

CITY OF FORT VALLEY
APRIL 19, 2018
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

The Mayor and Council of the City of Fort Valley held a Regular Council Meeting on Thursday, April 19, 2018, at 6:30p.m. at City Hall.

Mayor Barbara Williams presided.

Council members in attendance: Juanita Bryant, Jimmy Barnes, Alonzo Allen, Marvin Crafter, LeMario Brown and Carla Gowen.

City Attorney, William Jerles, Jr. was present.

City Administrator Karin D. Vinson.

Public Safety Director Chief Spurgeon was present.

Public Works Director Ben Carpenter was present.

Office Assistant Scakajawea Wright served as recorder.

I. Call to Order- 6:30 p.m.

II. Invocation- Pastor Gregory Saunders, First Seventh Day Adventist Church

III. Pledge of Allegiance

IV. Approval of Agenda

1. Motion to Approve the Agenda for April 19, 2018

i. Motioned- Gowen

ii. Seconded- Allen

1. All in Favor- Unanimous

2. Motion Carries.

V. Approval of Minutes

1. **Motion to Approve the Minutes for the following dates:**

1. March Work Session- 03/13/2018

2. March Council Meeting- 03/15/2018

3. Public Works Committee Meeting- 03/05/2018

4. Public Safety Committee Meeting- 03/08/2018

5. Finance Committee Meeting- 03/08/2018

6. Personnel Committee Meeting- 03/08/2018

7. Administration Committee Meeting- 03/08/2018

i. Motioned- Bryant

ii. Seconded- Gowen

1. All in Favor- Mayor Williams, Brown, Gowen, Bryant, Crafter,

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2. Abstained- Allen abstained because he was not present at the time of the meeting.
3. Motion Carries.

VI. Approval of Executive Minutes

1. Motion to accept the minutes from the Executive Session as written- 03/08/2018
 - i. Motioned- Barnes
 - ii. Seconded- Brown
 1. Mayor explained that his comment was inappropriate because they said the minutes would not be exposed and portions of it had been exposed by him.
 2. In Favor of- Williams, Brown, Allen, Barnes, Gowen, And Bryant
 3. Abstained- Crafter abstained because he believes the matters of litigation between the city and the Utility Commissions should be available to the public because it concerns a public matter and for that reason he abstains.
 4. Motion carries.
2. Motion to accept the minutes from the Executive Session as written-03/15/2018
 - i. Motioned-Gowen
 - ii. Seconded- Bryant
 1. All in Favor- Williams, Brown, Crafter, Bryant, Gowen
 2. Abstained- Allen and Barnes abstained because they were not present at the time of the meeting.
 3. Motion Carries.

VII. Announcements

1. Peach Regional Hospital is almost demolished.
 1. Victor with the Leader Tribune was thanked for his publicity of the hospital.
2. Announcements will be made soon about the three-star hotel that will replace the hospital.
3. Display of City Equipment Show will be held April 23rd from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Festival Park.
4. Home Ownership Seminar will be held April 25th at 6 p.m. in the City Hall's Council Chambers
5. Annual Employee banquet will be held Thursday, April 26th at 7 p.m. at the FVSU Pettigrew Center building.
6. FVSU Spring Commencement will be May 5, 2018. There will be 285 graduates to walk across the stage.

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7. Former NFL and wildcat, Tyron Poole will be the commencement speaker. Mayor Williams hopes this is the last commencement that the out of towners will have to seek lodging for.
8. Hunt Elementary School and Fort Valley Middle School participated in Georgia Cities Week. Hunt Elementary School Grades Kindergarten thru Fourth grade participated by completing coloring pages. The coloring pages are displayed on the walls in the entrance of the City Hall. Fifth grade thru eighth graders will be participating in a writing contest. They have two subjects; "If I was Mayor for a day I would" and "If I was Chief of police for a day I would". Students will be rewarded for the essay contest at the next Council Meeting.
9. Announcement from Peach County High School's Career Technical, & Agriculture teacher Mrs. Marecia Gregory accompanied by the Assistant Principle Jason Flanders and the students who will be recognized. The president and Secretary of Future Business Leaders of America were present. They will be going to nationals in Baltimore, Maryland. One of their community service activities were to collect books and crayons for the Head Start. They collected 75 of each and delivered it to them. They also did a Foster Care Food Drive Donation and came in first place. It's the first time PCHS ever participated in this event. They donated 2,450 canned goods. They did a drive at PCHS called bring a hoody that was slightly worn and they could take a hoody. They helped make everyone warm at PCHS. Sara Chou and Andrea Burrero competed in Hospitality Management. They came in first place for the Regions and fifth place for State. Sara was selected to be on the States super team. It's a first-time achievement for PCHS. She will not be able to attend because she is going to Governors Honor Camp. She is also a Future Problem Solver so she will be traveling all summer. Andrea won third place at State for Job Interviews. She is qualified for Nationals. Mrs. Gregory stated she has asked if she can start a chapter at the Fort Valley Middle School so they would be ready when they arrive at high school.

VIII. Special Recognition

1. **Proclamation for Municipal Clerks Week**
 - i. Karin Vinson, City Administrator
2. **Employee of the Month**
 - i. **Public Works-** Suzanne Thompson

IX. Request to Address the Mayor And Council

- i. None at this time

X. Planning and Zoning Hearing

1. Resolution to zone 304 South Camellia Blvd as C2 Commercial property

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- i. Shanita Bryant stated she didn't have any opposition with the business and she welcomes the business, however she did have a concern with the traffic that being brought to the area while they are presently having problems with the trains.
- ii. Motion to rezone 304 South Camellia Blvd to C-2 Commercial property
- iii. Seconded- Brown
- iv. All in Favor- Unanimous
 1. Motion Carries

Mayor William shared with her an alternative route.

Mayor Williams announced the hearing was closed and the motion was carried.

XI. New Business

1. Resolution to Accept and Adopt the seven Resolutions on the Consent Agenda.
 - i. Resolution to Surplus Vehicles
 - ii. Resolution to Execute and Enter into Automatic Aid Agreement
 - iii. Resolution for pay increase for Sgt. Clinton Ford
 - iv. Resolution to write technical assistance letter for Tourism Product Development
 - v. Resolution to accept bid for 215 Oak Street
 - vi. Resolution to purchase radiator for Engine 9
 1. Motioned- Gowen
 2. Seconded- Brown
 - a. All in Favor- Unanimous
 - b. Motion Carries
2. Motion to table the Resolution to add Section 90-3.1 to the Fort Valley Code- Proceeds from the Municipal Competitive Trust and revenue derived from it to establish bonds because everyone has not had a chance to read it.
 - i. Motioned- Allen
 - ii. Seconded- Bryant
 1. All in Favor- Unanimous
 2. Motion Carries

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3. Motion to Table items number 3-4 and allow the Finance Director or Chairman to secure quotes from all the Financial Institutions in Fort Valley so the city would be transparent and fair.
 - i. Motioned- Crafter
 - ii. Seconded- Bryant
 - iii. A discussion occurred as to whether or not to table the Synovus and Franchise Agreement or to give them time to look over the agreement.
 1. All in Favor-Gowen, Mayor, Barnes, Allen
 2. Opposed- Brown, Bryant, Crafter
 3. Motion Failed

Mayor Williams went to go to the next item.

Attorney Billy Jerles told them they had to go back because those issues are still on the table for them to vote up or down on them.

- i. Motion to give Mayor Williams authorization to sign the Resolution to execute Synovus Agreement Letter contingent upon all the funds being released that is being withheld from the city by the Fort Valley Utility Commission.
 - i. Motioned- Crafter
 - ii. Seconded- Bryant
 4. All in Favor- Williams, Allen, Crafter, Brown, and Bryant
 5. Opposed- Gowen
 6. Abstained- Barnes
 7. Motion Carries
1. Motion to Approve signing the Resolution to execute Natural Gas Franchise.
 - i. Motioned- Gowen
 - ii. Seconded- Barnes
 8. All in Favor- Barnes, Gowen, Williams, and Allen
 9. Opposed- Crafter, Braynt, and Brown
 10. Motion Carries

A discussion was held regarding the illegal signing of a document and setting a proper date for meeting with everyone.

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2. Anonymous Ethics Complaint- Resolution To Not Investigate
Ethics Complaint

Councilman Crafter explained some of the details in the letter about the complaint.

- ii. Motioned- Brown
- iii. Seconded- Allen
 - 1. Allen asked if the motion to not investigate was for the fact that it wasn't signed.
 - a. Crafter answered that it was for that reason.
 - 2. Opposed- Barnes and Gowen
 - 3. Recused- Bryant and Mayor Williams recused themselves because the complaint was regarding them.

Reports from Departments

Economic Development Committee- Alonzo Allen

The Administration Committee- Marvin Crafter

Public Works Committee- Jimmy Barnes

Finance Committee- LeMario Brown

Personnel Committee- Carla Gowen

City Marshall Report and Public Safety Report- Juanita Bryant

Councilman Crafter gave a special Recognition to Dr. Vallory White for being present at the meeting.

Meeting Adjourned- 8:00pm

Motion- Bryant

Seconded- Barnes

All in Favor- Unanimous


Scakajawea Wright, Office Assistant

Reviewed & Revised by:


Karin D. Vinson, City Administrator