



CITY COUNCIL MEETING SUMMARY MINUTES

MONDAY, MARCH 4, 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
Vacant – City Treasurer
Quinton Washington – City Attorney
Samantha Embry – 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 6:00 p.m.

Invocation by Ms. Demetria Daniels

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all in attendance.

Deputy City Clerk, Cassandra Lester 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 Alexander. The motion passed unanimously 4-0.

Motion to approve the Minutes for the following meetings was made by Councilmember Alexander; seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Berry. The motion passed unanimously 4-0.

1. Retreat Minutes February 6, 2024, February 7, 2024, and February 8, 2024
2. Council Meeting Minutes February 12, 2024
3. Work Session Meeting Minutes February 27, 2024

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

CEREMONIAL REVIEW

2. Mayor Ford reviewed the Proclamation for Women's History Month, and the Swearing In for Paige Jones III, the District 4 appointment on the Stockbridge Citizens Police Advisory Committee, and Crystal Park, a business owner, appointed to the Main Street Advisory Board.

NEW BUSINESS

3. DOWNTOWN PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLE CONNECTIVITY STUDY. Adoption of the Study, which was prepared by Keck and Wood, in consultation with City Community Development staff.
Presented by: Ryan Anderson – Chief Planner
Mr. Anderson presented a summary of the project with a cost of approximately seven million dollars, noting staff will work with the ARC (Atlanta Regional Commission) to seek grants and other funding sources to complete the project.

Motion to approve the Downtown Pedestrian and Bicycle Connectivity Study was made by Councilmember Alexander; seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Berry. The motion passed unanimously 4-0.

4. STATE ZONING PROCEDURES LAW ORDINANCE. Adoption of recent changes to the State Zoning Procedures Law, and incorporation of those changes into the City of Stockbridge's Unified Development Code. The Planning Commission approved the adoption of the changes at its December 21, 2023 meeting.
Presented by: Ryan Anderson, Chief Planner
This Item was heard following Item #5 and Item #6 on the Agenda.

Mr. Anderson referenced an overview of the State Zoning Procedures Law that was presented to the City Council at the November 13, 2023 meeting.

Ms. Rebecca Keifer of Clark, Patterson & Lee reviewed some of the amendments to the State Zoning Laws and Procedures, referencing HB1405 and HB916 relating to variances and special exceptions; noted SB213 was amended to require local municipalities and counties to allow for manufactured homes; noted Conditional Use has been changed to Special Use; exemptions for city-initiated zonings; converted Planning Commission to Public Meetings instead of Public Hearings; and clearly defined Multi-Family use noting there must hold a meeting that will be defined at the local level; noted the Religious Land Use Federal Statute where you cannot treat a religious entity less favorable; requiring community meetings for proposed developments that are applicant-driven that shall include Minutes, a Sign-In Sheet and will be held prior to the Planning Commission meeting; and noted the changes have been incorporated into the City's UDC (*Unified Development Code) and there is no reason to re-adopt that document.

Mr. Anderson confirmed that there is no effect to the City's UDC, and that the City's Zoning Attorney, Valerie Ross, has reviewed the updates and procedure changes.

Councilmember Gantt joined the meeting at 6:40 p.m.

Motion to task the City's Zoning Attorney and Planning staff to do their due diligence to bring forward a Text Amendment to notify homeowners and businesses within a certain recommended distance of a proposed development was made by Councilmember Barber; seconded by Councilmember Thomas. The motion passed unanimously 5-0

Motion to adopt the State Zoning Procedures Law Ordinance with recent changes to the State Zoning Procedures Law, and incorporation of those changes into the City of Stockbridge's Unified Development Code was made by Councilmember Barber; seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Berry. The motion passed unanimously 5-0

5. Council consideration to approve an emergency change order for Mays Crossing Lift Station and Force Main Rehabilitation Project with Allsouth Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$56,833.78. Funding Source is from SPLOST.

Presented by: Decius Aaron, Public Works Director

This item was heard prior to Item #4 on the Agenda.

Mr. Aaron referenced current projects on Mays Road, noting this would be feasible for the contractor to complete this project while they were already there making repairs in the area.

Motion to approve the Emergency Change Order was made by Councilmember Barber; seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Berry. The motion passed unanimously 4-0.

6. Council consideration to approve and sign the requested intergovernmental agreement with Henry County Board of Commissioners indicating the City of Stockbridge's commitment to share the local match for the resurfacing of Eagles Landing Parkway/Hudson Bridge Road/East Lake Parkway in the amount of \$800,000.00. Funding source from TSPLOST.

Presented by: Decius Aaron, Public Works Director

This item was heard prior to Item #4 on the Agenda.

Mr. Aaron noted the City has already approved \$489,000 on the TSPLOST for Hudson Bridge and Eagles Landing Parkway roads resurfacing projects, and the additional \$310,000 funding is needed for the East Atlanta Rd. portion in collaboration with the County and would be funded by SPLOST V.

Motion to approve and sign the requested Intergovernmental Agreement with Henry County Board of Commissioners indicating the City of Stockbridge's commitment to share the local match for the resurfacing of Eagles Landing Parkway/Hudson Bridge Road/East Lake Parkway in the amount of \$800,000.00. Funding source from TSPLOST and SPLOST V was made by Councilmember Alexander; seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Berry. The motion passed unanimously 4-0.

7. NEW CONTRACT FOR CIVIL ENGINEERING SERVICES. Approval and Mayor's execution of a new month-to-month contract for civil engineering services with Whitley Engineering, Inc., and authorization for the City Manager to execute all contract-related administrative and budgetary actions.

Presented by: Ryan Anderson, Chief Planner

Mr. Anderson noted the current contract is expiring, and the RFP has not yet been completed, and therefore it is necessary to enter into a month-to-month contract for civil engineering services with the current vendor, Whitley Engineering, Inc.

Mayor Pro Tem Berry asked if the month-to-month fee is more expensive.

Mr. Anderson responded that the month-to-month contract will cost the city an additional \$500 per month; and expects the RFP to be completed by May.

Motion to approve a new month-to-month contract for civil engineering services with Whitley Engineering, Inc. for (4) four months and not to exceed \$20,000 was made by Councilmember Barber; seconded by Councilmember Alexander. The motion passed unanimously 5-0.

ANNOUNCEMENTS OF UPCOMING MEETINGS

- **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.**
- Stockbridge Citizens-Police Advisory Council meeting 1st Thursday of each month at 6:00 p.m. at the Stockbridge Police Community Room 4545 N. Henry Blvd. (Mar 7)
- Main Street Advisory Board Meeting 2nd Friday of each month - Welcome Center/Main Street Offices located at 130 M L King, Sr. Heritage Trail at 9am (Mar 8).
- Youth Council Meeting 2nd Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m. - City Hall Levi Meeting Room (Mar 11)
- Citywide Development Authority Meeting, 2nd Tuesday of each month, 6:00 p.m. - City Hall Levi Meeting Room (Mar 12)
- Downtown Development Authority Meeting, 3rd Tuesday of each month Welcome Center 130 M L King, Sr. Heritage Trail (Mar 19)
- Youth Council Advisory Committee Meeting, 6:30 p.m. - 3rd Tuesday of each month Levi Meeting Room - City Hall (Mar 19)
- Planning Commission Meeting, 3rd Thursday of each month, 6:30 p.m. - City Hall Council Chamber - (Mar 21)
- City Council Work Session Meeting, last Tuesday of each month at 6:00 p.m. - City Hall Council Chamber (Mar 26)

UPCOMING CITY EVENTS/INITIATIVES

- Join Mayor Ford for the monthly Meet the Mayor on Monday, March 25th from 10am – noon.
- Join Councilman Thomas the monthly Senior Bingo Bash on Wednesday, March 27th from 10am - 12pm at the Merle Manders Conference Center, 111 Davis Rd. for raffles, prizes, games, snacks and fun!
- 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.

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

MAYOR'S COMMENTS

Mayor Ford mentioned that we are already in the month of March and reminded everyone that COVID-19 is still with us and encouraged everyone to get their boosters and flu shots to remain healthy.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion to convene Executive Session for Personnel, Real Estate and Litigation was made by Councilmember Gantt; seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Berry. The motion passed 4-0. (Councilmember Barber was not present for the vote).

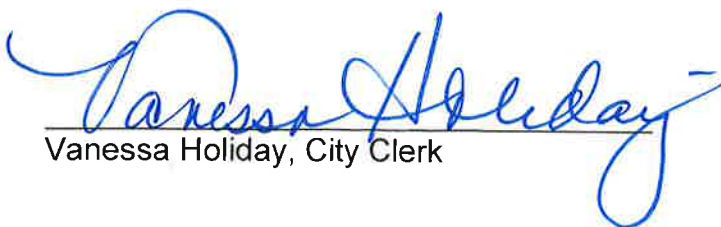
Motion to adjourn Executive Session and sign and Affidavit was made by Councilmember Gantt; seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Berry. The motion passed unanimously 5-0.

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

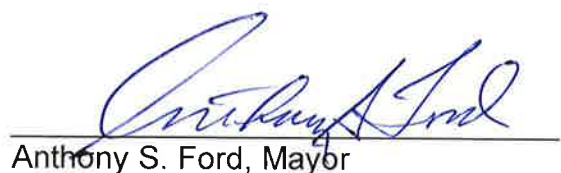
Motion to confirm the appointment of Ryan Anderson to the position of Community Development Director was made by Councilmember Gantt; seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Berry. The motion passed unanimously 5-0.

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:29 p.m. was made by Councilmember Gantt; seconded by Councilmember Alexander. The motion passed 5-0.

Respectfully submitted by:



Vanessa Holiday, City Clerk



Anthony S. Ford, Mayor