

**BOARD OF MAYOR
AND COMMISSIONERS**

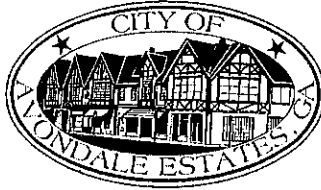
JONATHAN ELMORE
MAYOR

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
October 2nd, 2017
6:30 p.m.**

MINUTES

Members Present: Jonathan Elmore, Mayor
Terry Giager, Mayor Pro Tem
Randy Beebe, Commissioner
Adela Yelton, Commissioner
Brian Fisher, Commissioner

Staff Present: Clai Brown, City Manager
Keri Stevens, City Planner
Lynn Thomas, Police Chief
Oscar Griffin, Public Works Director
Stephen Quinn, City Attorney

Item No. 1 Meeting Called to Order

Item No. 2 Invocation (Commissioner Yelton)

Item No. 3 Pledge to the Flag

Item No. 4 Adoption of Agenda
Mayor Elmore moves to adopt. Commissioner Fisher seconds. All
eyes.

Item No. 5 Approval of Minutes:
June 26th Regular Meeting
July 19th Work Session
July 24th Regular Meeting
July 24th Public Hearing
August 9th Special Called Work Session
August 28th Regular Meeting
August 28th Public Hearing
Mayor Elmore moves to engross. Commissioner Beebe seconds. All ayes.

Item No. 6

Commissioner Updates – Subjects of General Interest and Concern

Mayor Pro Tem Giager: We have some candidates for commissioner here tonight. I want to thank you and the residents for being here. It's going to be an exciting season.

Commissioner Fisher: I want to thank the public works department and other City staff for all the planning and work that went into preparing for the hurricane.

Commissioner Yelton: My son told me about a police officer that approached him and his friends at Willis Park and asked to throw the football with them. I appreciate that.

Commissioner Beebe and Mayor Elmore have nothing to add.

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 welcome City Planner Keri Stevens who is filling in for City Clerk Gina Hill today. I'd also like to welcome Police Chief Lynn Thomas and Public Works Director Oscar Griffin. There was a lot of planning that went into preparing for Hurricane Irma. All the police officers and public works associates were working. Thank you for all you do. I have letters here I'd like to read. I was riding with a friend and we were pulled over for expired tags. The officer was a great example of what the police should be. He was very professional and his name was Officer Beatty. The other letter starts, I want to let Oscar Griffin's boss know what an excellent employee and man he is. My bathroom was flooding and he immediately came over to help me remove the lid from my water meter. He was very kind and patient and I was very grateful. So I would like to present him with a certificate of merit. Our associates are so great. We appreciate our residents' patience, especially with the storm debris. The crews have been working weekends to get caught up.

Item No. 8

Citizens' Comments:

"It's another beautiful day in Avondale Estates" – Thomas P. Samford

Item No. 9

Old Business:

Third and Final Reading of Ordinance to Annex 3244 Covington Highway

Mayor Elmore moves to adopt. Commissioner Fisher seconds. All ayes.

No Commissioner or public comment.

Third and Final Reading of Ordinance to Zone 3244 Covington Highway

Mayor Elmore moves to adopt. Commissioner Beebe seconds. All ayes.

No Commissioner or public comment.

Item No. 10

New Business:

Resolution to Amend Zoning Map for 656 Ashton Place

Commissioner Fisher moves to adopt. Commissioner Yelton seconds. All ayes.

Barry Berney/Property Owner: (Reads statement from his attorney into the record.) I was raised around here. My mother and I both own a house on Oakham Place. We owned this land before the City annexed it in. The property has been zoned central business district (CBD) a long time. I have a contract to sell the land. The buyer wants to put townhomes and single family homes on it because that's the way it was zoned. No one wanted to change the zoning before now. I think what the builder wants to build on my land would be a good transition between the former houses zoned CBD on North Clarendon and the residential area of Oakham. I would ask the Board to reconsider changing the zoning or putting restrictions on it that would allow townhouses and single family houses.

Resolution to Amend Zoning Map for 660 Ashton Place

Commissioner Fisher moves to adopt. Commissioner Yelton seconds. All ayes.

No Commissioner comment. Mr. Berney says his comments for the above agenda item apply to this item as well.

Agreement to Change the City Associate Health Insurance Plan Through the Georgia Municipal Employees Benefit System (GMEBS) Life and Health Insurance Fund, the Plan Changes Associates' Deductible from \$500 to \$1500 Per Dependent

Mayor Pro Tem Giager moves to adopt. Commissioner Beebe seconds. Two yays (Commissioners Giager & Beebe), three nays.

Commissioner Fisher: Health insurance costs are difficult to contain. I think City staff has done a great job over the years to try to minimize the impact to employees as much as possible. I don't know what the answers are. I wish we had more time to come up with more ideas. We will probably deal with this again next year. I'd like to amend this to keep the deductible at five hundred dollars (\$500.00) for this year which would increase the budget by sixty thousand dollars (\$60,000.00). We may want to reduce the infrastructure budget. I won't be voting in favor of this tonight.

Mayor Elmore: This is just a yes or no vote, correct? If it passes, the new plan starts January 1st. If not, everything stays the same and we'd have to find the sixty-five thousand (\$65,000.00).

City Manager Brown: Correct.

Commissioner Fisher: We would either have to take the money out of general funds or reduce the budget.

Mayor Elmore: Amending the item is not an option.

Commissioner Fisher: Correct. I'll be voting no.

Commissioner Yelton: I'll also be voting no for many of the reason just stated. It would also buy us more time to gather more information and look at the total compensation packages. We don't have to talk about that right now.

Commissioner Beebe: With a heavy heart, I'm going to vote in favor of this. I've looked at the plan. It's a good plan and there hasn't been an increase in three years.

Mayor Pro Tem Giager: I made the motion to accept this. I understand what the other commissioners are saying. The City is fortunate not to have to increase rates for employees for three years. Everyone has had to deal with increases. I think the City has done an excellent job. It's a good health plan. I feel for the associates but for comparable plans across the City, this is a great deductible. I will vote for it.

Mayor Elmore: I understand everything everyone said and I understand healthcare is not going down in cost. I think everyone who lives here puts the City services at the top of the list of things they like about Avondale. A thousand dollars is a lot of money for some people. I can't in good conscience support it.

Public Comment

Joe Anziano/3242 Wiltshire Dr: Are you at the window where you have to decide on this plan?

City Manager Brown: Yes.

Joe Anziano/3242 Wiltshire Dr: On this plan, is there a lock for a period of time beyond one year?

City Manager Brown: No.

Candace Jones/9 Fairfield Dr: I agree it should be kept the same and maybe a solution can be found for next year.

Item No. 11

Announcements (Commissioner Yelton)

Please come out for the first Sip N' Stroll this Saturday from 4pm to 7pm. Tickets can be purchased at Purple Corkscrew. There will be 20 stops around the business district, each showcasing a different wine. A big

thank you to the Avondale Estates Business Association and the Downtown Development Authority for planning and hosting. I want to add there will be a fur bus.

We regret to announce the passing of Avondale Estates business owner and former resident, Marty Mann.

Mayor Elmore: I'd like to add that Mann Mechanical is the largest employer in Avondale. He was a fine human being and a super nice guy.

Item No. 12

Adjournment

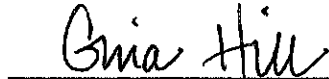
Mayor Elmore moves to adjourn. Commissioner Fisher seconds. All ayes.

APPROVED THIS 13th DAY OF NOVEMBER 2017



Jonathan Elmore, Mayor

ATTEST:



Gina Hill, City Clerk