

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF CLARKSTON, GEORGIA HELD
BY TELECONFERENCE, ZOOM AUDIO/VIDEO
IN SAID CITY ON TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2022

On the 6th day of September 2022, at 7:00 p.m., the City Council of Clarkston, Georgia met in regular session by teleconference, Zoom Audio/Video in said City. Mayor Beverly Burks called the meeting to order. The following members of the Council Members were present: Vice Mayor Awet Eyasu; Councilmembers Jamie Carroll; Debra Johnson; Laura Hopkins; Yterenickia Bell, and Susan Hood. Absent: None. The following City staff were present: Shawanna Qawiy (City Manager); Dan Defnall (Finance Director); Tomika R. Mitchell (City Clerk); and Stephen Quinn (City Attorney).

NOTE: Items appearing in these minutes are in the order they were discussed, not necessarily in the order they appeared on the agenda.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

All members of Council were present.

3. ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS/ PRESENTATION

Approved the 08/04/2022 City Council Meeting minutes and 08/30/2022 City Council Work Session minutes.

Councilmember Carroll made a motion to approve the 08/04/2022 City Council Meeting Minutes and 08/30/2022 City Council Work Session Minutes. Councilmember Hopkins duly seconded the motion. Mayor Burks called for the vote and declared the motion approved (6-0).

4. REPORTS

A. Planning/Economic and Development Report and the City Manager's Report

- Staff and Councilmembers conducted a walk-through of some of the City businesses.
- Variance request for the properties located at 795, 801 and 803 Glendale Road for a storage facility to be heard at the September 20 Planning & Zoning Commission, then the City Council on October 4.
- Soccer plans are on the way at Milam Park with Atlanta United on September 3 to October 22.
- Tell Me a Story will occur at the Clarkston Piedmont Technical College on September 10 from 1:00pm to 5:00pm.
- Project updates are underway.

B. City Manager's Report

- This report was given during the Planning/Economic and Development Report.

C. City Attorney's Report

- Dekalb Co. Superior Court granted the City's request to dismissed the lawsuit that was filed by the City of Tucker over an apartment development.

D. Council Remarks

- The Council members briefly gave an overview of meetings and events they have attended, projects they are currently working on, and COVID updates.

E. Mayor's Report

- Mayor Burks gave a brief overview of meetings and events she attended and other news of the City.

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Brian Medford presented comments pertaining to a greenway he visited in Tennessee.

Kyle Roedler with the Parent Safety Alliance presented comments regarding school safety.

6. OLD BUSINESS

There was no Old Business.

7. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approval of a Proclamation for Healthy Seniors Month.

B. Approval of a Proclamation for African Immigrant Heritage Month.

Vice Mayor Eyasu made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Councilmember Johnson duly seconded the motion. Mayor Burks called for the vote and declared the motion approved (6-0).

8. NEW BUSINESS

A. Approval of a resolution to amend the 2022 Operating and Enterprise Fund Budget.

City Manager, Shawanna Qawiy stated this item was to consider adopting the resolution amending the FY2022 Operating Budget that contains amended information based on the request for additional information from the August 30th, 2022, work session discussions. Ms. Qawiy also stated the City received information that has increased the 2022 budgeted MARTA Advertising revenue (from bus stops) by \$56,000. The previously proposed amendments to reduce the Community Development projects with various expenditure budget line items have been updated to the original funded amounts.

Vice Mayor Eyasu made a motion to approve a resolution to amend the 2022 Operating and Enterprise Fund Budget. Councilmember Bell duly seconded the motion.

Finance Director, Dan Defnall gave a brief overview of the line items.

The Council briefly discussed this item.

Mayor Burks called for the vote and declared the motion approved (6-0).

B. Approval of a resolution to authorize a Municipal Court Amnesty Program.

City Manager, Shawanna Qawiy stated this item was to approve a resolution that will authorize the Clarkston Municipal Court Amnesty Program. The City of Clarkston desires to provide an opportunity for municipal court defendants with outstanding citations and/or warrants to resolve these issues. The Clarkston Municipal Court Amnesty Program shall be administered in accordance with the following terms and conditions. (1) The program shall begin September 19, 2022, and expire on November 30, 2022, to accommodate out of state defendants; (2) The program shall apply to all misdemeanor State law charges and city ordinance violation charges for which the defendant was cited or arrested prior to January 1, 2022; (3) Defendants with serious misdemeanor offenses must appear at Clarkston Municipal Court, enter a plea of guilty or no contest (if allowed by the Municipal Court Judge) if the citation has not previously been adjudicated, and pay all fines and fees associated with their outstanding citation(s). Defendants with less offensive violations has the option of mail-in or online payments, during the Amnesty Program period to take advantage of the benefits of the program; (4) Defendants that comply with the terms of the Amnesty Program will not be subjected to arrest or incarceration in connection with any outstanding bench warrant and will not be assessed any additional punishment for contempt of court; (5) The Municipal Court will implement a call and mail-out process to all defendants with outstanding citations and warrants; (6) Bench warrants previously issued will be canceled for defendants that comply with the terms of this Amnesty Program; and (7) It shall be the responsibility of the Municipal Court Clerk to publish the terms of the Clarkston Municipal Court Amnesty Program, including times and hours for defendants to appear in order to take advantage of the program.

Councilmember Johnson made a motion to approve a resolution to authorize a Municipal Court Amnesty Program. Councilmember Bell duly seconded the motion. Mayor Burks called for the vote and declared the motion approved (6-0).

Vice Mayor Eyasu presided over the meeting.

C. Approval of a resolution to impose a temporary moratorium on development of new car wash facilities.

Mayor Beverly Burks stated this item is similar to last month's moratoriums and the request is to add new car wash facilities. It is the same language with just a few variations.

Councilmember Carroll made a motion to approve the moratorium of new car wash facilities. Councilmember Bell duly seconded the motion. Mayor Burks called for the vote and declared the motion approved (5-0-1). Vice Mayor Eyasu abstained.

D. Approval of a resolution to create an Equity and Community Empowerment Department.

Mayor Beverly Burks stated this was a creation of an Equity and Community Empowerment Department. During Phase I, the department will work with the committee over the next several months to finalize the overall framework. The information will be presented to the City Council in January.

The Council briefly discussed this item.

Vice Mayor Eyasu made a motion to resolution to create an Equity and Community Empowerment Department. Councilmember Johnson duly seconded the motion. Mayor Burks called for the vote and declared the motion approved (5-0-1). Councilmember Hopkins abstained.

9. ADJOURNMENT

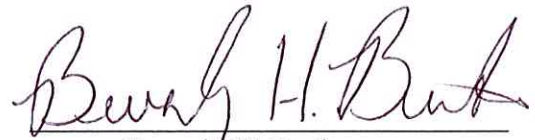
Vice Mayor Eyasu made a motion to adjourn. Councilmember Bell duly seconded the motion. Mayor Burks called for the vote and declared the meeting adjourned (6-0).

The meeting adjourned at 7:44 p.m.

ATTEST:



Tomika R. Mitchell
City Clerk



Beverly H. Burks
Mayor