



**Cleveland City Council**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**Monday, April 10, 2023 - 6:30 P.M.**  
**Cleveland Community Center/Police Department**  
**342 Campbell Street, Cleveland, GA**

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**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 Keith Whitaker, and City Clerk Lisa Ritchie

Council Member Bowen introduced Dr. Weaver.

- 2. Invocation – Dr. Phillip Weaver, Cleveland First Baptist Church & White County Ministerial Alliance**
- 3. Pledge of Allegiance**
- 4. Approve Agenda**

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

**PRESENTATIONS**

**5. Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Month**

Mayor Turner presented the proclamation. South Enotah Child Advocacy Rebekah Perethian, White County Family Connections Mark Griffin, Enotah Casa Outreach Coordinator Fran Parks accepted the proclamation.

Motion by Council Member Yardley, seconded by Council Member Bowen, and voted, unanimously, to approve the proclamation.

6. Family Connection 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Proclamation and White County Family Connection Sponsorship

Mayor Turner presented the proclamation. Mark Griffin, Director of White County Family Connections accepted the proclamation.

Motion by Council Member Bowen, seconded by Council Member McClure, and voted, unanimously, to approve the proclamation.

Motion by Council Member Bowen, seconded by Council Member McClure, and voted, unanimously, to approve celebrating the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary serving the children and families of White County by becoming a Gold Sponsor.

7. Update on the Wastewater Treatment Plant – Meg Mbugua, P.E., Rindt

Ms. Mbugua addressed the Mayor and Council Members. She discussed the Wastewater Treatment Plant timeline.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS**

Mayor Turner addressed the public and went over public hearing instructions. He introduced the first public hearing.

8. Second Public Hearing and consideration – 2023-07 – Amendment of the Ordinance Establishing Personnel Policies and Procedures for the City of Cleveland

Mr. Harris discussed the proposed Personnel Policies.

There were no comments from the public.

Mayor Turner closed the Public Hearing.

Motion by Council Member Yardley, seconded by Council Member McClure, and voted, unanimously, to approve the amendment of the Ordinance Establishing Personnel Policies and Procedures with a caveat that should there be scriveners' errors, the City Administrator or the City Clerk have the authority to correct them as long as they do not impact the outcome of the policy itself.

9. Second Public Hearing and consideration – 2023-08 - Distilled Package Sale Ordinance

Mr. Whitaker discussed the proposed Distilled Package Sale Ordinance.

David Shockley, Athens, addressed the Mayor and Council Members in favor of the ordinance.

Mayor Turner closed the Public Hearing.

Motion by Council Member McDonald, seconded by Council Member McClure, and voted, unanimously, to approve the Distilled Package Sale Ordinance with an amendment to change the Atlanta Regional Commission to Georgia Mountain Regional Commission.

**10. Second Public Hearing to update the City of Cleveland Comprehensive Plan Future Land Use Map**

Mayor Turner introduced the item.

Planning and Economic Development Director Tom O'Bryant discussed the Comprehensive Plan Future Land Use Map.

The following people addressed the Mayor and Council in opposition of the item:

- Cathy Head, 193 Head Street
- Teresa Stancil, 2521 Adair Mill Road

Both Ms. Head and Ms. Stancil provided the Mayor and Council with documents that they wished to have as part of the record. They stated that the handouts they provided were of their own words. The documents will be on record with the City Clerk.

The Mayor and Council Members verified with Mr. O'Bryant that the proposed Comprehensive Plan Future Land Use map does meet all required standards.

Mayor Turner closed the Public Hearing.

Motion by Council Member Yardley, seconded by Council Member Bowen, and voted, unanimously, to postpone the vote until the first meeting in May (5/1/2023).

**11. First Public Hearing – 2023-09 – Leak Protection**

Mr. Harris presented the item. He said it was molded like White County Water Authority's. He said it would be a cost of \$2 per month to each customer.

There were no comments from the public.

Mayor Turner closed the Public Hearing.

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

## **12. Economic Development and Planning– Director Tom O’Bryant**

- March 2023 Report

Mr. O’Bryant addressed the Mayor and Council Members. He reported the following March items:

- Occupational Licenses - 3
- Building Permits - 6
- Sign Permits - 3
- Building Inspections - 18
- Plan Reviews – 2
- Current Commercial Activity – 5 projects
- Development Inquiries – 7
- Grant Applications
  - The Appalachian Regional Grant full application is under review by the Appalachian Regional Commission in Washington, DC
  - GDOT Transportation Alternative Program (TAP) grant application for preliminary engineering for sidewalk and crosswalks connecting Freedom Park and City Park. A kick-off meeting is scheduled for April 6.
  - Assisted Berry Foods IGA and Southern legacy Wood Products regarding support for USDA Energy Grants and Georgia Power energy equipment upgrade rebates
- Infrastructure
  - London Land Surveying is drawing up a plat with the proposed easement for the gravity flow sewer line at the Head Street lift station.
  - The new well received source water approval from Georgia Environmental Protection Division.
  - Planning and Zoning Board conducted training on zoning procedures and state requirements
  - Staff review and approval of the materials and equipment lists for the utility contractor for the Georgia Department of Transportation bridge/culvert replacement

## **13. Finance Department – City Administrator Kevin Harris**

- March 2023 Report

Mr. Harris addressed the Mayor and Council Members. He reported the following March items:

**14. Fire Department – Chief Ricky Pruitt**

- March 2023 Report

Chief Pruitt addressed the Mayor and Council Members. He reported the following March items:

- Total of 115 Calls: 61 inside the city and 54 in the County
- White County Fire Department responded 1 time in the city

**15. Police Department - Chief Jeff Shoemaker**

- March 2023 Report

Chief Shoemaker addressed the Mayor and Council Members. He reported the following March items:

- Total occurrences – 1,918
  - Public assists - 427
  - Premise checks – 1,008
  - Field interviews - 16
  - Incident reports - 51
  - Accident reports - 27
  - Investigative/supplemental - 59
  - Citations Issued - 159
  - Warnings - 162
  - Warrants - 9
  - Juvenile - 0
- Citations
  - Misdemeanor, non-traffic - 6
  - DUI, Alcohol, & serious offenses - 2
  - Driver's license, Registration, & Insurance - 34
  - Moving violations, traffic control, etc. - 92
  - Equipment, seatbelt, etc. - 25

**16. Public Works Department – Assistant Public Works Director Ricky Hunt**

- March 2023 Report

Public Works Director Ricky Hunt addressed the Mayor and Council Members. He reported the following March items:

- Meter Change Outs – 9
- City Hall Maintenance - 2
- Sewer Backup – 2
- Miscellaneous – 1
- Check for Leaks – 10
- Final Reading Do Not Lock - 16
- Garbage Request – 13
- Inspection - 1
- Cut Off and lock meter - non-payment – 18
- Garbage request change - 3
- Culvert Clean Out - 1
- Meeting with customer – 3
- Sewer Inspection - 1
- Snowbird – 1
- Final Read and Lock Meter- 6
- Payment Agreement - 2
- Street Repair – 4
- Meter Inspections – 16
- Residential Cut On - 2
- Residential Turn On – 27
- Commercial Turn On – 3
- City Park repairs/Maintenance – 2
- City property maintenance – 1
- Monthly Meter Readings – 2,273
- Monthly Meter Re-Reads – 14
- Utility Locates – 98

Mr. Hunt expressed his appreciation to everyone for their support during the loss of his father, Donald Hunt.

**CITY ADMINISTRATOR KEVIN HARRIS**

Mr. Harris gave the administrator report. He discussed the following items:

- Mayor and Council Member’s upcoming appointments to the Water Authority and Housing Authority
- IT usage Policy
- Wireless/Mobile Device Agreement
- Public Works software needs regarding meter readings. The current software’s maintenance will expire. In order to have reliable meter reading methods with support, it is necessary to move forward with Neptune 360 by the end of 2023.

- GMA District 2 meeting Legislative Update on April 17

### **CITY ATTORNEY KEITH WHITAKER**

Mr. Whitaker did not have any items to report.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

- 17.** Request for sanitation services and road closures of South Brooks Street and Quillian Street, for the Business Block Party scheduled for Thursday, May 11, 2023, from 7:00 a.m. until 10:00 p.m.

Beth Truelove, White County Chamber of Commerce, addressed the Mayor and Council Members. She invited everyone to attend.

Motion by Council Member McDonald, seconded by Council Member Yardley, and voted, unanimously, to approve the request for sanitation services and road closures of South Brooks Street and Quillian Street, for the Business Block Party scheduled for Thursday, May 11, 2023, from 7:00 a.m. until 10:00 p.m.

- 18.** New Well #6 (Seaborn Drive)

Water/Waste Water Supervisor, Andrea Smith, addressed the Mayor and Council Members. She stated that they would like to add an eye wash station and would like for the buildings to be separate if possible.

Motion by Council Member McDonald, seconded by Council Member Yardley, and voted, unanimously, to approve submittal of the plan for well number 6 on Seaborn Drive to the Environmental Protection Division for approval.

Council member McClure requested to add the addition of an eyewash station to be added to the plans.

Council Member McDonald made an amendment to add an eyewash station to the plans, Council Member Yardley seconded the amendment, the Council voted, unanimously, to approve the amendment to add the eyewash station.

- 19.** Approval of Meeting Minutes
  - April 3, 2023 Meeting Minutes

Motion by Council Member McDonald, seconded by Council Member Yardley and voted, unanimously, to approve the April 3, 2023 Meeting Minutes.

- 20.** Approval of Executive Session Minutes
  - April 3, 2023 Executive Session Minutes

Motion by Council Member Bowen, seconded by Council Member McClure and voted, unanimously, to approve the April 3, 2023 Executive Session Minutes.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Jane Grillo, Sautee addressed the Mayor and Council Members about Creative Enterprises, a non-profit that provides job skills, daily living skills, etc. to people with disabilities.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Motion by Council Member McClure, seconded by Council Member Yardley and voted, unanimously, to enter an Executive Session at 8:51 p.m.

21. Discussion regarding real estate, personnel matters, and pending litigation

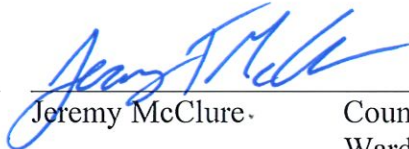
Motion by Council Member Yardley, seconded by Council Member McClure and voted, unanimously, to adjourn the Executive Session and return to the City Council Meeting at 10:35 p.m.

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**

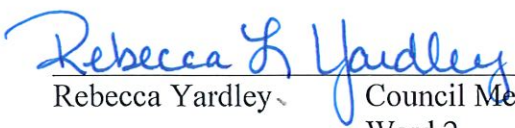
Motion by Council Member Yardley, seconded by Council Member McDonald and voted, unanimously, to adjourn the City Council Called Meeting of April 10, 2023, at 11:35 p.m.


  
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Josh Turner, Mayor

  
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Jeremy McClure, Council Member  
Ward 3

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Nan Bowen, Council Member  
Ward 1

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
C.J. McDonald, Council Member  
Ward 4

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Rebecca Yardley, Council Member  
Ward 2  
Mayor Pro Tem

ATTEST:  
  
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Lisa A. Ritchie, City Clerk