



Where Community Connects

ACTION MINUTES

WORK SESSION MEETING

TUESDAY, APRIL 30, 2019 6:00 P.M.

Mayor & City Council

Mayor Anthony S. Ford
Councilman Elton Alexander
Mayor Pro Tem John Blount
Councilwoman LaKeisha Gantt
Councilwoman Neat Robinson
Councilman Alphonso Thomas

Administration

Randy Knighton, City Manager
Camilla Moore, Asst. City Manager
Vanessa Holiday, City Clerk
Randi Rainey, Deputy City Clerk
Michael Williams, City Attorney

Mission: To provide visionary leadership and superior municipal services that enhance the quality of life for citizens while creating a welcoming business atmosphere focused on sustainability and expansion of tourism and cultural events.

- I. Call to Order – Mayor Ford
- II. Invocation – Randy Knighton
- III. Pledge of Allegiance
- IV. Roll Call – All members were present
- V. Motion to amend the Agenda to **remove Item#9:**
Blount/Robinson – Passed 5-0.
- VI. Review of the Minutes for the following meetings:
 1. 03/11/2019
 2. 03/26/2019 SCM
 3. 3/26/2019 – No Action

PUBLIC COMMENTS

All persons wishing to speak for public comment must sign in with the City Clerk prior to the beginning of the meeting. You must sign your name, address, and phone number. You will be able to address the Mayor and Council for three (3) minutes. Speakers must respect all members of the elected body, officials, and staff. Defamation, unruliness and/or swearing will not be tolerated while meetings are in session

Mr. Kenneth Wilson of K Piano gave an overview of the program; noted the self-funded program has been here for 9-years, has taught over 16,000 kids to play piano; and noted the students have a 100% graduation rate; noted he is working in partnership with Smith-Barnes Elementary for the Smart Camp program; reached out to the City's Youth Council and was unaware the program was being restructured; noted his passion about working with the youth. Mr. Wilson noted he had sent the Mayor & Council a package for their review.

NEW BUSINESS

4. Quarterly Reports (1st Quarter 2019)
 1. Officer Johnson presented the Henry County Public Safety – Stockbridge North Precinct First Quarter Report/Statistics
HCPD to provide detailed information regarding Hot Zones.
 2. Ericka Harvey, Acting Chair and Joc'quelyn Carter, Treasurer presented the Stockbridge Youth Council First Quarter Report.
Youth Council will follow up with a detailed Financial Report at the May 28, 2019 Work Session Meeting.
 3. Councilwoman Gantt and James Touchton (Economic Development Director) presented the Downtown Development Authority First Quarter Report.
 4. Kira Harris-Braggs presented the Main Street Program First Quarter Report.
 5. Decius Aaron presented the Public Works First Quarter Report.
 6. Camilla Moore presented the Community Development First Quarter Report.
RFP for Towing and RFP for Zoning Ordinance to be presented at the June 10th meeting with a July start date.
 7. James Touchton presented the Economic Development First Quarter Report.
 8. John Wiggins presented the Finance First Quarter Report.
5. Resolution to fill a vacancy and appoint the City Treasurer.
Presented by: Mayor Ford
Motion to appoint John Wiggins: Blount/Gantt – Passed 5-0.
6. Council Consideration to approve striping of one Tennis Court at Gardner Park for Pickleball in the amount of \$500.00 – Parks Fund.
Presented by Lindell Miller, Purchasing Supervisor
Motion to approve: Thomas/Gantt – Passed 4-1 (Blount opposed).

7. Council Consideration to award a contract to Rush Truck Centers of Ga, Inc. under the State of GA Contract no. 99999-SPD-SPD0000155-0001 in the amount of \$98,489.00 from Solid Waste Fund Balance.
Presented by Lindell Miller, Purchasing Supervisor
Motion to approve and bring back to the Council a plan for use of the vehicle at the May 13th meeting: Gantt/Robinson – Passed 5-0.
8. Council Consideration to approve bid selection for demolition of the Old Police station with an estimated cost of \$45,840.00.
Presented by Lindell Miller, Purchasing Supervisor
Motion to approve Demolition Package in the amount of \$100,000: Alexander/Gantt – Passed 5-0.
9. Council Consideration to approve the renewal of the City's Liability Insurance.
Presented by Randy Knighton, City Manager
Item Removed from the Agenda.
10. Council Consideration to amend the City's Smoking Ban Ordinance
Presented by Michael Williams, City Attorney
Motion to approve: Alexander / - Motion died for lack of a second.

DISCUSSION

11. Council Discussion on activating the Development Authority and appointing members to the Public Facilities Authority
Presented by Michael Williams, City Attorney
Consensus of the Council directed staff to comprise a Slate of Candidates for Council Consideration.
12. Council Discussion to officially name Monument Park
Presented by Mayor Pro Tem Blount
Motion to name Unity Monument Park: Blount/Gantt – Passed 3-2 (Alexander/Robinson opposed).

COMMENTS FROM THE CITY MANAGER

Randy Knighton noted his appreciation of staff and dedication of city workers; noted the Quarterly Reports reflect a lot of activity in the City; referenced the Cities Week events where citizens were exposed to the many things that are happening here in the City; and invited everyone to come out and attend the SPLOST V meeting taking place on Monday, May 6th at 6:30 p.m. at the Merle Manders Conference Center.

COMMENTS FROM THE CLERK'S OFFICE

Vanessa Holiday noted the importance of encouraging phrases and taking a moment during the day to simply hear your inner voice, citing the Phrase for the Day: *In the middle of every difficulty lies opportunity.* – Albert Einstein.

COMMENTS FROM THE CITY COUNCIL

Councilman Thomas thanked staff for their assistance with the Cities Week activities where the City was highlighted in a positive manner; asked that focus remain on moving the City forward; noted concerns of getting all of the necessary buildings demolished, noting the City is on the right track; noted he is in favor of bringing a Project Manager on board to move projects forward; and invited everyone to come out and participate in the Memorial March on Monday, May 27th at 9:00 a.m. at the Merle Manders Conference Center to pay tribute to those who made the ultimate sacrifice.

Mayor Pro Tem Blount thanked those attending and tuning in to the meeting, and wished his wife a Happy Anniversary; invited everyone out to the National Day of Prayer Service on Thursday at 6:30 p.m.; noted that since he began his service on the Council, every decision he has made was to always move the City forward and noted that anyone can check his record; further noted that his only motive is to move the City forward, unify the community and to serve; noted it was hard to be a politician and easy to serve; stated that based on what was said tonight means they truly don't know who James Blount is; noted that of the 536 cities in Georgia, Stockbridge is the only city that bans smoking in cars with minors; stated that he is only one vote; and stated he didn't understand how naming a park Unity would be perceived as negative.

Councilwoman Gantt thanked staff their assistance with Cities Week events, specifically Ms. Jackson for juggling (6) events; thanked Mr. Knighton and everyone for coming together to help make the city shine, noted Stockbridge was a model city for Cities Week; noted the Welcoming Stockbridge Committee was an amazing eye opener with a great group of people of different genres, also noting the city is missing a group of people (millennials) and needs to do a better job with updating the website and technology to reach those individuals.

Councilman Alexander noted that he measures success by results; referenced the change of the street to M L King, Sr. Heritage Trail several years ago, and nothing has happened since then; noted no Capital Improvement Projects in 5 years; noted no Youth Center; noted his visit to the City of East Point where the Mayor and City Manager have worked together over the last 5 years to develop the downtown; noted the City needed to have individuals in leadership roles ready to act; noted the no smoking in cars ban had zero citations because the Stockbridge ordinances aren't enforced by HCPD; thanked everyone for coming out and participating in Trail Alive and invited everyone to come out this weekend to the Keep Stockbridge Beautiful initiative.

Councilwoman Robinson thanked everyone for their participation in Cities Week; noted the Unity in the Community event at Eagle's Landing Middle School was a great time where there was interaction between students and law enforcement officers from various public safety division and kids could become familiar with them by engaging in a relaxed environment; noted her previous comments during the meeting were not to knock anyone down, her statement was to note that when you put something up, you must take something down.

COMMENTS FROM THE MAYOR

Mayor Ford referenced his recent attendance along with Councilman Thomas, of a ribbon cutting where he presented a proclamation to the Kappa Psi Epsilon Military Sorority, Inc. who supports many of the City's military/veterans events; noted the American Legion has 200 chapters and the GA Sate Headquarters is here in Stockbridge, and they have stated they would like to participate in the City's Memorial March, 9-11 Ceremony and Veterans Day events; noted the recent March of Dimes Walk was a huge success with over 500 participants (and gave a shout out to his fraternity) and is looking forward to returning in the future; asked everyone to keep the faith; and gave many thanks for a successful Cities Week.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Meeting will be held at City Hall unless otherwise noted. Meeting dates and times are subject to change. Please visit the city's website www.cityofstockbridge.com, Facebook page or contact City Hall offices at 770-389-7900 for updates and detailed information.

- Youth Council meeting, Wednesday, May 8, 2019 at 5:30 p.m./ Levi Room.
- Main Street Advisory Board meeting, Friday, May 10, 2019 at 9:00 a.m./ Levi Room.
- Youth Council Advisory Committee, Wednesday, May 15, 2019 at 6:30 p.m./Levi Room
- Downtown Development Authority meeting, Monday, May 20, 2019 at 6:00 p.m./Levi Rm.
- Planning Commission meeting, Thursday, May 23, 2019 at 7:00 p.m./Council Chamber
- Work Session meeting, Tuesday, May 28, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall in the Council Chamber.

UPCOMING EVENT(S) & ANNOUNCEMENTS

- National Day of Prayer – Thursday, May 2, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. at City Hall – Council Chamber Spearheaded by Mayor Pro Tem Blount.
- Keep Stockbridge Beautiful – Saturday, May 4, 2019 - spearheaded by Councilman Alexander. Contact LaQuinda Jackson @ 678-833-3348 for more information.
- Food Truck Tuesday kickoff, Tuesday, May 7, 2019 from 5:30 – 9:00 p.m. at Clark Park 111 Davis Rd. Stockbridge

- Don't Trash Stockbridge No Litter Campaign – Saturday, May 11, 2019 from 8:00 a.m. – noon Memorial Cemetery - spearheaded by Councilman Thomas. Contact: LaQuinda Jackson @ 678-833-3348 for more information.
- Food Truck Tuesday kickoff, Tuesday, May 14, 2019 from 5:30 – 9:00 p.m. at Clark Park 111 Davis Rd. Stockbridge
- Welcoming Stockbridge RoundTable – Tuesday, May 14, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. in the Levi Meeting Room - spearheaded by Councilwoman Gantt
- Women in Business Brunch, Thursday, May 16 – 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. at the Merle Manders Conference Center 111 Davis Rd. Stockbridge, GA spearheaded by Councilwoman Robinson.
- Historic Preservation – Green Front Café Plaque Dedication – Saturday, May 18, 2019 at 2:30 p.m.
- Food Truck Tuesday kickoff, Tuesday, May 21, 2019 from 5:30 – 9:00 p.m. at Clark Park 111 Davis Rd. Stockbridge
- Quarterly Town Hall – Thursday, May 23, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. at J. W. Suites Event Center spearheaded by Councilman Alexander.
- Annual Memorial March – Monday, May 27, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. at the Merle Manders Conference Center 111 Davis Rd.– Registration is FREE and available online at www.cityofstockbridge.com under Events
- Monthly Bingo Bash Wednesday, May 29, 2019 from 10:00 a.m. – noon at the Ted Strickland Community Center – spearheaded by Mayor Pro Tem Blount

CITY OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED MONDAY, MAY 27, 2019 IN OBSERVANCE OF MEMORIAL DAY.

ONGOING INITIATIVES

- Meet & Greet the Mayor Mondays with Mayor Anthony S. Ford from 10:00 a.m. - noon **every fourth Monday** of the month (appointment required). Please contact LaQuinda Jackson @ 678-833-3348 for more information and scheduling. **Meet & Greet will take place on Tuesday, May 28, 2019 due to the Memorial Day holiday.**
- Don't Trash Stockbridge No Litter Campaign – Ongoing – spearheaded by Councilman Thomas. Contact: LaQuinda Jackson @ 678-833-3348 for more information.
- Monthly Bingo Bash from 10:00 a.m. – noon at the Ted Strickland Community Center spearheaded by Mayor Pro Tem Blount. Visit the City's website or Facebook page for dates and information.
- Quarterly Town Hall – Ongoing – spearheaded by Councilman Alexander. Visit the City's website or Facebook page for dates and information.
- Keep Stockbridge Beautiful – Ongoing – spearheaded by Councilman Alexander. Contact LaQuinda Jackson @ 678-833-3348 for more information.

- Quarterly Clergy RoundTable – spearheaded by Councilwoman Robinson. Contact LaQuinda Jackson @ 678-833-3348 for more information.
- Quarterly Welcoming Stockbridge RoundTable every 2nd Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. in the City Hall Levi Meeting Room – spearheaded by Councilwoman Gantt. Contact LaQuinda Jackson @ 678-833-3348 for more information.
- Quarterly Homeowners and Neighborhood Association RoundTable – spearheaded by Mayor Pro Tem Blount. Contact LaQuinda Jackson @ 678-833-3348 for more information.

Motion to convene Executive Session for Litigation/Personnel/Real Estate:
Robinson/Gantt – Passed 5-0.

Motion to adjourn Executive Session: Alexander/Thomas – Passed 5-0

Motion to reconvene the meeting: Alexander/Gantt – Passed 5-0

Motion to adjourn: Gantt/Thomas – Passed 5-0