



**CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
MAYOR AND COUNCIL CITY OF FORT VALLEY
THURSDAY, JANUARY 18, 2024, AT 6:30 PM
CITY HALL-204 WEST CHURCH STREET**

ATTENDANCE: Mayor Jeffery Lundy, Councilman Fred van Hartesveldt, Councilwoman Juanita Bryant, Councilwoman Carla Gowen, Councilwoman Laronda F. Eason, Councilwoman Sandra B. Marshall, Councilman Henry Howard, City Administrator James A. Woods, Dir. Gary Lee, Police Chief AB Evans and Major DJ Flores, Chief A. Woodard, Mr. Walter Johnson
RECORDER-Diane Brown, City Clerk
PRESIDED-Mayor Jeffery Lundy

- I. CALL TO ORDER
- II. INVOCATION-Councilwoman Eason
- III. PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE
- IV. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA
 - Motion - Councilwoman Carla Gowen
 - Second Motion-Councilman Henry Howard
 - o All in favor motion carried.
- V. MINUTES APPROVAL-2023-December
 - Committee Meetings
 - Work Session Meeting
 - Special Called Meeting
 - Emergency Special Called Meeting
 - Motion – Councilwoman Carla Gowen
 - Second Motion-Councilman Fred van Hartesveldt
 - o All in favor motion carried.
- VI. ANNOUNCEMENTS-Mayor Jeffery Lundy
 - Peaches to Beaches Yard Sales-Marvin Crafter Festival Park, March 8-9, 2024, Time:8:am-6: pm.
 - The reading of Proclamation for the Late Ms. Jessie Mae Hill
- VII. ORDINANCE
 1. Amending Section 18-293-Dwellings or Other Buildings Unfit for Human Habitation.
Motion to amend Section 18-293 Dwelling or Other Buildings Unfit for Human Habitation.
Only change the days from a 10 day to 14-day letter.
 - Motion-Councilwoman Carla Gowen
 - Second Motion- Councilman Fred van Hartesveldt
 - o Discussion followed.
 - Withdraw of first Motion Councilwoman Carla Gowen
 - Motion to accept Ordinance Section 18-296 Dwelling or Other Building Unfit for Human Habitation. With the proper changes. (Section number error came via City Attorney Quinton Washington's Office).
 - o Motion -Councilwoman Carla Gowen
 - o Second Motion-Councilwoman Laronda Eason
 - All in favor motion carried.
- VIII. EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH
 - Public Works Department- Marium Harris
 - Fire Department- Sgt. Ian Lindsey
 - o Brandon Walker promotion to Lieutenant position.
 - o Alexander Pryor promotion to Assistant Chief position.

- Police Department-Sgt. Raines
 - o Also received Merits Award from Chief Evans for his courageous rescue of an elderly female from a burning house located on Persons St.
 - o Ofc. Scott received the Community Service Award, the 5th highest in the agency for participation in 15 city events.
- Administration Department-Code Enforcement Rhonda Walker
 - o For outstanding job of Code Ofc. And working administratively compiling cases for Judge and working hand in hand with Economic development to improve the city's appearance and is an intricate part in helping the Police reduce crime.

IX. MANAGEMENT REPORT- City Administrator, James A. Woods-None

- Councilwoman Juanita Bryant
 - o Motion to reinstate Mr. Vernon Kendrick, give him back pay and pay his attorney fees,
 - o Second Motion-Councilwoman Laronda Eason
 - Discussion followed.

X. RESOLUTIONS

1. Resolution to appoint Ginikki Crafter as a Core Board Member to the Fort Valley Downtown Development Authority Board to serve the remaining 3 years of a 4-year term of the vacant seat.
 - Motion- Councilwoman Juanita Bryant
 - Second Motion-Councilman Fred van Hartesveldt
 - o All in favor Motion carried.
2. Resolution of Council to authorize the Mayor to execute the contract of the Municipal Court Judge.
 - Motion- Councilwoman Juanita Bryant
 - Second Motion-Councilman Fred van Hartesveldt
 - o All in favor Motion carried.
3. Resolution to adopt the Urban Redevelopment Plan.
 - Motion- Councilman Fred van Hartesveldt
 - Second Motion- Councilwoman Carla Gowen
 - o All in favor Motion carried.
4. Resolution of Mayor and Council to review the City Administrator James A. Woods' Contract.
 - Motion-Councilwoman Carla Gowen
 - No Second Motion.
 - o Motion Failed.
5. Resolution of Mayor and Council to approve the contract of Quinton Washington, Washington, Dryer & Associates.
 - Motion- Councilman Fred van Hartesveldt
 - No Second Motion.
 - o Motion Failed.
6. Resolution of Mayor and Council to organize an event to celebrate The FVSU Wildcats winning in the Inaugural Florida Beach Bowl.
 - Motion -Councilman Fred van Hartesveldt
 - Second Motion-Councilman Henry Howard
 - o All in favor Motion carried.

XI. REPORTS FROM THE DEPARTMENTS

- XII. EXECUTIVE SESSION-Motion at 7:40 PM.
- Motion Councilwoman Laronda Eason
 - Second Motion-Councilman Henry Howard
 - o All in favor Motion carried.

Meeting Resumed at 8:53 pm.

Mayor Lundy presided.

Action-Three motions by way of resolutions.

Motion to rehire Mr. Kendrick asap for employment.

Motion-Councilwoman Juanita Bryant

Second Motion-Councilman Henry Howard

Discussion followed.

Send Mr. Kendrick a letter saying his position is open tomorrow.

Amendment to the motion.

Councilwoman Juanita Bryant

Motion by way of resolution to rehire Mr. Vernon Kendrick effective Monday, January 22, 2024.

Yae-Vote-4

Councilwoman Juanita Bryant, Councilman Henry Howard, Councilwoman Laronda Eason,

Councilwoman Sandra B. Marshall

Opposed-Vote-3

Mayor Jeffery Lundy, Councilman Fred van Hartesveldt, Councilwoman Carla Gowen.

Motion carried Yae-4/Nay-3

Motion by way of resolution to terminate within the next 30 days the employment contract of City Administrator Mr. James Woods according to the Charter.

- Motion -Councilwoman Juanita Bryant
 - Second Motion- Councilwoman Laronda Eason
 - o Yae-Vote-4
 - Councilwoman Juanita Bryant, Councilman Henry Howard, Councilwoman Laronda Eason, Councilwoman Sandra B. Marshall.
 - o Opposed-Vote-3
 - Mayor Jeffery Lundy, Councilman Fred van Hartesveldt, Councilwoman Carla Gowen.
- Motion carried Yae-4/Nay-3

Motion to terminate, not renew the contract of City Attorney Quinton Washington, of Washington Dreyer & Associates.

- Motion-Councilwoman Juanita Bryant
 - Second Motion- Councilman Henry Howard
 - o Yae-Vote-4
 - Councilwoman Juanita Bryant, Councilman Henry Howard, Councilwoman Laronda Eason, Councilwoman Sandra B. Marshall.
 - o Opposed-Vote-3
 - Mayor Jeffery Lundy, Councilwoman Fred van Hartesveldt, Councilwoman Carla Gowen.
- Motion carried Yae-4/Nay-3

Motion to adjourn the Meeting.

Motion-Councilwoman Laronda Eason

Second Motion-Councilwoman Bryant

All in favor motion carried.

MEETING ADJOURNED-9:00 PM.