

**MINUTES OF THE
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
CITY OF AUSTELL
CITY HALL BUILDING
MONDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2022**

Present:

Mayor Ollie Clemons
Valerie Anderson
Melanie Elder
Devon Myrick
Sandra Leverette
Meredith Adams
Marlin Lamar

Also, present: Denise Lowe, Finance Director; Bo Garrison, Public Works Director; Brandon Merritt, Fire Chief; Scott Hamilton, Police Chief, Darrell Weaver, Community Affairs Director, Elizabeth Young, City Clerk and Scott Kimbrough, Attorney

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Clemons called the meeting to order. Pastor Bailey gave the invocation & Mayor Clemons led the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor Clemons asked if anyone had items to add to the agenda. Mr. Kimbrough added item 14 A, Douglasville LOST & Item 14 B, JMC Litigation.

*Mrs. Anderson made a motion to add items 14 A & 14 B. Seconded by Mr. Lamar.
Motion passed. (6-0)*

2. CONSENT AGENDA – INFORMATION AND UPDATE
(No Action Required by Council – See Specific Department Director before a Meeting.)

2. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approve Bills
- B. Approve Legal Bills - \$4,368.59
- C. Approve Minutes of Regular Council Meeting November 7, 2022

Mrs. Anderson made a recommendation to approve the Consent Agenda. Seconded by Mrs. Leverette. Motion passed. (6-0)

4. EXCEPTION TO CONSENT AGENDA

5. CITIZENS REPORT

Ms. Patricia commended the city employees on the Christmas parade & how great it turned out.

Mr. Derek Caffé had questions regarding how the new City of Mableton will affect the City of Austell. Mayor Clemons stated it would not affect the city.

6. GAS SYSTEM REPRESENTATIVE

OLLIE CLEMONS, MAYOR

Mr. Kimbrough stated that it has been a good year so far. As of right now we are ahead of where we were in 2021. The gas system audit was very good this year.

7. FINANCE DEPARTMENT

VALERIE ANDERSON, CHAIRPERSON

Denise Lowe, Finance Director

A. Financial Report

8. GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

MELANIE ELDER, CHAIRPERSON

Elizabeth Young, Director

A. Health Insurance Renewal

To better serve our employees, the city has changed insurance coverage from Humana to Cigna. Cigna will be effective as of January 1, 2023, through December 31, 2023.

Below are the bi-weekly/monthly premiums:

Bi-Weekly/Monthly Premiums – Cigna Base Plan

<u>Employee Pays</u>	<u>Per Month</u>	<u>City Pays</u>	<u>Total</u>
Employee \$23.98	\$51.97	\$987.34	\$1,039.30
Emp. + Sp \$147.30	\$319.16	\$1,759.45	\$2,078.61
Emp. + Ch \$153.80	\$333.24	\$1,641.44	\$1,974.68
Family \$153.60	\$332.79	\$2,785.12	\$3,117.91

Bi-Weekly/Monthly Premiums – Cigna Buy Up Plan

<u>Employee Pays</u>	<u>Per Month</u>	<u>City Pays</u>	<u>Total</u>
Employee \$58.76	\$127.32	\$1,030.12	\$1,157.44
Emp. + Sp \$309.84	\$671.31	\$1,643.56	\$2,314.87
Emp. + Ch \$304.49	\$659.74	\$1,539.39	\$2,199.13
Family \$384.63	\$833.35	\$2,638.96	\$3,472.31

Ms. Elder made a motion to approve the Health Insurance Renewal. Seconded by Mr. Myrick. Motion passed. (6-0)

B. Personnel Policy

The General Administration committee recently met & discussed the revisions that have been made to the personnel policy this year. See attached revisions:

- Vehicle Usage Policy – pg. 22 – mandatory defensive driving added
- Sick Leave – pg. 46 – no payment for sick leave at termination
- Funeral Leave – pg. 46 – Fire Department – up to 2 shifts off
- No Call/No Show – pg. 54 – 1st offense written reprimand
- Request for Approved Time Off – pg.54-55 – changed time frame to submit request
- Attendance Policy – pg. 55 – point system updated
- Postponement of Deadline – pg. 63-64 – appeal process added

Ms. Elder made a motion to approve the Personnel Policy Revisions. Seconded by Mrs. Leverette. Motion passed. (5-1 Mr. Myrick opposed)

C. City Manager/Administrator Position

The General Administration Committee recently met to discuss a City Manager/Administrator position. The committee has decided to move forward with this request to create a City Administrator position.

Ms. Elder made a motion to approve the City Administrator position. Seconded by Mr. Lamar. Motion passed. (5-1 Mrs. Anderson opposed)

D. Human Resources Contract Labor

The General Administration Committee recently met to discuss the need to hire contract labor to help assist with the human resources functions. The committee has decided to move forward with this request to hire a contract laborer that will be eligible to work up to 40 hours per week.

Ms. Elder made a motion to approve the Human Resources Contract Labor. Seconded by Mr. Lamar. Motion passed. (6-0)

E. 2023 Calendar & Directory

Please review the 2023 Calendar & Directory. If there are any changes, please contact Elizabeth Young.

Ms. Elder made a motion to approve the 2023 Calendar & Directory. Seconded by Mrs. Anderson. Motion passed. (6-0)

9. POLICE DEPARTMENT

DEVON MYRICK, CHAIRPERSON
Scott Hamilton, Police Chief

A. Police Report

10. FIRE DEPARTMENT

MARLIN LAMAR, CHAIRPERSON
Brandon Merritt, Fire Chief

A. Fire Report

11. PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

SANDRA LEVERETTE, CHAIRPERSON
Bo Garrison, Director

A. No Report

12. PARKS DEPARTMENT

MEREDITH ADAMS, CHAIRPERSON
Darrell Weaver, Director

A. Veterans Day Ceremony & Ribbon Cutting (Information Only)

On November 18th the city celebrated the previously rescheduled Veterans Day Ceremony as well as hosting a ribbon cutting. The Parks & Recreation Department set up for the City's ceremony. Guest speakers in attendance included Bill Lienhop, currently serving veterans at the American Legion on the National Internal Affairs Commission; Asst. Principal Dr. Elizabeth Hayden from South Cobb High School; Jerry L. Smith with the American Legion Post 216 and Pastor Malcolm Lewis who gave the reading for POW/MIA/Fallen Soldier and the closing prayer. Colors were presented by South Cobb High School JROTC.

B. Holiday Decorations Downtown (Information Only)

The Parks Department has started the city's transformation into the holiday spirit as decorations are being installed throughout downtown. The city has installed C9 strand lights in place of the icicle lights on downtown buildings saving the city on manhours and electricity usage. Lighted enhancements on light poles and ground gateway locations were also installed. The large downtown tree has also been assembled near the Post Office.

- C. Turkey Pick-Up/Deliveries (Information Only)
Parks department picked up two hundred turkeys from Blue Frog Foods and collaborated with other city departments and officials to deliver them to local individuals in need.

13. COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

VALERIE ANDERSON, CHAIRPERSON

Darrell Weaver, Director

- A. Code Enforcement Report
- B. 1968 Veterans Memorial Hwy. – Special Land Use Permit
Application 2022-01SLUP: by Hare Krishna Austell, LLC for a Special Land Use Permit to allow for the continued use of an extended stay hotel/motel located at 1968 Veterans Memorial Highway (Tax ID #19130300020). The property is currently zoned GC, general commercial. The full staff report and supporting documents are attached. Mr. Kimbrough opened this up for a public hearing. Mr. Rodrick Pace & Marketha Howell came forward & were sworn in by Mr. Kimbrough. Mr. Pace stated that full renovations would begin in April.

Mrs. Anderson made a motion to close the public hearing. Seconded by Mrs. Adams. Motion passed. (6-0)

Mrs. Anderson made a motion to approve the Special Land Use Permit. Seconded by Mr. Myrick. Motion passed. (6-0)

- C. 1759 Veteran Memorial Hwy. – Rezoning & Annexation
Application 2022-24R & 2022-25A: by Century Construction & Technologies to rezone and annex approximately 0.758 acres located at 1759 Veterans Memorial Highway (ID#19130100430) from GC (general commercial – Cobb County) to GC (general commercial – city) for the purpose of building a special events facility. The full staff report and supporting documents are attached. Mr. Kimbrough opened this up for a public hearing for the rezoning. Mr. Thomas Orok came forward & Mr. Kimbrough swore him in.

Mrs. Anderson made a motion to close the public hearing. Seconded by Mrs. Adams. Motion passed. (6-0)

Mrs. Anderson made a motion to approve the rezoning. Seconded by Mr. Myrick. Motion passed. (5-1 Mr. Lamar opposed)

Mr. Kimbrough opened this up for a public hearing for the annexation.

Mrs. Anderson made a motion to close the public hearing. Seconded by Mrs. Leverette. Motion passed. (6-0)

Mrs. Anderson made a motion to approve the annexation. Seconded by Mr. Myrick. Motion passed. (6-0)

14. ATTORNEY, DUPREE & KIMBROUGH

Executive Session regarding Litigation/Potential Litigation

Mrs. Anderson made a motion to go into executive session. Seconded by Mrs. Adams. Motion passed. (6-0)

Mayor Clemons stated no motions were made & no votes were taken in executive session.

A. Douglas County LOST (Local Option Sales Tax) & SDS (Service Delivery Strategy) Agreement

Mr. Kimbrough stated he needs a motion to give Mayor Clemons the authority to execute the LOST/SDS Agreement when it is approved by Douglas County.

Mrs. Anderson made a motion to approve the LOST & SDS Agreement. Seconded by Mr. Lamar. Motion passed. (6-0)

B. JMC Litigation

Mr. Kimbrough stated that JMC came before Mayor & Council several months ago & were denied for rezoning. They have appealed that rezoning request & want to bring that back before Council. They want to enter into a consent order that will remove the appeal from the Superior Court of Cobb County which is where it is properly pending right now. We need a motion for Mayor Clemons to sign a consent order that will remand that matter back to the city council for councils' consideration.

Mr. Lamar made a motion for Mayor Clemons to sign the consent order. Seconded by Mr. Myrick. Motion passed. (6-0)

15. MAYOR'S REPORT

- A. CMA Meeting
Hosted by the City of Marietta
Marietta Museum of History
1 Depot St., Marietta, GA
December 13, 2022, at 6:30

16. ADJOURN

*Mr. Myrick made a recommendation to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Mrs. Leverette.
Motion passed. (6-0)*

Ollie Clemons Jr.
Mayor
2.13.2023
Date

Elizabeth Young
Attest