



COUNCIL MEETING ACTION MINUTES

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2021 6:00 P.M.

Mayor & City Council

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

Administration

Randy Knighton, City Manager
Vanessa Holiday, City Clerk
John Wiggins, City Treasurer
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. Zoom Meeting Information

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82836070083?pwd=SGdLWTVoNWZCQWNFBTgxakI4SUNaQT09>
Passcode: 735164

II. Call to Order – Mayor Ford

III. Invocation – Councilman Thomas

IV. Pledge of Allegiance – In Unison

V. Roll Call – All members were present.

VI. Motion to amend the Agenda: To add Bonding for Public Safety, Startup for the City's Police Department following Sheriff's Presentation: Alexander/Barber passed 5-0.

1. Adoption of the Minutes for the following meetings: 12/14/2020
2. 12/22/2020
3. 12/29/2020

Alexander/Gantt Passed 5-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

All public comments must be submitted to the Clerk no later than one hour prior to the meeting. The Public Comment Form can be found on the City's webpage on the City Clerk's page at: <https://stockbridge.seamlessdocs.com/f/20pkdz4mo7xb> and the form must include your name, phone, and email contact information. Comments are limited to (3) three minutes and will be read by the Clerk during the meeting, respecting all members of the elected body, officials, and staff. Comments including defamation, unruliness and/or swearing will not be accepted. **None**

CEREMONIAL

Mayor Ford read the following proclamations:

Proclamation - Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated

Proclamation – Black History Month

PRESENTATION

Newly elected Henry County Sheriff, Reginald Scandrett thanked the Mayor & Council for the opportunity to address the citizens of Stockbridge, noting while it is historic that he is the first African American Sheriff for Henry County, he is more than that, qualified for the position; Sheriff Scandrett noted he intends to build relationships between law enforcement and the community; noted he intends to address community concerns and enact community policing, with the emphasis on building the bridge between law enforcement and the community.

Mayor Ford thanked Sheriff Scandrett and wished him many years of great success and looks forward to continued dialogue and working together.

Councilman Blount thanked Sheriff Scandrett for coming, noting he has seen him reach across the isles and across races, as a beacon of light; and wished the Sheriff much success in carrying out his vision for the County.

Councilwoman Barber thanked Sheriff Scandrett for his comments and asked the Sheriff to explain the difference between the Sheriff's Office and the Henry County Police Department, noting often citizens don't know, and asked how the Sheriff's office would work together with the Henry County Police to bring about a positive impact on the community.

Sheriff Scandrett noted simply put, the Police deal with crime and the Sheriff deals with the person; noting the importance of working together and that he intends to look at the issues and concerns plaguing Stockbridge, noting if it existed before, that day is changing for the better.

Mayor Pro Tem Alexander thanked Sheriff Scandrett for accepting the invitation to attend the meeting and asked the Sheriff to speak to the growth of the County, manpower and equipment needs for success.

Sheriff Scandrett noted the Sheriff's office needs 21st century ways of doing things and must have 21st century equipment to operate effectively.

Councilman Thomas thanked Sheriff Scandrett for coming, noting the recent 10th Annual African American History Celebration where Sheriff Scandrett was recognized with the Visionary Award, not because he is an African American, but for his 21st Century Vision, encouragement, and motivation; asked that he remain focused and wished the Sheriff much success.

Sheriff Scandrett thanked Councilman Thomas and noted he has been sworn and elected to do a job for the 240,000 residents in Henry County who are waiting on us to take our rightful position and represent them in the right way, and stating he is honored to serve.

Councilwoman Gantt thanked Sheriff Scandrett and welcomed him to the position of Sheriff and looks forward to working with him.

Mayor Ford conveyed his appreciation to the Sheriff and thanked him for his presentation.

NEW BUSINESS

4. Council Consideration to approve \$3,000,000.00 bonding for the initial startup of the City of Stockbridge Police Dept. & Equipment
Motion to approve: Alexander/Barber – Passed 3-1-1 (Blount Opposed, Gantt Abstained).
5. Amphitheater Project Update
Presented by Randy Knighton – City Manager, Kirk Voelkel, Amphitheater Construction Project Mgr. - H J Russell, Carl Trevathan - City Project Manager - Keck & Wood and Heather Hubbell, TSW - Architect
Video presented of the current progress of the Amphitheater, noting the projected completion to be near the end of May 2021.
6. Council Consideration to approve Amphitheater Change Order in the amount of \$ 2,371,922.77 Funding Source: Bond and SPLOST V.
Presented by Randy Knighton – City Manager, Kirk Voelkel, Amphitheater Construction Project Mgr. - H J Russell, Carl Trevathan - City Project Manager - Keck & Wood
Motion to approve Alexander/Gantt Passed 5-0.
7. Council Consideration to approve the Stockbridge Public Facilities Authority Taxable Revenue Bond (Public Amphitheater Project), to be issued in the amount of \$7,000,000, and the use of SPLOST V revenues to pay all or a portion of the bond debt service. Presented by Randy Knighton, City Manager and Ed Wall, Financial Advisor.
Motion to approve Blount/Gantt Passed 5-0.
The subsequent motion for the 2021A Bond in the amount of \$9,910,000 included the \$7 million for the Amphitheater and \$2.8 million of the Cultural Arts Center plus issuance costs.

8. Council Consideration to approve the Stockbridge Public Facilities Authority Revenue Bond (Cultural Arts Center and Trails Project), to be issued in the amount of \$3,940,000 on a tax-exempt basis, and the use of SPLOST V revenues to pay all or a portion of the bond debt service; and the Stockbridge Public Facilities Authority Revenue Bond (Cultural Arts Center Project), to be issued in the amount of \$11,640,000 on a tax-exempt basis. Presented by Randy Knighton, City Manager and Ed Wall, Financial Advisor.
Motion to Table: Blount/Gantt Failed 2-3 (Alexander, Barber Thomas Opposed).

Motion to approve Series 2021A bond issue with a 4-year maturity at an interest rate of 1.32% to fund the Amphitheater and a small portion of the Cultural Arts Center in the amount of \$9,910,000.00. Alexander/Thomas Passed 4-1 (Blount Opposed).

Motion to approve Series 2021B bond issue with a 4-year maturity at an interest rate of 1.04% to fund a portion of the Trails in the amount of \$1,030,000.00. Alexander/Gantt Passed 5-0.

Motion to approve Series 2021C bond issue with a 15-year maturity at an interest rate of 2.34% to fund a portion of the Cultural Arts Center and Police Capital Equipment in the amount of \$14,830,000.00 Alexander/Thomas Passed 3-1-1 (Blount Opposed, Gantt Abstained).

9. Council Consideration to appoint a member to the Main Street Advisory Board.
Presented by Kira Harris-Braggs, Main Street Program Manager
Motion to appoint Rocio Camacho to the Main Street Advisory Board to serve a two-year term. Thomas/Alexander Passed 5-0.

COMMENTS FROM THE MAYOR

Mayor Ford reminded the public that we are still amid a pandemic and noted the Free Testing at Heritage Senior Center in McDonough Mon-Thu from 9am – 3pm and Sat 9am to noon, and to call 800-847-4262 for an appointment or visit the Department of Health's website for information; referenced the number to call for the Phase I vaccination 762-888-8180 and noted the 2nd shots will start tomorrow at 8:30am at the Atlanta Motor Speedway and next Tuesday 1st vaccination shots will be administered at J P Moseley Recreation Center in Stockbridge for Phase I which includes Healthcare Providers, Long Term Care Providers, EMS or Police, Firefighter, Correction Facility Workers, Age 65+ or their Caregivers and noted additional information regarding COVID, testing and vaccinations can be found on the City's website;.

Councilman Thomas noted he had received the vaccination and videoed the event.

Mayor Ford thanked Councilman Thomas for an outstanding African American History Program; and noted the passing of Mr. Eugene Edward, former president of the Henry County NAACP and longtime Stockbridge resident, and asked for continued prayers for the Edwards family.

CITY OFFICES ARE CLOSED DUE TO COVID-19 PRECAUTIONS

As a COVID precaution, City offices are closed to the public until further notice. Staff is operating under telework protocol. Please contact the City's webpage cityofstockbridge.com to contact each department for service and information.

UPCOMING MEETINGS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Meeting will be held via Zoom until further notice. Meeting dates and times are subject to change. Please visit the city's website www.cityofstockbridge.com for the meeting invitation link, Facebook page or contact City Hall offices at 770-389-7900 for updates.

- City Council Meeting at 6:00 p.m. Via Zoom – 2nd Monday of each month.
- Main Street Advisory Board Meeting, at 9:00 a.m. Via Zoom - 2nd Friday of each month
- Downtown Development Authority Meeting, at 6:00 p.m. Via Zoom - 3rd Tuesday of each month
- Youth Council Advisory Meeting, 6:30 p.m. Via Zoom - 3rd Tuesday of each month
- Youth Council Meeting, at 6:30 p.m. Via Zoom - 3rd Wednesday of each month
- Planning Commission Meeting, at 6:30 p.m. Via Zoom – 4th Thursday of each month
- City Council Work Session at 6:00 p.m. Via Zoom – Last Tuesday of each month unless otherwise noted.

UPCOMING PUBLIC HEARING

March 8, 2021 6:00 p.m. REZONING CASE # RZ-2020-02

UPCOMING COUNCIL INITIATIVES

Join Mayor Pro Tem Elton Alexander for the 5th Annual Women's History Month Celebration taking place virtually, March 7, 2021. For more information, please contact Zenovia Pearson at 404-565-5109.

Motion to adjourn: Alexander/Gantt Passed 4-0 (Blount was not present for the vote).