new employees to the Forest Park family. Wanted to shoutout HR and Parks and Recreation for the celebration they put on for the employees. The employees are the engine to what makes the city run, so thank you.

Wanted to address Ms. Carter, and should have gotten back to her, gave his apologies. He does not want her to think that her councilmember is just one of those people that only comes around when it is election time. He told her he texted one of the numbers that she gave, and it is a land line, so he texted the other one so that she would have his number. He will be reaching out to her with dates of when they can do the study, to see if it is eligible for the speed bump. Like you we share a passion, the children are our future.

Mr. Evans, thank you for bringing this to our attention, and we will be looking into seeing how we can move forward and make it more convenient. By no means do we want you to be disconnected, so we will have an update by the next meeting. Adopt a Road in Forest Park means you can adopt a road if you commit to cleaning it once a month. The Eye Catcher's Motorcycle Club adopted a road, and he thanked them. Our last Food Truck Friday was themed out to the Hispanic Celebration, for Hispanic Heritage Month. Thanks to the city for hosting the Hispanic Heritage Festival, a lot of people came out and supported it.

The upcoming tailgate is October 29<sup>th</sup>, we will also be celebrating the Fall Festival that day. We will also be celebrating some of our middle schoolers, which will be moving on to high school next year. There will be a costume contest and you know how Director Maxwell and the Parks and Recreation, do it at our park. We always go all out to celebrate our community. Thanks for coming, be safe, stay warm and go vote.

**Councilmember Akins Wells** – Sends her condolences to Ms. Ruby Sims, who was a long-time resident of Forest Park, as well as a family friend. She was full of life, and I had just seen her when I stopped by the senior center about two weeks ago. Ms. Carter, we do not have to own a home, just live in the perspective ward in the City of Forest Park.

I am an advocate for speed bumps and do not feel like we should have to go through so much to have our communities and streets safe. We discussed this at the last meeting, and we must do better with communicating with the people we work for. I am not talking about just Ms. Carter, but in general. Like Mr. Evans was said about the phone system, just because something seems better does not mean it is better.

The residents should not have to go through a lot to try and speak to someone, it should be a phone call and they should get an answer. I know things have changed, some for the good and some not so. Back in the day, when people wanted to get something done it was not hard for a council member to get it done.

I have been asking for certain things like speed bumps in my ward, now it must be for a certain speed, but if the speed limit needs to be changed to protect the kids, change the speed limit. People are not complaining about speed bumps, just to complain about speed bumps. The sidewalks and asphalt are something that I have been talking about for the last 2 years, in Ward 4, and absolutely nothing has been done.

I do not want you all to feel like you are coming to us, and we are not doing anything, just like you all want answers, I want answers too. I just emailed Dr. Cooper a lot of stuff and I am tired of not having the answers for the residence, because I am not the one to just get into office and do nothing. You elected me to work for you and that is what I want to do.

If it is something for the safety of our community, just do it. The residence should not have to keep coming up here to talk about speed bumps. I know it is a process, but what can we do to fix this. I went through the ward one day and a resident had put their own speed bump out, so I asked where they got it from. The city went it and took it up but did not want to put any out. So, we must do better for the residents.

November 1<sup>st</sup>, formally known as Wellness with Wells, we had to change the name for political reasons will hopefully be back. It will be Wellness in Ward 4 and we will do the same thing we have been doing which is promote wellness.

Community boards, I met with a resident last week. We have community members and business owners that want to be on the boards, because their voices matter too. Sometimes it can get political and people hand pick who they want to because they will be yes people. I have thought about getting a community board that consists of 10-15 people to let them know that their voices matter, and to hold monthly meetings to get input from the community.

If you know people that want to get more involved, that feel like they have a voice; and where we do not have to go in the back and choose who is going to sit on the boards and want to volunteer their time, please let me know. That way we can have people in our community that feel a part of the community and involved in the community. Lastly, a residence bought up when you walk in the front of city hall that it needs to be updated. The workers' office should be nice and comfortable for our workers. Dr. Cooper, can we talk about the speed bumps or putting up stop signs for the safety of our community. I want to also say excellent job. Everyone knows we are 100 percent for our employees, and anything that highlights them and their hard work, and give them time away from doing work, I appreciate that. I want the employees to know that I appreciate them, and the city appreciates them. Thank you, Ms. Brown, and everyone that had a hand in putting that together. Thanks for coming out.

**Councilmember Mears** – Thanked everyone for coming and gave a special shoutout to Ms. Brown and her team for putting together the Employee event. There was a lot of bonding, a lot of fun and everyone had a fun time. This is something we need to do more of, and it is in the work. Thank about your employees for the city, they do a lot from behind the scenes, and they need to get a lot of recognition.

**Mayor Butler** – I too would like to echo the sentiments of my colleagues, it was fun, and my team was undefeated in volleyball so, I will hold that title until the spring. It was a great event, and everyone had an amazing time, so thank you again for putting that together. I am going to ask Dr. Cooper to wrap things up, speak on the process of the traffic calming devices in general.

**City Manager** – One of the things Ms. Carter, I did ask them to reach out to you and I do apologize for no one doing so. However, there has been a speed study done on Mitchell Street in your area, and we do have the information that we are going through to make that determination. There are state laws and local ordinances that must be met before speed calming devices can be put in certain areas.

Speed limits in a city can be governed by that city, however, just as someone can complain it is going too fast, someone can complain it is going too slow. The state can come in and do their own study and determine that we arbitrarily reduce the speed. They can tell us no you have to not only put the speed back but increase the speed in that area because you are impeding the flow of traffic.

These are things we must go through to ensure that we are following the proper procedure so when things are put out as far as speed common devices, that we are within the local and state laws, but there must be a study done. We have been discussing how we get these things installed, so you will be hearing back from it.

I did ask PD to increase patrol in the area for speeders. I do not have the data back from them on how many stops or tickets were issued in the area, but we are taking the children and residents' safety seriously. We are looking into what can be done to reduce the speed. I do not want you to go away thinking we have not done anything, again I am apologizing for you not being reached out to. I know I have spoken to you because Councilwoman Wells introduced me to you, to speak with you. I did take that information and went back and did what we needed to do to get what we needed to get it done.

**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 at 7:59pm**

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

**It was moved to reconvene into the Regular meeting at 8:15pm**

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

**It was moved to authorize the settlement agreement with Jeff Eady as discussed in Executive Session.**

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 Council Regular meeting at 8:15pm**

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

**File Attachments for Item:**

**3. Council Approval of Certificate Allocating Local Option Sales Tax Proceeds - Legal**



**CERTIFICATE OF DISTRIBUTION**

**TO: State Revenue Commissioner**

**Pursuant to an Act of the Georgia General Assembly, effective January 1, 1980, relating to Local Sales & Use Taxes, the governing authorities for the qualifying municipalities and the county located within the special district coterminous with the boundaries of Clayton County hereby certify that the proceeds of the combination city/county local sales and use tax generated in such district shall be distributed by the State Revenue Commissioner as follows:**

City of	<u>Lovejoy</u>	shall receive	3.34 %
City of	<u>Jonesboro</u>	shall receive	2.96 %
City of	<u>Riverdale</u>	shall receive	8.75 %
City of	<u>Lake City</u>	shall receive	2.25 %
City of	<u>Morrow</u>	shall receive	3.77 %
City of	<u>College Park</u>	shall receive	1.06 %
City of	<u>Forest Park</u>	shall receive	11.28 %
County of	<u>Clayton</u>	shall receive	66.59 %

**This certificate shall continue in effect until such time as a new certificate shall be executed as provided in said Act.**

**By executing this schedule, the county and cities, acting through their respective officers, represent that all municipalities lying wholly or partly in the tax jurisdiction have been given an opportunity to show that they are 'qualified municipalities,' as that term is used in the Act, and that all municipalities listed herein as recipients are 'qualified' and so may receive distribution from the proceeds of the tax.**

**Executed on behalf of the governing authorities of the qualifying municipalities representing not less than a majority of the aggregate population of all qualifying municipalities located within the special district and the governing authority of the county, this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 20 \_\_\_\_.**



\_\_\_\_\_  
MAYOR OF THE CITY OF LOVEJOY

\_\_\_\_\_  
MAYOR OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO  
*Dr. Evelyn Wynn Anderson*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
MAYOR OF THE CITY OF RIVERDALE

\_\_\_\_\_  
MAYOR OF THE CITY OF LAKE CITY  
*[Signature]*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
MAYOR OF THE CITY OF MORROW

\_\_\_\_\_  
MAYOR OF THE CITY OF COLLEGE PARK

\_\_\_\_\_  
MAYOR OF THE CITY OF FOREST PARK

\_\_\_\_\_  
CHAIRMAN BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF  
\_\_\_CLAYTON\_\_\_ COUNTY

**File Attachments for Item:**

**5. Council Approval Resolution 22-24 Accepting the BJA FY 2022 Bullet Proof Vest Reimbursement Program Funding – Grants/Police**

STATE OF GEORGIA  
COUNTY OF CLAYTON

RESOLUTION NO. 22-24

**A RESOLUTION BY MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF FOREST PARK, GEORGIA TO ACCEPT REIMBURSEMENT FUNDING IN THE AMOUNT OF \$7,450.00 FROM THE BUREAU OF JUSTICE ASSISTANCE (BJA) FY 2022 PATRICK LEAHY BULLETPROOF VEST PARTNERSHIP FOR TWENTY (20) BULLETPROOF VESTS. THE REIMBURSEMENT COVERS THE 2-YEAR PROGRAM PERFORMANCE PERIOD. TO PROVIDE AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**

**WHEREAS**, the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) announced the Fiscal Year 2022 Patrick Leahy Bulletproof Vest Partnership (BVP) application funding period; and

**WHEREAS**, the Forest Park Police Department has a history of participating in this program since the year 2000, most recently in 2021; and

**WHEREAS**, the BJA selects program participants based on certain criteria and required documentation submitted by the potential program participant; and

**WHEREAS**, the Forest Park Police Department has indicated twenty (20) vests at a cost of \$745.00 each for replacement due to damage, replacement life cycle, new hires, and the loss of officers due to retirement or other circumstances is sufficient; and

**WHEREAS**, if selected, the BJA will reimburse the FPPD 50% of the cost of each vest purchased; and

**WHEREAS**, all necessary departments have verified that funding is available to apply to participate in the program and no match funding is necessary; and

**WHEREAS**, a bulletproof vest is a critical piece of equipment that aids in protecting officers in life-threatening situations and the city will be reimbursed for half the cost of each vest purchased.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** as follows:

**Section 1.** The Mayor and City Council of Forest Park, Georgia hereby accept reimbursement funding from the Bureau of Justice Assistance FY 2022 Patrick Leahy Bulletproof Vest Partnership if selected by the BJA to purchase twenty (20) bulletproof vests in the total amount of \$14,900.00 over the 2-year program performance period to be reimbursed at 50% of the cost of each vest.

**Section 2.** The Mayor or Mayor Pro Tempore is hereby authorized to execute, in the name of the City of Forest Park, all necessary applications, documents, contracts, payment requests, agreements, and amendments thereto, for the purpose of applying for the FY 2022 Patrick Leahy Bulletproof Vest Partnership Program from the BJA for purposes to purchase bulletproof vests.

**Section 3.** If any section, sentence, clause, or phrase of this Resolution is for any reason held to be invalid or unconstitutional by a decision of the court of competent authority, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Resolution, and such remainder shall remain in full force and effect.

**Section 4.** This resolution shall be in full force and effect immediately upon and after its final passage.

**SO RESOLVED, this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2022.**

**CITY OF FOREST PARK**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Angelyne Butler, Mayor

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
CITY CLERK

(SEAL)

Approved as to form:

\_\_\_\_\_  
CITY ATTORNEY

**File Attachments for Item:**

**6. Council Approval to Purchase Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus – Fire & EMS Department**



6701-C Northpark Blvd  
Charlotte, NC 28216

# Quote

Item # 6.

**Quote #** QT1611771  
**Date** 08/22/2022  
**Expires** 09/06/2022  
**Sales Rep** Adams, Jeremy L  
**Shipping Method** FedEx Ground  
**Customer** FOREST PARK FIRE DEPT(GA)  
**Customer #** C64692

**Bill To**  
 FOREST PARK FIRE DEPT  
 2336 Anvil Block Road  
 Forest Park GA 30297  
 United States

**Ship To**  
 FOREST PARK FIRE DEPT  
 2336 Anvil Block Road  
 Forest Park GA 30297  
 United States

Item	Alt. Item #	Units	Description	QTY	Unit Price	Amount
X8814021305304			Air-Pak X3 Pro SCBA (2018 Edition) with CGA Cylinder Connection, 4.5, Standard Harness with Parachute Buckles, Standard Belt with No Escape Rope, E-Z Flo Regulator with Standard Hose, Universal EBSS Accessory Hose, No Airline Connection, No Spare Harness Kit, Pak-Tracker, No Case, Packaged 2 SCBA Per Box (Black)	12	\$6,883.00	\$82,596.00
804722-01			CYL&VLV ASSY,CARB,45MIN,4500	24	\$1,243.00	\$29,832.00
201215-28			SCOTT NEW AV3000HT 4 POINT - KEVLAR - RT BRKT - SIZE MED SIZE TBD	12	\$350.00	\$4,200.00
MB1-100			S.M. Smith Co. Black Fleece Square Mask Bag	12	\$18.00	\$216.00

**Subtotal** \$116,844.00  
**Shipping Cost** \$0.00  
**Tax Total** \$0.00  
**Total** \$116,844.00

\*Pricing Per NPPContract PS 20120, RFP1920\*  
 \*Pricing Per Sourcedwell RFP #032620\*

This Quotation is subject to any applicable sales tax and shipping & handling charges that may apply. Tax and shipping charges are considered estimated and will be recalculated at the time of shipment to ensure they take into account the most current information.

All returns must be processed within 30 days of receipt and require a return authorization number and are subject to a restocking fee.

Custom orders are not returnable. Effective tax rate will be applicable at the time of invoice.





**File Attachments for Item:**

**8. Council Approval of a Home Repair Grant Program and Guidelines – Executive Office**

## American Rescue Fund Allocation Recommendations 09/2022

DEPARTMENT	REQUESTED AMOUNT	DESCRIPTION
<b>OPERATIONS</b>	<b>\$800,000</b>	
Employee Prem Pay (2nd)	\$500,000	Employee Prem Pay Bouns for all Staff - Approved 09/19/2022
Rental Assistance Program	\$300,000	Approved at the October 17, 2022 Meeting
<b>COMMUNITY PROJECTS</b>	<b>\$1,340,000</b>	
Fesibility of EOC	\$40,000	Approved at the September 19, 2022 City Council Meeting
Hom Repair Program	\$1,300,000	Agenda Item for November 7, 2022 Council Meeting.
<b>ARF Request Total</b>	<b>\$2,140,000</b>	
<b>ARPA FUNDS TOTAL RECEIVED</b>	<b>\$3,738,098</b>	
<i>Remaining Funds</i>	<i>\$1,598,098</i>	



**Dr. Marc-Antonie Cooper**  
 City Manager  
 745 Forest Parkway  
 Forest Park, GA 30297  
 Phone: (404) 366-4720  
[macooper@forestparkga.gov](mailto:macooper@forestparkga.gov)

**MEMORANDUM**

**To:** Mayor and City Council  
**From:** Dr. Marc-Antonie Cooper, City Manager  
**Re:** Criteria for Home Repair Program  
**Date:** November 7, 2022

The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) of 2021 appropriated funds that local municipalities could use to aid Disproportionately Impacted Households and Communities. Such improvements will increase the lifespan of the City's housing stock, work to address systemic housing inequities, and stabilize home values for the neighborhood and the residents, who were significantly impacted during the Great Recession and COVID-19 pandemic.

**To qualify, you must:**

- Be the homeowner and occupy the house and/or owner-occupied duplex.
- Eligible homes must be within the Qualified Census Tract of the City of Forest Park and must be up to date on tax payments and have no active code cases.
- Have a household income that is at or below 185 percent of the Federal Poverty Guidelines for the size of its household based on the most recently published poverty guidelines or income at or below 40 percent of area median income for its county and size of household based on the most recently published data.
- The income limit for 185 percent of the 2022 Federal Poverty Guidelines for a household of three is \$42,605 per year. In other words, recipients can always presume that a household earning below this level, or a community with median income below this level, is disproportionately impacted by the pandemic and eligible for services to respond. A single person the 2022 Federal Poverty Guidelines sets the income at making no more than \$25,141.50.

***PERSONS IN FAMILY – 185% of Federal Poverty Guidelines as of April 2022, can make not more than the below amount(s):***

One	\$25,141.50
Two	\$33,873.50
Three	\$42,605.60
Four	\$51,337.50
Five	\$60,069.50
Six	\$68,801.50
Seven	\$77,533.50
Eight	\$86,265.50

- Must provide proof of all forms of income (check stubs, bank statements, etc.)
- Provide proof of residency State issued ID, Tax records, and/or deed in the same name of the properties occupying resident.

### **How Funds may be used?**

- Funds must be used to repair, improve, or remove health and safety hazards.
  - Weatherization (winterizations)
  - Health and Safety Hazards (hazardous tree removals, window replacements, leaky toilets, minor HVAC repairs and/or disabled ramp installations.
  - Re-roofing
- Resident must submit three estimates for the project, along with application for funds.
- All repairs must be completed by a licensed and bonded contractor that offer repair warranty for a period.
- Program will pay awarded amount directly to the contractor, and not to the resident.
- If cost of project exceeds maximum grant award, resident must pay additional amount directly to the contractor, and the balance of the maximum grant award will then be paid by the program.

### **How much money can I get? (one-time payment amount)**

- Minimum - \$1,500
- Maximum - \$10,000

### **Terms of the Grant?**

- Grants must be repaid if the property is sold in less than 3 years.