



**Cleveland City Council**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**Monday, July 3, 2023 - 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 (Mayor Pro Tem), and C.J. McDonald

Council Member McClure was not in attendance.

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

- 2. Invocation – Pastor Tim Morgan, Faith Lutheran Church, and White County Ministerial Alliance**
- 3. Pledge of Allegiance**
- 4. Approve Agenda**

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

**CITY ADMINISTRATOR KEVIN HARRIS**

Mr. Harris introduced John Solmon as the new Finance Director. He said that Mr. Solmon is a University of North Georgia (UNG) graduate with extensive experience. He serves on the White County School Board and is a Certified Public Accountant (CPA). Mr. Solmon and his wife, Jill, live in White County with their two daughters.

Mr. Harris expressed his gratitude to the Mayor and Council Members for the Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA). He stated the process is changing to allow all of the cost-

of-living adjustments to be in conjunction with new budgets to be provided to employees in July, rather than at the employee's hire date anniversary.

Mr. Harris stated that the city has received the Tax Digest from the County. He said the process must be complete by the end of July.

#### **CITY ATTORNEY KEITH WHITAKER**

Mr. Whitaker did not have any items to report.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

1. Approval to add John Solmon, Finance Director, to the City's bank accounts for review and signature purposes

Motion by Council Member Yardley, seconded by Council Member McDonald, and voted, unanimously, to approve adding John Solmon, Finance Director, to the City's bank accounts for review and signature purposes.

2. Approval to add John Solmon, Finance Director, to the City's Credit Card accounts

Motion by Council Member Bowen, seconded by Council Member Yardley, and voted, unanimously, to approve adding Mr. Solmon to the City's Credit Card accounts.

3. Resolution 2023-22 – Amendment to the fee schedule to establish fees for retail sale of package distilled spirits, including application and annual license fee.

Mr. Harris stated the application fee of \$2,000 and a \$5,000 license fee for those whose applications or chosen or which win the lottery.

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

4. Approve amendment to the 2023 Meeting Schedule to cancel the meeting scheduled for Monday, August 14, 2023.

Motion by Council Member McDonald, seconded by Council Member Bowen, and voted, unanimously, to approve the amended meeting schedule with the cancellation of the August 14, 2023 meeting.

5. Approve Meeting Minutes
  - June 12, 2023 Called Meeting Minutes
  - June 12, 2023 Meeting Minutes

- June 19, 2023 Called Meeting Minutes

Motion by Council Member Yardley, seconded by Council Member Bowen, and voted, unanimously, to approve the Minutes of the June 12 Called Meeting, June 12 Meeting, and June 19 Called Meeting and to allow Ms. Ritchie to correct any scrivener's errors when necessary.

**6. Approve Executive Session Minutes**

- June 12, 2023 Executive Session Minutes

Motion by Council Member McDonald, seconded by Council Member Bowen, and voted, unanimously, to approve the June 12, 2023 Executive Session Minutes.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Mr. Harris stated that there was no unfinished business to discuss.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no comments from the public.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Ms. Ritchie gave the announcements.

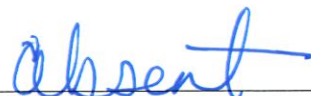
Upcoming calendar items:

7. City of Cleveland offices will be closed on Tuesday, July 4, 2023, in observance of Independence Day
8. Downtown Development Authority – Thursday, July 13, 2023, at 3:00 p.m. at the Chamber of Commerce
9. White County Water Authority Meeting – Thursday, July 13, 2023, at 7:30 a.m. at the Water Authority
10. Planning & Zoning Meeting – Thursday, July 28, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. at the Police Department

**ADJOURN**

Motion by Council Member McDonald, seconded by Council Member Yardley and voted, unanimously, to adjourn the City Council Meeting of July 3, 2023 at 6:44 p.m.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Josh Turner                      Mayor

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jeremy McClure              Council Member  
Ward 3

*Nan Bowen*

Nan Bowen

Council Member  
Ward 1

*C.J. McDonald*

C.J. McDonald

Council Member  
Ward 4

*Rebecca S. Yardley*

Rebecca Yardley

Council Member  
Ward 2  
Mayor Pro Tem

ATTEST:  
*Lisa A. Ritchie*

Lisa A. Ritchie

City Clerk