Stockbridge

Where Community Connects

CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION MEETING
SUMMARY MINUTES
TUESDAY, AUGUST 26, 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

Shawn Edmondson – City Manager
Frank Milazi – City Treasurer
Vanessa Holiday – City Clerk
Quinton Washington – City Attorney
Megan McCullough – Associate 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 6:06 p.m.

Invocation by: Dr. Renee Gourdine

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 Thomas.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Willie Carter referenced the 2024 Budget Amendment of $32.9 million dollars; asked the City Council not to ignore the Ethics Board recommendation sent to the Council in July 2025 regarding the city's finances from Councilmember Barber's Ethics Complaint; and asked for the status of the $6 million Tye Street area improvements that he worked for with Councilman Thomas and the city's Public Works Department.

REVIEW OF THE MINUTES

1. Review of the August 11, 2025 Council Meeting Minutes
   Review of the August 11, 2025 Millage Rate Public Hearing #1 Meeting Minutes
   Review of the August 11, 2025 Millage Rate Public Hearing #2 Meeting Minutes
   Review of the August 18, 2025 Millage Rate Public Hearing #3 Meeting Minutes
   Review of the August 18, 2025 Special Called FLOST Meeting Minutes
   No Action Taken

CONSENT AGENDA

2. Council Consideration to approve the Henry County 2025 Early Voting Dates and Locations as approved by the Henry County Elections Board on August 19, 2025.
   Motion to approve the Consent Agenda was made by Mayor Pro Tem Gantt; seconded by Councilmember Berry. The motion passed unanimously 4-0.

OLD BUSINESS

3. Council consideration to approve the renewal of the landscape maintenance services contract with Yellowstone Landscape in the amount of $350,000.00. Funding sources are from Government Buildings Department and Amphitheater budgeted funds.
   Presented by: Decius Aaron, Public Works Director
   Mr. Aaron requested approval of the contract renewal for Yellowstone Landscape in the amount of $350,000.00.

   Councilmember Barber noted the actual contract amount is $327,216.00 and that is what needs to be approved,

   Mr. Aaron stated there is additional funding in case there are requested landscape services.

   Councilmember Barber noted the contract was awarded at $327,216 and that any additional services would need to be either approved by the City Manager if it is within his spending authority or brought to the City Council for approval.

   Councilmember Alexander noted he appreciates the level of service provided by Yellowstone with the change out of pine straw and the upkeep of the landscape around the city buildings; and asked who is responsible for landscaping services in the alleyway and along Burke and M L King, Sr. Heritage Trail.

   Mr. Aaron noted those landscaping services are provided by Public Works staff, and that the city can add those areas to Yellowstone's scope of work.

Councilmember Alexander suggested that the city should consider amending the contract to include those areas.

Councilmember Barber noted that the city's procurement process requires that all contracts expire December 31st of each year, and that the contract renewal form states $300,000; the contract states $327,216, and the staff recommendation form is requesting $350,000, noting there are three inconsistent dollar amounts.

Mr. Edmondson noted that he pulled this item from the Agenda when it was originally presented last month because he wanted an opportunity to review the scope of work with Mr. Aaron; and noted that upon review of the contract, there is a clause to renew or terminate the contract. Mr. Edmondson stated that he met with Mr. Aaron and the vendor expressing service delivery concerns, noting there needs to be improvements; and noted this is the last year of a 5-year contract.

Councilmember Barber noted that several Agenda items involving contracts are missing documents that should be presented to the City Council for review, and this is a concern that she has been raising for five years; and stated that the request to the City Council is to approve the renewal of the contract, which is $327,216, however, Mr. Aaron is requesting the Council approve $350,000, the budget amount, and that is not proper.

Mayor Pro Tem Gantt referenced the prior contract and Resolution information noting the contract in 2021 was $200,000, and $250,000 in 2022, and increased to $327,216 in 2023 to include the Amphitheater and other buildings that were added due to the city's growth, and noted Resolution R24-1713 Section 1 was approved for $350,000 for a five year agreement with four one-year options to renew and that this is the fourth and final renewal and expires 9/30/2025 and further noted that the contract shall be brought before the Council by 180 days before expiration, reiterating that the City Council approved the contract in 2024 in the amount of $350,000.

Councilmember Alexander stated that the meetings are bogged down because the speaking rules states that you are permitted to speak twice on one item up to five minutes; and agreed with Mayor Pro Tem Gantt's reading of the information provided in the Resolution made a Motion to approve the renewal of the contract for Yellowstone Landscape in the amount of $350,000 to include the additional scope of landscaping services in the downtown area of M L King Sr. Heritage Trail and the extra pine straw; seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Gantt. The motion passed 3-0-1 (Alexander, Berry, Gantt Approved) (Barber Abstained, citing there was confusion with the same contract item last year, and asked that staff provide accurate information when placing items on the Agenda for Council approval, and reiterated the Yellowstone Contract amount is $327,316, and the department budget amount is $350,000, and stated that the City Council should approve the contract renewal amount, not the amount in the budget; and recommended the item be placed out for bid).

NEW BUSINESS

4. Council Consideration to fill a vacancy and appoint a member to the Youth Council Advisory Committee and fill the remainder of the term through 12/31/2025.
   Presented by: Cassandra Lester, Youth Council Staff Liaison, and Dr. Renee Gourdine, Youth Council Advisory Board Chair.
   Dr. Gourdine noted the Committee is submitting the applicant Denita Minnis for the Council's appointment to fill an unexpired term through December 31, 2025.

   Motion to appoint Denita Minnis to fill the vacancy of an unexpired term on the Youth Council Advisory Board was made by Councilmember Berry; seconded by Councilmember Alexander. The motion passed unanimously.

5. Council consideration to review and approve donated commercial space to the City of Stockbridge Police Department, for the purpose of opening a Satellite Precinct.
   Presented by: Frank Trammer, Police Chief
   Chief Trammer presented the donated commercial location for a police satellite precinct at no charge for 10 years in the Bridges of Jodeco and requested approval from the City Council, noting the Developer, Jeff Grant, was present.

   Mr. Grant noted this satellite location will be good and beneficial for everyone; noted the stores in the development are doing very well, and that the residents, patrons are business owners, will be thankful for the increased safety of the police presence.

   Mr. Grant commended Ryan Anderson, and the Community Development Director and his team for expediting requests during permitting process, noting this is a selling point for potential merchants, and noted he meets with staff and Councilmember Alexander on a bi-weekly basis.

   Mr. Grant noted First Watch, Jim N Nick's and Bubba 33 have been permitted in the development with a seafood restaurant coming, 78 cottages, and a proposed 12-story hotel with fee simple condominiums and a rooftop steakhouse restaurant with Atlanta skyline views.

   The Mayor and members of Council thanked Mr. Grant for donating the space, commemorating the occasion with a photo.

   Motion to approve the 10-year contract for the donated commercial space for a satellite police precinct was made by Councilmember Alexander; seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Gantt. The motion passed unanimously 4-0.

6. Council Consideration to approve a Resolution to enter into a 10-year contract with Norfolk Southern Parking Lot Project in the amount of $15,000 annually.
   Funding Source: Economic Development Department Budget
   Presented by: Gerald Sanders, Economic Development Director
   Mr. Sanders presented a request to approve the Norfolk Southern 10-year contract, which will allow for 25-30 spaces in the downtown area.

Mr. Sanders noted the contract does not include removal or relocation of the Staging Shed, and that Norfolk Southern is unyielding to compromise on that.

Councilmember Alexander stated that the goal was to clean up the area and remove the unsightly shed as that was part of an agreement with Norfolk Southern also encompassing the Quiet Zone and the closing the Nolan Street crossing, and the city would not place a structure in the area.

Mr. Sanders noted the agreement pre-dated his tenure, emphasizing the Norfolk Southern officials are not willing to remove the staging area/shed, and asked the city's legal counsel to follow up on the agreement.

Councilmember Berry asked Mr. Sanders if there were any time constraints with responding back to Norfolk Southern.

Mr. Sanders noted Norfolk Southern is pushing the execution of the contract.

Mayor Ford noted it may be due to news of a merger between Norfolk Southern and Union Pacific.

Councilmember Barber noted that per the Staff Agenda Request Form, the City's Legal Counsel has reviewed the contract; and noted that all contracts are to coincide with the calendar year and the budget.

Mr. Milazi confirmed.

Councilmember Barber suggested the lease agreement be revised; and noted discussions should be had between the city staff and the vendor prior to presenting these items to the City Council, noting contracts are legal and binding documents.

Mayor Pro Tem Gantt read the Retreat Minutes of February 19, 2020 referencing the former City Manager, Randy Knighton's comments where he referenced his conversation with Mr. Connor Poe of Norfolk Southern who is willing to work with the City by offering $50,000 and removal of the storage yard and $7,500 match from GDOT with the potential of closing the Nolan Street railroad crossing; and that Mr. Knighton noted the City has applied for a Quiet Zone an paid the $5,400 application fee which is being process by the City's Project Manager, Keck & Wood.

Mr. Edmondson asked that the item be Tabled until further review.

Motion to Table the item and review the 2020 Minutes and associated documents related to the City of Stockbridge/Norfolk Southern Agreement was made by Councilmember Alexander; seconded by Councilmember Barber. The motion passed unanimously 4-0.

7. Council consideration of a Resolution to approve the second 1-year renewable option for Civil Engineering services for Whitley Engineering in the amount of $5,000 monthly or $60,000 annually. The contract was approved on Resolution R24-1721, and the funding source is Community Development Department account number 100-721-521203.
   Presented by: Ryan Anderson, Community Development Director
   Mr. Anderson noted Mr. Whitley is doing an excellent job for the city, and attends the Jodeco Development meeting, and is very involved and makes a point to protect the city's interests.

   Motion to approve the Whitley Engineering contract was made by Councilmember Alexander; seconded by Councilmember Barber. The motion passed unanimously 4-0.

8. Council consideration of a Resolution to approve the second 1-year renewable option for Permitting, Licensing and Inspections software with Sages, Inc., in the amount of $58,318 annually. The contract was approved through Resolution R24-1765, and the funding source is Community Development Department account number 100-721-521310.
   Presented by: Ryan Anderson, Community Development Director
   Mr. Anderson presented the Sages Software renewal contract for approval, noting this is the first renewal.

   Councilmember Barber asked Mr. Anderson if the cost proposals and price schedule are included, not to overlook the documents.

   Mr. Anderson stated that he was unaware, but that they should be there.

   Motion to approve was made by mayor Pro Tem Gantt; seconded by Councilmember Berry. The motion passed 3-0-1 (Alexander, Berry, Gantt Approved) (Barber Abstained citing the lack of adequate supporting documents for City Council review was not included to make an informed decision).

9. Council consideration to approve the FY2026 LMIG (Local Maintenance & Improvement Grant) list.
   Presented by: Decius Aaron, Public Works Director
   Mr. Aaron noted GDOT (Georgia Department of Transportation) has opened the window for municipalities to apply for the FY26 road paving funds; and noted the city will resurface on average 5 miles annually.

   Mayor Ford asked Mr. Aaron to expound on the rating system used to determine which streets are resurfaced.

   Mayor Pro Tem Gantt referenced Agenda Item #8, noting the contract can be found on page 7 of the document; and asked how the resurfaced roads are determined.

Mr. Aaron noted the city uses an outside consultant, and the ratings are based on a rating from 1-5 with 1 being the lowest rating and will be prioritized.

Councilmember Alexander asked Mr. Aaron to display the list of roads scheduled for repaving on the FY26 list.

Mr. Aaron reviewed each road by District; noting there were additional funds in 2025, and the city was able to resurface more streets; and that those additional funds were released by the State and are not a guarantee to repeat.

Motion to approve the FY2026 LMIG List was made by Mayor Pro Tem Gantt; seconded by Councilmember Barber. The motion passed unanimously 4-0.

10. Council consideration to approve the renewal of Request For Proposal RFP Number 2022-0006, On Call Annual General Engineering Services, for the City of Stockbridge with Carter & Sloope, Inc. This is the third (3rd) contract renewal option, and the budgeted amount is $200,000. The 2nd contract renewal option expires on December 31, 2025.
Presented by: Decius Aaron, Public Works Director
Mr. Aaron noted Carter & Sloope serves as the city's on-all Engineer and provides assistance with civil engineering, stormwater, and sanitation billing.

    Councilmember Barber noted the fee schedule showing the cost of the fees to be paid to the vendor was not included.

    Motion to approve was made by Mayor Pro Tem Gantt; seconded by Councilmember Berry. The motion passed 3-0-1 (Alexander, Berry, Gantt Approved) (Barber Abstained citing cost proposals for the vendor's fee were not included in the documents for City Council review to make an informed decision.

11. Council consideration to approve the renewal of Request For Proposal RFP) Number 2022-0006, On Call General Engineering Services, for the City of Stockbridge with Falcon Design Consultants, LLC.
Presented by: Decius Aaron Public Works Director
Mr. Aaron noted Falcon Design Consultants is working on several projects for the city providing engineering and design services.

    Councilmember Barber noted the fee schedule Exhibit B showing the cost of the fees to be paid to the vendor was not included.

    Councilmember Alexander noted for full disclosure that Falcon Design Consultants has contributed to and supported his non-profit and that he has been advised by the city's Legal Counsel that as long as he puts out the full disclosure, he is able to participate in the vote.

Motion to approve was made by Mayor Pro Tem Gantt; seconded by Councilmember Berry. The motion passed 3-0-1 (Alexander, Berry, Gantt Approved) (Barber Abstained citing cost proposals for the vendor's fee and Exhibit B were not included in the documents for City Council review to make an informed decision.

12. Council consideration to approve the renewal of Contract No. RFP No. 2018-0010Q – Non-Hazardous Special Waste Disposal Services with Republic Services in the amount of $65,000.00. Funding source is from the Sewer Department Budget.
Presented by: Decius Aaron, Public Works Director
Mr. Aaron noted the vendor accepts sludge from the city's Wastewater Treatment Plant for disposal and requested approval.

    Mayor Ford asked if the increase in fees is due to inflation.

    Mr. Aaron noted that is a part of the increased cost, but also the loss of land and the amount of sludge, noting farmland is being sold, and there are fewer places to take the sludge.

    Councilmember Barber asked when this service was last bid out.

    Mr. Aaron noted that the next closest location to discard the sludge is in Taylor County, and that Republic is currently taking the sludge to Lamar County.

    Councilmember Alexander noted there would be additional cost if the sludge were taken to Taylor County.

    Motion to approve was made by Councilmember Alexander; seconded by Councilmember Berry. The motion passed 3-0-1 (Alexander, Berry, Gantt Approved) (Barber Abstained, citing her question to Mr. Aaron if the last time this item was bid out was 2018, he failed to respond).

13. Council consideration to approve the final contract renewal for RFP (Request for Proposal) 201508-02, Sanitation Collections Services Contract with Wrangler Holdings Corp /GFL Environmental (formerly Waste Industries) in the amount of $2,600,000.00. Funding Source: Sanitation Department Budget. This is the fifth and final renewal. Contract would expire on December 31, 2026 and staff is requesting an extension to February 28, 2027 due to the holidays.
Presented by: Decius Aaron, Public Works Director
Mr. Aaron noted this is the fifth and final renewal, noting the contract is due to expire on December 31, 2026, and that he is requesting a contract extension through February 2027 to assure the 13,000 carts and 3,000 recycling bins are delivered timely, considering the contract will end during the holidays.

Councilmember Barber referenced the 2023 renewal period where the City Council was told this sanitation item was being placed out for bid following the annexation of new residents, noting the bid has not gone out, and has not been bid out for ten years; noted it was on the vendor and city staff need to properly plan for the rollout of carts and bins without a contract extension, and noted that this vendor has had the city's sanitation contract for ten years and that this is not best practice.

Mr. Aaron noted this is the final renewal, and that you will see an increase in the renewals, noting long-term contracts get better pricing; and the RFP has already been prepared.

Mr. Edmondson noted a number of contracts are be constructed for re-bide, noting the city is trying to minimize any disruption of services; and agreed that typically, contracts are placed back out for bid every 3 – 5 years; and noted staff has been instructed to present all department contracts to him to review and compare.

Councilmember Barber restated that the City Council was told in 2023 that this item was going out for bid, and that should have happened, and it did not.

Councilmember Berry stated that he has a problem with the request for an additional two months for a transition and does not want this to become a norm on any other contracts and does not want to make an exception to this one.

Mr. Edmondson noted that is a fair point, and agrees the city needs to be consistent with what we do.

Mayor Pro Tem Gantt noted the transition may be challenging with the increased trash during the holidays and asked Mr. Aaron if there will be an increase in the billing sanitation fees.

Mr. Aaron noted residents are currently paying $22/month for sanitation services; however, GFL has a clause in their contract where they are authorized to increase rates 3 – 5%, and that the city has been absorbing those fees; noting there will be an increase from GFL to the city, and it is up to the City Council to pass the increase along to the residents.

Councilmember Alexander suggested a 30-day extension for transition instead of a 60-day extension.

Councilmember Barber asked what the contract final end date was.

Mr. Edmondson stated the contract end date is December 31, 2026.

Councilmember Berry stated that the extension will offset the contract by one month.

Councilmember Barber asked for clarification, noting as she understands it right now, the request is to renew the GFL contract through the end date of December 31, 2026, and that the sanitation service did not go back out for bid in 2023 as was stated, nor has the contract gone out for bid in ten years, and that the request includes a request for an additional extension of 60 days, noting the departments and vendor need to plan better with this much notice; and noted that it was at her recommendation that the city bring contracts to the City Council at least 120 days prior to expiration to give the governing body an opportunity to review and decide to renew, rebid or cancel the contract.

Mayor Pro Tem Gantt asked Mr. Aaron why the contract did not go out for bid.

Mr. Aaron responded that the Procurement Manager stated we had a good contract.

Councilmember Alexander noted for full disclosure that GFL Sanitation has contributed to and supported his non-profit and that he has been advised by the city's Legal Counsel that as long as he puts out the full disclosure, he is able to participate in the vote.

Motion to approve the renewal of the GFL contract through December 31, 2026 with a 30-day extension for receptable replacement through January 31, 2027 was made by Mayor Pro Tem Gantt; seconded by Councilmember Berry. The motion passed 3-1. (Alexander, Berry, Gantt Approved). (Barber Opposed, citing the contract was awarded in 2015 for 5 years with up to five one-year renewals making this a 10-year contract with no competitive bidding, and this is not best practice).

14. Council Consideration to approve the renewal of Request for Proposal (RFP) 2024-0005 for Janitorial Maintenance Services with Intercontinental Commercial Services, Inc. in the amount of $143,100.00. Funding Source: Government Buildings Department Budget. This is the second renewal.
Presented by: Decius Aaron, Public Works Director
Mr. Aaron presented the Janitorial services contract for renewal and reviewed the buildings that are currently being serviced.

Councilmember Alexander requested improvements with the cleaning of the restrooms.

Motion to approve was made by Councilmember Alexander; seconded by Councilmember Barber. The motion passed unanimously. 4-0.

DISCUSSION

15. Rock Quarry Road Extension Update
Presented by: Decius Aaron, Public Works Director, and Falcon Design Consultants.
Mr. Aaron introduced Mr. Adam Price, of Falcon Design Consultants, who would present an overview of the Rock Quarry Road Extension Project.

Mr. Price advised that he would be presenting two concepts, noting the next steps would include a traffic study.

Concept 1 was an extension of Rock Quarry Rd. to Old Conyers Rd.
Concept 2 was an extension of Rock Quarry Rd. with arterial roads connecting the extension to Carrera and then to East Atlanta Rd. or the extension to Duval to Old Conyers Rd. with would cross over wetlands, requiring a bridge, with an expensive price tag.

Councilmember Alexander noted this would be a long-term project and suggested the road be phased.

Mr. Price noted the road would provide relief to the Amphitheater traffic and could not provide an estimated cost without further analysis.

Mayor Ford noted the ultimate goal of the road extension was to connect to Rock Quarry Rd. to have easier access to the hospital.

Councilmember Barber noted she is the District Representative, noting the residents of the area will be most impacted, and stated she prefers the original plan that was to provide access for emergency vehicles to travel to/from the hospital, without travelling along E. Atlanta Rd. and then to Old Conyers Rd. Councilmember Barber made a request to the Council to invest in the city's infrastructure and not just pictures and a good time, noting that the city needs to seek federal funding to assist with the project.

Councilmember Berry noted he is leading toward the option to Old Conyers Rd. and asked if there are arterial roads that can be connected to; and equated the Rock Quarry Rd. Extension to the Western Parallel Connector as the Eastern.

Mr. Price referenced Duval and Bryant Street.

Mayor Pro Tem Gantt asked if the area was in a floodplain.

Mr. Price confirmed there is water there.

Mayor Pro Tem Gantt noted the former District 5 Commissioner placed funds toward the project and later removed the funding.

Councilmember Alexander stated the project appears to be estimated at $30 million dollars, and noted it took the county 25 years to get the Rock Quarry Rd. Widening Project going and suggested the Rock Quarry Rd. Extension project be phased; and noted Flippen Road needs to be widened now.

Mayor Ford noted Right-of-Ways will need to be acquired, and a cost for the traffic study.

Mr. Price noted he would provide the information to Mr. Aaron.

Mayor Pro Tem Gantt referenced the Rock Quarry Road Widening Project noting the project is estimated at $53 million dollars with $4 million from the City of Stockbridge, $20.4 million from GDOT and the balance from the County, and an estimated completion in 2028.

Mr. Price noted he did not believe the Rock Quarry Rd. Extension project would be that costly due to the fact that there are several different utilities along the Rock Quarry Rd. Widening Project that need to be removed and replaced, whereas the Rock Quarry Rd. Extension is raw land.

Councilmember Barber asked that the discussion continue during the upcoming Retreat, noting the city needs roads, and the priority for the city needs to be infrastructure.

Mr. Edmondson noted that based on what he has heard from the discussion, this will be a regional project that enhance everyone, and everyone needs to get on board with federal and state funding and solicit partnerships.

Mr. Edmondson asked the Council to be mindful that the city wants smart growth, and needs to review the Comprehensive Plan, the Trail Plan and other plans, and also review the list of projects, noting he has tasked his team with bringing forward all projects so that this can all be mapped out; and does not want to just continue adding projects, as that is the fastest way to get nothing done; and need to recalibrate and truly find out what the priorities are, and that will be a challenge for us all as we enter into budget season where we will all need to roll up our sleeves and get serious about the projects and the funding of the projects, keeping in mind there may be low-hanging fruit, and noting we must be intentional, and will be discussed at the Retreat.

Councilmember Alexander stated there is $2 million dollars allocated toward the Rock Quarry Rd. Extension Project is likely a $40 to $50 million dollar project, and noted the Council voted at the Retreat in March of this year to make the Youth/Sr. Center the priority project, a long-termed project; and the Rock Quarry Widening Project is in progress and is fully funded; noted TSPLOST List with Transportation projects were approved by the voters, by priority, and the city is fulfilling those projects in that order; noted that the City cannot afford to do these projects in silo, and if the County and/or State is not on board to assist with these regional projects, they are dead; noting the city could not have done the Western Parallel Connector alone, and noted the City of Stockbridge will need assistance from the County and the State on the Rock Quarry Rd. Extension Project, noting the city can plant the seed, but will not likely get to enjoy the shade from that tree, and until there is a subsequent vote from the Council, the priority list will remain the same.

Councilmember Barber stated that she wanted to remind everyone that during the Council Retreat in March of this year, the priority list of projects was voted on based on what was known as it relates to the city's revenues; noted when she voted on the project priority list with the Youth/Sr. Center being the top priority project for her, and that it will remain a priority, everything else on the list has a question mark because the City Council learned after the Retreat, and after the vote was taken, that $32.9 million dollars had been mismanaged, and that now that it is known that the city's financial situation has changed, so should the priorities; noted it would be irresponsible of her, knowing that the city's financial situation has changed since the vote on the project list at the retreat, and to continue as if things are the same would be irresponsible to have the priority voted on in March to remain the same; and asked that the projects be discussed at the upcoming Retreat to realign the list of priorities based on what the city's financial situation is now, and give a directive to Mr. Edmondson for a clear path forward to be fair to him; and stated that no matter how much you hear about an approved priority list from any member of Council to keep in mind that list was approved prior to knowing about the $32.9 million dollars that were mismanaged, and that changes everything; noted her high hopes for the Rock Quarry Rd. Extension, but recognizes the priorities have changed.
Mayor Ford noted the Budget Retreat is scheduled to take place near the end of September.

Mr. Edmondson noted the city has invested money on studies and spent money starting various projects; and that the next steps would be to roll up our sleeves and work on what has been approved by a vote, noting what you were tracking in March is different from what you are tracking today.

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.

- Join us for a Meet and Greet of the new City Manager, Shawn Edmondson, on Thursday, September 4th at City Hall in the Council Chamber from 6 – 8 p.m.
- Citizens Police Advisory Council – Meetings are held on the first Thursday of each month in the Stockbridge PD Community Room at 6:30 p.m. (Sep 4)
- City Council Meeting, Second Monday of each month, at 6:00 p.m. - City Hall Council Chamber (Sep 8)

- Youth Council Meeting, Second Monday of each month, at 6:30 p.m. - City Hall Levi Meeting Room (Sep 8)
- Citywide Development Authority Meeting, Second Tuesday of each month, at 6:00 p.m. - City Hall Levi Meeting Room (Sep 9)
- Community Zoning and Information Meeting, Wednesday, Sept 10th at 6:00 p.m. - City Hall Council Chamber (Sep 10)
- City Council Meeting, Second Monday of each month, at 6:00 p.m. - City Hall Council Chamber (Sep 8)
- Main Street Advisory Board Meeting, Second Friday of each month at 9:00 a.m. at the Downtown Connection Center 130 M L King, Sr. Heritage Trail (Sep 12)
- Downtown Development Authority Board Meeting, Third Tuesday of each month, at 6:00 p.m. at the Downtown Connection Center 130 M L King Sr. Heritage Trail (Sep 16)
- Youth Council Advisory Committee Meeting, Third Tuesday of each month, at 6:30 p.m. - City Hall Levi Meeting Room (Sep 16)
- Planning Commission Meeting, Thursday, September 18th at 6:30 p.m. - City Hall Council Chamber (Sep 18)
- City Council Budget Retreat – Wed. Sep 24 thru Fri Sep 26 from 9am – 5pm at the Merle Manders Conference Center 111 Davis Rd.
- City Council Work Session Meeting, Last Tuesday of each month, September 30th at 6:00 p.m. - City Hall Council Chamber (Sep 30)

UPCOMING CITY EVENTS/INITIATIVES

- Join Main Street for the Tiny Tent Concert Series Fridays from 6pm to 8pm at the Stockbridge Connection Center, 130 M L King Sr. Heritage Trail. Bring your lawn chairs. (Weather Permitting)
- Join us for the annual 9/11 Ceremony honoring all first responders in observance of September 11, 2001, at Stockbridge City Hall at 8am.
- Join us for BridgeFest on Saturday, September 27th at Amphitheater. FREE fun activities for kids, vendors, food trucks and an amazing concert featuring Jacquees and KeKe Wyatt
- Join Councilman Thomas & Councilman Berry in partnership for the monthly Bingo Bash on Wednesday, September 17th from 10am – noon at the Merle Manders Conference Center. Lots of fun to be had by all.
- Join Mayor Anthony Ford for the monthly Meet the Mayor - Monday, September 22nd from 10am – noon at City Hall. Meetings are by appointment.
- The Economic Development Department host a FREE Business Health Clinic on the 2nd Thursday of every month from 9am – 12pm at the Stockbridge Connection Center 130 M L King Sr. Heritage Trail. Check the Health of Your Business with the FREE Clinic.
- 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.
- Sign Up for real-time alerts about severe weather, road closures and emergencies on the Regroup App. Visit the city's website or social media pages for more information on how and where to sign up. Stay Safe!

- Stockbridge 2025 Candidate Municipal Election Forum taking place Tuesday, October 7th at 7:00 p.m. at the Merle Manders Conference Center.

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

2025 CONCERT SEASON SCHEDULE

- Saturday, August 30th, A legendary evening fearing Jimmy Jam and Terry Lewis, and friends celebrating 40 Years of iconic hits and music of the ATL.
- Saturday, September 6th & Sunday, September 7th, Southern Soul Weekend featuring King George, Tucka, West Love, Pokey Bear, TK Soul Tywaun Moore, and Tonio Armani
- Saturday, September 13th – For Lovers & Friends featuring Tank with special guest Lyfe Jennings, and Ginuwine
- Saturday, October 18th, Detroit Gospel Legends featuring Fred Hammond, Donnie McClurkin, Anthony Brown, Vanessa Bell Armstrong, Lisa Page-Brooks, Carvin Winans and Bryon Cage

MAYOR'S COMMENTS

Mayor Ford noted we are approaching the Labor Day Holiday and asked everyone to be safe; noted COVID-19 cases are on the rise and reminded everyone to stay protected and healthy with vaccines and boosters; noted he and Councilman Alexander attended the Chris Tucker Foundation Annual Charity Golf Event at the Eagles Landing Country Club and presented a proclamation from the city, honoring his foundation for all of the great work in the community.

Mayor Pro Tem Gantt announced two free Line Dancing classes taking place at the Merle Manders Conference Center on Wednesday, September 10th and Wednesday, September 17th from 6 – 8pm; and announced the Downtown Development Authority has agreed to sponsor a Southern Soul Kickback Fest Night on Main Street, Friday, September 5th that lines up with the Southern Soul concert series.

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:05 p.m. was made by Councilmember Barber; seconded by Councilmember Alexander. The motion passed unanimously 4-0.

Respectfully submitted by:

Vanessa Holiday

Vanessa Holiday, City Clerk

Anthony S. Ford

Anthony S. Ford, Mayor