



CITY OF FOREST PARK
MAYOR & COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 6, 2020 6:00 P.M.

Call to Order:

The Regular Meeting of Mayor and Council of April 6, 2020 was called to order by Mayor Angelyne Butler at 6:01 p.m.

Invocation:

The Invocation was given by Interim City Manager, Chief Clark followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

Present:

Mayor Angelyne Butler
Councilmembers: Kimberly James, Hector Gutierrez, Latresa Wells and Allan Mears

Councilman Dabouze Antoine was present via telephone.

Also present were Interim City Manager Nathaniel Clark, Director of Finance Ken Thompson, Director James Shelby, City Clerk Shalonda Brown and City Attorney Michael Williams

Approval of Minutes:

Councilwoman James stated she sent over some corrections to the minutes prior to the meeting and if no one else has any changes she is ok with grouping the minutes with the recommended changes.

Councilwoman Wells asked what the changes were. The City Clerk, Ms. Brown, indicated the changes to the minutes were to include the results from the survey done by the students during their presentation on March 2, 2020 during the Work Session. That was omitted from the minutes.

Councilwoman Wells made a motion to group and approve the minutes the minutes for the Special Called Meeting February 24, 2020, Work Session and Regular Meeting on March 2, 2020, Special Called Meeting March 25, 2020 and Special Called Meeting March 30, 2020 with the recommended changes. It was seconded by



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Councilman Mears. Voting for the motion was unanimous.

**Approval of Municode
As City's Website
Designer:**

Mayor Butler stated Municode presented at a meeting in the past and there is a need the city's website to be redesigned. That is why this item is on the agenda to get an approval so the process can begin.

Councilman Gutierrez asked how soon they can begin. Mayor Butler stated as soon as the contract is executed they can begin.

Councilwoman James made a motion to approval Municode as the City's Website Designer. It was seconded by Councilman Mears. Voting for the motion was unanimous.

**Government Lighting
Project Resolution:**

A request was made to consider a Resolution for the Approval of a Local Government Lighting Project Agreement with Georgia Department of Transportation for Street Lighting along Frontage Road with Project Identification Number 713210.

Councilman Mears made a motion to approve the Resolution. It was seconded by Councilwoman Wells.

Councilman Mears asked did they give an idea on what the energy cost will be. Mayor Butler stated it would be \$4800. Councilman Mears asked is there a monthly bill? Ken Thompson stated that is \$4800 annually which equals \$400 monthly. Ken Thompson stated he asked Jeff Eady when he anticipates the payments beginning and he was told approximately the end of 2021.

Voting for the motion was unanimous.



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**Approval of New Image
Towing Service Provider:**

Councilman Mears made a motion to approve New Image Towing as the city's towing service provider. It was seconded by Councilwoman Wells. Voting for the motion were Councilman Mears, Councilwoman Wells, Councilman Gutierrez and Councilwoman James. Councilman Antoine's phone disconnected and he was unable to vote. The motion passed.

**Appointment of HR
Director:**

Interim City Manager Clark nominated Shalonda Brown as the Human Resources Director.

Councilwoman Wells made a motion to approve the recommendation to appoint Shalonda Brown as the Human Resources Director. It was seconded by Councilwoman James. Voting for the motion were Councilman Mears, Councilwoman Wells, Councilman Gutierrez and Councilwoman James. Councilman Antoine's phone disconnected and he was unable to vote. The motion passed.

**Appointment to URA
And DDA Board:**

Mayor Butler stated she would like to make a recommendation of nominating Eric Stalling, of Chick-fil-a off Jonesboro Road.

Councilwoman Wells made a motion to accept the appoint Eric Stalling to the URA and DDA Board. It was seconded by Councilwoman James. Voting for the motion were Councilman Mears, Councilwoman Wells, Councilman Gutierrez and Councilwoman James. Councilman Antoine's phone disconnected and he was unable to vote. The motion passed.

Public Comments:

Mayor Butler stated on the agenda there was information listed for citizens to submit their questions through SLIDO.

Question 1: Why is the abortion clinic open?
I'm very disappointed with this decision.



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Mayor Butler stated the abortion clinic was allowed to remain open because they provide a medical service. She stated we did not arbitrarily pick which businesses to stay open or to close. Those guidelines came from CDC and Department of Economic Development.

Question 2: What is the City's protocol on PPE and Social Distancing for food distribution?

Mayor Butler stated she thinks this question is being asked because of an event held Saturday in which 1000 Main Street was giving out food. She stated Councilman Mears was present and she asked would he like to comment before she moved on. Councilman Mears stated he thinks they went by the rules and regulations. The distancing was there and PPE was being used. He stated it was done safely and timely as possible. Mayor Butler stated given the situation that we were in everyone acted according to the CDC policy. She thanked everyone for their efforts during this time it is greatly appreciated.

Councilwoman James stated she knows there is a church that is giving out items and they are not allowing more than one person to come in and pick up for someone. She stated we are all doing the best we can to service those in need.

Question 3: Mayor Butler and Councilman Antoine were both at Ashton Walk and someone there tested positive for COVID-19 have they been tested. Mayor Butler stated she would like to thank the residents for the concern of their well-being. This conciliatory gesture even in the mist of chaos shows humanity truly does prevail. Mayor Butler stated she has not been tested. She has not had any symptoms. She stated there was an email exchange over the weekend at Ashton Walk and it is from the



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Director of Public Health. He reviewed all of the cases in Clayton County to see if there are any positive cases. The one individual on the database has been hospitalized for 2 weeks and has not returned to the facility since. Building Management reported there were two other individuals that reported not feeling well. One reported they tested negative and the other individual is not in the records as a positive case. Mayor Butler stated management at that facility stated they have adhered to the CDC recommendations with their residents.

Question 4. If Mayor and Councilman have been tested, how were they able to get tested so quickly and received the test results. Please post test results.

Mayor Butler stated that is a moot point.

Question 5. Mayor Butler stated this is more of a statement than a question. "It is a shame this council does such as claiming to name a person to the URA, DDA when all of the members were unjustly fired from the URA in February. Mayor Butler replied "Thank You for your comment.

**Governing Body
Comment:**

Councilman Mears stated he has businesses in His wards are asking why they she has to be closed and the liquor store is open across the road. Mr. Williams stated the Mayor issued an Emergency Shelter in Place order and then the Governor issued a Shelter in Place order and what that did was suspend all City and County Ordinances or orders related to the COVID-19 Pandemic. The previous Forest Park Order is no longer in effect. It also ordered everyone to Shelter in Place unless for essential travel. The order divided businesses into 2 categories. They are using the Department of Homeland Security designation of critical infrastructure. Critical Infrastructure is allowed to be open provided



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that they follow 16 measures to protect the employees and the public as it relates to social distancing, cleaning and sanitizing surfaces etc. If a business stays open to the public there are 20 requirements that have to be met here are a few such as social distancing, credit card requirements so you won't have to enter a pin etc. all those are laid out in the Governors orders. The local government is no longer in the business to decide which business is allowed to stay open and who's not allowed. If someone has questions they need to contact the Department of Economic Development and they would be able to answer those questions. Mr. Williams stated he misspoke and there are 3 categories of businesses critical, infrastructure, all other businesses with the exception of the following: movie theaters, gyms, barbershops/salons and nail salons. There are a category of businesses that are required to be closed under all circumstances.

Councilwoman Wells – stated the issue she has is with Waste Management they are picking up the cans but leaving the bags outside. She stated we need to make sure Waste Management is picking up all of the trash now more than ever being that people are accumulating more trash than normal. Councilwoman James stated that Mr. Allen Owens did state they were not going to pick up anything outside of the garbage can. They are operating under an emergency clause that allows them to operate a certain way in order to service the residents. Councilman Mears stated that Mr. Owens stated at the town hall meeting that in order to keep their staff safe they will not be picking up anything outside the garbage can until the restriction was lifted. Councilman Gutierrez asked is there a drop-off location that we can utilize. Mr. Williams indicated they may be able to drop off at the landfill but he is not sure. Councilwoman



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James stated the problem that she's seeing is when she rides around her neighborhood people are putting yard waste in bags and expecting a pick-up and that is not going to happen. She stated we need to figure out something because it is going to get bad. Councilman Mears stated he is telling individuals in his Ward to not place those type items out because Waste Management made it clear that they were not going to risk the lives of their staff during this restricted period.

Councilwoman Gutierrez stated he wanted to thank all of the frontline employees (i.e. police, fire, grocery store clerks etc.) for doing their part. He advised everyone to be safe and make sure we are staying at home unless we absolutely need to go out.

Executive Session:

Councilwoman Wells made a motion to recess the regular meeting and enter into Executive Session to discuss Personnel, Litigation, Real Estate and Legal Matters. It was seconded by Councilman Mears. Voting for the motion were: Councilwoman James, Councilwoman Wells, Councilman Mears and Councilman Gutierrez. Councilman Antoine was still having difficulties with his phone. No vote recorded for him. The motion passed.

Mayor Butler announced that the governing body would return momentarily. The governing body entered into Executive Session at 6:33 p.m.

Upon returning from Executive Session Councilman Antoine was no longer on the call.

Councilwoman Wells made a motion to adjourn the Executive Session and reconvene the Regular Meeting. It was seconded by Councilman Mears. Voting for the motion was unanimous.



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Amend Agenda:

Councilwoman James made a motion to amend the agenda to add a letter from Councilman Mears to the approved minutes for March 30, 2020. It was seconded by Councilman Gutierrez. Voting was unanimous.

Adjournment:

Councilwoman Wells made a motion to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by Councilman Mears. Voting for the motion was unanimous.