

**MINUTES OF THE
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
CITY OF AUSTELL
FEBRUARY 1, 2016**

Present: Mayor Joe Jerkins
Kirsten Anderson
Valerie Anderson
Ollie Clemons
Randy Green
Sandra Leverette
Scott Thomas

The regular meeting of the Mayor and Council was held on Monday, February 1, 2016, at 7:00 P.M. at City Hall.

Also present were: Hylton Dupree, City Attorney; Carolyn Duncan, City Clerk; Sandra Farmer, Deputy City Clerk; Generals Administration; Denise Soesbee, Finance Director; Randy Bowens, Public Works Director; Jim Graham, Community Affairs Director; Pat Maxwell, Fire Chief; and Bob Starrett, Police Chief.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Jerkins called the meeting to order and Pastor John Bailey gave the Invocation and Mayor Jerkins led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Jerkins asked if anyone had items to add to the Agenda. Mr. Clemons stated he would like to add 9C. - Privilege License- Austell Texaco.

Mr. Clemons moved to follow the recommendation of Mayor Jerkins to approve 9C. – Privilege License – Austell Texaco. Seconded by Ms. Kirsten Anderson. Motion passed (6-0).

Mayor Jerkins presented Met Clark Fire Fighter/Paramedic a 10 Year Plaque and Pin and thanked him for his dedication and his hard work over the years. Thanked him for being part of the City of Austell.

2. CONSENT AGENDA – INFORMATION AND UPDATE

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

3. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approve Bills
- B. Approve Legal Bills \$1,630.00
- C. Approve Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting January 4, 2016

Ms. Kirsten Anderson moved to follow the recommendation of Mayor Jerkins to approve the Consent Agenda. Seconded by Mr. Clemons. Motion passed (6-0).

**MINUTES OF THE
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
CITY OF AUSTELL
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2016
PAGE 2**

4. EXCEPTION TO CONSENT AGENDA

5. CITIZENS REPORT

Mayor Jerkins asked if anyone would like to speak to the Mayor and Council.

Ms. Trudie Causey stated her name and stated she had a question. I have a question about two houses on Jones Road. One at 5210 and 5238 on Jones Road and they were flooded in 2009. I was just wandering what is going on with those two. Mayor Jerkins stated they are part of five homes and we have three more on Pontiac Circle and Pittman's Laundry is going too. There will be six in all to run titles on. Ms. Causey stated the houses on Jones Road and the quality of life for those people down there is not good. I was looking at those homes the other day. Mayor Jerkins stated those five homes are on the list for the titles to be run and Pittman's Laundry. Mr. Bowens stated we are trying to finish up Pontiac Circle and then the rest of the houses throughout the City will move from location to location. The past four have been approved through the Court system, and then we will move over to areas like Jones Road. Ms. Causey stated she thought maybe those two on Jones Road may be in the County, but when I looked it up they were in the City. Mr. Bowens stated one home is in the County over there. We do have permission from the County about annexation and we are trying to sort that out. Ms. Causey asked if we have a Downtown Development Authority now. Mayor Jerkins stated yes we do but they haven't met in years, but we have one. Ms. Causey stated she thought it would be a great idea now that you are working on that building and putting the roof on it. If they could meet and try and work with some of the other businesses and help the downtown look better. Mayor Jerkins stated we have some things we are going to ask the Council to pass next month that will involve the downtown area. Ms. Causey stated the building is looking great. Mayor Jerkins thanked Ms. Causey.

6. GAS SYSTEM REPRESENTATIVE

JOE JERKINS

Mr. Clemons stated we are not doing quite as well because the weather has been so warm. The prediction is not quite as cold as we initially thought. But, we are hoping for colder weather. Mayor Jerkins stated it is not just that, the natural gas prices are so low as well.

7. FINANCE DEPARTMENT

OLLIE CLEMONS, CHAIRPERSON

Denise Soesbee, Director

A. Financial Report

**MINUTES OF THE
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
CITY OF AUSTELL
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2016
PAGE 3**

**8. GENERAL ADMINISTRATION
SANDRA LEVERETTE, CHAIRPERSON
Carolyn Duncan, Director**

- A. No Report

**9. POLICE DEPARTMENT
OLLIE CLEMONS, CHAIRPERSON
Bob Starrett, Police Chief**

- A. Police Report
B. Code Enforcement Report
C. Privilege License – Austell Texaco

Mr. Clemons stated a Privilege License request has been received for Austell Texaco, located at 2671 Jefferson Street. The background check on the applicant, Tesfaye M. Mekonnen was found to be within the requirements for approval.

Mr. Clemons moved to follow the recommendation of the Police Committee to approve this request. Seconded by Ms. Kirsten Anderson. Motion approved (6-0).

Mr. Clemons stated after speaking with Council woman Valerie Anderson about the active shooter class that has been provided by other cities and counties. I discussed this with Chief Starrett and he did let me know that we do have a plan to implement here in Austell. Chief Starrett has met with a representative from the FBI and they have volunteered to come and teach the department on how to teach the class. As soon as the FBI and the departments gets the training done then we will announce the dates or date to have the active shooters class for the City of Austell.

**10. FIRE DEPARTMENT
RANDY GREEN, CHAIRPERSON
Pat Maxwell, Fire Chief**

- A. Fire Report
B. Year End Report
C. Plaque & Pin – 10Year Service Award – Met Clark

**MINUTES OF THE
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
CITY OF AUSTELL
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2016
PAGE 4**

**11. PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
KIRSTEN ANDERSON, CHAIRPERSON
Randy Bowens, Director**

1. Recommendation and Approval:

A. Annual Transportation Improvements Contract

Ms. Anderson stated the purpose is to award an annual quantities-based contract for Special Local Option Sales Tax transportation improvements for street resurfacing, curb and gutter installation, construction of sidewalks, drainage, roadway signage, and roadway marking improvements throughout the City of Austell.

On November 14, 2014, the voters of Cobb County approved a six-year Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax to fund capital improvement projects. The budget for transportation related improvements is \$3,969,828.00. Advertisements were placed in the Marietta Daily Journal on December 11, 2015 and December 18, 2015 for procurement of qualified vendors for construction of transportation improvements. Sealed bids were received, opened, and read aloud on January 14, 2016. Bids from the following vendors were received.

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Bid Amount</u>
Chatfield Contracting, Inc.	\$ 977,814.60
Reeves Young, LLC	\$1,250,849.52
Kemi Construction Company, Inc.	\$1,264,020.00

Ms. Kirsten Anderson moved to follow the recommendation of the Public Works Committee to award an annual quantities-based contract for SPLOST transportation improvements to the three lowest vendors listed above. Vendors will be award contracts based on the lowest amount for specific transportation improvements to be completed.

The contract amount listed above is not a guarantee the vendor will be paid that amount. The vendor will be on call for the duration of the contract and only paid for actual work when completed. Funding will come from the 2016 Special Local Option Sales Tax fund. Seconded by Mr. Green. Motion passed (6-0).

**MINUTES OF THE
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
CITY OF AUSTELL
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2016
PAGE 5**

**12. PARKS DEPARTMENT
SCOTT THOMAS, CHAIRPERSON
Jim Graham, Director**

A. Purchase of Equipment

Mr. Thomas stated the City of Austell Parks Committee recommends approval to purchase the following equipment from Vermeer in the amount of \$40,707.00 using 2011 SPLOST funds:

- 1) One Vermeer S725TX Mini Skid Steer
- 2) One Smooth Bucket Attachment
- 3) One Trencher Attachment
- 4) One Hydraulic Breaker Attachment
- 5) One High Torque Auger Drive Attachment
- 6) One 6" Auger Bit
- 7) One 24" Auger Bit

The Parks Department received two estimates for the equipment. The estimate from Vermeer is \$40,707.00 and Central Turf & Irrigation is \$45,112.27. The estimates are available for review if required.

Mr. Thomas moved to follow the recommendation of the Parks Committee to approve the purchase of the equipment from Vermeer. Seconded by Mr. Green. Motion passed (6-0).

B. New Parks Maintenance Facility

Mr. Thomas stated the City of Austell Parks Department has received estimates for a new Parks maintenance facility as part of an approved 2016 SPLOST project. The estimates include a quote from Worsham Contracting, Inc. in an amount of \$50,200.85 and a quote from Arco Building Systems, Inc. in an amount of \$48,359.00. The total project cost is estimated to be \$98,559.85.

Mr. Thomas moved to follow the recommendation of the Parks Committee to approve the proposed capital improvement project and the financing of that project through Republic First National, which the City of Austell has been pre-approved for financing. The finance payments will be met using only those funds received from the SPLOST program. Seconded by Ms. Kirsten Anderson. Motion passed (6-0).

**MINUTES OF THE
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
CITY OF AUSTELL
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2016
PAGE 6**

**13. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
VALERIE ANDERSON, CHAIRPERSON
Jim Graham, Director**

A. No Report

14. ATTORNEY, DUPREE & KIMBROUGH

A. No Report

15. MAYOR'S REPORT

A. CMA MEETING	FEBRUARY 9, 2016
TIME:	6:30 P.M.
LOCATION:	COBB CHAMBER

Mayor Jerkins stated I would like to inform the Council about the Abatements. We went to Court on Thursday on the three flooded houses and one on Jefferson Street where a tree fell on it. The Court granted permission to tear the three flooded houses down and we have to wait ten days from the Court date to tear the three down. We will start doing this in a week or so. The house on Jefferson Street we asked them to get a structural Engineer to o.k. the house and they said they had turned one in that day. The Judge put that case off till next month. We need to review the structural Engineer's paperwork. The other home has a Fannie Mae loan and Mr. Kimbrough is in contact with them but we haven't been able to get in touch with the right people. This is more or less a government loan. Mr. Kimbrough is handling it and it will come back up for the next court. We will be tearing three down in about a week or so and Mr. Bowens is working on that.

Mr. Clemons stated he had noticed about a year ago on the Georgia Municipal Association website they have over two hundred cities that have received the designation of Certified City of Ethics. The City of Austell was not on there, so I started a little investigation to find out why. The City had an Ordinance adopted but it just had not been received. It needed a little bit of tweaking and some updating. I would like to publicly thank Duane Demeritt for his very diligent work on that. We were able to get that done and we were trying to get it done because they present this twice a year and we thought we could complete it by June.

**MINUTES OF THE
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
CITY OF AUSTELL
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2016
PAGE 7**

We had to do a little bit more updating and submitted for the Mayor's Day Event that GMA held last week. I was very proud to accept this very beautiful plaque on behalf of the City of Austell as we received this auspicious designation of Certified City of Ethics. So, in speaking with the Mayor about it and he said we would display it right here in City Hall. We will proudly display it. I just wanted everyone to know. Mayor Jerkins thanked Mr. Clemons and Duane Demeritt for the hard work they did.

Ms. Kirsten Anderson stated she would like to comment on the sidewalks in Pontiac Circle. It really makes it look like a whole different community. This was a great idea and Mr. Bowens and his department is doing a wonderful job over there. It has totally upgraded that community and it's a great project and thank you.

16. ADJOURN

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