

**Minutes of Regular Meeting
Mayor and Council
City of Fitzgerald, Georgia
June 10, 2024
6:00 p.m.**

Mayor and Council met on Monday, June 10, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. at the City Hall Council Chambers, located at 302 East Central Avenue, with Mayor Jason L. Holt presiding and with Council members Brown, D. Jefferson, S. Jefferson, J. Johnson, K. Johnson, Roberts and Webb being present.

Mayor Holt welcomed everyone and mentioned that Councilwoman Clemons was at her sons DLS ballgame and Councilman Peavey had family that was under the weather.

Minutes of previous meeting, May 13, 2024, Regular Council meeting were presented. Mayor Holt entertained a motion for approval. Council member Roberts made a **motion** to approve minutes, **seconded** by Council member Brown. With there being no additions or corrections, Mayor Holt called for a **Roll Call Vote: 7 Yes, 0 No. All in favor, motion approved.**

Under reports of city officers, Mayor Holt called attention to the administrative report. He highlighted many areas of interest: We have had several pastors in the area meet with the police department to share concerns in our community. Memorial Day was a well-attended event. The concrete for the Splash Pad has been poured. We have to rebid for the monitor auditorium renovations due to the amount. Our revenues are much higher than our expenditures due to the ARPA money. We have DLS in district play currently. Our swim team is participating in area meets. The gang task force is working hard and looking to add an additional person to the force. The police have hired Thomas Register, POST certified, to fill our open position and our Cadet, Laykin Brown has only a few more weeks in school. Public Works is having to rebid paving projects since they were all over budget. Urban pathways/parks inspection went well. Airport: we will have minimal impact from the Moody air space concerns. Fire department has ordered the fire safety house and we will have a time for council to come and see once it arrives. Community development has been busy with inspections and issuing permits. Tourism had a good arts camp.

Be sure to review the grants as there are some updates.

Committee reports were given by the respective chair persons.

Council Person Webb presented an alcohol license on Wild Chicken Corner/Kaayna Mart, LLC. This is an application for a new owner with beer/wine off premises. This application has been through the proper channels. A motion to approve this application was made as it does meet all the requirements for approval. **Motion to approve Webb, seconded** by Brown. With no discussion a **roll call vote: 7 Yes, 0 No. All in favor, motion approved.**

City Attorney, Kyle Cook, presented an **Ordinance 24-1618: An Ordinance** to Amend Chapter 18, "offenses and miscellaneous provisions" of the Code of Ordinance of the City of Fitzgerald, Georgia, specifically Section 18-67, "Curfew" of Article III. "Miscellaneous, "thereof.

Motion to dispense with full reading: Roberts, Second: J. Johnson.

Discussion on dispense was that the full reading take place by K Johnson.

Roll Call Vote: 2 Yes, 5 No. Motion failed to dispense with full reading.

Voting Yes was Brown and Roberts.

After full reading of Ordinance 24-1618, discussion: Mayor Holt noted that there were 2 ages defined in the former ordinance and we now define as a child is 17 and younger and changed the curfew times from 12pm to 6am to now 11pm-6 am with specific exception noted in ordinance. Councilwoman S. Jefferson asked who would be fined according to the ordinance and it would be the parents.

Mayor Holt called for a vote for approval of ordinance. **Motion** D Jefferson and Second by Roberts.

Roll Call Vote: 7 Yes, 0 No. All in favor, motion approved.

City Attorney, Kyle Cook, presented **Ordinance 24-1619: An Ordinance** to amend Chapter 18, "Offenses and Miscellaneous Provisions" of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Fitzgerald, Georgia, specifically Article III. "Miscellaneous," thereof to provide for the regulation of Special Events.

Motion to dispense with full reading: Roberts, Second K. Johnson.

Mayor called for vote: **Roll Call Vote: 7 Yes, 0 No. All in favor. Motion approved.**

Mayor Holt noted that there is a lot in this special events ordinance and with a new law coming out in July this will make us legal. S. Jefferson noted that this now defines a special event. Yes, it does and now an application via state law. This now helps the City in monitoring special events and the needs that go along with them such as public safety and public works.

Motion to approve: Webb Second: J Johnson

Mayor called for approval of 24-1619: **Roll Call Vote 7 Yes, 0 No. All in favor. Motion approved.**

City Attorney, Kyle Cook, presented **Resolution R24-004: A Resolution** to amend, readopt, and restate the retirement plan for the employees of the City of Fitzgerald, Georgia, in accordance with and subject to the terms and conditions set forth in the adoption agreement, addendum to the adoption agreement, The Georgia Municipal Employees Benefit System (GMEBS) basic plan document, and the GMEBS Trust agreement.

Motion to dispense with full reading: Roberts, Second, K Johnson.

Mayor called for discussion and with none, **Roll Call vote: 7 Yes, 0 No. All in favor, motion approved.**

This resolution restates retirement plan for the IRS.

Mayor Holt called for **approval of Resolution R24-004:** Motion, Roberts, Second, Webb

With no discussion, **Roll Call Vote: 7 Yes, 0 No. All in favor, motion approved.**

City Attorney, Kyle Cook, presented an Ordinance Caption: An Ordinance to amend the City of Fitzgerald zoning district map with respect to 0.84 acres of land in land lot 93 in the 3rd land district of Ben Hill County, Georgia, located at 148 Newcomer Trail, Fitzgerald, Georgia, 31750.

And the public road right of way adjacent thereto; to annex said property to the existing corporate limits of the City of Fitzgerald; to rezone said property from R-15 (County) to R-15 (City).

City Attorney, Kyle Cook, presented an **Ordinance Caption**: An ordinance to close to vehicular traffic that portion of the public alley between city lots 6, 7, and 8 on the North and 14, 15, and 16 on the South in square 16, block 12, in the City of Fitzgerald Georgia; to sell and convey the right of way of said alley to the adjoining landowner, subject to the reservation of an easement with respect to the maintenance, repair and replacement of all utilities located over, upon or under said portion of said alley.

Under New Business: Mayor Holt asked for approval to reappoint Hank Braddy to the DLS board. Motion to accept: J. Johnson, second, Roberts. **Roll Call Vote 7 Yes, 0 No. All in favor, motion approved.**

Mayor Holt asked for consideration to appoint Corey Gibbs to the Fitzgerald/Ben Hill County Development Authority.

Motion to accept appointment: Roberts, Second, Webb.

Roll Call Vote 7 Yes, 0 No. All in favor, motion approved.

There is a flyer on each council persons desk regarding the July 4th activities. You will need a ticket if you want to be on the depot side for fireworks. Please come by City Hall and pick up.

Juneteenth is this weekend. Kevin Johnson and Earl Brown spoke on the activities.

Friday is a live band in front of the Grand (free)

Saturday at 8am is the run and fun walk. Community activities begin at noon and end at 6. (free)
Party in the Grand ballroom Saturday night.

Sunday is a free Gospel Sing and all are welcome.

July 1 is the due date for the financial disclosures to be submitted to the State.

GMA Annual Convention is June 20-25. All council packets will be made available by June 14 and will be in the mailbox at City Hall.

Councilwoman S Jefferson mentioned several items on the East Side that needed attention by code enforcement. Address will be helpful to address any issues.

Councilman Webb inquired on the DLS Board. Mayor mentioned that the board consists of 2 city, 2 county and 1 at large member.

Councilman K Johnson mentioned it was good to see the sidewalk at Central and the peanut mill.

The mayor mentioned that our sidewalks have been pressure washed by community service.

Earl Brown thanked David Walker and public works for their work being done on Clare Road.

Councilwoman S Jefferson mentioned sidewalks on the East Side. The sidewalks are downtown and in some of the residential square. There is not enough right of way to do sidewalks.

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



APPROVED:
[Handwritten Signature]
MAYOR

ATTEST:
[Handwritten Signature]