CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

SEPTEMBER 14, 2026 AT 6:00 PM

COUNCIL CHAMBERS - 1859 CITY CENTER WAY, JONESBORO, GA 30236

MINUTES

I. CALLED TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Sartor at 6:00 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

The roll was called by City Clerk Jewett.

- Mayor Donya L. Sartor (Left meeting at 11:50 p.m.)
- Mayor Pro-Tem Asjah Miller (Presided over the meeting at 11:50 p.m.)
- Councilmember Chelsey Curney
- Councilmember Alfred Dixon
- Councilmember Cameron Dixon
- Councilmember Santia Fox
- Councilmember Tracey Messick
- City Attorney, LaTonya Nix-Wiley
- City Manager, Blue Cole
- City Clerk, Shandrella Jewett
- Code Compliance Officer, Derry Walker
- Community Development Director, David Allen
- Downtown Development Authority Director, Blue Cole
- Economic Development Director - Faith Akuta
- Finance Director, Karen Slaton-Dixon
- Operation/Human Resource, Maria Wetherington
- Police Chief, Christopher Cato
- Public Works Director – N/A

III. INVOCATION

Invocation by Pastor Andy Cauble of First Baptist Jonesboro.

IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

V. CIVILITY PLEDGE

A. Civility Pledge by City Clerk Jewett

VI. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

A. Council to consider adoption and approval of the Agenda.

Old Business:

- Removed letter E. - Council to discuss JYCG Code of Conduct document and Sexual Abuse Prevention Policy.
- Removed letter F. - Council to discuss JYCG Youth Protection Directive and Policy Framework.
- Remaining letters were re-alphabetized

New Business:

- Letter A. changed to letter F. - Censure regarding Mayor Donya L. Sartor.
- Letter B. changed to letter G. - Council to discuss and consider action regarding a grievance filed by Code Compliance Officer, Derry Walker.
- Letter C. changed to letter A.
- Remaining letters re-alphabetized

RESULT: **Approved amended Agenda (Vote was unanimous)**
MOVER: **Mayor Pro-Tem Miller**
SECONDER: **Councilmember A. Dixon**

VII. MAYOR'S PRESENTATION

A. Mayor's Report

- Mayor Sartor thanked everyone who participated in Runsboro 5K.
- Mayor Sartor and Councilmember Curney attended Clayton County's 9/11 event.
- Moment of Silence in regard to 9/11.

VIII. PRESENTATIONS

None

IX. PUBLIC COMMENTS (PLEASE LIMIT COMMENTS TO THREE [3] MINUTES)

James Henderson (Jonesboro Resident) - He thanked the City of Jonesboro for hosting Jonesboro Neighborhood Day and expressed concern about the maintenance of Jonesboro Cemetery.

Khari Lewis (Unincorporated Jonesboro, GA) - He expressed dissatisfaction with the September 9, 2026 Special Called Council Meeting concerning potential revisions to the City Charter. He also commented on the strong-mayor form of government and stated that the City is not currently in a strong position.

X. PUBLIC HEARINGS & CONSIDERATIONS

A. Public Hearing regarding Conditional Use Permit **26-CUP-005** for property located at 106 South Main Street, Parcel No. 13241D C003, Jonesboro, Georgia 30236. The subject property is zoned H-1 (Historic District). The property consists of approximately 0.06 +/- acres. The request is for loft apartments on the second floor of the existing building, with office / retail on the first floor.

Council to consider Conditional Use Permit 26-CUP-005.

Public Hearing Opened

Timothy Vondell Jefferson and Carlos Soler Ober spoke on behalf of the apartment complex.

Mr. Ober spoke about the restaurant he is trying to build on Main Street. He said every time he comes to City Hall, staff helps him. He is trying to convert the building into a mixed-use.

Director Allen said staff recommended approval.

Public Hearing Closed

RESULT: **Approved with the below listed Conditions (Vote was unanimous)**

MOVER: **Councilmember A. Dixon**
SECONDER: **Councilmember Fox**

Conditions:

1. If use is approved, a variance for minimum dwelling sizes shall be required to be approved prior to building permits being issued.
2. All exterior renovations, including signage and color schemes, shall be subject to review and approval by the Design Review Commission and the Historic Preservation Commission.
3. All Clayton Fire and Building Official requirements shall be implemented prior to Certificates of Occupancy being issued, including possible sprinklers and fire escape ladders. Any required fire escape ladders shall be concealed from view along South Main Street.
4. Floor plans at time of permitting shall remain as per the floor plans approved by Mayor and Council.
5. Unless a shared dumpster arrangement is adopted by the City in the future for the Broad Street area, household trash container type for each loft apartment shall only be as approved by the City. Trash containers shall only be located at the rear of the apartment building. No household trash shall accumulate outside of the approved containers.
6. A rental agreement for the use of designated parking spaces for apartment residents shall be adopted by the Mayor and Council prior to Certificates of Occupancy being issued. These designated parking spaces shall be located in the rear parking lot of the Broad Street development and shall be marked with appropriate signage and/or pavement markings.
7. The loft apartments are not approved for short-term rental (Air BnB) use.

B. Public Hearing regarding **26-REZ-003** Map Amendment (Rezoning) for the property located at 0 Tara Blvd, Parcel No. 05239 241002, Jonesboro, Georgia 30236. The subject property is proposed to be rezoned from C-2 (Highway Commercial) to RM (Multi-Family) for an age-restricted, senior apartment community. The property consists of approximately 6.15 acres and is also located in the Gateway South Overlay District.

Council to consider 26-REZ-003 Map Amendment.

Public Hearing Opened

Charles Pendergraft (Pivotal Housing Partners) spoke and shared a presentation on Tara Preserve. No one else came forth to speak.

Public Hearing Closed

RESULT: **Approved to table until Council receives information from Ed Walls regarding costs to residents and information concerning a tax matter (Vote was unanimous)**
MOVER: **Councilmember Messick**
SECONDER: **Mayor Pro-Tem Miller**

C. Public Hearing regarding Conditional Use Permit **26-CUP-006** for the property located at 0 Tara Blvd, Parcel No. 05239 241002, Jonesboro, Georgia 30236. The subject property is proposed to be rezoned to RM (Multi-Family). The property consists of approximately 6.15 acres and is also located in the Gateway South Overlay District. The request is for an age-restricted, senior apartment community, which requires a conditional use permit in RM zoning.

Council to consider Conditional Use Permit 26-CUP-006.

Public Hearing Opened

No one came forward to speak

Public Hearing Closed

RESULT: **Approved to table (Vote was unanimous)**
MOVER: **Councilmember Messick**
SECONDER: **Councilmember A. Dixon**

D. **Public Hearing** regarding Variance **26-VAR-002** for the property located at 0 Tara Blvd, Parcel No. 05239 241002, Jonesboro, Georgia 30236. The subject property is proposed to be rezoned to RM (Multi-Family). The property consists of approximately 6.15 acres and is also located in the Gateway South Overlay District. The request is for a reduction in the minimum apartment unit sizes for the proposed age-restricted, senior apartment community and other miscellaneous R-M zoning standards.

Council to consider Variance 26-VAR-002.

Public Hearing Opened

No one came forward to speak

Public Hearing Closed

RESULT: **Approved to table (Vote was unanimous)**
MOVER: **Councilmember Messick**
SECONDER: **Councilmember C. Dixon**

XI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Council to consider approval of 08/03/26 Work Session Minutes.

RESULT: **Approved (Vote was unanimous)**
MOVER: **Councilmember Curney**
SECONDER: **Councilmember A. Dixon**

B. Council to consider approval of 08/10/26 Regular Council Meeting Minutes.

RESULT: **Approved (Vote was unanimous)**
MOVER: **Mayor Pro-Tem Miller**
SECONDER: **Councilmember A. Dixon**

C. Council to consider approval of 08/17/26 Special Called Council Meeting Minutes regarding FY27 Budget Planning Workshop #1.

RESULT: **Approved (Vote was unanimous)**
MOVER: **Councilmember Messick**
SECONDER: **Councilmember C. Dixon**

XII. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Council to consider approval of a resolution regarding 2027 Holiday Schedule.

B. Council to consider approval of the new schedule regarding Regular Council Meeting being held on the 3rd Monday of the month. The December 2027 meeting to be held on the 13th.

Council to consider approval of the above Consent Agenda.

RESULT: **Consent Agenda Approved (Vote was unanimous)**
MOVER: **Councilmember Curney**
SECONDER: **Councilmember A. Dixon**

The motion was amended to include an updated change to the December 2027 Regular Council Meeting which will be held on 13th of December.

RESULT: **Consent Agenda Approved with noted change regarding the December 2027 Regular Council Meeting to be held on the 13th. (Vote was unanimous)**
MOVER: **Councilmember Curney**
SECONDER: **Councilmember A. Dixon**

A separate discussion was held under New Business Item D. and again at the end of tonight's meeting regarding Columbus Day/Indigenous Day.

XIII. OLD BUSINESS

A. Council to consider approval of invoices for new water fountains.

RESULT: **Approved to table (Vote was unanimous)**
MOVER: **Councilmember Fox**
SECONDER: **Mayor Pro-Tem Miller**

B. Council to discuss all invoices related to 100 Gloria Drive.

RESULT: **Approved to table (Vote was unanimous)**
MOVER: **Councilmember A. Dixon**
SECONDER: **Councilmember Fox**

The above motion was amended to include: City Manager Cole to produce all documents to Mayor and Council by close of business tomorrow, September 15, 2026.

RESULT: **Approved (Vote was unanimous)**
MOVER: **Councilmember A. Dixon**
SECONDER: **Councilmember Fox**

C. Council to discuss an Elected Official Initiative Funds Policy.

A motion was made for Council to consider approval of the Elected Official Initiative Funds Policy with related forms, Mayor Sartor's name to be removed from the form, the document to be in electronic format, and for noted clerical change to be corrected.

RESULT: **Approved with related form(s) and clerical changes (Vote was unanimous)**
MOVER: **Councilmember Fox**
SECONDER: **Councilmember A. Dixon**

D. Council to consider adoption and approval of the Agenda Protocol Policy for Council Meetings and any meetings governed by the Open Meetings Act.

RESULT: **Approved (Vote was unanimous)**
MOVER: **Councilmember Curney**
SECONDER: **Councilmember A. Dixon**

A motion was made for Council and staff to attend a mandatory training regarding the Agenda Protocol Policy.

RESULT: **Approved (Vote was unanimous)**
MOVER: **Mayor Pro-Tem Miller**
SECONDER: **Councilmember Fox**

E. Council to consider a budget amendment regarding Councilmen A. Dixon Education & Training budget using Contingency funds to accommodate his registration for one class and a certificate program both to be conducted by Georgia Municipal Association:

1. Leadership class to be held October 1st and 2nd, 2026 ($315.00)
2. Leader Community & Workplace Culture Certificate Program on October 22, 2026 through May 6, 2027 ($1,500.00)

RESULT: **Approved (Vote was unanimous)**
MOVER: **Councilmember Fox**
SECONDER: **Councilmember C. Dixon**

F. Council to consider approval of OPB Grant Project Purchases.

Police Chief Cato led the discussion.

Council considered OPB grant project purchases totaling $513,500.00. Vendors confirmed the projects could be completed within the grant reimbursement period. Finance Director Slaton-Dixon stated that the City will initially use prior-year General Fund reserves, with reimbursement returned to those reserves. A budget amendment will be presented to increase the prior-year reserve and project budget.

RESULT: **Approved (Vote was unanimous)**
MOVER: **Councilmember Messick**
SECONDER: **Councilmember C. Dixon**

G. Council to discuss and consider a CDBG Grant Agreement with Clayton County regarding Battleground Playground Improvements Project.

The grant award is $197,814.00 and approval was requested to authorize the Mayor to execute the agreement.

During discussion, councilmembers raised concerns about inaccuracies in the agreement, including an incorrect effective date of 07/01/26, and questioned the reimbursement process, procurement requirements, and how the City would fund any project costs exceeding the grant amount. Staff explained that the grant is reimbursable, meaning the City must complete eligible work and then seek reimbursement from Clayton County. It was also clarified that Council would later need to decide whether to complete only portions of the project with the grant funds or identify additional funding sources to complete the full estimated project, which could cost between $400,000.00 and $500,000.00.

Several councilmembers expressed concerns about accepting the grant before identifying potential funding sources for the City's share of the project costs. City Manager Cole said it would have to come out of prior year funds or contingencies. Mayor Sartor shared that this item would have to come before Council again in October as it relates to the three quotes in order to follow the procurement process. The agreement is for the City to accept the $195,000.00.

The motion to approve the agreement was voted on and failed, with councilmembers opposing approval. Council then discussed placing the agenda item on a future council agenda, either at a Special Called Meeting or the next Regular Council Meeting, for further review once funding options and project costs are better defined.

A motion was made to approve the CDBG Grant Agreement with Clayton County along with authorizing Mayor Sartor to execute the agreement.

RESULT: **Motion Denied - CDBG Grant long with Mayor Sartor's authorization to execute (Vote was unanimous)**
MOVER: **Councilmember A. Dixon**
SECONDER: **Councilmember Curney**
AYES: **None**
NAYS: **Mayor Sartor, Mayor Pro-Tem Miller; Councilmembers: Messick, A. Dixon, Curney, C. Dixon, and Fox**

A separate motion was made to table this agenda item until the next council meeting.

RESULT: **Approved to table until the next Council Meeting (Vote was unanimous)**
MOVER: **Mayor Pro-Tem Miller**
SECONDER: **Councilmember Fox**

H. Council to consider approval to move forward with Salvation Army Food Pantry expenditures.

Council discussed expenditures related to the Salvation Army Food Pantry Grant, which provided $125,000.00 to the City as the fiscal agent for facility rehabilitation improvements. The City has received the grant funds, but no expenditures have been made to date.

Discussion focused on whether future reimbursement and expenditure requests should require Council approval and whether the City's procurement policies must be followed. Staff explained that a contractor had been identified by the Salvation Army based on previous work, but councilmembers questioned whether the selection complied with the City's procurement process and requested that all bids and supporting documentation be provided for review.

Because legal guidance regarding the approval process had only recently been received and additional procurement information was needed, Council voted to table the item and bring it back at a future meeting with updated bids, procurement documentation, and clarification on the proper process for approving expenditures under the grant.

RESULT: **Approved to table (Vote was unanimous)**
MOVER: **Mayor Pro-Tem Miller**
SECONDER: **Councilmember A. Dixon**

XIV. NEW BUSINESS

A. Council to hear presentations from the top three bidders regarding Solid Waste Collection Services RFP 26-001.

- Presentation by Amwaste of Georgia, LLC - Mandy Renova (Director of Public Sector) spoke regarding their services and the partnership they could provide.
- Presentation by Georgia Waste Systems, LLC d/b/a Waste Management - Allen Owens (Public Sector Manager) spoke regarding solid waste and recycling haul. Jeff Turner (Senior District Manager), Faith Banks (District Manager) were both present in the audience.
- Presentation by Waste Pro of Georgia, Inc. - Bob Wolk (Municipal Marketing Representative) spoke about the Transition Plan and Services Provided.

Mayor and Council asked each companies questions regarding collection and disposal, if there were a max on the tonnage, if the pickup service was one day per week or if there was an upcharge for more than once week, back door trash pickup per doctor's note to verify the service is needed, etc.

B. Council to consider approval for a Special Event Permit fee waiver and road closure of Church Street between Riley Way and Sims Street for the First Baptist Church Jonesboro's Fall Festival on October 17, 2026 from 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

RESULT: **Approved (Vote was unanimous)**
MOVER: **Mayor Pro-Tem Miller**
SECONDER: **Councilmember A. Dixon**

C. Council to discuss the Arts and Entertainment Overlay District Boundary.

Director Allen led the discussion. He asked Mayor and Council what is the true downtown area of Jonesboro from start to end. He mentioned the City needs to expand some areas and trim

other areas. Future projects do not line up with the map shown in the agenda packet on Exhibit A labeled Jonesboro Arts and Entertainment District Overlay.

Director Allen said no motion was required at this time. This was placed on the Agenda for discussion only.

D. Council to consider adoption and approval of a resolution recognizing the second Monday in October as Columbus Day and Indigenous People's Day.

Hannah Rodriguez (Resident) - Spoke about the historical significance of Indigenous Peoples' Day, highlighted the history of the Muscogee (Creek) people in the Jonesboro area, and advocated for replacing Columbus Day with Indigenous Peoples' Day. She mentioned that the president recognizes October as Italian American Heritage Month. She said changing this to Indigenous People's Day would honor them and the lives that were lost. Lastly, she mentioned that Jonesboro was the land of the Creek Indians.

At 9:07 p.m. Councilmember Fox left the meeting and returned at 9:09 p.m.

Councilmembers debated whether the City should recognize only Indigenous Peoples' Day or continue recognizing both observances. Some councilmember emphasized honoring both Indigenous Peoples' Day and Columbus Day, noting that the proposed resolution in the agenda packet recognized both Columbus Day and Indigenous Peoples' Day. A motion to adopt the dual recognition failed for lack of a second, and a subsequent motion to recognize only Indigenous Peoples' Day also initially failed. (See motions below)

Further discussion revealed that Council had previously approved a motion on 09/08/26, recognizing the second Monday in October as both Columbus Day and Indigenous Peoples' Day. The 2027 Holiday Schedule was placed on the Consent Agenda as well. However, due to questions regarding parliamentary procedure and whether a previous action would need to be rescinded before making any changes, Council postponed the matter and directed the City Attorney to review the issue and provide additional guidance before the item returns for consideration.

A motion was made to approve the resolution honoring Columbus Day and Indigenous People's Day.

RESULT: **Motion failed for the lack of a second (Vote was unanimous)**
MOVER: **Councilmember Messick**
SECONDER: **None**

A motion was made to recognize the second Monday in October as Indigenous Peoples' Day.

RESULT: **None (See below amended motion)**
MOVER: **Councilmember A. Dixon**
SECONDER: **Mayor Pro-Tem Miller**

A motion was made to rescind/withdraw the above-mentioned motion of recognizing the second Monday in October as Indigenous Peoples' Day until after any time prior to adjournment of the meeting.

RESULT: **Approved to withdraw (Vote was unanimous)**
MOVER: **Councilmember A. Dixon**
SECONDER: **Mayor Pro-Tem Miller**

City Clerk Jewett reviewed 09/08/26 Post Agenda and confirmed that an amended motion had been approved to recognize the second Monday in October as both Indigenous Peoples' Day and Columbus Day. The motion was made by Councilmember Messick and seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Miller.

Mayor Sartor said based on this information, a new motion would be required to overturn the prior decision. The City Attorney agreed. However, she asked for additional time to check the Robert Rules of Order and to see if the decision must be advertised on the Agenda. Repealing and Replacing a motion that was already confirmed.

E. Council to consider approval of a resolution changing their Regular Council Meeting from the second Monday to the third Monday of each month, effective January 2027. The December 2027 Regular Council Meeting will be held on the second Monday in December (12/13/27).

A motion was made to approve the resolution stating that Mayor and Council will be moving the Council meetings to the first and third Mondays of each month, effective January 1, 2027.

RESULT: **Approved (Vote was unanimous)**
MOVER: **Councilmember Fox**
SECONDER: **Councilmember A. Dixon**

F. Censure regarding Mayor Donya L. Sartor.

Councilmember Curney read into the record the below resolution censuring Mayor Donya L. Sartor.

A motion was made to approve A Resolution of The City Council Of The City Of Jonesboro, Georgia, Censuring Mayor Donya L. Sartor For Exceeding Council's Authorized Entertainment Spending Limits, Failing To Provide Contracts For Required Legal Review And Failing To Disclose Material Financial Information In The Administration Of The City's 2026 Juneteenth And America 250 Celebrations; Providing An Effective Date; And For Other Lawful Purposes. censure Donya L. Sartor with the provided resolution.

RESULT: **Approved (Vote was unanimous)**
MOVER: **Councilmember Curney**
SECONDER: **Councilmember Fox**

Discussion: Councilmember Fox stated that the matter was not personal but fact-based and emphasized the importance of following established policies and fulfilling the Council's responsibilities.

Councilmember Curney echoed Councilmember Fox's comments, noting that meaningful change requires changes in behavior. She expressed confidence that the Mayor and Council could move forward by working together.

Mayor Pro-Tem Miller thanked everyone who assisted in gathering information. She emphasized the importance of complying with adopted policies and stated that the Censure Resolution was part of the process of moving forward.

Councilmember Curney noted that the Finance Director was developing a Financial Policy and that the City was working diligently to conduct City business appropriately.

Councilmember A. Dixon requested clarification regarding the censure. City Attorney Wiley explained that it would be documented in the minutes and was a one-time action.

G. Council to discuss and consider action regarding a grievance filed by Code Compliance Officer, Derry Walker.

Council discussed and considered action regarding a grievance filed by Code Compliance Officer Derry Walker under the City's recently adopted Employee Workplace Grievance Policy and Elected Officials Interaction with Employees Conduct Policy.

Mr. Walker's workplace grievance concerned a $63.16 reimbursement request for work shoes, which he stated was denied because the shoes were not steel-toed and were not purchased

from a tactical store. Council approved proceeding with a review to determine whether a written policy establishes those requirements and whether the applicable uniform budget account covers the purchase. Finance was also directed to verify that the appropriate purchasing procedures were followed, with the findings to be provided to Mr. Walker.

The second portion of the grievance concerned Mr. Walker's interactions with the Mayor regarding the reimbursement request. Mr. Walker thanked Mayor Pro-Tem Miller for explaining the matter properly and he noted that after he had spoken to Police Chief Cato regarding the matter, the mayor's tone of the conversation changed. Mr. Walker alleged that comments made during their conversation were threatening, demeaning, and made him feel disrespected and bullied. The Mayor disputed Mr. Walker's characterization of the conversations, stated that relevant context was omitted, and explained that her concerns involved purchasing procedures, communication, and the chain of command. She also stated that her offer to personally reimburse Mr. Walker was intended as a good-faith effort to resolve the matter.

Council questioned Mr. Walker regarding the conversations, including the tone of the communications and how he interpreted the Mayor's statements. The Mayor elected not to discuss additional details publicly, citing concerns about addressing sensitive personnel-related information in a public forum, while emphasizing that her decision not to provide additional information should not be interpreted as an admission of wrongdoing.

The City Attorney advised Council that, under the adopted Elected Officials Interaction with Employees Conduct Policy, evidence relevant to determining the grievance must be presented publicly. Council may deliberate as permitted in executive session, but any evidence intended to influence its decision cannot be received there, and the Mayor cannot participate in deliberations concerning the complaint against her.

Council concluded the discussion with the understanding that additional information may be needed from staff. Council would later deliberate regarding the grievance and determine whether further review or action was warranted.

The following motion was made: The Finance Director to provide information by Wednesday, September 16, 2026 showing everything was appropriately followed. Information to be provided by HR, Finance Director, Mayor Pro-Tem Miller, and/or City Attorney by Friday, September 18, 2026. The findings would be provided to Mr. Walker by Friday, September 18, 2026 with results and hope this would resolve this matter.

RESULT: **Approved (Vote was unanimous)**
MOVER: **Councilmember Curney**
SECONDER: **Councilmember Fox**

The Mayor said she wanted to provide additional information during the Executive Session. However, for the record, she noted that she now understands the difference between hearing the matter in a public forum vs. hearing it in Executive Session. Therefore, she decided not to discuss certain things in the public forum.

XV. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REPORT

A. August 2026 Economic Development Report by Director Akuta.

The report can be found in the 09/14/26 Agenda Packet.

XVI. FINANCE REPORT

A. Financial Report for period ending July 31, 2026 by Finance Director Karen Slaton-Dixon.

The report can be found in the 09/14/26 Agenda Packet.

Councilmember Fox asked that the Financial Policy be put on the October agenda. Councilmember Curney asked that the Finance Director add the budget amendment resolution to the October agenda as well. She said they only need the most recent two months going forward regarding the detail budget report being in the Agenda Packet.

XVII. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

A. City Manager's Report by City Manager Cole.

The report can be found in the 09/14/26 Agenda Packet.

XVIII. CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT

A. City's Attorney Report by City Attorney Wiley.

Attorney Wiley provided an update to Mayor and Council regarding completed tasks.

XIX. REPORT OF CITY COUNCILMEMBERS

Comments by Councilmember Fox:

- Jonesboro Neighborhood Day was awesome and was able to see people she had not seen in a while.
- Continue to read the blogs
- Educate the community in regard to government
- An informed community is a powerful community
- Budget Hearings are coming up

Comments by Councilmember Messick:

- Enjoyed Jonesboro Neighborhood Day
- Fall is coming and events are coming up for the fall
- 10/17/26 - Free Gardening Workshop at 10 a.m.
- Budget Hearing are coming up. Please provide your departmental wish list and let Council know if you need anything
- Thanked everyone for wishing her daughter a happy wedding
- While in New York, attended several of the 9/11 memorials
- Thanked staff for all they do and for putting in the overtime

Comments by Councilmember C. Dixon:

- Runsboro was amazing
- 10/10/26 to 11/06/26 Scarecrow Contest - Come and show off your creativity. The registration deadline is 09/28/26

Comments by Councilmember Curney:

- Veterans' Committee has been doing an amazing job
- 11/06/26 - Harvest Festival – Hoping everyone can come out
- 11/11/26 – Veterans Day Kick-off event
- Mayors' birthday was on September 9

Comments by Councilmember A. Dixon:

- Happy Birthday to Mayor Sartor
- Thanked everyone for staying engaged during the meeting
- Runsboro – Thanked the entire City for their participation (ages 7 to 77). Thanked staff for their assistance during this event (City Manager Cole, Yvette, and Taylor, etc.)
- Congrats to Clayton County Teachers of the Year
- Clayton County State University Alumni Weekend was this past weekend
- Shout out to Clayton County Youth Commission, Love Joy Youth Council, Walking in Authority Teen Council, and Stockbridge Youth Council on their recent swearing in ceremonies. Looking forward to building synergy and community with them all

Comments by Mayor Pro-Tem Miller:

- Thanked residents and staff for all they do
- Thanked City Attorney Wiley for everything she does, especially when it comes to working on the City's policies
- 09/16/26 and 09/23/26 - Millage Rate Hearing coming up. Encouraged residents to participate and let their voice be heard
- Thanked Councilwoman Fox – "You came in and hit the ground running. You had amazing initiatives when you first came in, including Uniform Beauty, Swint Feed Store, promoting the newsletter, and having your own blog. Thank you so much."
- Thanked Councilwoman Messick – "You partnered with me on the children's series for Toddler Tuesday. You also have your Christmas Angel Program, where you bless children and families in need, and you have been doing that for years. Thank you."
- Thanked Councilman C. Dixon – "I know we are still getting our feet wet, but you championed the Beautification Committee before you were elected to Council, and you continue to do so. You are the chair, and we appreciate you. I know you have other initiatives coming through the pipeline, and you are always willing to help."
- Thanked Councilman A. Dixon – "I want to group together some of the initiatives, such as Runsboro, because you are so integral to them."
- Thanked Mayor Sartor – "Although we may not be individually tech-savvy, you can see some of the Mayor's work on our main page. To recap, Move with the Mayor includes senior lunches, programs for adults with unique abilities, school-supply giveaways, Juneteenth, and many other initiatives. Her work is more public-facing."
- Thanked Councilwoman Curney – "You came in and immediately assisted with decriminalizing marijuana. You have now moved on to the Veterans Committee. You brought us significant public recognition and helped alleviate concerns involving public safety. You are now working with veterans—a segment of our community we have wanted to engage in different ways—and providing them with a voice. We appreciate that."
- Thanked Councilman A. Dixon – "As previously mentioned, you have many initiatives. To recap some of them, we have Runsboro, which just took place; JYCG; the Safe Home Initiative; and the JET Program. These are wonderful things we are doing for the community, and I am sure I am forgetting some."
- For myself, "I started with a Christmas program where families could come in and shop with dignity for their loved ones. I also organized the children's series seen throughout the City, including Toddler Tuesday, Chalk the Park, Bubble Day, and STEM Saturday. I am also spearheading Harvest Fest with the wonderful assistance and collaboration of Economic Development, Beautification, Code Enforcement, and all other parties that wish to assist."
- 11/06/26 - Harvest Festival
- Harvest Fest activities would occur throughout the month of October
- 9/30/26 Mundy Mills Food Drive 12 noon to the end of the school day
- 09/30/26 at 5 pm to 8 pm Game Night for Mundy Mill Homecoming
- Urged residents to verify their voter registration, participate in early voting, and seek assistance locating election information.

XX. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Council to consider entering Executive Session for the purpose of discussing personnel matter(s).

At 11:12 p.m. a motion was made for Council to enter into Executive Session regarding personnel matter(s).

RESULT: **Approved (Vote was unanimous)**

MOVER: **Councilmember Curney**
SECONDER: **Mayor Pro-Tem Miller**

Mayor Sartor left the Executive Session Meeting at 11:50 p.m.

B. Council to consider reconvening the Public Session at 12:03 a.m.

RESULT: **Approved (Vote was unanimous)**
MOVER: **Councilmember Fox**
SECONDER: **Councilmember C. Dixon**

C. Council to consider approval of the Executive Session Affidavit and Minutes of 09/14/26.

RESULT: **Approved (Vote was unanimous)**
MOVER: **Councilmember Fox**
SECONDER: **Councilmember C. Dixon**

D. Council to consider any action based on decisions made in Executive Session.

A motion was made to increase the salary of City Clerk Shandrella Jewett by $5,000.00 effective immediately.

RESULT: **Approved (Vote was unanimous)**
MOVER: **Councilmember Fox**
SECONDER: **Councilmember A. Dixon**

Continuation of New Business item D. regarding Columbus Day and Indigenous Peoples' Day.

A motion was made to rescind the previous motion that was made tonight regarding Columbus Day/Indigenous Peoples' Day.

RESULT: **Approved (Vote was 4 to 2)**
MOVER: **Councilmember A. Dixon**
SECONDER: **Councilmember Curney**
AYES: **Mayor Pro-Tem Miller, Councilmembers A. Dixon, Curney, and C. Dixon**
NAYS: **Councilmembers Messick and Fox**

At 12:10 a.m., a motion was made to rescind the previous vote from 09/08/26 Work Session regarding Columbus Day and Indigenous Peoples' Day.

RESULT: **Approved to rescind 09/08/26 motion (Vote was 4 to 2)**
MOVER: **Councilmember A. Dixon**
SECONDER: **Councilmember Curney**
AYES: **Mayor Pro-Tem Miller; Councilmembers A. Dixon, Curney, and C. Dixon**
NAYS: **Councilmembers Messick and Fox**

A separate motion was made to replace Columbus Day with Indigenous People Day.

RESULT: **Motion failed for the lack of a second**
MOVER: **Councilmember A. Dixon**
SECONDER: **None**

Mayor Pro-Tem Miller advised Councilmember A. Dixon to poll the residents for their feedback regarding this matter.

XXI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 12:14 a.m.

RESULT: **Approved (Vote was unanimous)**

MOVER: **Councilmember Curney**
SECONDER: **Councilmember Fox**

Dr. Donya L. Sartor, Mayor

Shandrella Jewett, City Clerk