



CITY COUNCIL MEETING SUMMARY MINUTES

MONDAY, MARCH 3, 2025 6:00 P.M.

Mayor & City Council

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

Administration

Vacant – City Manager
Vanessa Holiday – City Clerk
Cassandra Lester – Deputy City Clerk
Frank Milazi – 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 6:24 p.m.

Invocation by: Mayor Ford

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all in attendance.

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

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

CEREMONIAL REVIEW

Mayor Ford reviewed the ceremonial proclamations for Women's History Month presented to Gwendolyn Starks, owner of The Art Boutique, and a proclamation to honor the late singer, songwriter and actress, Angie Stone.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Willie Carter raised questions regarding progress and the timeline of the Tye Street Curb and Gutter project.

Mr. Aaron noted Councilmember Thomas held two town hall meetings informing the community of the project where more than one hundred parcels will require easements; noted he has advised Mr. Carter that the project is very detailed, and based on feedback from some residents, a re-design was required by the consultant Mr. Aaron noted Falcon Design will provide an update on all projects at the upcoming Council Retreat.

ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES

1. Adoption of the February 10, 2025 Council Meeting Minutes
Motion to approve with the amendment noting Councilmember Barber Abstained as she was not in attendance of the January 8, 2025 meeting was made by Mayor Pro Tem Gantt; seconded by Councilmember Alexander. The motion passed unanimously 3-0. (Alexander/Barber/Gantt Approved).

Adoption of the February 25, 2025 Work Session Meeting Minutes
Motion to approve with the amendment to add the unanimous vote of Council to Item #3 was made by Mayor Pro Tem Gantt; seconded by Councilmember Alexander. The motion passed unanimously 3-0.
(Alexander/Barber/Gantt Approved)

CONSENT AGENDA

2. Council Consideration to fill a vacancy and appoint Dr. Scott Hughes to the Stockbridge Citywide Development Authority for a four-year term.

Council Consideration to appoint Nathan Banks and Nycholas Armstead to the Stockbridge Downtown Development Authority for a four-year term.

Council Consideration to appoint Selena Harris to the Stockbridge Main Street Advisory Board for a four-year term.

Attorney Washington noted all seats are open board seats and can be confirmed if it is the will of the Council.

Mayor Pro Tem Gantt motioned to approve the Consent Agenda; there was not a second to the motion.

Mayor Pro Tem Gantt motioned to remove the items from the Consent Agenda and vote on each appointment separately; seconded by Councilmember Alexander. The motion passed unanimously 3-0
(Alexander/Barber/Gantt Approved).

Mayor Pro Tem Gantt motioned to appoint Dr. Scott A. Hughes to the Citywide Development Authority Board; seconded by Councilmember Alexander. The motion failed 2-0-1 (Alexander/Gantt Approved) (Barber Abstained, citing she does not know any of the individuals).

Councilmember Alexander asked for a recess, noting the appointments are critical referencing the Habitat for Humanity project that was previously delayed.

Mayor Pro Tem Gantt motioned to Table the Consent Agenda to be heard later in the meeting; seconded by Councilmember Alexander. The motion failed 2-0-1 (Alexander/Gantt Approved); (Barber Abstained noting she is not comfortable and that the items were on the Consent Agenda and then removed from the Consent Agenda).

Mayor Pro Tem Gantt noted Board and Committee applications are volunteers from the community who submit their applications and resumes the City Clerk, who verifies the criteria such as residency, business affiliations, etc., and conducts background checks, and whereas most of the applicants are unknown to members of Council, and that she is unfamiliar with any of the applicants with the exception of one, who is already active in the community; however, the Council receives the applications and resumes in advance where they can contact and research each applicant prior to appointment, and that members of Council can request to Table appointments in the event the vetting process has not yet been completed.

NEW BUSINESS

3. Council consideration to approve contract amendment RFP (Request for Proposal) 201508-02, Sanitation Collection Services Contract with Wrangler Holdings Corp. / GFL Environmental (formally Waste Industries) in the amount of \$1,000,000.00 which is no additional cost. The funding Source is from Sanitation Department Budget.
Presented by: Decius Aaron, Public Works Director
Mr. Aaron noted the City Council voted to close the Transfer Station and as a result, the city has to amend the contract for GFL who will dispose of waste and transfer to the landfill.

Councilmember noted the city's decision to close the Transfer Station is in correlation to the City approval of the Park Master Plan.

Mr. Aaron agreed, noting the idea is to create another entrance to Memorial Park and add additional parking.

Motion to approve contract amendment RFP (Request for Proposal) 201508-02, Sanitation Collection Services Contract with Wrangler Holdings Corp. / GFL Environmental (formally Waste Industries) in the amount of \$1,000,000.00 which is no additional cost. The funding Source is from Sanitation Department Budget was made by Councilmember Barber; seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Gantt. The motion passed unanimously 3-0 (Alexander/Barber/Gantt Approved)

Councilmember Berry joined the meeting at 6:53 p.m.

4. Council consideration to approve a Budget Amendment in the amount of \$1,782,270.10. These funds (Traffic Camera Fines) would be transferred from the General Fund to a Special Project Fund to be used for the sole purpose of police operations as outlined in O.C.G.A 40-14-18
Presented by: Frank Milazi, City Treasurer

Mr. Milazi noted Red Speed was implemented in 2023 and that the collected are to be used by the police department, however, when the account was set up, it was erroneously set up in general fund, and the budget amendment, with the corrected amount of \$1,639,289.28 will correct the error, and the account will be properly appropriated going forward.

Mayor Pro Tem Gantt referenced the State statute and provisions that allocates RedSpeed camera funding collected from speeders in school zones is specifically for use within the police department and asked if the funding had been offset in the police department budget.

Mr. Milazi confirmed the funds were not offset and would be in addition to the funds in the police department budget.

Mayor Ford referenced the current legislation in the General Assembly to repeal state law allowing school zone traffic cameras to catch speeders passed and is headed to the state senate for approval or rejection, noting House Bill 225, would completely ban speed cameras from school zones.

Motion to approve a Budget Amendment in the amount of \$1,639,289.28. These funds (Traffic Camera Fines) would be transferred from the General Fund to a Special Project Fund to be used for the sole purpose of police operations as outlined in O.C.G.A 40-14-18 was made by Councilmember Barber; seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Gantt. The motion passed unanimously 4-0 (Alexander/Barber/Berry/Gantt Approved).

Councilmember Barber exited the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Motion to amend the Agenda to add the Consent Agenda back to the meeting Agenda was made by Mayor Pro Tem Gantt; seconded by Councilmember Berry. The motion passed unanimously 3-0. (Alexander/Berry/Gantt Approved)

Councilmember Alexander motioned to rescind his vote following a discussion with the City Attorney out of an abundance of caution for Item #3 regarding the GFL for Sanitation Services; seconded by Councilmember Berry. The motion passed unanimously 3-0. (Alexander/Berry/Gantt Approved).

Motion to Table Item #3 to the March 25, 2025 Work Session meeting: Council consideration to approve contract amendment RFP (Request for Proposal) 201508-02, Sanitation Collection Services Contract with Wrangler Holdings Corp. / GFL Environmental (formally Waste Industries) in the amount of \$1,000,000.00 which is no additional cost. The funding Source is from Sanitation Department Budget was made by Councilmember Alexander; seconded by Councilmember Berry. The motion passed unanimously 3-0. (Alexander/Berry/Gantt Approved).

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 6:30 p.m. at the Stockbridge Police Community Room 4545 N. Henry Blvd. – (Mar 6)
- Citywide Development Authority Meeting 2nd Tuesday of each month at City Hall in the Levi Meeting Room at 6pm (Mar 11).
- Community Zoning and Information Meeting: Thursday, March 12th from 6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. at City Hall in the Council Chamber (Mar 12)
- 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. (Mar 14)
- Downtown Development Authority Meeting, 3rd Tuesday of each month at the Downtown Connection Center 130 M L King, Sr. Heritage Trail (Mar 18)
- Youth Council Advisory Committee Meeting, 6:30 p.m.- 3rd Tuesday of each month Levi Meeting Room - City Hall (Mar 18)
- City Council Retreat March 19, March 20 & March 21, 2025 – Tru Hilton Hotel – Patrick Henry Pkwy. Stockbridge, GA
- Planning Commission Meeting, 3rd Thursday of each month, 6:30 p.m. - City Hall Council Chamber - (Mar 20)
- City Council Work Session Meeting held on the last Tuesday of the month at 6:00 p.m. - City Hall Council Chamber (Mar 25)
- Youth Council Meeting 1st Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m. - City Hall Levi Meeting Room (Apr 7)
- City Council Meeting, 2nd Monday of each month at 6:00 p.m. - City Hall Council Chamber (April 14)

UPCOMING CITY EVENTS/INITIATIVES

- Join Mayor Ford for the monthly *Meet the Mayor* on Monday, March 24th from 10am – noon at City Hall. Meetings are by appointment.
- Join Councilman Thomas & Councilman Berry in partnership for the monthly Bingo Bash on Wednesday, March 26th from 10am – noon at the Merle Manders Conference Center. Lots of fun to be had by all.
- Join the Stockbridge Youth Council for the 2nd Annual Youth Entrepreneur Expo at Clark Park on Saturday, March 29th from noon to 4 PM. Enjoy an egg hunt, food trucks, and games while supporting local youth entrepreneurs. Bring your friends and family for a day of community fun!
- 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.
- 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 at 678-833-3348 or via email: rrawls@stockbridgega.org

Mayor Pro Tem Gantt noted a Town Hall taking place in District 1 on Wednesday, March 19th at 6pm at Red Oak UMC.

2025 CONCERT SEASON SCHEDULE

- Saturday, May 3rd – My Girls Night featuring Xscape with special guests Total and 702
- Saturday, May 10th – Mother's Day Weekend Show featuring 112, Dru Hill, Silk and Carl Thomas
- Saturday, May 24th – Memorial Day Weekend – Dirty South Yeek Crunk Fest featuring Pastor Troy, MC Shy'D, D J Raheem the Dream, Mook B Trillville, Eastside Boyz
- Saturday, June 14th – Ladies of the 80's- featuring Regina Belle, Karen White, Deniece Williams, Evelyn "Champagne" King, Shanice, and Beverly Crawford with Special Guest Appearance by: The Silver Fox Squad
- Saturday, June 28th – Ledisi

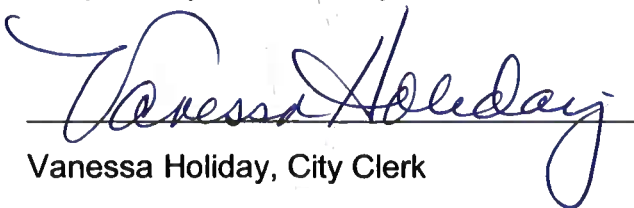
MAYOR'S COMMENTS

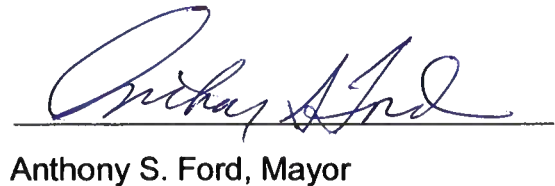
Mayor Ford referenced the proclamation issued honoring singer, songwriter and actress, Angie Stone who was killed in a traffic accident over the weekend in Alabama and asked that everyone keep the family in prayer; noted the city has been advised of a high wind advisory for tomorrow and asked that everyone remain safe; commended Councilmember Alexander on the 10th Women's History Month Celebration that took place yesterday, noting it was a great event, with his wife, First Lady of Stockbridge, Alcelia Ford being an honoree, and noted her annual donation of apparel to the Breast Cancer survivors and several other accolades; and reminded everyone that we are in the midst of cold/flu season and encouraged everyone to get their flu shots, boosters, to prevent the spread of COVID.

Councilmember Alexander thanked the Women's History Committee, highlighting Rosalynd Rawls and Raven Eatmon for their work on the program and also thanked Chairwoman Harrell, and Vice Chair Robinson and Angela White who worked over a 4-5-month time frame to pull the event together, and noted Fox5 highlighted program with Portia Brunner and Whitmer

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:11 p.m. was made by Mayor Pro Tem Gantt; seconded by Councilmember Berry. The motion passed unanimously 3-0. (Alexander/Berry/Gantt Approved).

Respectfully submitted by:


Vanessa Holiday, City Clerk


Anthony S. Ford, Mayor