CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

JULY 13, 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 Pro-Tem Miller at 6:02 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

The roll was called by City Clerk Jewett.

- Mayor Donya L. Sartor - Absent
- Mayor Pro-Tem Asjah Miller
- Councilmember Chelsey Curney
- Councilmember Alfred Dixon
- Councilmember Cameron Dixon
- Councilmember Santia Fox
- Councilmember Tracey Messick
- City Manager, Blue Cole
- City Attorney, LaTonya Nix-Wiley
- 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 - Absent
- Operation/Human Resource, Maria Wetherington
- Police Chief, Christopher Cato
- Public Works Director – N/A

III. INVOCATION

Invocation by Pastor Trent Davis of First Baptist Jonesboro.

IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

V. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

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

The following item was removed from the Agenda.

- XVIII. Other Business – Executive Session (A.-D.)

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

At 6:57 p.m., a motion was made to amend the agenda to allow Leadership Clayton Cohort Class of 2026 Group III to present on HomeANCHOR due to their late arrival.

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

VI. MAYOR'S PRESENTATION

A. Mayor's Report (None)

VII. PRESENTATIONS

A. Fresh Hope: Lather & Load by Leadership Clayton Cohort Class of 2026 – Group II

Fresh Hope Lather & Load mission is to restore dignity and renew hope by providing sanitary, accessible showers and laundry to those in need. We are committed to serving our community with compassion, creating a safe space where individuals feel seen, clean, valued, and supported. Fresh Hope: Lather & Load Presentation

B. HomeANCHOR by Leadership Clayton Class of 2026 - Group III

A New Connection to Housing Opportunities and Resources, a community-based initiative designed to improve awareness, accessibility, and navigation of housing-related resources available to residents throughout Clayton County.

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENTS (PLEASE LIMIT COMMENTS TO THREE (3) MINUTES)

- Kennedy Hood (Jonesboro Intern & Graduate of Georgia Southern University) - Spoke in favor of a Safe Home Initiative.
- Khari Lewis - Spoke in favor of a Safe Home Initiative and Fresh Hope.
- Samantha Gordon - Spoke in favor of a Safe Home Initiative.
- Lenn Howard (Jonesboro Intern & Graduate of Clayton State University) - Spoke in favor of Safe Home Initiative.

IX. PUBLIC HEARINGS & CONSIDERATIONS

A. Public Hearing regarding Conditional Use Permit Application **#26-CUP-002**, submitted by Reginald Ransome. The request is to operate a vehicle sales lot and office on a portion of the property. The property is located at 249 North Main Street, Jonesboro, GA 30236, Tax Map Parcel No. 13240B A005.

Council to consider Conditional Use Permit Application #26-CUP-002.

Public Hearing Opened.

Applicant Reginald Ransome spoke regarding the item.

Khari Lewis said he would like a specific condition added should Council agree to approve the request.

Public Hearing Closed.

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

X. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Council to consider 06/01/26 Work Session Minutes.

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

B. Council to consider 06/08/26 Regular Council Meeting Minutes.

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

XI. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Council to consider the Consent Agenda. (None)

XII. OLD BUSINESS

A. Council to consider approving Memoranda of Understanding with Truist Bank, Clayton County Public Schools, and the Clayton County Public Schools Foundation to support implementation of the Jonesboro Education Trust (JET) Pilot Program.

A motion was made to table the item until the August meeting.

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

B. Council to consider adopting a resolution creating the City of Jonesboro Charter Review Committee to conduct a comprehensive review of the City Charter and governmental structure.

A motion was made to table the item until the August meeting.

RESULT: **Approved to table until August. (Vote was unanimous)**
MOVER: **Councilmember Curney**
SECONDER: **Councilmember Fox**

At 6:57 p.m., a motion was made to amend the agenda to allow Leadership Clayton Cohort Class of 2026 Group III to present on HomeANCHOR.

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 to table the item until the August meeting.

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

D. Council to consider setting the advertised millage rate for FY 27 Budget.

A motion was made to advertise the millage rate at 12.5 mils for advertisement purposes only.

RESULT: **Approved to publish/advertise at 12.5 mils (Vote was unanimous)**
MOVER: **Councilmember Messick**
SECONDER: **Councilmember Fox**

E. Council to consider adopting a resolution reconstituting the governing board of the Urban Redevelopment Agency of the City of Jonesboro as an independent board of commissioners and superseding the 2024 designation of the Downtown Development Authority membership as the URA board.

A motion was made to table the item until July 16, 2026 Special Called Meeting.

RESULT: Approved to table until 7/16/26 Special Called Meeting (Vote was unanimous)
MOVER: Councilmember Fox
SECONDER: Councilmember Curney

F. Council to consider two resolutions regarding a CDS grant award from Congressman David Scott, 13th GA House District. (Jonesboro's Enhancing Law Enforcement and Public Safety Project and Jonesboro's Pedestrian Improvements Project)

A motion was made to table the item until the 08/03/26 Work Session.

RESULT: Approved to table until 08/03/26 Work Session (Vote was unanimous)
MOVER: Councilmember Curney
SECONDER: Councilmember A. Dixon

G. Council to consider Clayton County Prison's Labor Contract and Inmate Supervision Agreement.

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

The motion was amended to add Key Street Park.

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

XIII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Council to consider nominations of elected officials for the Urban Redevelopment Agency Board.

- Mayor Donya L. Sartor
- Councilmember Santia Fox
- Councilmember Cameron Dixon

A motion was made to table the item until the 08/03/26 Work Session.

RESULT: Approved to table until 08/03/26 Work Session (Vote was unanimous)
MOVER: Councilmember Fox
SECONDER: Councilmember A. Dixon

B. Council to consider approval of the Jonesboro Safe Home Initiative, establishing a proactive public safety initiative that provides home safety devices, smart home technology, and emergency preparedness resources to Jonesboro families.

A motion was made to table the item until the 08/03/26 Work Session.

RESULT: Approved to table until 08/03/26 Work Session (Vote was unanimous)
MOVER: Councilmember Curney
SECONDER: Mayor Pro-Tem Miller

C. Council to discuss OPB Grant update.

The item will be placed on the 08/03/26 Work Session.

RESULT: OLD BUSINESS 08/03/26 WORK SESSION

D. Council to discuss FY 27 Budget Process.

XIV. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REPORT

A. Economic Development Report by Faith Akuta.

XV. FINANCE REPORT

A. Finance Report by Finance Director Slaton-Dixon. (None)

XVI. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

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

XVII. REPORT OF CITY COUNCILMEMBERS

Comments by Councilmember Fox:

- Expressed special appreciation and recognition for Ellen Divins for her outstanding leadership and initiative regarding Logan's Law/House Bill 631
- Home Safe Program
- Community, Constituents, and Councilmembers are amazing and I love you all

Comments by Councilmember Messick:

- Beautification Committee and the beautiful signage regarding American250
- Encouraged everyone to stop by the Community Garden
- Juneteenth event was amazing
- July 4th event was wonderful. Received great feedback regarding the Kids Zone and fireworks
- Read a quote written by John Adams on 07/3/1776.
- Thanked everyone who assisted with all of the events
- Thanked Mayor Pro-Tem Miller for hosting Toddler Tuesday. Had a great time with the kids

Comments by Councilmember C. Dixon:

- Thanked everyone for joining the meeting tonight
- Looking forward to working with the interns
- Happy birthday to everyone who has a birthday in July
- Shout-out to Leadership Clayton on their presentations
- Summer is almost over and hoping all of the kids have a great first day back to school

Comments by Councilmember Curney:

- Ethics Committee - Need to reschedule their initial meeting. Applications closed on 05/22/26.
- Downtown Development Authority - Need to discuss if there are any applications
- Cancelation notice should be sent out for 07/20/26 DDA Meeting
- Veterans Memorial Project Advisory Committee acceptance of applications closed 07/02/26. Mayor Sartor plans to sign an Executive Order appointing the members on 07/15/26. She asked City Attorney if board members have to be sworn in. City Attorney Wiley said she did not see anything in the ordinance indicating that they have to be sworn in

Comments by Councilmember A. Dixon:

- Thanked everyone for participating in the meeting
- Shout out to Ellen Divins in regard to Logan's Law and thanked Councilmember Fox for highlighting this initiative
- Thanked Leadership Clayton for their presentations
- JYCG Summer Leadership Institute is going well

- JYCG elections will take place next week and the swearing-in ceremony on 08/10/26
- We are in our budget season – Time to let the residents' voices be heard
- Jonesboro's Internship program has been live and instrumental in seeing some of our flagship programs through
- Construction on Tara Blvd. – Project is on time and ties into improving public safety and decreasing pedestrian accidents along Tara Blvd.

Comments by Mayor Pro-Tem Miller:

- Toddler Tuesday - Had an amazing time and was honored to work with Councilmember Messick for her partnership
- Bubble Day - Overwhelmingly amazing. Shoutout to Makayla Stacy and Mr. Walker for all of their assistance
- Thanked all department heads, city staff, city attorney, etc. for everything they do
- JYCG Onboarding - Shoutout to Council A. Dixon, JYCG members, etc.
- Thanked each Councilmember for all that they do

XVIII. OTHER BUSINESS (Executive Session was removed from the Agenda)

None

XIX. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

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

Dr. Donya L. Sartor

Shandrella Jewett, City Clerk