



WORK SESSION MEETING ACTION MINUTES

TUESDAY, MAY 30, 2023 6:00 P.M.

Mayor & City Council

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

Administration

Frederick Gardiner, City Manager
Vanessa Holiday, City Clerk
John Wiggins, City Treasurer
Quinton Washington, 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. **Call to Order – Mayor Ford**
- II. **Invocation – Mr. Mark Daugherty**
- III. **Pledge of Allegiance – Recited by all in attendance.**
- IV. **Roll Call – All members were present except Councilwoman Gantt**
- V. **Motion to Amend the Agenda to add: Council approval of a Resolution to advertise for new polling locations: Alexander/Barber Passed 4-0.**
- VI. **Adoption of The Agenda: Alexander/Barber Passed 4-0.**
- VII. **Review of the Minutes: No Action**
 1. Review of the Draft Minutes April 10, 2023
 2. Review of the Draft Minutes April 25, 2023

PUBLIC COMMENTS

All persons wishing to speak for public comment must sign in with the City Clerk prior to the beginning of the meeting noting your name, address, and phone number. You will be allotted three (3) minutes. Speakers must respect all members of the elected body, officials, and staff. Defamation, unruliness and/or swearing will not be tolerated. **None.**

Council Consideration to approve a Resolution to advertise for new polling precincts for the City of Stockbridge.

Presented by: Vanessa Holiday, City Clerk, and Quinton Washington, City Attorney
Motion to approve: Alexander/Barber Passed 4-0.

Staff was tasked with making the following requests to the Henry County Elections Office:

1. Can Global Impact Christian Ministries on Red Oak Road be added as a County/City Precinct to include Council District 3 voters.
2. Can Precinct 38 be amended to include District 4 voters in that area.

CONSENT AGENDA: Motion to approve: Alexander/Blount Passed 4-0.

3. Council consideration to approve the purchase of 250 Muller AMI Water Meters from Water Works, Inc. for the Diamante Town Home Development in the amount of \$63,615.00. Funding Source: SPLOST.
4. Council consideration to approve contract renewal invitation to bid (ITB) NUMBER 16RFP101216-DRR – American Tank Maintenance, LLC – Full Service Tank Maintenance Program in the amount of \$61,419.00. Funding Source: Water Department Budgeted Funds.

NEW BUSINESS

5. Council consideration to increase the FY2024 Sanitation Fee from \$17.34/mo. To \$22/mo. and billed annually in the amount of \$264.00 on the Henry County Tax Statement.

Presented by: Decius Aaron, Public Works Director

Motion to approve: Alexander/Blount Passed 3-0-1 (Barber Abstained)

Mayor Pro Tem Barber noted that she understands the need for an increase, however, she does not like feeling forced to have to make a decision with the information being dropped in her lap.

Councilman Alexander noted he recalled Mr. Aaron notifying the Council of increases for Water Services from Henry County as well as cost increases for Sanitation services, and that during the pandemic the Council made the decision not to pass along those increases during that time as it would have posed a hardship on citizens.

6. Council consideration to increase FY2024 Stormwater Fees as follows:
Base Rate Tier 1 Single Family Residential from \$7.59 to \$7.97;
Impervious Rate Tier 1 Single Family Residential from \$29.99 to \$31.49;
Base Rate Tier 2 Single Family Residential from \$7.59 to \$7.97;
Impervious Rate Tier 2 Single Family Residential from \$59.98 to \$62.98;
Base Rate Non-Single Family Residential (20,000 Square Feet) from \$7.59 to \$7.97; Impervious Rate Non-Single Family Residential (20,000 Square Feet) from \$299.90 to \$314.90. The total overall proposed fee increase is from \$307.49 to \$322.87 or 4.76%.

Presented by: Decius Aaron, Public Works Director

The item was moved to be heard at the end of the meeting, following research and cost comparisons to Henry County rates.

Motion to approve: Gantt/Alexander Passed 4-1 (Blount Opposed).

7. Council consideration to approve the renewal of the landscape maintenance services contract with Yellowstone Landscape in the amount of \$327,216.00. Funding source is from Government Buildings Department and Amphitheater budgeted funds.

Presented by: Decius Aaron, Public Works Director

Motion to reject the renewal and task staff with re-bidding and re-advertising, noting the contract expires on 9/30/23 and to bring the item back to the Council to award at the August 14, 2023, meeting: Barber/Thomas. The motion tied at 2-2 (Alexander/Blount Opposed); Mayor Ford cast the tie-break vote opposing the rejection motion); as a result, the motion failed 2-3.

Councilman Alexander motioned to approve as presented by staff:

Councilman Blount questioned the motion.

Attorney Washington offered a legal opinion that when the rejection of the motion failed, the action was equal to the approval of the renewal of the contract, and a motion to approve was not necessary.

Councilman Alexander withdrew his motion.

Mayor Pro Tem Barber and Councilman Thomas questioned the opinion and the validity of the vote.

Mayor Ford asked that the action of the Council be reviewed, and if it is determined that the action was in fact improper, the item would be brought back for a vote.

8. Council consideration to approve Request for Proposal (RFP) 2023-0003 for Janitorial Maintenance Services to Building Maintenance Services, Inc. in the amount of \$141,432.00. Funding Source: Government Buildings Department

Presented by: Decius Aaron, Public Works Director

Motion to approve: Blount/Alexander (No Vote Taken)

Councilman Alexander withdrew his 2nd to the motion.

Motion to approve with the contingency that the language in the Staff Recommendation document be corrected to remove the verbiage requesting Council to approve the ranking of qualified firms made by Councilman Blount; there was no second.

Motion to Table and bring back to the June 12, 2023, for consideration: Alexander/Blount: Passed 4-0.

9. Council consideration to approve Invitation To Bid (ITB) 2023-0006, City of Stockbridge LMIG (Local Maintenance Improvements Grant) 2024 Program for Roads and Resurfacing awarded to East Coast Grading, Inc. in the amount of \$2,297,119.25. Funding Source: SPLOST V \$2,009,119.25; GDOT \$288,000.00.
Presented by: Decius Aaron, Public Works Director
Motion to approve: Alexander/Blount Passed 3-0-1 (Barber Abstained; citing the contract was not included in the documents for Council review).
10. Council discussion of City Finances.
Presented by: Frederick Gardiner, City Manager, John Wiggins, City Treasurer, and Ed Wall, Financial Advisor

Councilwoman Gantt joined the meeting.

Motion to authorize the advertising of 6 mills for a City Millage Rate: Gantt/Blount Passed 3-2 (Alexander and Barber Opposed).

Item #6 on the Agenda

Council consideration to increase FY2024 Stormwater Fees as follows:
Base Rate Tier 1 Single Family Residential from \$7.59 to \$7.97;
Impervious Rate Tier 1 Single Family Residential from \$29.99 to \$31.49;
Base Rate Tier 2 Single Family Residential from \$7.59 to \$7.97;
Impervious Rate Tier 2 Single Family Residential from \$59.98 to \$62.98;
Base Rate Non-Single Family Residential (20,000 Square Feet) from \$7.59 to \$7.97; Impervious Rate Non-Single Family Residential (20,000 Square Feet) from \$299.90 to \$314.90. The total overall proposed fee increase is from \$307.49 to \$322.87 or 4.76%.

Presented by: Decius Aaron, Public Works Director

Motion to approve: Gantt/Alexander Passed 4-1 (Blount Opposed).

ANNOUNCEMENTS OF UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

UPCOMING MEETINGS & ANNOUNCEMENTS: Council meetings will be held in the City Council Chamber. Meeting dates, locations 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.

- Main Street Advisory Board Planning Retreat at 9:00 a.m. at the Merle Manders Conference Center *Special Date* (Jun 10)
- City Council Meeting, 2nd Monday of each month at 6:00 p.m. – City Hall Council Chamber (June 12)
- Youth Council Meeting, 2nd Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m. – City Hall Levi Meeting Room (June 12)
- Citywide Development Authority Meeting, 2nd Tuesday of each month 6:00 p.m. - City Hall Levi Meeting Room (Jun 13)
- Downtown Development Authority Meeting - 3rd Tuesday of each month Via Zoom (Jun 20)

- City Council Work Session Meeting, ****Special Meeting Date**** Tuesday, June 20th at 6:00 p.m. – City Hall Council Chamber. The Work Session meeting will not take place on June 28th.
- Youth Council Advisory Committee Meeting, 6:30 p.m. - 3rd Tuesday of each month Levi Meeting Room - City Hall (Jun 20)
- Planning Commission Meeting, 6:30 p.m. - City Hall Council Chamber 4th Thursday of each month– (Jun 22)

UPCOMING CITY EVENTS/INITIATIVES

- Join us for Food Truck Tuesday at Clark Community Park 111 Davis Rd. from 5:30 pm to 8:00 pm for lots of fun, great food and activities for everyone.
- Join Councilman Thomas for the Don't Trash Stockbridge centered around education highlighting the causes and effects of Littering and Illegal Dumping. More information to follow.
- Honoring Veterans with a Continuous Salute all year long. Please send your pictures of Veterans with their name, branch, rank, and years of service as Councilman Thomas sends a salute to honor Veterans all year long. Please send pictures to rrawls@cityofstockbridge-ga.gov
- Join Mayor Pro Tem Barber for FREE Zumba every Saturday at 8:00 a.m. at Gardner Community Park on E. Atlanta Rd.
- Join Councilman Alexander for a 5th District Community Town Hall on Tuesday, June 6th at the Eagles Landing Country Club at 7pm. Located at 100 Eagles Landing Way.
- Join Mayor Pro Tem Barber for an Emergency Blood Drive in partnership with LifeSouth on Saturday, June 10th from 10am – 2pm in the Amphitheater Parking Lot 4650 North Henry Blvd.
- Join Mayor Ford the City of Stockbridge “State of the City Address”, Thursday, June 15th at 6:00 pm at the Merle Manders Conference Center located at 111 Davis Rd.

Visit Stockbridge.com to purchase tickets for the 2023 Stockbridge Amphitheater Concert Series. The Ticket Office is open Thursday – Saturday from 1pm – 5pm.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS

Mayor Ford invited everyone to come out to the Monica/Tank concert on June 3rd; noted Amazon was one of the Amphitheater's presenting sponsors; noted Southern Crescent Technical College recently held their commencement ceremony at the Stockbridge Amphitheater on May 9th; and the HispaniFest, featuring SalsaFest took place this past Sunday, and that both are great events, and noted the Amphitheater is open for rental.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

Mayor Pro Tem Barber exited the meeting.

Motion to adjourn Executive Session and reconvene without action: Blount/Alexander
Passed 3-0 (Councilwoman Gantt was not present for the vote).

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn: Blount/Alexander Passed 4-0. 10:40 p.m.