



Where Community Connects

CITY COUNCIL SPLOST VI SPECIAL CALLED MEETING SUMMARY MINUTES

MONDAY, JULY 15, 2024 5:00 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.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Ford at 5:07 p.m.

Invocation by Mayor Ford, followed by a moment of silence for the individuals who were injured, and the spectator who was killed during a recent campaign rally in Pennsylvania.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all in attendance.

City Clerk, Vanessa Holiday was asked to proceed with a verbal roll call. All members were present except Councilmember Gantt.

Motion to adopt the Agenda was made by Mayor Pro Tem Berry; seconded by Councilmember Barber. The motion passed unanimously 4-0.

Councilmember Gantt joined the meeting at 6:11 p.m.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Council Consideration to approve the City of Stockbridge SPLOST VI Project List.
2. Council Consideration to approve the City of Stockbridge/Henry County Joint Projects.
3. Council Consideration to approve the SPLOST VI 5yr/6yr Option.
Presented by Frederick Gardiner - City Manager
Mr. Gardiner referenced the SPLOST VI meetings held over the last few months where the County as noted Priority Projects, Joint Projects, and Distribution Options; noted the best interest of the city is to agree with the 6-year option, noting that should the County and Cities not agree, the 5-year option would be in affect; and noted the city's position to use the 2023 census numbers whereas nearly 7,000 residents were annexed into the city, opposed to the 2020 census number whereas the city would be responsible for the roads, infrastructure and improvements in the area, without the funding being allotted to the city; noted Henry County presented 6 Options, and reviewed 4 of the 6 options:
 1. No Designated Level Projects with no funding for cities until after year 1, an estimated \$470,000,000 with a 6-year collection 66/32 and the City of Stockbridge receiving an estimated 12.31%.
 2. Level 2 Public Safety Projects, an estimated \$470,000,000 with a 6-year collection 67/33; Public Safety \$51 million that must be repaid prior to distributions to the cities, and the City of Stockbridge receiving an estimated 12.69%.
 3. Level 1 Projects, an estimated \$470,000,000 with a 6-year collection 66/34; with a Tag Office facility in Locust Grove of an estimated \$6.4 million and \$79,438,800 for priority projects that must be repaid prior to distributions to the cities and the City of Stockbridge receiving an estimated 13.08%.
 4. Level 1 & Level 2 Projects, an estimated \$470,000,000 and \$85,383,800 of Priority Projects that must be repaid prior to distributions to the cities 65/35, and the City of Stockbridge receiving an estimated 13.46%.

Mayor Ford stated that everyone loses if the cities cannot agree and have to settle on a 5-year SPLOST, and reduced collections of \$380,000,000 and recommended the city select Option 2 as the primary position which includes Level II projects for Public Safety of \$51,000,000, that shall be repaid before the cities within the county receive funding, and whereas Stockbridge would receive an estimated 12.31% of the estimated \$470,000,000, and agree with the 6-year option using the 2023 Census Data, noting the 2020 Census includes 6,700 residents at that time were included in the 2020 census numbers as Henry County residents, and whereas the County would receive the revenue for those residents under the 2020 census option, although the residents were annexed into the city of Stockbridge effective January 1, 2023, and whereas effective on that date, the City was responsible for servicing the 6,700 newly annexed residents along with providing

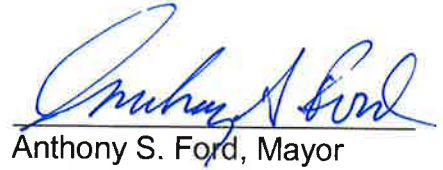
services and maintenance of streets, roads and infrastructure of the annexed area. Mayor Ford polled members of the Council asking which option was preferred. Councilmembers Alexander, Berry, Gantt, and Thomas agreed with Option 2 as outlined by Mayor Ford, using the 2023 Census and the 6-yr SPLOST Option. Councilmember Barber offered no comment. Staff was tasked with submitting the request to the County and to also report back to the Council on the timeframe it took for the County to collect \$51,000,000 from the current SPLOST and to continue negotiations.

Mr. Gardiner noted Flippen Rd., East Lake Pkwy., Eagles Landing Pkwy., and Hudson Bridge Rd. were all included in the request to the County for joint projects, and that list would be revised and resubmitted to include the proposed passive use park in District 3; and noted the city would seek a Kaboom grant for the park equipment.

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:40 was made by Councilmember Alexander; seconded by Councilmember Gantt. The motion passed unanimously 5-0.

Respectfully submitted by:


Vanessa Holiday, City Clerk


Anthony S. Ford, Mayor