



CITY COUNCIL MEETING
ACTION MINUTES

MONDAY, MARCH 14, 2022 6:00 P.M.

Mayor & City Council

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

Administration

Frederick Gardiner, City Manager
Vanessa Holiday, City Clerk
John Wiggins, City Treasurer
Danielle Davis, City Attorney
Jeremy T. Berry, 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/83979628788>
- II. **Call to Order – Mayor Ford**
- III. **Invocation – Councilman Blount**
- IV. **Pledge of Allegiance – In unison by all in attendance**
- V. **Roll Call – All members were present**
- VI. **Motion to amend the Agenda to remove Item #7 Alexander/Blount Passed 5-0.**
- VII. **Motion to adopt the Agenda Alexander/Thomas Passed 5-0**
- VIII. **ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES Blount/Gantt Passed 5-0**
 - 1 Draft Minutes January 4, 2022
 - 2 Draft Minutes January 10, 2022
 - 3 Draft Minutes January 25, 2022

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.

Sunny Randazzo submitted a comment questioning the city's recent retreat, asked the city to address the noise mitigation regarding the Amphitheater prior to the 2022 concerts; and to respond to risqué sponsorship.

CEREMONIAL

4. Women's History Month Proclamation – Read by Mayor Ford

PUBLIC HEARING

5. UNIFIED DEVELOPMENT CODE (UDC)—THIRD READING

The City of Stockbridge Mayor and City Council will review the Community Development Department's proposed new Unified Development Code (UDC), which includes the City's Zoning Code, Sign and Development codes. The new UDC would comprise both an update and a rewriting of the existing UDC for the purposes of 1) making needed corrections and clarifications; 2) revising the allowable zoning districts in the City; and 3) making the document more user-friendly, etc. On September 23, 2021, the Planning Commission recommended adoption of the UDC. At the October 26, 2021 Council meeting, the Council approved for the Legal Team to review the UDC in more detail. Presented by: Brecca Johnson, Director of Community Development and Kc Krzic of the Collaborative Firm

Ms. Johnson referenced the previous Public Hearings, noting in October 2021, the city's Legal Counsel recommended a legal review before adoption, noting the review has been completed.

Ms. Krzic presented the proposed UDC (Unified Development Code) highlighting the change in the number of Zoning Districts from 19 to 13; the document being user-friendly; new Tables for specific use; combined Overlay Districts; the Downtown Village Overlay Districts being clear and concise.

Ms. Johnson introduced Ms. Valerie Ross, who conducted the legal review of the UDC.

Ms. Ross noted the document has been reviewed line by line and referenced the city's Moratoria for "Build to Rent" and referenced HB1093 and SB494 that were pending as of today and we are waiting to see if the bills pass or not to see if this is something the city could do under state law as a municipality; and noted Hookah/cigar bar or lounges are now added in the code and permitted in commercial districts C-2 and C-3.

Councilman Alexander thanked Ms. Johnson, and Ms. Krzic for the updated code as this document will control the standards of what is implemented in the city, asking what area of the code addresses parking lot litter and maintenance to repair potholes, etc., requiring businesses to maintain and cleanup their parking lots as a cost of doing business, and not doing so is unacceptable and asked that the information get out to the business owners as soon and as quickly as possible.

Ms. Krzic noted this would be addressed by the City's Code Enforcement and believes it is under the Environmental section of the code.

Ms. Johnson noted the Code does reference property maintenance and agreed the city's Code Enforcement department would address the unkept business entities.

Mayor Pro Tem Thomas asked if the city could require businesses to have trash receptacles in front of their businesses to encourage patrons to throw away trash and keep it from being tossed in the parking lot.

Ms. Krzic noted the design guidelines require streetscapes to install decorative trash receptacles.

Mr. Gardiner noted he recognizes the issue and noted an example of a strip center with seven businesses and each having a trash receptacle would not be aesthetically pleasing and challenging because there could be the potential of an overflow of garbage and asking business owners to be required to empty the containers throughout the business day, especially during high peak times or peak seasons.

Mayor Pro Tem asked if the strip center owner could be required to have containers in the plaza rather than each of the businesses having an individual container at each business.

Mr. Gardiner noted this would be addressed with the new developments as a good start but does not favor retroactively making this a requirement.

Mayor Pro Tem agreed, noting it is up to the city's Code Enforcement Department to do their part to hold the businesses accountable.

Councilman Blount asked about the city's Donation Boxes where there appears to be more and more of them in the city, while recognizing the need during these times, but asked if the maintenance of the boxes is being addressed in the Code.

Ms. Johnson noted the Donation Box Ordinance requires the box to be registered, the owner have a permitted business license fee and maintain the box.

Councilman Alexander asked if the signage was being addressed in the new code.

Ms. Johnson noted the city's Sign Ordinance has also been update in the UDC and is outlined in the Code.

Public Hearing Open – No Speakers In Favor No Speakers Opposed

Public Hearing Closed

Motion to approve Alexander/Thomas Passed 5-0

6. CITY OF STOCKBRIDGE – ADOPTION OF THE OFFICIAL ZONING MAP & OVERLAY DISTRICT MAP– THIRD READING The City of Stockbridge Mayor and City Council will review the proposed Official Zoning Map & Overlay District Map to be amended in conjunction with the Unified Development Code (UDC). This item is running concurrently with the UDC.

Presented by: Brecca Johnson, Director of Community Development and Kc Krzic of the Collaborative Firm

Public Hearing Open – No Speakers In Favor No Speakers Opposed

Public Hearing Closed

Motion to approve Gantt/Barber Passed 5-0

Frederick Gardiner, City Manager, introduced the city's Grants Administrator, Kellie Russell who brings over 25 years of experience in grant writing and grants administration having worked for a number of federal, state, and non-profit agencies to include the Justice Department, FEMA, Department of Health and Human Services, and HUD, and has worked on numerous grants related to each of those various different departments from law enforcement grants to the CARES Act to ARPA and state grants such as LMIG (Local Maintenance Improvement Grant); noted Ms. Russell has a Master's Degree in Human Resources from Central Michigan University, and is a member of the National Grants Management Association, and is currently working on her Grants Management Specialist Certification; and asked that everyone welcome her, noting today was her first day where they met to discuss working on the policies and procedures regarding grants to be presented for approval next month; and is looking into police and COVID grants as well.

Mayor Ford welcomed Ms. Russell and thanked her for choosing Stockbridge as her next assignment.

Ms. Russell noted she is happy to be with the team; noted today was her first day with the city and she received a very warm welcome from colleagues and looks forward to working with each of you and doing great things for the city.

NEW BUSINESS

7. Council consideration to Amend Title 9 - Licensing & Regulation, Chap. 9.110 Standards For Certain Businesses to remove hair salons, barbershops & nail salons from the 1 mile spacing/distance restriction, Section 9.110.030A (1 & 2).

Presented by: Brecca Johnson, Director of Community Development

Item removed from the Agenda

8. Council consideration to approve the Renewal Contract for RFP No. 2020-0027 - Professional Permitting & Building Inspection Services - SAFEbuilt

Presented by: Brecca Johnson, Director of Community Development

Motion to approve Barber/Gantt Passed 5-0

9. Council consideration to approve the purchase of Phosphorus CC2050 removal chemical from CedarChem in the amount of \$40,000.00. The funding source is from Sewer Department budgeted funds.

Presented by: Decius Aaron, Public Works Director and Brad Holsinger, Wastewater Superintendent

Motion to approve Barber/Alexander Passed 5-0

10. Council Consideration to approve the FY2023 LMIG (Local Maintenance & Improvement Grant) list.

Presented by: Decius Aaron, Public Works Director

Motion to approve Blount/Gantt Passed 5-0

11. Council consideration to approve the purchase Elgin Regen X Street Sweeper under Georgia statewide contract number 99999-001-SPD0000177-0009 with Environmental Products Group in the amount of \$267,450.00. Funding source is from Stormwater Department budgeted funds.

Presented by: Decius Aaron, Public Works Director

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

COMMENTS FROM THE MAYOR

Mayor Ford noted we are approaching two years for the pandemic with wearing masks, and vaccinations, which hopefully is coming to an end soon; noted the Henry County Department of Health located at 135 Henry Pkwy., can be contacted at 470-664-0005 to schedule the Pfizer or Moderna vaccination and you can also get tested there as well; noted you can also request the 4-pack free COVID testing kit, up to 2 packs for 4 kits per household by calling 80-232-0233; referenced the recent groundbreaking development event that took place last Friday at Bridges at Argento by the Sterling Group and will be a \$50 million dollar Luxury Apartments with retail, and shops mixed-use development and looks forward to future development of the Jodeco site.

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.

- Downtown Development Authority Meeting, 6:00 p.m. Via Zoom - 3rd Tuesday of each month Via Zoom (Mar 15)
- Planning Commission Meeting, 4th Thursday at 6:30 p.m. Via Zoom – (Mar 24)
- City Council Work Session Meeting, Last Tuesday of each month – Via Zoom (Mar 29)
- Main Street Advisory Board Meeting, 2nd Friday of each month 9:00 a.m. Via Zoom (April 8)
- City Council Meeting, Second Monday of each month – Via Zoom (April 11)
- Youth Council Meeting, 5:30 p.m. - 2nd Wednesday of each month Levi Meeting Room - City Hall (April 13)
- Youth Council Advisory Committee Meeting, 6:30 p.m. - 3rd Tuesday of each month Patrick Henry Meeting Room - City Hall (April 19)

UPCOMING CITY EVENTS/INITIATIVES

- *A Continuous Salute to Veterans:* Please forward pictures of Veterans including name, branch, rank, and years of service as Mayor Pro Tem Thomas presents a special tribute to our local veterans. Pictures should be submitted to: zpearson@cityofstockbridge-ga.gov Thank you for your service!
- Please join Stockbridge Councilman Elton Alexander on this Saturday, March 19, 2022, from 9 am to 11 am for his Keep Stockbridge Beautiful initiative (attendees should park cars in the At Home parking lot). Meet at Highway 138 and I-75 in Stockbridge to participate. Attendees should dress comfortable for the community activity.

- The Stockbridge Youth Council will host its 2nd Annual March Madness Event, Saturday, March 19, 2022, from 10am - 4pm at the Jimmy Lee Smith Recreation Center located at 5883 Hwy 155 N. Stockbridge, GA 30281. Please contact Youth Council Staff Liaison, Randi Rainey at 770-389-7900 ext. 264 for more information.
- Here is your opportunity to *Meet the Mayor*, and voice your questions and/or concerns Tuesday, March 22, 2022 from 10 a.m. to noon. Call Zenovia Pearson to schedule an appointment. 770-389-7900 ext. 248.

Councilman Blount noted he was attending the National League of Cities conference in Washington, DC and plans to bring information on Infrastructure Funding back to the Council.

Councilman Alexander thanked everyone who assisted on the Women's History Month Committee; noted the video of the program will air on the city's Facebook page on Thursday, March 17, 2022 at 7pm and asked that each honoree and committee member receive a copy of the 2022 proclamation.

Motion to convene Executive Session for Personnel, Litigation and Real Estate: Alexander/Blount Passed 5-0.

Motion to end Executive Session Thomas/Barber Passed 4-0 (Councilman Blount was not in attendance for the vote)

Motion to end Executive Session Thomas/Barber Passed 4-0 (Councilman Blount was not in attendance for the vote)

Motion to adjourn Alexander/Thomas Passed 4-0 (Councilman Blount was not in attendance for the vote)