



Where Community Connects

ACTION MINUTES
WORK SESSION MEETING

TUESDAY, JULY 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 – Mildred E. Reed**
- III. Pledge of Allegiance**
- IV. Roll Call – All members present**
- V. Motion to amend the Agenda to: Add Discussion Item #7 – Welcoming America Request; Add Discussion Item #8 – Legislative Update Request from State Senators Jones and Strickland; Add Discussion Item #9 – Resolution Opposing the Closure of Cochran Park; Removing 2nd Qtr. Report for 3 (1) and 3 (4): Alexander/Robinson – Passed 5-0.**

Motion to amend the Agenda to: Add Discussion Item #10 - Resolution for a Personnel Matter: Gantt/Thomas – Passed 3-2 (Alexander/Robinson opposed).
- VI. Review of the Minutes for the following meetings:**
 - 1. 6/10/2019 2. 06/26/2019 **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

Ms. Mildred E. Reed noted she was happy to see the City moving forward with Youth/Senior Center as it much needed in the community; and asked for clarification as to whether or not the County and turned over Cochran Park to the City of Stockbridge at no cost; and asked for maintenance records of any and all repairs to Cochran Park.

Mayor Ford noted the City of Stockbridge has never owned or maintained Cochran Park, and stated the County owns Cochran Park; and further noted any maintenance records would be in the custody of the County.

Mr. Craig Powell made a plea to the City and the County to resolve the issue regarding Cochran Park for the benefit of the youth of Stockbridge to have a facility to continue to play baseball; Mr. Powell referenced Mr. Bill Savage as the baseball forefather of Stockbridge who likewise is in favor of Cochran Park remaining open for kids to play baseball.

Mr. Michael Parrish echoed the sentiments of Mr. Powell; noted he is here for the kids and noted he along with the other coaches not only devote their time, but also personal finances to assist the kids with transportation to and from the park and they do it from the heart, noting moving the teams further north would be an additional burden; noted the coaches are mentors to these young men both on and off the field; noted Cochran Park has 19 teams and Hidden Valley Park only has 4 teams and disputed the logic of the teams being moved; stated he spoke with Commissioner Holmes about the hardship and received no empathy to situation; and ended he comment stating it's about the kids.

Mr. Robert Kolpack showed picture of Hidden Valley Park and referenced a building that was deemed to be damaged from flooding and was instead roof damage due to negligent upkeep; stated Commissioner Holmes had spent \$8 million of taxpayer funds at Village Park while neglecting Hidden Valley and Cochran parks; referenced property owned by 4th District Commissioner Thomas that was dilapidated and in poor condition, stating the standards should be higher from a Commissioner and noted neither Code Enforcement Officer Maddox or Burnett was able to address the property issues nor was the City's See Click Fix app.

PRESENTATIONS

3. (2nd Quarter Summary Reports 2019)

1. Henry County Public Safety – Stockbridge North Precinct
(Removed)
2. Stockbridge Youth Council (Did not present)
3. Downtown Development Authority – Presented by Councilwoman Gantt.

4. Economic Development
(Removed)
5. Community Development – Presented by Camilla Moore
Recommended Force Cleanup Ordinance
6. Conference Center/Events – Presented by CieCie McGhee
7. Main Street – Presented by Kira Harris-Braggs
8. Public Works – Presented by Decius Aaron
Request Public Works Litter Logs to be distributed from the City Manager to Mayor and Council; Recommendation to put out a bid for Street Sweeper contractor to increase frequency of street cleaning.
9. Finance – Presented by John Wiggins
Request for FY2019 Fund Balance Calculations and Projected vs Actual Planning & Zoning Revenues and Expenditures

NEW BUSINESS

4. Council Consideration to approve a Resolution to fill a vacancy and appoint a member to the Main Street Advisory Board.
Presented by Kira Harris-Braggs, Main Street Program Manager
Motion to appoint Anita Johnson: Alexander/Thomas – Passed 5-0.
5. Council Consideration to approve a Resolution appointing Bond Counsel for the City.
Presented by Attorney Downs – Wilson, Morton & Downs
Presented by Kira Harris-Braggs, Main Street Program Manager
Motion to appoint Douglass P. Selby: Blount/Gantt – Passed 5-0.

DISCUSSION

6. Alleyway Project funding source - not to exceed \$350,000.00
Funding Source: Various
Presented by Randy Knighton, City Manager
Funding Sources: General Fund/SPLOST/Fund Balance
7. Council Consideration to approve The Welcoming America Committee to use of the Merle Manders Conference Center on September 18, 2019 and fund and/or seek sponsorship from \$3,000 to \$5,000 for a Civic Dinner.
Presented by Mayor Ford
Motion to approve and include City's Welcoming Committee Members and seek sponsorships: Robinson/Alexander - Passed 5-0.

8. Council Consideration to approve use State Senators Emanuel Jones and Brian Strick to host a Legislative Update at the Merle Manders Conference Center on August 13, 2019.

Motion to approve: Blount/Robinson – Passed 5-0.

9. Council Consideration to approve a Resolution opposing the closure of Cochran Park.

Motion to approve: Alexander/Robinson – Passed 5-0.

10. Council Consideration to approve a Resolution censuring Councilman Elton Alexander

Motion to approve: Gantt/Blount: Passed 3-2 (Alexander/Robinson opposed).

Motion to adjourn at 10:32 p.m.: Thomas/Blount – Passed 5-0.

COMMENTS FROM THE CITY MANAGER

COMMENTS FROM THE CLERK'S OFFICE

COMMENTS FROM THE CITY COUNCIL

COMMENTS FROM THE MAYOR

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.

- Main Street Advisory Board meeting, Friday, August 9, 2019 at 9:00 a.m./Levi Room
- City of Stockbridge Budget Retreat August 14, 2019 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.; August 15, 2019 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. and August 16, 2019 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
- Downtown Development Authority meeting, Monday, August 19, 2019 at 6:00 p.m./Levi Rm.
- Henry County Intergovernmental Retreat August 22 – 23, 2019 – Columbus, GA
- Youth Council Advisory Committee, Wednesday, August 21, 2019 at 6:30 p.m./Levi Room
- Planning Commission meeting, Thursday, August 22, 2019 at 7:00 p.m./Council Chamber
- Work Session meeting, Tuesday August 27, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall in the Council Chamber.

UPCOMING EVENT(S) & ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Monthly Bingo Bash Wednesday, July 31, 2019 from 10:00 a.m. – noon at the Ted Strickland Community Center 130 M L King, Sr. Heritage Trl – spearheaded by Mayor Pro Tem Blount
- Community Town Hall – Thursday, August 8, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. at Smith-Barnes Elementary School 147 Tye Street Stockbridge– spearheaded by Councilman Thomas

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.
- 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 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.