

**Minutes of Regular Meeting  
Mayor and Council  
City of Fitzgerald, Georgia  
February 14, 2022  
6:00 pm**

A Public Hearing took place at the City Hall Council Chambers, located at 302 East Central Avenue, on Monday, February 14, 2022.

A **Public Hearing** was held at the City of Fitzgerald to receive input and comments from Citizens with regard to the proposed honorary co-naming of Palm Street to Palm Street/Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive.

Mayor Holt called on Reverend George Vereen to come and speak. We cannot have history with out Black History. He understood the adversities and wants to work together to reach unity in our community. This co-naming will connect Monitor to Palm Street as a way to connect the old and future of history from the black community. He wants us to grow and move forward.

Pastor Connie Graham spoke on behalf of citizens. Pastor Graham spoke regarding the agape love and how Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr, exemplified this type of love. Just as the soldiers did in this community when they came together, the community can do the same today and make history again.

With no one else to speak, the public hearing was closed.

Mayor and Council of the City of Fitzgerald, Georgia, met in a **Regular** meeting in the City Hall Council Chambers, located at 302 East Central Avenue, with Mayor Holt presiding and with Council members Brown, Clemons, D. Jefferson, S. Jefferson, J. Johnson, K. Johnson, Peavey, Roberts and Webb.

Mayor Holt wished everyone a Happy Valentine's Day.

Minutes of January 10, 2022, Regular Council meeting were presented. Mayor Holt entertained a motion for approval.

**Motion:** Webb

**Second:** Roberts

No discussion.

**Roll Call Vote: 9 Yes, 0 No. All in favor, motion approved.**

Minutes of January 10, 2022, Organizational meeting were presented. Mayor Holt entertained a motion for approval.

**Motion:** Peavey

**Second:** Brown

No discussion.

**Roll Call Vote: 9 Yes, 0 No. All in favor, motion approved**

A communication was read from the Webb Family.

Under reports of city officers: Mayor Holt mentioned that the pumps are removed from the underpass. Installing new pumps will require heavy equipment at the underpass and we are hoping to have one lane of traffic open. This work will be done by the end of the week.

He also mentioned that there is still COVID around in departments. Mayor Holt also mentioned the importance of our municipal airport for our community.

In the finance department, the December and January reports are in the packet and we are looking at revising these. We want to thank Christina Justice and the finance department for their good work.

The letter from the auditors is in the packet for your review. We hope to have Tony Eckler come and speak to council as is done in the county.

City Attorney, Kyle Cook, presented the following Ordinances and Resolutions:

**Ordinance Caption:** An Ordinance to amend the City of Fitzgerald zoning district map with respect to lots numbers 1, 2, & 3 in square number 9, in block number 5 of the City of Fitzgerald, Georgia, formerly Irwin, now Ben Hill County, as shown by the plat of said city made by or for the American Tribune Soldiers Colony Company on file in the office of the Clerk of the Superior Court of Irwin County, Georgia, located at 816 W. Oconee Street, Fitzgerald, Ga 31750, in the City of Fitzgerald, Ben Hill County, Georgia; to rezone said property from R-6 (City) to G-B (City).

**Ordinance Caption:** An ordinance to amend the City of Fitzgerald zoning district map with respect to 5.51 acres, more or less, in land lot number 279, in the fourth land district of Ben Hill county, Georgia, located on Evergreen Road, Fitzgerald, Ga 31750, and the public right of way adjacent thereto; to annex said property to the existing corporate limits of the City of Fitzgerald, Georgia; to rezone said property from R-6M (County) to H-I (City).

**Resolution R22-003** A Resolution to honor Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., by co-naming Palm Street as Palm Street/Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Drive.

Mayor Holt mentioned that this resolution for co-naming had been through the street committee. From the committee, a **motion was made from Councilperson Webb and a second by Kevin Johnson.**

Discussion: Jimmy Johnson spoke from a conservative point and expressed his concern for changing history of this planned town. Tommy Roberts mentioned that this now becomes a slippery slope for future naming issues. Mayor Holt mentioned that council can stop future changes.

**Roll Call Vote: 7 Yes, 2 No. Motion approved. J. Johnson and T. Roberts voting no.**

Under new business, we have an opening on the RLF committee and a request for approval for Jason Floyd to fill this vacancy. Motion to accept J. Johnson, second, Roberts.

**Roll Call Vote: 9 Yes, 0 No. All in favor, motion approved.**

Councilman Barry Peavey mentioned the paving of streets and how little inconvenience it has caused.

With there being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.



*Christina Kwam*

**CITY CLERK**

APPROVED:

*Jason Street*

**MAYOR**