

BOARD OF MAYOR
AND COMMISSIONERS

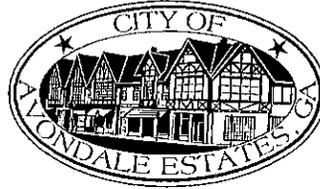
JONATHAN ELMORE
MAYOR

TERRY GIAGER
MAYOR PRO TEM

RANDY BEEBE
COMMISSIONER

BRIAN FISHER
COMMISSIONER

ADELA YELTON
COMMISSIONER



R. CLAI BROWN
CITY MANAGER

GINA HILL
CITY CLERK

ROBERT E. WILSON
CITY ATTORNEY

STEPHEN W. NICHOLAS
CITY JUDGE

BOARD OF MAYOR AND COMMISSIONERS

REGULAR MEETING

September 26th, 2016

6:30 p.m.

MINUTES

- Members Present: Jonathan Elmore, Mayor
Terry Giager, Mayor Pro Tem
Randy Beebe, Commissioner
Brian Fisher, Commissioner
Adela Yelton, Commissioner
- Staff Present: Clai Brown, City Manager
Gina Hill, City Clerk
Oscar Griffin, Public Works Director
- Item No. 1 Meeting Called to Order
- Item No. 2 Invocation (Commissioner Beebe)
- Item No. 3 Pledge to the Flag
- Item No. 4 Adoption of Agenda
Mayor Elmore moves to adopt agenda. Commissioner Fisher seconds. All ayes.
- Item No. 5 Approval of Minutes:
July 21st Special Called Work Session with the DDA
August 17th Work Session
August 22nd Public Hearing
August 22nd Regular Meeting
Mayor Elmore moves to engross minutes. Commissioner Fisher seconds. All ayes.
- Item No. 6 Commissioner Updates – Subjects of General Interest and Concern
- Commissioner Yelton: I'd like to give a brief plug to Dekalb School of the Arts (DSA). The DSA Foundation will be presenting the distinguished alumni dinner fundraiser at Callanwolde on October 6th to recognized alumni Representative Stacey Abrams and Reginald Smith, Jr. It's sure to be a wonderful event to raise funds for programs at DSA.

Commissioner Fisher: I just want to put in a quick plug for Autumnfest which is right around the corner. It's an exciting event and one of our most attended events. This year is especially exciting because while we have a condensed version, it's going to be in the business district. We're excited to see what kind of impact that has and hopefully build traction for the future there. We'd like to see the business owners get the benefit of having thousands of people come to the City. Tell your friends and I hope to see you there.

Mayor Pro Tem Giager: Many of you have seen a lot of work being done and streets dug up. It's because of Google trying to put in lines and they are knocking water and gas lines. Public Works Director Griffin and his crew are working hard to keep things running smoothly.

Mayor Elmore: This Thursday, the 29th at 5:30 p.m. we're going to have a special called work session to try to iron out our agreement with the Downtown Development Authority (DDA). They've been very patient with us and we want to get that finalized so we can purchase services from them. I'd also like to point out that ArtLot is under construction. It's a work in progress. It's going slowly but it is still under construction. It's not finished. Please be patient.

Item No. 7

Monthly Report by the City Manager Concerning the Status of Matters in Progress and Upcoming Issues and Events

City Manager Brown: I'd like to thank Public Works Director Griffin for being here. The Police Chief is in mandatory training so he can't be with us. About 25 days ago we were doing the Labor Day Race. I'd like to thank all the volunteers, sponsors, and City staff for everything they did to make that a successful run. It was the most people the City has ever had. There were actually more on site sign ups that advance sign ups. All the volunteers had their hands really full and they did a really good job.

The City is about to finalize the agreement with HEH Paving to start work on four roads. A preconstruction meeting is going to be held next week and work is expected to begin the week of October 24th. They should be done by the end of November, before Thanksgiving. After we meet with them, I'll finalize the timeline and get it out to the City. We will be knocking on some doors where the roads will be affected. Everyone will be notified.

The annexation feasibility study will be moving forward. I just received the agreement. It will be done on the areas discussed in last week's Board of Mayor and Commissioners meeting. The Carl Vinson Institute is going to do it for seven thousand dollars (\$7,000) and will take about three months to complete.

A press release went out and there was a good article on this in The Champion about City Planner Stevens who has successfully completed a Georgia Downtown Association professional development program level one. As a result, she has received the designation of a Downtown Georgia Development Professional. It's a big achievement. There are three different levels. She had to have at least two years' experience in downtown development. She had to have 50 hours of training, two letters of recommendation and, on top of that, she had to give an oral presentation in front of a board and take a written exam. It really took a lot of work and credentials. Congratulations to her. Congratulate her if you see her. Her goal is to go on to level two.

Item No. 8 Citizens' Comments: None
"It's another beautiful day in Avondale Estates" – Thomas P. Samford

Item No. 9 Old Business: None

Item No. 10 New Business:

- Special Recognition of Mark Livingston

City Manager Brown: We have a lot of Tree Board members here and a lot of Mark's coworkers.

Mark Livingston: It's good to see everyone here. I appreciate the honor. Hopefully the trees will keep going in Avondale. I know we've planted over three thousand over the past five or six years. The Tree Board is very dedicated. You really care about the City.

Mayor Elmore reads appreciation certificate.

- Resolution to Appoint Three Planning and Zoning Board Members
Martha Teall
Todd Pullen
Joe Anziano
Mayor Pro Tem Giager moves to approves. Commissioner Beebe seconds. All ayes.

Mayor Elmore: I would just like to say thank you for stepping up and volunteering. I appreciate you doing that. Congratulations and I look forward to working with you.

- Fiscal Year 2017 Local Maintenance Improvement Grant (LMIG) Agreement

Mayor Elmore: This is just a grant that we applied for and received for additional funding for roads.

City Manager Brown: Yes, it's thirty-one thousand four hundred eighty-two dollars and sixty-two cents (\$31,482.62) that we will get from the state, if the state approves us, with a 30% match. The City will have to spend nine thousand four hundred and forty-four dollars and seventy-eight cents (\$9,444.78) for this grant. It is an increase because a House bill passed increasing our grant amount by about 30%.

Mayor Pro Tem Giager moves to approve. Commissioner Yelton seconds. All ayes.

- First Baptist Church Avondale Real Estate Purchase and Easement Agreements

Commissioner Yelton: I think moving forward with this real estate transaction is the first step in resolving some of our storm water issues for residents around that area. I'm glad we're taking these steps.

Mayor Elmore: Some background, the City is buying some land off the First Baptist Church parking lot for the purpose of building a retention pond.

Commissioner Fisher: It is the first step of many. We have significant storm water issues on Berkeley, Clarendon, Dartmouth, all the way to Wiltshire. We have several "bowls" in the City that don't drain well and more building and hard surfaces and pipes that aren't large enough. We're working on these infrastructure problems for the long term.

City Manager Brown: The City is purchasing about one half an acre which is two parcels located behind two residential parcels on Stratford Road for one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000). Also in the agreement is a 15-year exemption for the Church having to pay storm water fees and that equals a little over forty thousand dollars. Also, the City will receive the current pond. There are some downed trees on that property we will have to remove. We will have to put a fence around the pond. These documents will be on the website. If the Board approves the next step will be to close on the property. The next step after that would be to hire an engineer, most likely Clark Patterson Lee because they know the history of this drainage issue. They would do construction documents to see exactly how much it's going to cost to build the pond and run the pipe.

Mayor Pro Tem Giager moves to approve. Commissioner Fisher seconds. All ayes.

Item No. 11

Announcements (Commissioner Beebe)

One of the City's biggest events, AutumnFest, is Saturday, October 1st from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. This year, the festival will be held on Franklin Street between Oak and Lake Streets.

If you're a fan of Skip's Hot Dogs, plan to stop by for dinner on Tuesday, October 4th for Avondale Elementary School's spirit night. The school will receive 20% of proceeds from sales between 5:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m.

Walk off that dinner the next morning with the 20th anniversary of International Walk to School Day.

The Department of Juvenile Justice will be hosting its 3rd Annual 5K Fun Run Walk at the campus here in Avondale Estates on Covington Highway. More information is on the City website.

On another note from Avondale Elementary School, they will be having a Fall Festival from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on October 15th.

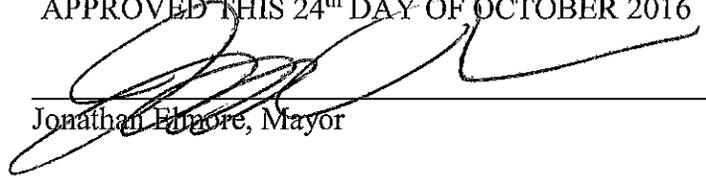
It's been a sad time at City Hall with the passing of longtime resident and City matriarch Pegge Brown. We send our condolences to all her friends and family.

Item No. 12

Adjournment

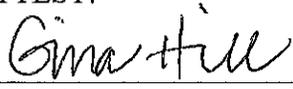
Mayor Pro Tem Giager moves to adjourn. Commissioner Fisher seconds. All ayes.

APPROVED THIS 24th DAY OF OCTOBER 2016



Jonathan Edmore, Mayor

ATTEST:



Gina Hill, City Clerk