

**MINUTES OF THE
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
CITY OF AUSTELL
CITY HALL BUILDING
MONDAY, JUNE 6, 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; Natalie Poulk, Police Chief (I), 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 Lewis gave the invocation & Mayor Clemons led the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor Clemons asked if anyone had items to add to the agenda. No items were added. Mayor Clemons presented a retirement plaque to Benjie Eargle & congratulated on him for his 21 years of service as a part-time firefighter with the city.

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 - \$3,017.50
- C. Approve Minutes of Regular Council Meeting May 2, 2022

Mrs. Leverette moved to follow the recommendation of Mayor Clemons to approve the Consent Agenda. Seconded by Mrs. Anderson. Motion passed. (6-0)

4. EXCEPTION TO CONSENT AGENDA

5. CITIZENS REPORT

Ms. Joy Anderson came forward to speak to Mayor & Council. She resides at the Village on the Park & is the HOA president. She, along with other residents, is concerned about the parking situation in the neighborhood. She stated that cars are parked in the road,

cul-de-sac & on peoples grass at any given time. Ms. Anderson would like code enforcement & the police department to patrol the area in the evenings to help eliminate this problem. Chief Poulk stated she would have this put-on zone patrol permanently & Mr. Weaver stated that our code enforcement officer, Lin Loyd, could adjust his hours to be able to work some evenings to help the situation also.

6. GAS SYSTEM REPRESENTATIVE

OLLIE CLEMONS, MAYOR

Mr. Kimbrough stated rates have slightly increased per therm due to exporting increases.

7. FINANCE DEPARTMENT

VALERIE ANDERSON, CHAIRPERSON

Denise Lowe, Finance Director

A. Financial Report

B. Public Hearing-2nd Reading of 2022-23 Final Fiscal Year Budget

The following items have been reflected in the 2022-23 Preliminary Budget:

- Merit increases for eligible employees
- Increases in retirement costs
- Additional public safety employees; full-time and part-time
- Pump station removal for John Street
- Increase in fuel cost
- Decrease in lease rent revenue for Threadmill

Most of the impacts of these changes will be funded by increases in franchise and gas system revenue as well as water and sewer rate increases.

Mr. Kimbrough stated the City of Austell Finance Committee would like to hold a public hearing for the 2nd & final reading of the 2022-23 Fiscal Year Budget. No questions or comments were asked.

Mr. Myrick moved to follow the recommendation of Mr. Kimbrough to close the public hearing. Seconded by Mrs. Anderson. Motion passed. (6-0)

Mrs. Anderson moved to follow the recommendation of Mayor Clemons to approve the 2022-23 Fiscal Year Budget. Seconded by Mrs. Leverette. Motion passed. (6-0)

8. GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

MELANIE ELDER, CHAIRPERSON

Elizabeth Young, Director

A. No Report

9. POLICE DEPARTMENT

DEVON MYRICK, CHAIRPERSON
Natalie Poulk, Police Chief (I)

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 Memorial Park Improvements (Information Only)

Parks Staff has begun the first phase of the Veterans Memorial Park redesign. With the help of award-winning Architect Ron Huffman, the park will be transformed into a more practical space narrating a living story through the branches of military and the wars served. The first phase was to construct a concrete pad to support a military tank pending transport. Various military statues that the city has acquired will also be incorporated into the plan. Our goal is to have this project completed by the fall of 2022.

B. Suggs Memorial Park/Frog Rock Improvements (Information Only)

Parks Staff have begun clearing out the overgrown Frog Rock artifact adjacent to Veterans Memorial Highway. As a part of this effort, trails are being laid out and cleared which will connect Frog Rock with Suggs Park and the end of Spring Street. This will allow visitors to safely access the trails and Frog Rock to enjoy this long-enjoyed attraction once again in the city.

13. COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

VALERIE ANDERSON, CHAIRPERSON
Darrell Weaver, Director

A. Code Enforcement Report

B. Rezoning of Multiple Properties

C. On May 13, 2022, Governor Kemp signed HB771, a local legislative act annexing islands throughout the city's municipal boundaries. Staff has prepared a map illustrating the location of the annexed parcels as well as a table of zoning classifications to assign the annexed parcels. The properties are located in: Land Lot Land Lot 19, Parcel 11; Land Lot 22, Parcels 2, 3, 4, 6, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 17, 23, 24; Land Lot 28, Parcel 2; Land Lot 90, Parcel 8; Land Lot 94, Parcels 6, 7; Land Lot 95, Parcel 9; Land Lot 96, Parcel 1; Land Lot 97, Parcels 6, 9, 10, 11, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39; Land Lot 134, Parcels 5, 6, 8, 14; Land Lot 135, Parcels 2, 5, 7, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54; Land Lot 136, Parcels 2, 3, 6, 10, 11, 12, 14, 15, 16, 17, 33, 36; Land Lot 137, Parcels 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 9, 11, 12, 14, 16, 18, 19, 20, 21, 23, 25, 26; Land Lot 138, Parcels 6, 10, 12; Land Lot 139, Parcels 1, 10, 12, 13, 14, 16, 18, 19, 20, 24, 25; Land Lot 142, Parcels 9, 10, 11, 26; Land Lot 143, Parcels 1, 2; and Land Lot 203, Parcel 1 of the 18th District, 2nd Section of Cobb County, Georgia; and Land Lot 1206, Parcel 3; Land Lot 1230, Parcels 12, 15, 16, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45; Land Lot 1235, Parcel 5; Land Lot 1236, Parcels 6, 8, 14; Land Lot 1281, Parcel 11; Land Lot 1287, Parcels 2, 21, 22; Land Lot 1304, Parcel 2; Land Lot 1310, Parcels 15, 16, 19, 20, 21; Land Lot 1311, Parcels 3, 2 of the 19th District, 2nd Section of Cobb County, Georgia; and Land Lot 205, Parcel 16; and Land Lot 206, Parcels 9, 13, 14, 19, 20, 21, 24, 54 of the 18th District of Douglas County, Georgia.

Mr. Kimbrough stated the Community Affairs committee would like to hold a public hearing for the rezoning of the above referenced parcels.

Mrs. Anderson moved to follow the recommendation of Mr. Kimbrough to close the public hearing. Seconded by Mr. Myrick. Motion passed. (6-0)

Mrs. Anderson moved to follow the recommendation of Mayor Clemons to approve the rezoning of the above referenced parcels. Seconded by Mr. Myrick. Motion passed. (6-0)

14. ATTORNEY, DUPREE & KIMBROUGH

A. No Report

15. MAYOR'S REPORT

A. CMA Meeting – June 14, 2022
Hosted by the City of Acworth
Acworth Community Center
4361 Cherokee Street
Acworth, GA 30101

16. ADJOURN

Mr. Myrick moved to follow the recommendation of Mayor Clemons to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Mrs. Leverette. Motion passed. (6-0)

Willie Clemons, Jr.
Mayor

Elizabeth Young
Attest

July 29, 2022
Date