

**MINUTES OF THE
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
CITY OF AUSTELL
CITY HALL BUILDING
MONDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2019**

Present:

Mayor Ollie Clemons
Valerie Anderson
Sandra Leverette
Randy Green
Scott Thomas

Absent: Marlin Lamar

Also present were: Scott Kimbrough, City Attorney; Denise Lowe, Finance Director; Bo Garrison, Public Works Director; Jim Graham, Community Development Director; Pat Maxwell, Fire Chief; Bob Starrett, Police Chief; and Elizabeth Young, City Clerk

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Clemons called the meeting to order and Pastor Billy Hooper gave the Invocation and Mayor Clemons led the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor Clemons asked if anyone needed to add items to the agenda. Mayor Clemons stated he needed to add item 13B, Community Affairs Department, Planning & Zoning Appointment.

Mrs. Anderson moved to follow the recommendation of Mayor Clemons to add item 13B to the agenda. Seconded by Mrs. Leverette. Motion passed. (4-0)

Mayor Clemons stated we have a couple of retirements coming up. He asked Mr. Scott Thomas, Councilmember, to come forward. Mayor Clemons thanked Mr. Thomas for 22 years of service as Councilmember & presented him with a retirement Plaque. Mayor Clemons asked Fire Chief Pat Maxwell to come forward. Mayor Clemons thanked Chief Maxwell for his 30 plus years of service & presented him with a retirement plaque.

2. CONSENT AGENDA – INFORMATION AND UPDATE

(No Action Required by Council – See Specific Department Director before a Meeting.)

3. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approve Bills
- B. Approve Legal Bills \$2,365.00
- C. Approve Minutes of Regular Council Meeting November 4, 2019

Mr. Thomas moved to follow the recommendation of Mayor Clemons to approve the Consent Agenda. Seconded by Mrs. Leverette. Motion passed (4-0).

4. EXCEPTION TO CONSENT AGENDA

5. CITIZENS REPORT

Ms. Sharon Woodgett from Oak Bluff subdivision stated she has 2 concerns. The first one is the noise & music coming from El Galaxy Event Hall next to Big Lots. She stated she has been getting complaints from people about the music all hours of the night on the weekends. Ms. Woodgett stated she has called the Austell Police Dept. to investigate & they encouraged her to come to the council meetings to voice her concerns. She stated she is begging for help to get the loud music under control. Mayor Clemons asked Chief Starrett if he has investigated. Chief Starrett stated yes, he has spoken with Code Enforcement, but they do not work nights. Chief stated he went out a couple of weeks ago at night & checked the decibels at El Galaxy & the Jamaican Restaurant. The Jamaican Restaurant was over the decibels that is legal for the city limits. Chief Starrett stated this was the first complaint they have received on El Galaxy. He stated El Galaxy was in the legal limits & they are now operating as a game room which means they must hire Austell Police Officers to do security on weekends. He will have the officers check the decibels while they are working. Ms. Woodgett stated she was told there was a Police event being held at El Galaxy over the weekend & she wanted that on record. Chief Starrett stated he did not know anything about that, but our officers had started working security that night. Mayor Clemons stated Chief Starrett will do more investigating to make sure who it is & they will know that they can be cited for the noise level. Ms. Woodgett stated her second concern is the Circle K. The pothole on Layla is now deeper. She stated that she requested Cobb County do something about it but nothing has been done. She is afraid of it causing accidents or damage to automobiles. Mayor Clemons asked Mr. Garrison if he was aware of it & he stated he is aware. Mr. Garrison spoke with Cobb County & they said they are busy and will get to it when they can. Mayor Clemons stated we do have friends with Cobb & we will speak with them to try & get this addressed sooner.

Ms. Nikki Elder stated she is from Greater St. Paul AME Church, 2990 Broad Street, on January 12, 2020 at 3:00, they will be having a prayer for our Elected Officials & want to invite all our Elected Officials to come. She stated they will be serving lunch at 1:00 until the service starts.

Ms. Monica Delancey congratulated all the returning council members & also the new council members.

6. GAS SYSTEM REPRESENTATIVE

OLLIE CLEMONS, MAYOR

Mr. Kimbrough stated we are right where we were this time last year & everything is good. We have plenty of gas storage in the ground & we are ready for what's coming our way.

7. FINANCE DEPARTMENT

OLLIE CLEMONS, CHAIRPERSON

Denise Soesbee, Finance Director

A. Financial Report

B. 2019-20 Budget Revisions

Purpose is to adjust budget amounts to reflect actual financial activity for fiscal year 2019-2020. In accordance with O.C.G.A. 36-81-2, any increase in appropriation at the legal level of control of the local government whether accomplished through a change in anticipated revenues in any fund or through a transfer of appropriations among departments shall require the approval of the governing authority. Attached is a schedule of budget revisions needed in order to comply with O.C.G.A. 36-81-2. It is the recommendation of the finance committee to approve the attached budget revisions for the 2019-20 fiscal year.

Mr. Thomas moved to follow the recommendation of Mayor Clemons to approve the 2019-20 budget revisions. Seconded by Mrs. Leverette. Motion passed. (4-0)

8. GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

SANDRA LEVERETTE, CHAIRPERSON

Elizabeth Young, Director

A. Election Certification

Mayor and Council are required to ratify the results of the City Elections. We are ratifying 2019 Election Results for: Mayor, At-Large Post 1, At-Large Post 2, Ward 2, and Ward 4.

As you know, Cobb County Board of Elections oversees our elections for the City of Austell. Attached is a copy of the official record of votes cast on November 5, 2019 for your approval.

Mrs. Leverette moved to follow the recommendation of Mayor Clemons to approve the Election Certification. Seconded by Mr. Green. Motion passed. (4-0)

B. 2020 Calendar & Directory

Please review the 2020 Calendar & Directory. If there are any corrections, please contact Elizabeth Young, City Clerk.

Mrs. Leverette moved to follow the recommendation of Mayor Clemons to approve the 2020 Calendar & Directory. Seconded by Mr. Thomas. Motion passed. (4-0)

9. POLICE DEPARTMENT

RANDY GREEN, CHAIRPERSON

Bob Starrett, Police Chief

- A. Police Report
- B. Austell Convenience Mart-Package Retail
Bhavesh Shah has applied for a business license for Package Retail for malt beverages & wine at Austell Convenience Mart, located at 4805 Austell Powder Springs Rd. A criminal history and finger prints have been submitted. No criminal history was found to stop the licensing process.

Mr. Green moved to follow the recommendation of Mayor Clemons to approve the Austell Convenience Mart. Seconded by Mr. Thomas. Motion passed. (4-0)

10. FIRE DEPARTMENT

MARLIN LAMAR, CHAIRPERSON

Pat Maxwell, Fire Chief

- A. Fire Report

11. PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

VALERIE ANDERSON, CHAIRPERSON

Bo Garrison, Director

- A. Adoption of Wastewater Rates
Cobb County Water System has increased the City's wastewater rates by \$.49/1,000 gallons. In order to maintain current operating margins, the city will need to pass this increase on to its customers. It is the recommendation of the Public Works Committee to adopt the following Wastewater rate schedule to become effective December 1, 2019.

Proposed New Rates:	Current	Proposed
Inside City gallons	\$5.91/ 1,000 gallons	\$6.40/ 1,000
Outside City gallons	\$6.17/ 1,000 gallons	\$6.67/ 1,000

Mrs. Anderson moved to follow the recommendation of Mayor Clemons to approve the Adoption of Wastewater Rates. Seconded by Mr. Thomas. Motion passed. (4-0)

12. PARKS DEPARTMENT

SCOTT THOMAS, CHAIRPERSON

Jim Graham, Director

- A. No Report

13. COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

OLLIE CLEMONS, CHAIRPERSON

Jim Graham, Director

- A. Code Enforcement Report
- B. Planning & Zoning Board Appointment

It is the recommendation of the Community Affairs Department to appoint Shontae Brown to the Planning & Zoning Board.

Mrs. Anderson moved to follow the recommendation of Mayor Clemons to appoint Shontae Brown. Seconded by Mrs. Leverette. Motion passed. (4-0)

14. ATTORNEY, DUPREE & KIMBROUGH

- A. No Report

15. MAYOR'S REPORT

- A. CMA-December 10, 2019 @ 6:30 pm
 Marietta Street Grill
 4456 Marietta Street
 Powder Springs, GA 30127

Mayor Clemons stated we have the committee assignments for 2020:
 Mayor Pro Tem – Valerie Anderson
 Finance – Valerie Anderson
 Police Dept. – Randy Green
 Public Works – Sandra Leverette
 General Administration – Melanie Elder
 Fire Dept. – Marlin Lamar
 Parks Dept. – Devon Myrick
 Community Affairs – Valerie Anderson

16. ADJOURN

Mr. Thomas moved to follow the recommendation of Mayor Clemons to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Mr. Green. Motion passed. (4-0)

Ollie B. Clemons Jr.

 Mayor

Elizabeth Young

 Attest

JAN. 10. 2020

 Date