

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF CLARKSTON, GEORGIA HELD  
BY TELECONFERENCE, ZOOM AUDIO/VIDEO  
IN SAID CITY ON TUESDAY, APRIL 4, 2023

On the 4<sup>th</sup> day of April 2023, 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 Debra Johnson; Councilmembers Awet Eyasu; Jamie Carroll; Yterenickia Bell, Laura Hopkins, and Susan Hood. Absent: None. The following City staff were present: Shawanna Qawiy (City Manager); 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

- A. To approve the 03/07/2023 City Council Meeting minutes and 03/28/2023 City Council Work Session minutes.

Vice Mayor Johnson made a motion to approve the 03/07/2023 City Council Meeting minutes and the 03/28/2023 City Council Work Session minutes. Councilmember Hood 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.

- Russell Landscaping began maintenance.
- Sears Pool Management is hiring for Lifeguards and providing training.
- The Storyboard Story Walk has a new book.
- Currently coordinating the calendar for the summer programs and activities.
- Georgia Power Substation are relocating poles for better service in the city.

B. City Manager's Report

- Budget actuals are on track as expected for the first fiscal quarter year.
- Overview of international events attended.
- Acknowledged Police Officers: Sgt. Koirala, Officer Patterson, and Officer Smith; and Public Works employee: Hakeem Ayuba.

C. City Attorney's Report

- No report given.

D. Council Remarks

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

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

The following citizens presented comments on various subjects: Amy Medford, Shyannon Dibbasey, Efreem Kebede, Tigist Mekuria, Rhonda Washburn, Chris Busing, David Jaffor, Lamont Junions, Valerie Ard, Simone Wilson, Yancey Le Croy, Maggie Deaton, Joshua Deaton, and Gene Hilliard.

6. OLD BUSINESS

- A. To approve allocating ARPA funds for recommended government services for a Code Compliance Officer.

City Manager, Shawanna Qawiy stated recommendation is to assist with the increased number of code violations and provide the service needed to cut down on complaints.

The Council briefly discussed this item.

Vice Mayor Johnson made a motion to approve the allocation of ARPA funds for recommended government services for a Code Compliance Officer. Councilmember Bell duly seconded the motion. Mayor Burks called for the vote and declared the motion approved (5-1-0). Councilmember Eyasu abstained.

- B. To approve amending Chapters 9.5 of the City Code regarding service stations and Chapter 11 of the Code regarding businesses; to limit hours of operation for convenience stores; to allow convenience stores that maintain video surveillance systems to acquire a permit for expanded hours of operation; and other purposes.

Councilmember Bell gave a brief overview of the proposed regulations for the convenience stores.

The Council briefly discussed this item.

Councilmember Hood made a motion to approve amending Chapters 9.5 of the City Code regarding service stations and Chapter 11 of the Code regarding businesses; to limit hours of operation for convenience stores; to allow convenience stores that maintain video surveillance systems to acquire a permit for expanded hours of operation; and other purposes. Councilmember Bell duly seconded the motion. Mayor Burks called for the vote and declared the motion approved (5-1). Councilmember Eyasu voted "no".

## 7. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. To approve a resolution authorizing the execution of a lease supplement under the Georgia Municipal Association Direct Leasing Program for the lease/purchase of various city vehicles and equipment for \$138,230.
- B. To approve a resolution declaring a surplus vehicle for the City of Clarkston Public Works Department.

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

## 8. NEW BUSINESS

- A. To adopt a new resolution imposing a temporary moratorium on development of mini-warehouses and self-storage facilities.
- B. Councilmember Bell gave a brief overview of the proposed changes to the ordinance on development of mini-warehouses and self-storage facilities.

The Council briefly discussed this item.

Councilmember Hopkins made a motion to adopt a new resolution imposing a temporary moratorium on development of mini-warehouses and self-storage facilities. Councilmember Bell duly seconded the motion. Mayor Burks called for the vote and declared the motion approved (6-0).

- C. To adopt a new resolution imposing a temporary moratorium on development of automobile service centers and automobile service stations (Filling Stations).

Councilmember Bell gave a brief overview of the proposed changes to the ordinance on development of automobile service centers and automobile service stations (Filling Stations).

The Council briefly discussed this item.

Councilmember Hopkins made a motion to adopt a new resolution imposing a temporary moratorium on development of automobile service centers and automobile service stations (Filling Stations). Councilmember Bell duly seconded the motion. Mayor Burks called for the vote and declared the motion approved (5-1). Councilmember Eyasu voted “no”.

- D. To adopt a new resolution imposing a temporary moratorium on development of small box variety stores.

Councilmember Bell gave a brief overview of the proposed changes to the ordinance on development of small box variety stores.

The Council briefly discussed this item.

Vice Mayor Johnson made a motion to adopt a new resolution imposing a temporary moratorium on development of small box variety stores. Councilmember Bell duly seconded the motion. Mayor Burks called for the vote and declared the motion approved (5-1). Councilmember Eyasu voted “no”.

- E. **PUBLIC HEARING:** To consider adopting the amendments to the Clarkston Zoning Ordinance and maps.

City Attorney, Stephen Quinn gave a brief overview of the adopted resolution pertaining to the Public Hearing policy.

*The Public Hearing opened.*

Rick Pasenow, Amy Medford, Victoria Webb, Joshua Deaton, Mark Perkins and Lisa Williams spoke in favor of passing the Zoning Rewrite Ordinance.

Chris Bushing, Ms. Amina, Debby Gathman, Dean Moore, Gene Hilliard spoke in opposition to passing the Zoning Rewrite Ordinance.

*The Public Hearing closed.*

Vice Mayor Johnson made a motion to defer this vote to the next Regular City Council Meeting. Councilmember Bell duly seconded the motion.

The Council briefly discussed this item.

Mr. Quinn provided clarification on non-conforming uses.

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

#### 9. EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Council did not enter Executive Session.

#### 10. ADJOURNMENT

Vice Mayor Johnson 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 was adjourned at 8:51 p.m.

ATTEST:

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Tomika R. Mitchell  
City Clerk

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Beverly H. Burks  
Mayor