



**Cleveland City Council**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
Monday, April 4, 2022 - 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 Tom O'Bryant, City Attorney Grant Keene, and City Clerk Lisa Ritchie

Mayor Turner asked that everyone pay tribute to Tommy Turner and take a moment of silence. He said the following about Mr. Turner:

- He was a Veteran of the United States Army
- He served Georgia when he ran the bloodhound program at Alto
- He was an entrepreneur in Cleveland
- He was a husband, a father, a grandfather, a great grandfather, and a great-great-grandfather
- He was Mayor Turner's grandfather

**2. Invocation - Pastor Marc Turner, The Cleveland Worship Center**

Pastor Turner gave the Invocation. He stated that The Cleveland Worship Center is growing. He expressed his appreciation to the Mayor and Council Members for their support. He said they are currently in a site development project, putting in a new driveway, an extra parking lot, and infrastructure for two future buildings. He said they are not ready to build a family life center at this time, but they are close.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

4. Approve Agenda

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

**CITY ADMINISTRATOR TOM O'BRYANT**

Mr. O'Bryant addressed the Mayor and Council Members.

5. Zoning Ordinance

Mr. O'Bryant stated the need to develop a new City Zoning Ordinance. He stated the following:

- The Zoning Ordinance impacts the community directly
- The current Zoning Ordinance is primarily focused on the original language and land use concepts that were developed in 1970
- The current Zoning Ordinance remains broad and vague in its statement of uses and regulatory requirements
- Ordinances need to be very specific with detailed language about procedures, uses, etc.
- Currently, it does not reference the Georgia Zoning Procedures Law; the language must be included to inform the public of these specific procedures
- Currently, it does not recognize the impact of updated and innovative new technologies which impact the use of properties for both residences and businesses
- Mixed uses are not included in the current ordinance
- Mixed uses minimize the impacts of infrastructure which in turn is less costly to the city and the developer

Mr. O'Bryant recommended that he and the staff work with the Planning and Zoning Board to solicit public input and develop an initial draft.

There were no objections from the Mayor and Council Members. Mayor Turner asked that Mr. O'Bryant keep them informed of the progress.

6. LOST Renegotiations

Mayor Turner stated that he received a letter from the White County Commission last week regarding the LOST renegotiation. He said they will be meeting with the Commission for renegotiation of the LOST tax.

Mayor Turner and Council Members designated a team of negotiators as follows: Mayor Turner, Council Member Rebecca Yardley, and City Administrator Tom O'Bryant.

**CITY ATTORNEY GRANT KEENE**

Mr. Keene did not have any items to report.

**NEW BUSINESS**

7. Approval to add the City Clerk to the bank accounts for review and signature purposes

Motion by Council Member McClure, seconded by Council Member Bowen and voted, unanimously, to approve adding the City Clerk, Lisa Ritchie, to the bank account as a signer.

8. Approval to add the City Clerk to the Credit Card account

Motion by Council Member McClure, seconded by Council Member Bowen and voted, unanimously, to approve adding the City Clerk, Lisa Ritchie, to the Credit Card account.

9. Approve March 7, 2022 Meeting Minutes

Motion by Council Member McDonald, seconded by Council Member Yardley and voted, unanimously, to approve the March 7, 2022 Meeting Minutes.

10. Approve March 14, 2022 Meeting Minutes.

Motion by Council Member Yardley, seconded by Council Member Bowen and voted, unanimously, to approve the March 14, 2022 Meeting Minutes.

11. Approve March 21, 2022 Called Meeting Minutes

Motion by Council Member McDonald, seconded by Council Member Bowen and voted, unanimously, to approve the March 21, 2022 Meeting Minutes.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Judy Lovell addressed the Mayor and Council Members. She stated in 1927 the State of California sent hundreds of sequoia trees to Georgia. She said two of those trees came to the City of Cleveland. The trees were planted near the Quinn branch which was called Hardman park. She said the trees were named Sequoia and Hardman. She asked if anyone knew where they are today. No one was aware of the location of the trees.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mayor Turner gave the announcement.

12. City of Cleveland offices will be closed on Friday, April 15, 2022, in observance of Good Friday.

Motion by Council Member Yardley, seconded by Council Member McDonald and voted, unanimously, to enter an Executive Session at 6:44 p.m. to discuss personnel and real estate items.

Citizens left the meeting.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

13. Discussion regarding personnel matters and real estate

Motion by Council Member Yardley, seconded by Council Member McDonald and voted, unanimously, to return to the City Council Meeting at 8:09 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 Bowen, seconded by Council Member Yardley and voted, unanimously, to adjourn the City Council Meeting of April 4, 2022 at 8:10 p.m.

X

*Josh Turner*

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Josh Turner  
Mayor

X

*Nan Bowen*

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Nan Bowen  
Council Member, Ward 1

X

*Rebecca R. Yardley*

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Rebecca Yardley  
Council Member, Ward 2

X

*CJ McDonald*

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CJ McDonald  
Council Member, Ward 4

X

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Jeremy McClure  
Council Member, Ward 3

X

*Lisa A. Ritchie*

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Lisa A. Ritchie  
City Clerk