



WORK SESSION MEETING SUMMARY MINUTES

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2024 6:00 P.M.

Mayor & City Council

Mayor Anthony S. Ford At-Large
Mayor Pro Tem Kyle Berry – Council District 3
Councilmember Elton Alexander – Council District 5
Councilmember Yolanda Barber – Council District 4
Councilmember LaKeisha Gantt – Council District 1
Councilmember Alphonso Thomas – Council District 2

Administration

Frederick Gardiner – City Manager
Vanessa Holiday – City Clerk
Cassandra Lester – Deputy City Clerk
Lakeisha Gaines – Interim 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.

Invocation by Mayor Ford at 7:09 p.m.

Invocation by: Councilmember Alexander

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all in attendance.

Deputy Clerk, Cassandra Lester was asked to proceed with a verbal roll call. All members were present except Councilmember Barber and Mayor Pro Tem Berry.

Motion to amend the Agenda to remove Consent Agenda Item #3 noting the Youth Council will participate in the City's Holiday Festival event on Friday, December 6th was made by Councilmember Thomas; seconded by Councilmember Gantt. The motion passed unanimously 3-0.

Motion to adopt the Agenda was made by Councilmember Thomas; seconded by Councilmember Gantt. The motion passed unanimously 3-0.

Review of the October 14, 2024 Council Meeting Minutes. There was no action.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Willie Carter noted he has reached out to the city's Public Works Department regarding a faulty/misreading of the city's water meters, noting the community did not receive notice of the issue in the M L King Sr. Heritage Trail community, and noted the matter has not been resolved.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Council consideration to approve the use of the Merle Manders Conference Center (Lower Level) for the Main Street Program's Thanksgiving charity community dinner on Friday, November 15th).
2. Council consideration to approve the use of the Merle Manders Conference Center (Main Ballroom) for the Stockbridge Youth Council's Holiday Family Festival on Sunday, December 8th).

CONSENT AGENDA ITEM #3 WAS REMOVED FROM THE AGENDA.

Motion to approve the Consent Agenda Item #2 was made by Councilmember Thomas; seconded by Councilmember Alexander. The motion passed unanimously 3-0.

PRESENTATION

3. Public/Private Partnership District Presentation and Ordinance
Presented by: Quinton Washington, City Attorney, Ed Wall, Financial Advisor and John Ernst of the Ernst Legal Group/former Brookhaven Mayor)

Attorney Washington reviewed the Ordinance relating to the Special Service District.

Mr. Ernst reviewed the use of the Special Service District for projects by the City of Brookhaven.

Attorney Washington cited Section 3 of the ordinance titled "Creation of the Stockbridge Special Service District." This section states: "Pursuant to the SSD Clause, there is hereby created a special district for the purpose of the provision of local government services and supplemental services and facilities to be funded, in whole or in part, by a special improvement tax or taxes therein to be known as the "Stockbridge Special Service District" (the Stockbridge SSD" or the "District"), the boundaries of which shall be co-extensive with the boundaries of the City" - ADDING - Excluding all single-family residential and all homestead residences. It will also employ Ernst Legal Group to create maps and report back to the City Council with input on selecting the final maps and power of the assessments they want the district to have.

Motion to approve as stated by Attorney Washington was made by Councilmember Alexander; seconded by Councilmember Thomas.

Councilmember Gantt asked about the cost of drawing the maps and the funding source.

Mr. Wall replied that the funding would come from the general fund and the estimated cost would be \$10,000.

Councilmember Thomas then interjected, stating “no more than” \$10,000.

Mr. Ernst suggested amending the motion to specify that the funding could initially come from the General Fund, with reimbursement from the Stockbridge SSD to be made once it is established at a later date.

Councilmember Alexander amended the motion to include the stipulation of the project not exceeding \$10,000.00, and reimbursement of the \$10,000.00 from the SSD back to the General Fund; seconded by Councilmember Thomas. The motion passed unanimously 3-0.

UPCOMING MEETINGS & ANNOUNCEMENTS: Council meetings will be held in the City Council Chamber. Meeting dates, locations and times are subject to change or contact City Hall offices at 770-389-7900 or visit the website www.stockbridgega.org for updates.

- Youth Council Meeting 1st Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m. - City Hall Levi Meeting Room (Nov 4)
- **ELECTION DAY – TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 5th from 7am – 7pm** – visit mvp.sos.ga.gov for your polling location.
- Community Zoning and Information Meeting: Wednesday, November 6th from 6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. at City Hall in the Council Chamber (Nov 6)
- Stockbridge Citizens-Police Advisory Council meeting 1st Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at the Stockbridge Police Community Room 4545 N. Henry Blvd. – (Nov 7)
- The Main Street Advisory Board Meeting on the 2nd Friday of each month at 9am – Location is the Downtown Connection Center 130 M L King Sr. Heritage Trail. (Nov 8)
- City Council Meeting, **SPECIAL DATE – TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 12TH** at 6:00 p.m. - City Hall Council Chamber (Nov 12) Due to Veterans Day Holiday
- Citywide Development Authority Meeting has been canceled. The Board will hold a Retreat on Friday, November 15th. Location to be announced.
- Downtown Development Authority Meeting, **SPECIAL DATE – TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 12TH** at the Stockbridge Downtown Center 130 M L King, Sr. Heritage Trail (Nov 12)
- City Council Work Session Meeting, Last Tuesday of each month at 6:00 p.m. - City Hall Council Chamber (Nov 19)
- Youth Council Advisory Committee Meeting, 6:30 p.m.- 3rd Tuesday of each month Levi Meeting Room - City Hall (Nov 19)
- Planning Commission Meeting, 3rd Thursday of each month, 6:30 p.m. - City Hall Council Chamber - (Nov 21)

UPCOMING CITY EVENTS/INITIATIVES

- Join Councilwoman LaKeisha Gantt in partnership with Atlanta Food Truck Park for Night Market at the Stockbridge Amphitheater Parking Lot from 6pm – 9:30pm – November 7th, and November 21st. There will be vendors, Food Trucks, Activities, Games, Music, and Vibes. Contact Tan Bowers at thepeaceofmine@gmail.com for registration and additional information.
- Please join the City of Stockbridge for the Annual Veterans Day Luncheon honoring our Veterans on Monday, November 11th from 11am – 1pm at the Merle Manders Conference Center. Please RSVP no later than November 4th to Events@stockbridgega.org
- Join Mayor Anthony Ford for the monthly *Meet the Mayor* on Wednesday, November 18th from 10am – noon at Stockbridge City Hall.
- Join Councilman Alphonso Thomas in partnership with Mayor Pro Tem Kyle Berry for the monthly Senior Bingo Bash on Wednesday, November 20th from 10am - 12pm at the Merle Manders Conference Center, 111 Davis Rd. for raffles, prizes, games, snacks and fun!
- Join Councilman Elton Alexander for a District 5 Town Hall on Thursday, November 21st from 7pm – 9pm – Location to be announced.
- 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.
- Councilman Thomas will distribute FREE Smoke Detectors along with Fire Marshal Demetrius Wells. The date and location will be announced soon. Stay tuned.
- 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.

Please contact Rosalynd Rawls to schedule an appointment for *Meet the Mayor* and for more information on Council Initiatives and events at 678-833-3348 or via email: rrawls@stockbridgega.org

MAYOR'S COMMENTS

Mayor Ford noted we are in the month of October and approaching November and wished everyone a safe and happy Halloween; encouraged everyone to get their flu shots and COVID 19 boosters to remain healthy and safe for the holiday season; congratulated the Atlanta Falcons on leading the NFC South Conference and is hopeful of their playoff chances.

Councilmember Alexander noted Early Voting is happening this week and ends on Friday, noting there is no Saturday or Sunday voting, and the Merle Manders Conference Center is one of the Early Voting locations; noted the City of Stockbridge has a Homestead Exemption item on the ballot and there is the County SPLOST Item on the ballot that includes a number of potential projects, including a Multi-Use facility for multi-generational residents.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

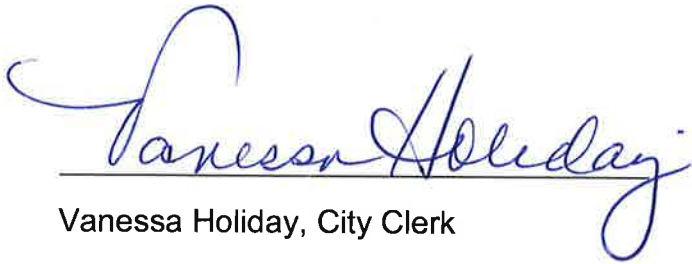
Motion to convene Executive Session for Personnel was made by Councilmember Gantt; seconded by Councilmember Alexander. The motion passed unanimously 3-0.

Mayor Pro Tem Berry joined the meeting during Executive Session.

Motion to adjourn Executive Session and sign an affidavit with no action was made by Mayor Pro Tem Berry; seconded by Councilmember Gantt. The motion passed unanimously 4-0.

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:37 p.m. was made by Councilmember Gantt; seconded by Councilmember Alexander. The motion passed unanimously 4-0.

Respectfully submitted by:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Vanessa Holiday", written over a horizontal line.

Vanessa Holiday, City Clerk

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Anthony S. Ford", written over a horizontal line.

Anthony S. Ford, Mayor