

**MINUTES OF THE
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
CITY OF AUSTELL
CITY HALL BUILDING
MONDAY, JULY 6, 2020**

Present:

Mayor Ollie Clemons
Valerie Anderson (virtual)
Melanie Elder (virtual)
Devon Myrick
Marlin Lamar
Sandra Leverette
Randy Green

Also, present: Scott Kimbrough, City Attorney; Denise Lowe, Finance Director; Bo Garrison, Public Works Director; Darrell Weaver, Community Affairs Assistant Director; Brandon Merritt, Fire Chief; Bob Starrett (virtual), Police Chief; and Elizabeth Young, City Clerk

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Clemons called the meeting to order, gave the invocation & led the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor Clemons asked if anyone needed to add items to the agenda. No items were added.

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-May 2020 - \$3,135.00
- C. Approve Minutes of Regular Council Meeting June 1, 2020

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

4. EXCEPTION TO CONSENT AGENDA

5. CITIZENS REPORT

**6. GAS SYSTEM REPRESENTATIVE
OLLIE CLEMONS, MAYOR**

A. Reappointment of Board Members

The Austell Gas Board Directors Judy Starrett & Alvin Poole's appointment will expire 7/31/2020. It is the recommendation that the Council approve the reappointment of the Austell Gas Board Directors.

Mrs. Leverette moved to follow the recommendation of Mr. Kimbrough to approve the reappointment of board directors. Seconded by Mr. Lamar. Motion passed. (6-0)

7. FINANCE DEPARTMENT

VALERIE ANDERSON, CHAIRPERSON

Denise Lowe, Finance Director

A. Financial Report

B. Update Purchasing & Bid Procedures

The purpose is to update and clarify current purchasing policies and procedures.

The City would like to amend the current policies and procedures for how we purchase items with vendors as well as clarify the process for awarding contracts over \$25,000. These amendments also clearly define how the city is to award public works contracts.

One of the proposed changes is to increase the threshold for non-budgeted purchases for directors from \$1,000 to \$3,000; and for directors and mayor from \$6,000 to \$24,999. Another change is to increase the fixed asset threshold from \$1,000 to \$3,000.

Mrs. Anderson moved to follow the recommendation of Mayor Clemons to approve the update purchasing & bid procedures. Seconded by Mrs. Leverette. Motion passed. (6-0)

8. GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

MELANIE ELDER, CHAIRPERSON

Elizabeth Young, Director

A. Compensation & Classification Proposal

The purpose of the study is to ensure and maintain a fair, equitable and competitive classification and compensation plan that allows for the attraction and retention of qualified individuals.

The City needed to re-organize its current pay classification structure and compensation plan into a system that is more useful and efficient. The City chose the Archer Company to create a plan to do so.

“The Archer Company recommends that each employee be brought to the minimum of the pay range for his/her grade as quickly as is economically feasible and that tenured employees are treated fairly with respect to seniority to avoid salary compression issues. The placement of all City of Austell employees into new pay ranges is based on tenure.”

Approximate cost of implementing this study: \$51,686.00 (affects 14 full-time and 3 part-time positions)

It is the recommendation of the General Administration Committee to approve the findings and recommendations of the Archer Company’s study.

Ms. Elder moved to follow the recommendation of Mayor Clemons to approve the compensation & classification proposal. Seconded by Mrs. Leverette. Motion passed (6-0).

9. POLICE DEPARTMENT

RANDY GREEN, CHAIRPERSON

Bob Starrett, Police Chief

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

DEVON MYRICK, CHAIRPERSON

Jim Graham, Director

A. No Report

13. COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

VALERIE ANDERSON, CHAIRPERSON

Jim Graham, Director

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

It is the recommendation of the Community Affairs Department to renew the two-year Planning & Zoning Board terms for Scott Gresham, Sara Parker, & Diane Evans to expire May 31, 2022.

Mrs. Anderson moved to follow the recommendation of Mayor Clemons to renew the Planning & Zoning Board terms. Seconded by Mr. Green Motion passed. (6-0)

14. ATTORNEY, DUPREE & KIMBROUGH

- A. 2022 SPLOST Intergovernmental Agreement

Before the council tonight is the INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT FOR THE USE AND DISTRIBUTION OF PROCEEDS FROM THE 2022 SPECIAL PURPOSE LOCAL OPTION SALES TAX FOR CAPITAL OUTLAY PROJECTS. O.C.G.A. § 48-8-110 *et seq.* (the "Act"), authorizes the levy of a one percent County Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (the "SPLOST") for the purpose of financing capital outlay projects for the use and benefit of the County and qualified municipalities within the County. The current SPLOST ends December 31, 2021. The proposed 2022 SPLOST will begin January 1, 2022 and continue for a period of six (6) years. Cobb County will take all actions necessary to call an election to be held in all voting precincts in the County on the 3rd day of November, 2020 for the purpose of submitting to the voters of the County for their approval, the question of whether or not a SPLOST shall be imposed on all sales and uses within the special district of Cobb County for a period of 24 quarters, commencing on the 1st day of January, 2022, to raise an estimated \$810,000,000.00 to be used for funding certain projects that have already been identified and designated by the County and each municipality located in Cobb County. This Agreement is conditioned upon the approval of the proposed imposition of the SPLOST by the voters of the County in a referendum to be held in accordance with the provisions of O.C.G.A. § 484-111 (b) through (e). This Agreement is further conditioned upon the collecting of the SPLOST revenues by the State Department of Revenue and transferring same to the County.

It is the recommendation that the Council approve the 2022 SPLOST Intergovernmental Agreement.

Mr. Lamar moved to follow the recommendation of Mayor Clemons to approve the 2022 SPLOST Intergovernmental Agreement. Seconded by Mr. Myrick. Motion passed. (6-0)

15. MAYOR'S REPORT

A. Condemning Racism Resolution

The purpose of this for the City of Austell as we show solidarity in standing together & united with all communities in our city, state, nation, & worldwide. Calling for an end to all forms of racism, bigotry, hatred, violence, brutality & injustice for all, against all. The recommendation in show of solidarity against all injustices to approve & sign both resolutions.

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

B. Hate Crimes HB 426 Resolution

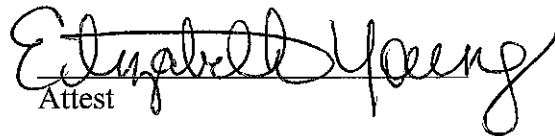
Mr. Myrick moved to follow the recommendation of Mayor Clemons to approve the resolution. Seconded by Mrs. Leverette. Motion passed. (6-0)

16. ADJOURN

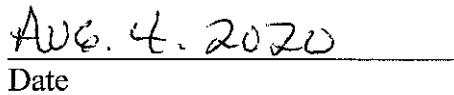
Mr. Myrick moved to follow the recommendation of Mayor Clemons to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Mr. Green. Motion passed. (6-0)



Mayor



Attest



Date