



**Cleveland City Council
Called Meeting Minutes
Monday, July 25, 2022 - 6:30 P.M.
Cleveland Community Center/Police Department
342 Campbell Street, Cleveland, GA**

1. Call to Order

Mayor Turner called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

PRESENT:

Mayor Josh Turner, Council Members Nan Bowen, Rebecca Yardley, Jeremy McClure, and C.J. McDonald (Mayor Pro Tem)

Also present were City Administrator Kevin Harris, City Attorney Grant Keene and Keith Whitaker, and City Clerk Lisa Ritchie

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Approve Agenda

Motion by Council Member McClure, seconded by Council Member McDonald and voted, unanimously, to approve the agenda.

PUBLIC HEARING

4. November Referendum for the package sale of distilled spirits

Mayor Turner stated the following:

- This item is the 2nd Public Hearing on the question of whether the issuance of licenses for the package sale of distilled spirits in the City of Cleveland shall be permitted.
- The first Public Hearing was held at the Monday, July 11, 2022, Meeting at 6:30 at the Cleveland Police Department
- This is the final hearing.
- Under Senate Bill 145, the Georgia General Assembly and Governor Kemp revised the law allowing cities and counties to call for a ballot question on liquor package sales by resolution or ordinance. Under the previous law, the petition threshold of 35% of registered voter signatures was required to initiate the process. Under the law passed in 2021, 20% of registered voter signatures or a majority vote of the Council would allow a referendum to be placed on a ballot.

- At the end of the hearing there will be a time to entertain motions on the topic from any member(s) of the city council.
- If a motion were made in order, and received a majority vote, a distilled spirits referendum could be placed on the November ballot for city residents.
- If the referendum is approved in November, the city would begin the process of developing ordinances to create the regulations and application process. The city would then set a date to complete the ordinances and determine when distilled spirits sales could begin.

5. Public Comment

The following people addressed the Mayor and Council Members with their comments on the item:

In favor:

- Rush Mauney, 177 Old Clarkesville Road, addressed the Mayor and Council. Mr. Mauney asked that the Mayor and Council do their due diligence with building specifications and preserve the welfare and ambiance of the town.
- Hal Jarvis, 231 West Underwood Street

In opposition:

None.

The Public Hearing was closed as there were no others wishing to speak on the matter.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Chief Pruitt addressed the Mayor and Council Members.

6. Request for the purchase of a 2022 RAM 1500 truck and accessories

Motion by Council Member Yardley, seconded by Council Member Bowen and voted, unanimously, to approve the purchase of a 2022 RAM truck and accessories for \$47,426.99 from SPLOST funds.

PUBLIC WORKS/WATER

Andrea Smith, Water/Wastewater Supervisor addressed the Mayor and Council Members.

7. Request for the purchase of a side by side

Ms. Smith stated that it would be useful in assisting them with spraying around the fence, collecting samples, and getting around during the plant upgrade.

Motion by Council Member Yardley, seconded by Council Member McDonald and voted, unanimously, to approve the purchase of a side by side with an upper and lower windshield and a top for \$10,442.79 from SPLOST funds.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Harris addressed the Council.

8. Resolution calling for a Special Referendum Election authorizing the City of Cleveland to issue licenses for the package sale of distilled spirits

Motion by Council Member Yardley, seconded by Council Member McClure and voted, unanimously, to approve the Resolution calling for a Special Referendum Election authorizing the City of Cleveland to issue licenses for the package sale of distilled spirits in the City of Cleveland.

9. Agreement with White County for Elections Services

Mr. Harris gave an update stating that there is a written e-mail agreement at this time. He said it will be large savings to allow the County to perform the duties of the election.

He said he will have further information at the August 1, 2022 meeting.

10. 2022-10 Resolution to amend Board Appointments – City Attorney Keith Whitaker, Smith Gilliam Williams & Miles as City Attorney, and K. Grant Keene as Co-Counsel

Motion by Council Member McDonald, seconded by Council Member Bowen and voted, unanimously, to approve the 2022-10 Resolution amending the Board appointments adding Keith Whitaker, Smith Gilliam Williams & Miles as the City Attorney, and K. Grant Keene as Co-Counsel.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion by Council Member McClure, seconded by Council Member Bowen and voted, unanimously, to enter an Executive Session at 6:47 p.m.

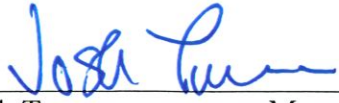
Personnel and Real Estate

Motion by Council Member McClure, seconded by Council Member Bowen and voted, unanimously, to adjourn the Executive Session and return to the City Council Meeting at 8:35 p.m.

Council Member McDonald opened the door to allow citizens to return to the regular meeting. There were no citizens waiting to return to the meeting.

ADJOURN

Motion by Council Member McDonald, seconded by Council Member Yardley and voted, unanimously, to adjourn the Called City Council Meeting of July 25, 2022 at p.m.



Josh Turner Mayor



Jeremy McClure Council Member
Ward 3



Nan Bowen Council Member
Ward 1



C.J. McDonald Council Member
Ward 4
Mayor Pro Tem



Rebecca Yardley Council Member
Ward 2

ATTEST:



Lisa A. Ritchie City Clerk