



CITY OF FOREST PARK
MAYOR & COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 3, 2019 7:00 P.M.

Call to Order: The Regular Meeting of Mayor and Council of September 3, 2019 was called to order by Mayor Angelyne Butler at 7:00 p.m.

Invocation: The Invocation was given by Elder Wanda Miller Curry followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

Roll Call: Mayor Angelyne Butler

Councilmembers: Dabouze Antoine, Kimberly James, Sandra Bagley, Latresa Wells and Allan Mears

Also present were City Manager Angela Redding, Director of Finance Ken Thompson, Director of Public Works Jeff Eady, Chief Eddie Buckholts, Major Reynolds, Director of Support Services Christine Terrell, Deputy Director Recreation and Leisure Services Abbey Jones, Interim Director of Planning, Building and Zoning Mike Tuttle, City Clerk Shalonda Brown, City Attorney Michael Williams and Management Analyst LaShawn Gardiner.

Comment Period: **Sparkle Adams** – stated she wanted to talk about the character of a heart willing to take a stand and has willingness to stand when no matter what the cost, willingness to risk ones reputation for the side of what is right. She stated with that being said she has witnessed ugly and disrespectful character displayed by our elected officials towards residents, businesses and other officials. This behavior is unbecoming of an elected official as well as a Christian. Using city sponsored events as an elected official to campaign is a no-no and should not be permitted. If this behavior is ok with you and you don't see anything wrong with it, then you should step down and remove yourself from



CITY OF FOREST PARK
MAYOR & COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 3, 2019 7:00 P.M.

office. In a society like ours here in America many things are decided by the ballot box, so many in fact most people are scared to take a stand against the majority for anything. Sadly, being politically correct is order of the day for most. How tormenting it must be to be bound by the shackles of public opinion.

Diane Lunsford – stated to the Mayor why does she demand decorum from the residents and the business owners when we get up to speak, but you allow Ward 2 and Ward 4 carry on as they please. Why wasn't anything done about the actions of Ward 2 calling our residents stupid in one meeting and in another meeting and tried to prevent this same resident from speaking during the open comment period. You allow Ward 4 to bad mouth our State Representative and tolerated her telling you to shut up. She stated that Ward 2 and Ward 4 need to either step down or be publically reprimanded. Mrs. Lunsford stated to the Police Department she would like to have a status of the rape case of the elderly lady at Governors Glen.

Carl Evans – stated he would like to address the Animal Ordinance. He stated livestock should not be allowed in city limits. He stated he think it is reprehensible to hear a councilmember tell someone to shut up.

Wande Okunoren– thanked the governing body for allowing her to speak. She stated the purpose of her speaking tonight is to demonstrate that their farm stand is needed in the community. She stated she is asking that the ordinance be amended to allow their farm stand be considered as an accessory to their primary business which is a learning center. She stated they have



CITY OF FOREST PARK
MAYOR & COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 3, 2019 7:00 P.M.

demonstrated that the farm stand is needed in the community. Ms. Okunoren stated we are an overweight nation and she is confused why we are operating backwards.

Stacey McQuaggue – She stated as a resident of Forest Park and an employee Little Ones Learning Center she is asking that the Ordinance be amended. She stated the farm stand is not run for profit. Ms. McQuaggue stated it is a benefit because individuals are getting double for their money opposed to what they receive at grocery stores.

Michelle Copeland – stated she would like to bring to the attention of the governing body her concern is the side street maintenance of the grass on the sidewalks. She wants to know who is responsible for maintaining the sidewalks and the grass.

Donna Barkley – she stated it is too much bickering with this council. She stated Ann & Bills have moved out and has anyone reached out to John Fine Foods if he wanted to move into that location. She stated the strip mall near Family Dollar, has anyone reached out to people to make it a kids joint (roller skating rink) because she just wants to know. Ms. Barkley advised the governing body they need to make peace with one another because it is just like watching the news. She stated the governing body is killing each other with their voices and how they talk to each other. She asked had the governing body shaken each other's hands this week.

Frank Holtzclaw – stated he filled out a complaint with Code Enforcement regarding a problem that's going on up the street where they keep throwing furniture in the back. He stated July 11th is when he made his initial complaint. August 22nd a crew was going to clean it up, but



CITY OF FOREST PARK
MAYOR & COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 3, 2019 7:00 P.M.

they got a bobcat and just pushed the items over to the cemetery's property and the property behind it and Code Enforcement has not come back and he has submitted another request about it. Mr. Holtzclaw stated on that same road there is an abandoned house that recently sold and is full of mold. He stated when it was sold it was to be torn down and it is still standing.

Quita Jiles – Stated as a resident of Forest Park and her daughter attends Little Ones Learning Center throughout the summer she stated the farm stand has been a big benefit for her family. She stated it taught her daughter how to eat healthy, and it saves her from having to go to farmers markets or a farm to pick her fresh produce and vegetables. Ms. Jiles stated it has changed the way her and her family eats and has prevented her from eating fast foods all the time. She stated it has also helped them manage their health issues. She asked the governing body to please allow them to have this.

Hailey Williams – stated her mom buys a lot of healthy stuff from the farm stand for their family. She stated she likes the fresh fruit that they provide. She loves that it comes hand-picked from their very own garden. Hailey stated she is dealing with asthma and the fresh fruits and vegetables have helped her.

Samuel Ibanez – stated he has been an advocate for the community for over 18 years and there has been things being said that is unethical that he is not a part of and not his style.

Karen Johnson – stated the grass has been cut behind the houses as well as sprayed. She thanked everyone involved and she hopes they continue. She stated she agrees with we probably shouldn't have livestock in the city; however she read that there are no roosters



CITY OF FOREST PARK
MAYOR & COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 3, 2019 7:00 P.M.

allowed. Ms. Johnson stated she would much rather listen to a rooster at daybreak than a transfer station starting up at 3:00 a.m.

LaWanda Folami – stated there comes a point in time when you realize that some people look down, they feel down and many of them are just low down. When you come in this room to get a solution you always leave out of her with a problem. She stated we the constituents elected the governing body and when the chair asked the citizens to direct all of our matters to her attention, Ms. Folami stated she feels that violates her 1st Amendment Rights. She stated they are sick and tired of the foolishness. She stated at one point we worked diligently on your team and wanted you to do well, but every time we enter we see all types of negativity from the dais. Ms. Folami stated to the Chair that she is asking that Wards 2 & 4 resign because their conduct is representing the people especially if you don't know your elected officials, covenants and things of that nature that is an embarrassment to the city. She advised the residents they have the right to excuse them at your discretion.

Solomon Emerson - stated he is a business owner in the community and he wanted to come and put faces with names of the governing body. He stated he is trying to do a lot of things in Forest Park and he will be reaching out for the assistance of the governing body. He stated he is trying to get voter registration started at his shop. Mr. Emerson stated to the governing body they have to get out and visit because you just can't put up signs and not interact.

Toyin Okunoren – stated they have been at Little Ones for the last 25 years and they are a quality rated center. They decided to bring a farm stand not only for the children, but for the community.



CITY OF FOREST PARK
MAYOR & COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 3, 2019 7:00 P.M.

She stated the only way they can continue is if the governing body grants an exemption to continue to do what they do.

Rep. Valencia Stovall – stated as a State Representative, she has the ability and the right because of the legislative body and because of the voters to be able to speak on matters that are important to her constituents and to the businesses that she represents. She stated she will continue to do that no matter where she is. Rep. Stovall stated she doesn't have any problems when she attend city council meetings about limiting the time that she speaks or what matters she is speaking on. She stated she is very appalled to know that the meeting held on August 19th time was spent discussing her place of residence. She stated she represents District 74 which includes portions of the City of Forest Park. She stated she shared the information to her colleagues, the delegation and on social media because she wanted them to know what is going on in the cities that she represents when time should be spent talking about housing issues, employment, small businesses etc. She stated State Law says that if you enter into Executive Session there are only 4 things that you can discuss (Personnel, Litigation, Real Estate and Legal Matters) and she hopes her address was not discussed in Executive Session because that is a violation of the Sunshine Law and she will be investigating on filing charges on that as well. Rep. Stovall stated Little Ones that has been operating in the city for 20 years, they have been doing the stand for over a year and for Code Enforcement to go by and tell them to shut down when the Ordinance that's in place is not clear. She recommended to the governing body to look at OO (outdated Ordinances) to make sure they are up to date and if it is not done they will look at local legislation to make sure learning centers such as Little Ones are able to operate.



CITY OF FOREST PARK
MAYOR & COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 3, 2019 7:00 P.M.

**Approval of Minutes:
Agenda Items:**

Councilwoman Wells made a motion to approve approve Works Session and Regular Meeting minutes of August 19, 2019. It was seconded by Councilwoman James. Voting for the motion was unanimous. The motion carried.

**Approval of the
Subdivision Plat
2000 Anvil Block RD:**

Councilwoman Wells made a motion to approve the Subdivision Plat 2000 Anvil Block Road. It was seconded by Councilwoman James. Voting for the motion was unanimous. The motion carried.

**Approval of Ordinance
with respect to the Park-
ing of Heavy & Commercial
Vehicles in the City:**

A request was made to consider an Ordinance amending the Code of Ordinances, City of Forest Park with respect to the parking of heavy and Commercial Vehicles within the City.

Councilman Mears made a motion to approve this Ordinance. It was seconded by Councilwoman Bagley.

Councilwoman James stated at one point Rod's Moving Company had a problem in the past with their vehicles being vandalized. Mrs. Redding stated that company is no longer there.

Voting for the motion was unanimous. The motion carried.

**Approval of Ordinance with
the respect to the keeping
of animals:**

A request was made to consider an Ordinance amending the code of Ordinances, City of Forest Park, Georgia with the respect to the keeping of animals.

Councilman Antoine made a motion to table this item because he wants to get more clarity on this item. It was seconded by Councilwoman Wells. Councilwoman Wells asked the Mr. Williams what issues were brought up. Mr. Williams stated the Ordinance overhauls a number of issues and in the prior Ordinance there was not a provision in there of what constitutes animal



CITY OF FOREST PARK
MAYOR & COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 3, 2019 7:00 P.M.

cruelty. There have been definitions and rules as to what constitutes animal cruelty so when the code enforcement officers write citations they have a clear set of standards. It has been updated to what types of animals are prohibited to be kept in the city. In relation to backyard chickens it prohibits roosters, but if you have a large enough lot there is a certain number of chickens allowed on the property and all of the standards will have to be met. The Ordinance was amended a few years ago to reduce the distance you could keep pens and enclosures. Existing animals will have grandfathered in and that is a decision that will be made by the governing body.

Councilwoman James stated she knows this has been a work in progress and she commends having something put together to update what we have right now. She stated she is not in favor of tabling this item.

Councilman Antoine stated he thinks the item should be tabled because they are not fully informed and what the City Attorney is going to do was brief the governing body on the positive and the negative effects.

Councilwoman Wells asked Mr. Williams with the information we have now, Code Enforcement are able to go out and do what they need to do. Mr. Williams stated they have mentioned some issues with the current Ordinance because of clarity issues. Mr. Williams stated if we had clearly identifiable standards it would make their jobs easier.

Voting for the motion were: Councilwoman Wells and Councilman Antoine. Voting against the motion were: Councilwoman James, Councilwoman Bagley and Councilman Mears. The motion failed.



CITY OF FOREST PARK
MAYOR & COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 3, 2019 7:00 P.M.

Councilwoman Wells made a motion to approve the Ordinance with respect to the keeping of animals. It was seconded by Councilwoman Bagley. Voting for the motion were: Councilwoman Wells, Councilwoman James, Councilwoman Bagley and Councilman Mears. Voting against the motion were: Councilman Antoine. The motion carried.

Councilwoman James made a motion to amend the agenda and make a staff recommendation to exempt flea markets from the moratorium. It was seconded by Councilwoman Wells.

Councilman Mears asked if this is passed will the City Attorney prepare an update. Mr. Williams stated an amended and restated Resolution adding that as a specific. Councilman Mears stated something needed to be added in there to protect the city from loopholes. Mr. Williams stated he will do his best to define it so it is limited just to those type operations.

Voting for the motion was unanimous. The motion carried.

Councilwoman James made a motion to exempt flea markets from the moratorium. It was seconded by Councilwoman Wells. Voting for the motion were: Councilwoman Bagley, Councilwoman James, Councilwoman Wells, Councilman Antoine. Councilman Mears abstained. The motion carried.

**Governing Body
Comments:**

Councilman Mears – thanked everyone for coming out and he advised everyone the elections are coming up and do your homework to make the right decisions.

Councilwoman Wells – thanked everyone for coming out. She stated she is not going to entertain negativity is coming from. She stated



CITY OF FOREST PARK
MAYOR & COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 3, 2019 7:00 P.M.

they are not trying to turn City Hall into a political arena because they are all there to do a job and not politics. She wished everyone a good night.

Councilwoman Bagley – stated she wanted to give a shout out to waste management for the service provided to Ward 3. She stated for the majority of the area she rode through today the cans were picked up and were stacked nicely. She stated there are trees that overhanging need to be taken care of and she advised everyone that if you see tree limbs hanging please reach out to someone. Councilwoman Bagley stated this is an election year and we don't need election year politics and dramatics; just make sure we are doing what we were elected to do and be held accountable. She stated if the food trucks are still out please go and check them out. She stated the Guest BBQ's owner (Justin Guest) indicated that Forest Park gave him a break and the space needed to try things out because he was a new entrepreneur. Councilwoman Bagley stated that we all should promote our city. She wished everyone a good night.

Councilwoman James – thanked Code Enforcement because a short time ago we were short staffed, but now we are able to patrol more and see things that are going on in our city that has gone unchallenged. She commended them for doing their job. Councilwoman James stated she has a lot of respect for the farm stand and her only issue is because we are looking to be organic and grow our own fruits and vegetables, we don't want everyone setting up shop and selling their products all over the city. One of the things the Ordinance allows for is obtaining a permit to sell the products. Councilwoman James stated all she wants to do is to be fair because there are businesses that are permitted



CITY OF FOREST PARK
MAYOR & COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 3, 2019 7:00 P.M.

to sell products. She wants to make sure there is structure in the city. Councilwoman James stated the Motorcycle Club Rare Breed the event was amazing. She stated everyone had a great time and enjoyed the park and hopefully it will be an annual event. She thanked all departments that made the event a success.

Councilman Antoine - thanked everyone for coming out. He stated he represents Ward 2 and Ward 2 is all about helping the people and making sure their needs are met. He stated people need to pay attention because there are people that come to cause division within the crowd. He stated the only thing that should be discussed is how to take Forest Park to the next level instead of bringing negative comments towards one of the councilmembers. Councilman Antoine stated her job is to inform the governing body what is going on at the State Level and Local. He stated it is about bringing positive comments and positive ideas in order to move the city forward because we can stay at home to see negative things that are going on. He stated the platform should be used to try and encourage the city and to make the city better. Councilman Antoine stated people who have are trying to move the city forward are problem solvers and come with solutions.

Mayor Butler – thanked everyone for coming out and reminded everyone that while this is an election year there is more than just Wards 3, 4, and 5 on the ballot. There will be a citywide question that will be on the ballot as well.

Executive Session:

Councilwoman Wells made a motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss personnel, litigation, real estate and legal matters. It was seconded by Councilwoman James. Voting for the motion was unanimous. The motion carried.



CITY OF FOREST PARK
MAYOR & COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 3, 2019 7:00 P.M.

The Governing Body entered into Executive Session at 8:02 p.m.

Councilman Mears made a motion to adjourn Executive Session and reconvene the Regular Meeting at 8:26 p.m. It was seconded by Councilwoman James. Voting for the motion was unanimous. The motion carried.

Adjournment:

Councilman Mears made a motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting. It was seconded by Councilwoman James. Voting for the motion was unanimous. The motion carried.