CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL CALLED TOWNHALL MEETING

JUNE 02, 2026 AT 6:30 PM

COMMUNITY ROOM - 1859 CITY CENTER WAY, JONESBORO, GA 30236

MINUTES

PRESENT

Mayor Donya L. Sartor
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 Clerk, Shandrella Jewett

Assistant City Clerk, Pat Daniel
Code Compliance Officer, Derry Walker
Community Development Director, David Allen
Downtown Development Authority Director, Blue Cole
Economic Development Director - Faith Akuta
Operation/Human Resource, Maria Wetherington
Police Chief, Christopher Cato
Public Works Director, Marcus Heard

ABSENT

City Attorney LaTonya Nix-Wiley

Finance Director, Karen Slaton-Dixon

I. CALLED TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Zahion Mikel (JYCG Mayor) at 6:35 p.m.

II. WELCOME

Welcome remarks by Zahion Mikell (Jonesboro Youth City Government Mayor)

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

IV. INTRODUCTION OF THE MAYOR

Zahion Mikel (JYCG Mayor) introduced the City of Jonesboro's Mayor, Dr. Donya L. Sartor

III. MAYOR'S PRESENTATION

- Mayor Sartor welcomed residents, attendees, board members, elected officials, staff, and introduced City Manager, Blue Cole. She thanked Sky, the event coordinator for a job well done.

  At this time, City Manager Cole shared his vision for improving city services, supporting residents, businesses, and youth, and strengthening the city's team.

- City updates presented by Mayor Sartor

- ❖ A video was shared regarding "Small City Doing Big Things." Mayor Sartor spoke about the City of Jonesboro being a well-respected City located in the heart of Atlanta.
- ❖ Overview of city growth, demographics, housing, transportation, and economic development initiatives.
- ❖ Emphasis on diversified housing options, infrastructure improvements, and regional partnerships.
- ❖ Update on fiber-optic expansion project throughout the city.
- ❖ Highlighted increases in employee wages and continued efforts toward a living wage.
- ❖ Discussed plans for recycling services, sanitation improvements, and park enhancements.
- ❖ Grants and Funding Updates: The City secured approximately $3.1 million for public safety improvements, inclusive playgrounds (CDBG Funding – Battleground & Massengale Parks). Over $1 million for pedestrian improvements. $124,000.00 Nutrition Access, Affordability, and Education Grant Program supporting food access initiatives (via AAMA and American Beverage partnership). Additional funding opportunities for police vehicles ($240K), park improvements ($450K), and housing development projects ($2.7 million – Habitat for Humanity Housing Development projects.

- Discussed Community Improvement Plan
  - ❖ Updates provided on the proposed Main Street Village mixed-use housing project.
  - ❖ Discussion of downtown infrastructure improvements needed to support future business development.
  - ❖ Continued focus on attracting investment while preserving Jonesboro's character and sustainability.

IV. COUNCIL PANEL

Mayor Sartor introduced Mayor Pro-Tem and each Councilmember. They were given two (2) minutes to share their priorities which included:

- Youth development and educational opportunities.
- Family-friendly amenities and parks.
- Economic growth and local job creation.
- Technology modernization and improved city services.
- Veterans memorial project and public safety enhancements.

V. 2026 COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE DISCUSSION

City Manager Cole introduced Emily Corrillio of Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC).

- ARC Representatives Emily Corrillio presented the City's Comprehensive Plan process. She spoke about the planning process (past and future) and how it looks at everything (Housing, Development, Land Use, etc.)
- Residents were encouraged to participate in a survey and future public engagement activities to help shape Jonesboro's next five-year plan.

VI. COMMUNITY Q & A

Topics raised by residents included:

- Domestic Violence Awareness Month event proposal ("From Pain to Power Gala").
- Employment and opportunity concerning young adults.
- Fatherhood advocacy initiatives.
- Family wellness and relationship education programs.
- Resources for homelessness, mental health, and community assistance services

VII. FINAL REMARKS

Mayor Sartor encouraged continued community engagement and emphasized that Jonesboro is growing strategically while maintaining its strengths.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:49 p.m.

Dr. Donya L. Sartor, Mayor

Shandrella Jewett, City Clerk