

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF CLARKSTON, GEORGIA
HELD IN-PERSON AND BY TELECONFERENCE, ZOOM AUDIO/VIDEO
IN SAID CITY ON TUESDAY, JANUARY 9, 2024

On the 9th day of January 2024, at 7:00 p.m., the City Council of Clarkston, Georgia met in regular session in-person and by teleconference, Zoom Audio/Video in said City. Mayor Bverly Burks called the meeting to order. The following members of the City Council were present: Vice Mayor Debra Johnson and Councilmembers Awet Eyasu; Jamie Carroll; Susan Hood; Yterenickia Bell; and Mark Perkins. Absent: None. The following City staff were present: Tammi Saddler Jones (Interim City Manager); Dan Defnall (Finance Director); Christine Hudson (Police Chief); Rodney Beck (Public Works Director); Lisa Cameron (Planning & Economic Development 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 Councilmembers were present.

Councilmember Carroll made a motion to amend Item 8G and add “previous SPLOST I” to the agenda item. Councilmember Perkins duly seconded the motion. Mayor Burks called for the vote and declared the motion approved (6-0).

3. ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS/ PRESENTATION

A. To approve minutes the following meetings:

- 12/05/2023 – City Council Meeting
- 12/19/2023 - Special Called City Council Meeting
- 01/02/2024 - City Council Work Session

Councilmember Johnson made a motion to approve the following meeting minutes: 12/05/2023 – City Council Meeting; 12/19/2023 - Special Called City Council Meeting (with the noted corrections); and 01/02/2024 - City Council Work Session. 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.

- Planning/Economic and Development Manager, Lisa Camera gave a brief report about on the following topics:
 - City of Clarkston Awarded the Place Making Grant
 - Reviewing Code Compliance Certificates for Multi-family dwellings

- Smith Street Pocket Park Update
- City of Clarkston in a Federal Opportunity Zone information
- Update on Department positions

B. City Manager's Report

- Interim City Manager, Tammi Saddler Jones gave an update on the following:
 - City Administrative Offices closed on Monday in observance of Dr. Martin Luther King, jr. Holiday.
 - Bi-weekly Interim City Manager Report
 - Panelist for Leadership Dekalb Government Day on January 25
 - Email will be sent to Council regarding Clarkston Affordable Housing Trust, Environmental Trust Fund, Tree Fund
 - All Staff Meeting will be scheduled later this month

C. City Attorney's Report

- No report.

D. Council Remarks

- The Councilmembers 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 to the Mayor and Council: Krista Durant, Martha Brown, Maudie Wynn, Carolyn Davis, Kaushik Patel, MD Rashid, Samia Abdulle, and Chris Busing.

6. OLD BUSINESS

There were no Old Business items.

7. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. To approve a resolution authorizing the reappointment of the Municipal Court Judge.

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

8. NEW BUSINESS

- A. To approve selecting a Vice-Mayor.

Mayor Burks asked the City Council if there were any other nominations on the floor since the two nominations of Councilmember Bell and Councilmember Johnson at the previous City Council Work Session. There were no additional nominations from the City Council.

The Council discussed this item.

The Council voted on both nominations. Councilmembers Johnson, Hood and Eyasu voted in favor of the selection of Councilmember Johnson as Vice Mayor. Councilmembers Bell, Carroll, and Perkins voted in favor of the selection of Councilmember Bell as Vice Mayor.

Mayor Burks vetoed the tie voting in favor of Councilmember Johnson continuing in her role as the Vice Mayor.

B. To approve a resolution authorizing the reappointment of the Auditor.

Councilmember Eyasu made a motion to approve the Engagement Letter and appointment of Mauldin & Jenkins as the City Auditor for FY 2023 Audit to be performed in 2024 and direct staff to initiate a Request for Proposal for the year 2024. Vice Mayor Johnson duly seconded the motion.

The Council briefly discussed the motion with the City Attorney, Stephen Quinn clarifying that the Council makes the decision on the reappointment but does not need to vote on staff putting out an RFP.

Councilmember Eyasu amended the motion stating to approve resolution authorizing the reappointment of the Auditor. Councilmember Perkins duly seconded the motion. Mayor Burks called for the vote and declared the motion approved (6-0).

Mayor Burks stated the staff will move forward with an RFP.

C. To approve a resolution authorizing the reappointment of the Solicitor.

Councilmember Carroll made a motion to approve a resolution authorizing the reappointment of the Solicitor, Christopher Diwan. Councilmember Perkins duly seconded the motion. Mayor Burks called for the vote and declared the motion approved (5-0-1). Councilmember Eyasu abstained.

D. To approve payment to Ikon Filmworks, LLC. for audio-visual services for the council work sessions, council meetings, and special called meetings for the months of November and December 2023 in the amount of \$9,010.

James Hammond with Ikon Filmworks, LLC. shared a little background about the business and the services the company provides.

Councilmember Carroll made a motion to approve payment to Ikon Filmworks, LLC. for audio-visual services for the council work sessions, council meetings, and special called meetings for the months of November and December 2023 in the amount of \$9,010. Councilmember Bell duly seconded the motion. Mayor Burks called for the vote and declared the motion approved (6-0).

- E. To consider approving future services with Ikon Filmworks, LLC. for audio-visual services for the council work sessions, council meetings, and special called meetings.

Interim City Manager, Tammi Saddler Jones gave a brief recap of what she explained about the current equipment and software through BIS Digital at the previous Work Session.

Councilmember Hood made a motion to approve services with Ikon Filmworks, LLC. for audio-visual services for the council work sessions, council meetings, and special called meetings from January 1, 2024, to March 31, 2024. Vice Mayor Johnson duly seconded the motion.

The Council briefly discussed this motion. Vice Mayor Johnson rescinded her second to the motion.

Councilmember Hood amended her motion to extend the time through April. Councilmember Carroll duly seconded the amended motion. Mayor Burks called for the vote. Councilmembers Eyasu, Hood, and Carroll voted "yes". Vice Mayor Johnson and Councilmembers Bell and Perkins voted "no" (3-3). Mayor Burks vetoed the tie, voting against the motion. The motion failed.

Mayor Burks called for the vote on the original motion. Councilmembers Hood and Eyasu voted "yes". Vice Mayor Johnson and Councilmembers Carroll, Perkins and Bell voted "no" (2-4). The motion failed.

Vice Mayor Johnson made a motion to approve future services with Ikon Filmworks, LLC. for audio-visual services for the council work sessions, council meetings, and special called meetings until July 1, 2024. Councilmember Hood duly seconded the motion.

The Council briefly discussed this motion.

Mayor Burks called for the vote and declared the motion approved (2-4). Vice Mayor Johnson and Councilmembers Eyasu, Bell and Perkins voted "no". The motion failed.

Councilmember Carroll made a motion to approve future services with Ikon Filmworks, LLC. for audio-visual services for the council work sessions, council meetings, and special called meetings from January 1, 2024, to August 1, 2024. Mayor Burks called for the vote. Councilmember Perkins duly seconded the motion. Mayor Burks called for the vote and declared the motion approved (5-1). Councilmember Eyasu voted "no".

- F. To approve March 15, 2024, as the date for the Mayor, Council, and Staff Retreat.

Vice Mayor Johnson made a motion to approve March 15, 2024 as the date for the Mayor, Council, and Staff Retreat. Councilmember Bell duly seconded the motion. Mayor Burks called for the vote and declared the motion approved (6-0).

G. To approve the Proposed Projects for the 2023 and 2024 LMIG Funding and SPLOST I.

Interim City Manager, Tammi Saddler Jones gave a brief overview of the item and asked Council to name the proposed projects for the for the 2023 and 2024 LMIG Funding and SPLOST I Funding.

Councilmember Perkins made a motion to approve the proposed projects for the 2023 and 2024 Local Maintenance & Improvement Grant Funding and SPLOST I Funding to include Projects 2a and 4a for a total of \$415,000 to include the Brockett Rd. for \$90,000; Church St. project for \$105,000; Milling and Resurfacing Smith St. for \$105,000; and Milling and Resurfacing Clark St. for \$115,000. The motion died due to no second to the motion.

The Council discussed this item.

Larry Kaiser with Collaborative Infrastructure Services, Inc. provided an explanation on the discussed proposed projects.

Finance Director, Dan Defnall clarified the financial status of the funds.

Councilmember Hood made a motion to use LMIG Funds and SPLOST funds for the following projects 2a, which includes Brockett Rd. for \$90,000 and Church St. for \$105,000; and 4a, which includes Smith Street for \$105,000, Clark Street for \$115,000, and Tribble Street for \$34,000, for a total of \$449,000 within the total of the LMIG and SLOST. Councilmember Eyasu duly seconded the motion. Mayor Burks called for the vote and declared the motion approved (6-0).

9. EXECUTIVE SESSION

A. To discuss litigation.

Councilmember Carroll made a motion to enter Executive Session to discuss a real estate matter and a personnel matter. Vice Mayor Johnson duly seconded the motion. Mayor Burks called for the vote and declared the motion approved (6-0).

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

10. ADJOURNMENT

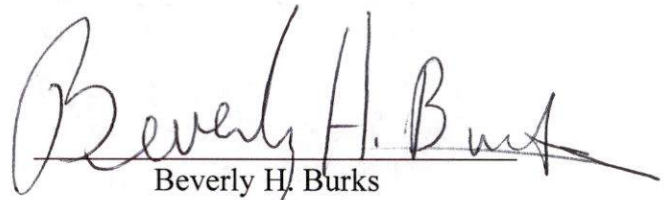
Councilmember Eyasu made a motion to adjourn. Councilmember Carroll duly seconded the motion. Mayor Burks called for the vote and declared the meeting adjourned (5-0).

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

ATTEST:



Tomika R. Mitchell
City Clerk



Beverly H. Burks
Mayor