



3921 CHURCH STREET ♦ CLARKSTON, GEORGIA 30021
(404) 296-6489 ♦ WWW.CLARKSTONGA.GOV

Mayor Beverly H. Burks

Councilmembers:

Jamie Carroll Laura Hopkins
Awet Eyasu Yterenickia Bell
Debra Johnson Susan Hood

Shawanna Qawiy, Interim City Manager

CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION MINUTES

**Tuesday, April 26, 2022, 7:00PM
ZOOM**

1. CALL TO ORDER – 7:00 P.M.

2. ROLL CALL

All members of the City Council was present.

3. WORK SESSION – RESIDENT COMMENT POLICY

Vice Mayor Eyasu read the Resident Comment Policy.

4. PRESENTATION/ ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS

A. Dekalb County Reginal Land Bank

Allen Mitchell, Director of Community Development Department with the Dekalb Reginal Land Bank Authority presented a brief overview of land bank.

Amy Medford presented comments in favor of this item.

B. Homelessness in Dekalb County

Allen Mitchell, Director of Community Development Department with the Dekalb Reginal Land Bank Authority presented a brief overview on homelessness in the County.

C. Discuss amending Resolution No.2022-001, Necessitating City Council Meetings by Zoom teleconference.

The Mayor and Council discussed the option of in-person and virtual meetings.

Amy Medford presented comments pertaining to in-person City Council meetings.

Attorney Stephen Quinn provided options to the City Council for meeting in-person, virtually and hybrid for Council meetings.

D. Presentation of River Alive Clean Up Event at Friendship Forest.

Kash Hatami with Collaborative Infrastructure Services, Inc. presented an overview of their volunteer project that was held.



5. OLD BUSINESS

A. Discussion of Change Order #42 SPLOST 04 B & C Rowland Street Road Diet Project.

Interim City Manager, Shawanna Qawiy stated the SOL Construction Company submitted change order #42 to perform repairs, mill and resurface Vaughan Street and Clarkston Industrial Boulevard. The paving of Vaughan Street and Clarkston Industrial Blvd. will include driveways. The estimated cost of the change order submitted by SOL Construction Company is \$143,916.00.

Staff recommends performing this work under the approved list of projects for the Local Maintenance and Improvement Grant (LMIG) program.

The Council briefly discussed this item. This item will be placed on the next City Council Meeting Agenda.

B. Discussion of Local Maintenance and Improvement Grant Program paving projects.

Interim City Manager, Shawanna Qawiy stated from 2019 to 2021 the City requested that the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) LMIG funding for three (3) years (2018-2021) is saved until which time it will be allocated to perform the projects submitted. Ms. Qawiy gave a brief overview of the projects submitted and the associated costs.

The Council briefly discussed this item. This item will be placed on the next City Council Meeting Agenda.

Staff recommended approval of the LMIG grant resurfacing projects with the 30% matching funds to be allocated from the SPLOST expenditures identified above.

This item will be placed on the next City Council Meeting Agenda.

C. Discussion of the allocation of \$100,000 for a city resident Home Repair/Weatherization Program.

Councilmember Johnson gave a brief overview of her request to allocate ARPA funding in the amount of \$100,000, not to exceed \$5,000 per residence to support homeowners with home repairs and/or weatherization projects.

She stated the COVID-19 pandemic has caused many Clarkston homeowners economic hardships. A homeowner's assistance repair and weatherization program may assist with the energy efficiency of dwellings which may possibly as a result cause a reduction of annual utility costs. The weatherization and home repairs assistance program may include air & dust sealing, walls, floors, attic insulation, heating, ventilation, and air conditioning system improvements. Energy efficiency improvements may include lighting, hot water tanks, pipe insulation, and water conservation devices.



Brian Medford presented comments on this item.

Amy Medford presented comments on this item.

The Council briefly discussed this item. This item will be placed on the next City Council Meeting Agenda.

D. Discussion of Memorandum of Understanding by the Veterans and Community Outreach Foundation (VCOF) for ARPA funding for veteran assistance programs.

Interim City Manager, Shawanna Qawiy presented a brief overview of a Memorandum of Understanding by the Veterans and Community Outreach Foundation (VCOF) for ARPA funding for veteran assistance programs. Ms. Qawiy stated the request was to allocate ARPA funding in the amount of \$55,023 to provide programming, food, and outreach assistance to veterans in the Clarkston Community. The VCOF request was to assist veterans, their families, and underserved populations with assistance to healthcare services, housing, food outreach initiatives and transitional programs, workshops, and classes.

Amy Medford presented comments on this item.

The Council briefly discussed this item. This item will be placed on the next City Council Meeting Agenda.

E. Discussion of SPLOST 04 B & C Rowland Street Road Diet project-Rowland Street (Norman Road to Market Street).

Ms. Qawiy presented an overview of the SPLOST 04 B& C Rowland Street Road Diet project -Rowland Street (Norman Road to Market Street) and discussed the alternatives to the approved-one way entrance/exit of Rowland Street between Norman Road and Market Street. The City Council approved Option #4 of this Change Order for the Rowland Street Project.

Simon Yohanes presented comments on this item.

Brian Medford presented comments on this item.

The Council briefly discussed this item. This item will be placed on the next City Council Meeting Agenda.

F. Discussion Change Order #38 for SPLOST 04 B&C Pedestrian Enhancement Trailhead and Rowland St. / Roger St. Chicane Removal and Speed Table Installation.

Ms. Qawiy stated this item was referred to the Transportation & Environment Committee and Public Safety & Legal Standing Advisory Committees for review with the residents.



The Community meetings were held with staff and members of Council in November 2021 and April 25, 2022 that allowed residents to express their concerns related to the installation of chicanes on Rogers Street. Six (6) chicanes have been approved for installation. Four (4) chicanes have been installed. Two (2) chicanes are pending installation. According to residents, chicanes are damaging cars. Cars are not currently stopping at the Hill Street and Rogers Street stop sign. Residents are concerned with depreciating property values due to chicane installation. Residents are concerned about emergency vehicles having access to Rogers Street. Residents are concerned that the location of the chicanes are too close to residence driveways.

Brian Medford presented comments on this item.

Amy Medford presented comments on this item.

The Council briefly discussed this item. This item will be placed on the next City Council Meeting Agenda.

6. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Discussion of a Conditional Use Permit Request from Robert Allen Chambers D/B/A All Nations Society of Atlanta for the property located at 4320 East Ponce De Leon Ave, Clarkston, GA 30021, zoned RC Residential Commercial for mission society / place of assembly (*Public Hearing at City Council Meeting - May 3, 2022*).

Ms. Qawiy stated the Conditional Use Permit for the property located at 4320 E. Ponce de Leon Avenue was from the All-Nations Society of Atlanta for the property to be used for a mission society. Ms. Qawiy briefly updated the Council stating a Conditional Use Permit application request shall be heard at public hearings to be determined whether or not the applicants proposed conditional use would generally be in the public interest. In considering whether a proposed conditional use is in the public interest, the mayor and city council shall consider the following, among other relevant factors: (1) Whether the conditional use would be injurious to the use and enjoyment of the environment or of other property in the immediate vicinity or diminish and impair property values within the surrounding neighborhood; (2) Whether the proposed conditional use would increase local or state expenditures in relation to cost of servicing or maintaining neighboring properties; (3) Whether the establishment of the conditional use would impede the normal and orderly development of surrounding property for uses predominant in the area; and (4) Whether the location and character of the proposed conditional use would be consistent with a desirable pattern of development for the locality in general.

Amy Medford presented comments on this item.

The Council briefly discussed this item. This item will be placed on the next City Council Meeting Agenda.



- B. Discussion of an ARPA funding request from the Amani Women Center for \$42,000 to provide COVID-19 emergency assistance navigation services.

Ms. Qawiy stated an ARPA funding request was received from the Amani Women Center for \$42,000 to provide COVID-19 emergency assistance navigation services. The Amani Women Center has a team of Community Ambassadors that help Clarkston families with COVID-19 emergency needs in the community. This team will assist with rental and utility assistance including outreach events in collaboration with community partners. These events assist families with hygiene products, PPE's, baby products and food drives.

Brian Medford presented comments on this item.

Amy Medford presented comments on this item.

The Council briefly discussed this item. This item will be placed on Consent Agenda on the next City Council Meeting Agenda.

- C. Discussion of ARPA funding allocations.

Ms. Qawiy gave a brief update on the ARPA Funds stating to date the City of Clarkston has allocated \$2,220,354.52 in ARPA funds to business assistance, rental assistance, mortgage assistance, utility assistance, quarantine income loss, COVID-19 At Home Tests kits (with supplemental cost coverages), food assistance, payroll (hazard pay-allocation for 2022), health initiatives, communication/marketing, PPE, computer equipment, technology (including a new Open Records Requests System) calisthenic and park equipment with upgrades and a payment on a police vehicle. Assessing the needs of city administration for staffing and program initiatives, the following are requests for ARPA funding a Receptionist, Finance Assistant, and a Grants Administrator. The following are approved/pending Memorandum of Understandings: Georgia State University-Community Assessment Translation Services \$30,000; Fresh Harvest \$40,000; Good Samaritan Lutheran Ministries \$17,925; CDF Story Walk \$28,405.52; and Burmese Rohingya Community \$25,000.

Brian Medford presented comments on this item.

Amy Medford presented comments on this item.

The Council briefly discussed this item. This item will be placed on the next City Council Meeting Agenda.

7. ADJOURNMENT

Councilmember Carroll made a motion to adjourn. Councilmember Johnson duly seconded the motion. Mayor Burks called for the vote and declared the meeting adjourned (6-0).



The meeting adjourned at 12:56 a.m.

ATTEST:

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Beverly H. Burks". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline.

Beverly H. Burks
Mayor

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tomika R. Mitchell". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline.

Tomika R. Mitchell
City Clerk