**Minutes**

**Forsyth City Council Meeting**

**April 21, 2025**

**Call to Order**

Mayor Wilson called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.

**Pledge of Allegiance, Invocation, and Roll Call**

Mayor Wilson led the Pledge of Allegiance. The invocation was led by Ms. Marilyn Tucker. In attendance for the meeting was Mayor Eric Wilson, Councilmembers Josh Hill, Chris Hewett, Lois Allen, Greg Goolsby, Charles Wilder, and Mike Dodd. Also in attendance was City Manager, Craig Mims; Assistant City Manager, Regina Ivie; City Attorney, Brian Causey; and City Clerk, Shayla Furlow. Six members of the council were in attendance for the meeting; therefore, all unanimous votes will be six votes (Hill, Hewett, Allen, Goolsby, Wilder and Dodd).

**Approval of the agenda.**

Mr. Hewett offered a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Seconded by Mr. Dodd; the motion carried unanimously.

**Approval of the minutes from the council meeting held on April 7, 2025.**

Mr. Hewett offered a motion to approve the minutes from the council meeting held on April 7, 2025 as presented. Seconded by Mrs. Allen; the motion carried unanimously.

**Approval of the Supplemental Financial Advisory Services Agreement**

Mr. Doug Gebhart, with Davenport Public Finance provided an overview of the Supplemental Financial Advisory Services Agreement.

Mr. Dodd offered a motion to approve the Supplemental Financial Advisory Services Agreement, contingent upon the City Attorney’s review. Seconded by Mr. Hewett; the motion carried unanimously.

**Public Hearing to consider** **ordinance amendments to Sec. 23-119 and Sec. 23-120 of Chapter 23, Utilities, Article IV., Service Charges**

Mr. Brian Causey, the City Attorney**,** stated that the purpose of the amendment to the ordinance is to clarify to the public regarding service charges and to help reduce administration expenses. Mr. Causey provided the second reading for the amendment to section 23-119 and section 23-120of Chapter 23, Utilities, Article IV., Service Charges.

Mayor Wilson opened the public hearing for comments in favor of or opposition to the proposed ordinance amendments to Sec. 23-119 and Sec. 23-120 of Chapter 23, Utilities, Article IV., Service Charges.

Ms. Linda Hampton at 419 Martin Luther King Drive stated that she came for clarification. She questioned why are the reconnect and service fees the same and if that was fair to the citizens of the community.

There being no further comments in favor of or opposition to the proposed the proposed ordinance amendments to Sec. 23-119 and Sec. 23-120 of Chapter 23, Utilities, Article IV., Service Charges, Mayor Wilson closed the public hearing.

Mr. Dodd offered motion to approve the ordinance amendments to Sec. 23-119 and Sec. 23-120 of Chapter 23, Utilities, Article IV., Service Charges. Seconded by Mr. Hill.

After a brief discussion Mayor Wilson called the question of all in favor or opposition to the ordinance amendments to Sec. 23-119 and Sec. 23-120 of Chapter 23, Utilities, Article IV., Service Charges. The motion passed with four in favor (Hill, Hewett, Goolsby, and Dodd) and two in opposition (Allen and Wilder).

**Convention & Visitors Bureau Quarterly Report by Gilda Stanbery**

Ms. Gilda Stanbery reported on the 2024 year in review and the 2025 strategies for the Convention & Visitors Bureau.

**Approval of the ballot for GMA’s District 6 Officers for 2025-2026.**

Mr. Hill offered a motion to approve the ballot for GMA’s District 6 Officers for 2025-2026 and to authorize Mayor Wilson to submit the ballot. Seconded by Mr. Dodd; the motion carried unanimously.

**Approval of street closure requests for the Main Street Concert Series**

Mr. Hewett offered a motion to approve the street closure requests for the Main Street Concert Series. Seconded by Mrs. Allen; the motion carried unanimously.

**Approval of the Municipal Electric Authority of Georgia 2024 Year-end settlement**

Mr. Wilder offered a motion to approve the Municipal Electric Authority of Georgia’s 2024 year-end settlement to be deposited into the Flexible Operating Account, Intermediate Extended Maturity Portfolio. Seconded by Mr. Dodd; the motion carried unanimously.

**Tabled agenda items from April 7, 2025 council meeting**

* **Approval of funding for the golf course project**

Mr. Dodd offered a motion to remove the approval of funding for the golf course from the table. Seconded by Mr. Hewett; the motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Regina Ivie, the Assistant City Manager, reviewed the two quotes from The Bank of Dudley, a quote from The United Bank, and the option of the Municipal Competitive Trust.

Mr. Dodd offered a motion to approve funding from the Municipal Competitive Trust at 3% interest from the Intermediate Extended Maturity Portfolio – Flexible Operating Account using the Year End Settlement yearly to offset the debt/balance owed. Seconded by Mr. Goolsby; the motion carried unanimously.

* **Approval of Final Plat for Luxe Homes of Forsyth, 50 S. Jackson Street**

Mr. Hill offered a motion to remove the approval of the Final Plat for Luxe Homes of Forsyth, 50 S. Jackson Street, from the table. Seconded by Mr. Hewett; the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Dean Nelson, the Community Development Director, stated that he met with the owners to discuss the final plat. He stated that the meeting was to obtain background information and that he requested they send a letter along with pictures to help illustrate issues. He stated that no preliminary plat was approved, the owners had a concept plan that they went by with the city. Mr. Nelson stated that in the meeting the owners stated that they are willing to install a fence to help beautify the area.

After a brief discussion Mr. Wilder offered a motion to deny the approval of the Final Plat for Luxe Homes of Forsyth, 50 S. Jackson Street and to require sidewalk and proper drainage before approval. Seconded by Mr. Hewett; the motion carried unanimously.

**Approval of bid award** **to R.J. Young for cameras at Country Club Park and Kynette Park**

Mr. Goolsby offered a motion to approve the bid awardto R.J. Young for cameras at Country Club Park and Kynette Park. Seconded by Mr. Hewett; the motion carried unanimously.

**Approval of bid award to** **ICB Construction Group for Kynette Park**

Mr. Hewett offered a motion to approve the bid awardto ICB Construction Group for Kynette Park. Seconded by Mr. Goolsby; the motion carried unanimously.

**Approval of bid award to** **The Sign Store for the City Hall digital sign**

Mr. Hewett offered a motion to approve the bid award to The Sign Store for the City Hall digital sign. Seconded by Mr. Goolsby; the motion carried unanimously.

**Approval of Requisitions Greater than $6,000**

* **Industrial Chemicals, Inc- $14,998.50**

Mr. Hewett offered a motion to approve the requisitions greater than $6000 as presented. Seconded by Mr. Dodd; the motion carried unanimously.

**City Manager’s Report**

Mr. Craig Mims, the City Manager, reported that:

The summer concert series will commence on Saturday May 3rd at 7:30pm on the square with Purple Madness Band. The Main Street Market will commence on Friday May 2nd at 9am in the parking lot here at City Hall.

GA Cities Week is being celebrated across this great state. We have a few educational events planned this week.

**City Attorney Report**

Mr. Brian Causey, the City Attorney, had no business to report.

**Mayor’s Report**

Mayor Wilson encouraged everyone to visit Country Club Park. He stated that it is a nice feature to the community. He was excited to begin work on Kynette Park. Mayor Wilson also stated that the work at Country Club Park is not complete. We are adding cameras, callboxes, lighting on the walking trail, fencing, resurfacing the Splash pad, grills, and benches. He wished everyone a happy Georgia Cities Week.

**Additional Business**

Mr. Hill stated he spoke with multiple residents, and they are amazed at how beautiful the park is and wanted to make sure that the Mayor and Council are aware.

Mr. Hewett stated that the Hospital Board will meet on Thursday, April 24th at 5:30pm.

Mr. Wilder requested an update on the speeding issue on Sharp Street and Jones Street. He asked the council to consider purchasing speed detection equipment.

Mrs. Allen thanked city administration and Shay Smith, the Public Works Director, for putting a sign on Parsons Street.

**Public Comments**

Ms. Linda Hampton at 419 Martin Luther King Dr., requested an update on blighted properties.

**Executive Session**

No executive session needed.

**Adjourn**

There being no further business to discuss, Mr. Hewett offered a motion to adjourn at 7:33pm. Seconded by Mr. Hill; the motion carried unanimously.