



CITY COUNCIL MEETING ACTION MINUTES

MONDAY, AUGUST 14, 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

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** – Ms. Jasmine Reese
- III. **Pledge of Allegiance** – Recited by all in attendance.
- IV. **Roll Call** – All members were present.
- V. **Amendment of the Agenda:** Motion to amend the Agenda to add Item #10 to approve the honorary naming of a road for the late Pastor Spencer T. O'Neal made by Councilman Blount; seconded by Councilwoman Gantt. The motion passed unanimously.
- VI. **Amendment of the Agenda:** Motion to amend the Agenda to add Item #11 to add the Memo regarding the Septic Homestead Exemption made by Mayor Pro Tem Barber; seconded by Councilman Thomas. The motion passed unanimously.
- VII. **Amendment of the Agenda:** Motion to amend the Agenda to move Item #9 to be heard following Ceremonial Review made by Mayor Pro Tem Barber; seconded by Councilwoman Gantt. The motion passed unanimously.
- VIII. **Adoption of The Agenda:** Motion to approve the Agenda as amended made by Councilman Alexander; seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Barber. The motion passed unanimously.

IX. Adoption of the Minutes

1. Adoption of the June 12, 2023 Council Meeting Minutes
 2. Adoption of the June 20, 2023 Work Session Meeting Minutes
- Motion to approve the June 12, 2023 and June 20, 2023 Minutes made by Councilman Alexander; seconded by Councilwoman Gantt. The motion passed unanimously.**

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.**

CEREMONIAL

3. Review of the Swearing In Ceremony for the Planning Commission and Downtown Development Authority Board Members and Retirement for Melinda Davies (20 years of service)
- Mayor Ford reviewed the swearing-in of Jayden Williams to the Stockbridge Planning Commission and Warren Washington to the Stockbridge Downtown Development Authority; and referenced the recent retirement of Melinda Davies for her service to the City for 20 years.**

Item 9 was heard following the Ceremonial Review:(Actions noted below).

PRESENTATION

4. **STOCKBRIDGE DOWNTOWN BIKE AND PEDESTRIAN STUDY.** The City of Stockbridge Mayor and City Council will hold a public hearing on Monday, August 14, 2023 at 6:00 p.m., in the Stockbridge City Hall, located at 4640 North Henry Boulevard in Stockbridge, Georgia, to hold the first review of the Stockbridge Downtown Bike and Pedestrian Study, which has been prepared by Keck & Wood, in consultation with the City of Stockbridge Community Development Department. The Study is part of the Atlanta Regional Commission's Livable Centers Initiative (LCI) Program. Its purpose is to define a proposed project which would improve pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure throughout Downtown Stockbridge. The boundaries of the Study Area are listed below. The public may review the proposed boundaries, ask questions, and provide comments on the existing conditions and proposed improvements. Written statements may be e-mailed to Robert Renwick of Keck & Wood at renwick@keckwood.com .
 - ~ US 23 from East Atlanta Road to Burke Street.
 - ~ Burke Street from US 23 to Davis Road.
 - ~ Love Street from Burke Street to East Atlanta Road.
 - ~ Jim Clark Drive from MLK Senior Heritage Trail to Burke Street.
 - ~ Lovejoy Street from Burke Street to MLK Senior Heritage Trail

Presented by: Mr. Robert Renwick of Keck & Wood

Mr. Renwick gave an update of the Stockbridge Downtown Bike and Pedestrian Study. Ms. Keri Stevens with the ARC (Atlanta Regional Commission) noted her office is available to assist with the project.

No Action Taken

Councilwoman Gantt exited the meeting.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

5. Council consideration to revise Chapter 10.12 of the city's code of ordinances governing parking regulations. Parking Ordinance Revisions Presented by: Chief Frank Trammer
Motion to approve made by Councilman Alexander; seconded by Councilman Blount. The motion passed 4-0. (Councilwoman Gantt was not present for the vote).

PUBLIC HEARING

6. **COMPREHENSIVE PLAN FIVE-YEAR UPDATE.**

Council Consideration of a request by the City of Stockbridge Community Development Department to adopt the Five-Year Update to the City of Stockbridge Comprehensive Plan, 2018-2023, which is required by the Georgia Department of Community Affairs. The Five-Year Update would be effective from 2024 to 2028. It is being prepared by the Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC) in consultation with the City of Stockbridge Community Development Department. The Five-Year Update comprises an update to reflect recent development patterns in the City, and it also includes a new Future Land Use Plan and Map. The land use categories have been modified to make needed corrections and clarifications, and to include the new zoning districts which were created through the adoption of the Stockbridge Unified Development Code on March 14, 2022.

Presented by: Ryan Anderson, Chief Planner and Keri Stevens, Atlanta Regional Commission

Ms. Stevens reviewed the 5-year update, noted items to be addressed before submitting to the DCA, and referenced the timeline with 2nd Public Hearing prior to submission and approval by the DCA by October 31, 2023.

Public Hearing Opened

No Comments in Favor or Opposed

Public Hearing Closed

No Action Taken

NEW BUSINESS

7. Council consideration to renew the contract for Emergency Services for Civil Engineering Services with Whitley Engineering, not to exceed a 6 - months.

Presented by: Ryan Anderson, Chief Planner

Motion to approve made by Councilman Alexander; seconded by Councilman Thomas. The motion passed unanimously.

Councilwoman Gantt re-joined the meeting.

8. Council consideration to accept \$905,575 in grant funding from the Governor's Office of Planning and Budget Public Safety and Community Violence Reduction (PSCVRG0 Grant Program).
Presented by: Chief Frank Trammer and Captain Karen Anderson
Motion to approve made by Councilman Alexander; seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Barber. The motion passed unanimously.

The Governing Body tasked the City Manager, Chief Trammer and Attorney Washington with researching a citywide camera system and to bring information and recommendations to the Council for consideration at the September 11, 2023 Council meeting.

9. Council consideration to appoint board members to the City of Stockbridge Police Department Citizen-Police Advisory Council
Presented by: Chief Frank Trammer
Chief Trammer introduced the 12-member panel of community members who have been selected to serve on the City of Stockbridge Citizens Police Advisory Council as follows with terms to follow:
Mayor's Appointment: Reverend Dr. M. Lavell Sanders
Councilmember Gantt District 1 - Ms. Carmen Reese
Councilmember Thomas District 2 – Mr. Thomas Smith
Councilmember Blount District 3 – Mr. William Daniels
Councilmember Barber District 4 – Mr. Asa S. Moon
Councilmember Alexander District 5 – Mr. Raymond Martin
Police Chief Appointments:
Zone 1 – Ms. Hernitha (Neat) Robinson
Zone 2 – Mr. Nathan Banks, Sr.
Zone 3 – Ms. Angela White
Zone 4 – Ms. Deyonna Williams
Business Community Representative – Mr. Regonald Sylvain (Sylvain Funeral Home & Cremation Services LLC)
Faith-Based Community Representative – Pastor John (Trea) Brinson – (Eagles Landing First Baptist Church)

Motion to approve appointees made by Councilwoman Gantt; seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Barber. The motion unanimously.

10. Council consideration to approve honorary signage for the late Pastor Spencer T. O'Neal on Red Oak Rd.
Presented by: Councilman Blount
Motion to approve made by Councilman Blount; seconded by Councilwoman Gantt. The motion passed unanimously.

11. Council consideration for Attorney Washington to read a Memo from Legal regarding homeowners of Septic as a City of Stockbridge Homestead Exemption.
Presented by: Mayor Pro Tem Barber
The Memo was read in its entirety by City Attorney Quinton Washington.

ANNOUNCEMENTS OF UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

Council meetings will be held in the City Council Chamber, meeting dates and times are subject to change. Please visit the city's website www.stockbridgega.org or the city's Facebook page or contact City Hall offices at 770-389-7900 for updates.

- Downtown Development Authority Meeting, 3rd Tuesday of each month
Welcome Center 130 M L King, Sr. Heritage Trail (Aug 15)
- Youth Council Advisory Committee Meeting, 6:30 p.m. - 3rd Tuesday of each month
Levi Meeting Room - City Hall (Aug 15)
- Planning Commission Meeting, 6:30 p.m. - City Hall Council Chamber 4th
Thursday of each month– (Aug 24)
- City Council Work Session Meeting, last Tuesday of each month at 6:00 p.m. –
City Hall Council (Aug 29)
- Main Street Advisory Board Meeting, 2nd Friday of each month – Welcome
Center located at 130 M L King, Sr. Heritage Trail at 9am (Sep 8)
- City Council Meeting, 2nd Monday of each month at 6:00 p.m. – City Hall Council
Chamber (Sep 11)
- Youth Council Meeting, 6:30 p.m. - 2nd Monday of each month - City Hall Levi
Meeting Room - City Hall (Sep 11)
- Citywide Development Authority Meeting, 2nd Tuesday of each month 6:00 p.m.
- City Hall Levi Meeting Room (Sep 12)
- Planning Commission Meeting, 6:30 p.m. - City Hall Council Chamber 4th
Thursday of each month– (Sep 28)

UPCOMING CITY EVENTS/INITIATIVES

- Join us for Food Truck Tuesday from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at Clark Community
Park 111 Davis Rd. Lots and great food and activities for everyone. The last
Food Truck Tuesday Event for the 2023 Season is August 29th.
- Join Councilman Thomas for the *Don't Trash Stockbridge* initiative centered
around education highlighting the causes and effects of Littering and Illegal
Dumping. More information to follow.
- Councilman Thomas is honoring *Veterans with a Continuous Salute* all year long.
Please send your pictures of Veterans with their name, branch, rank and years of
service to rrawls@cityofstockbridge-ga.gov
- Join Councilman Blount for *Bingo Bash*, Wednesday, August 16th from 10am –
noon at the Merle Manders Conference Center located at 111 Davis Rd.
- Join Mayor for an *Educational Interactive Workshop for Seniors and Veterans*
hosted by workshop will take place on August 23, 2023 from 10 A.M. to 12 P.M.
at the Merle Manders Conference Center. For more information, please call
678-644-1433.

- Join Mayor Ford in collaboration with the *Military and Veterans Coalition of One for the Veterans Expo & Townhall*, Saturday, August 26th from 9am to 4pm at the Merle Manders Conference Center. For more information call 610-620-3971.
- Join Mayor Ford for the monthly *Meet the Mayor* on Monday, August 28th from 10am – noon. Please contact Rosalynd Rawls to schedule an appointment at 678-833-3348 or via email at rrawls@cityofstockbridge-ga.gov
- Please join the City of Stockbridge for its *Annual 9/11 Remembrance*. This annual remembrance will be held on Monday, September 11th, 2023, from 8:00 A.M. to 11 A.M. on the Stockbridge City Hall steps located at 4640 North Henry Boulevard, Stockbridge.

Please get your tickets for the upcoming 2023 Stockbridge Concert Series by visiting stockbridgeamp.com or in person at the ticket office located at 4650 North Henry Blvd. Thursday – Saturday from 1pm – 5pm.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS

Mayor Ford encouraged everyone to get their tickets for the upcoming concerts, and referenced an amazing concert from Patti LaBelle and Envogue that was featured in People magazine, and this week will feature Tower of Power and the Ohio Players; encouraged everyone to do what they can to be healthy, and to get vaccinated to remain healthy.

Councilwoman Gantt referenced an upcoming Business Expo on October 1st in partnership with her Sorority, with more information to follow.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion to convene Executive Session for Real Estate made by Councilman Alexander; seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Barber. The motion passed 4-0. (Councilman Blount was not present for the vote).

Motion to adjourn Executive Session and reconvene the meeting made by Councilwoman Gantt; seconded by Councilman Alexander. The motion passed 4-0. (Councilman Blount was not present for the vote).

ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn the meeting made by Councilwoman Gantt; seconded by Councilman Alexander. The motion passed 4-0. (Councilman Blount was not present for the vote).