

City Council of Peachtree City
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, February 13, 2025
6:30 PM

Call to Order

The Mayor and Council of Peachtree City met in regular session on Thursday, February 13, 2025. Mayor Kim Learnard called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Council members attending: Laura Johnson, Suzanne Brown, and Clinton Holland. Frank Destadio was absent.

Pledge of Allegiance and Moment of Silence

Presentation

A. Building Brains from the Beginning

Retired educator Dr. Julie Turner and family physician Dr. Janet Gerard briefed Council on the Building Brains from the Beginning program that was designed to ensure children were ready for kindergarten. They talked about the importance of interactions between caregivers and children in the early years. In Fayette, a group made up of educators, medical personnel and other community leaders coordinated free educational and participatory programs to promote the development of social and language skills. More information was available at BuildingBrains.org. Turner said Council could help by spreading information and her group would be glad to set up a booth at any City events.

Brown asked how many children in Fayette started kindergarten this year and were not ready? Turner said she did not know but could provide information. Brown reflected that out of Fayette's 20,700 public school students, 2,155 came from homes where English was not the primary language. Turner said she couldn't say if it made a difference if the language spoken in the home was English or not; the readiness for kindergarten seemed to hinge on being surrounded by language in the first five years of life. Young children quickly picked up English once they were exposed to it in school, she remarked.

Brown went on to say that the number of languages spoken in homes could make instruction more difficult, and Turner said Fayette indeed had students from many countries. Brown then asked if mask requirements during COVID had an impact, and Turner said she didn't know. She said she noticed problems before the pandemic and attributed them to the prevalence of smart phones that hampered personal interactions.

Announcements, Awards, Special Recognition

None

Public Comment

Keith Larson thanked Council for lining up their priorities with the City's strategic five

pillars during their retreat earlier in the week. He said the new Transportation Advisory Group (TAG) would include recommendations from the Recreation Master Plan and community requests when they presented the path master plan this spring. He noted that an Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) transition consultant would be necessary to address accessibility issues

Agenda Changes

None

Minutes

Brown moved to approve the January 16, 2025, City Council meeting minutes and the January 16, 2025 Executive Session minutes with a change on page four of the meeting minutes to replace the word "adopt" with "accept." Johnson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

A. January 16, 2025 City Council Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve with a request to change the word "adopt" to "accept" on page 4, last paragraph.

APPROVED 4-0

B. January 16, 2025 Executive Session Minutes

APPROVED 4-0

Consent Agenda

Holland moved to approve Consent Agenda items A-H. Brown seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

The Mayor noted that Michael Polacek, Michael Pappas, Tommy Johnson, Rohit Nanda, Erin McDowell, Derek White, and Stacey Clarke had been appointed to the new Recreation Advisory Group (RAG).

A. 2024 Georgia Municipal Association (GMA) Safety Grant and Liability Management Grant

APPROVED 4-0

B. Renew "Trap Neuter Vaccinate and Return Program" (TNVR) with Fayette Humane Society

APPROVED 4-0

C. Renew Environmental Systems Research Institute, Inc. (Esri) contract

APPROVED 4-0

D. 2025 Municipal Elections IGA

APPROVED 4-0

E. Public Safety Answering Point Feasibility Study

APPROVED 4-0

F. Purchase of radios for Police SRO vehicles

APPROVED 4-0

G. Agreement for ADA Consultant and FY2025 Budget Amendment

APPROVED 4-0

H. Appointment of members to the Recreation Advisory Group

APPROVED 4-0

Old Agenda Items

None

New Agenda Items

None

Public Hearings

None

A. ~~Sign Variance request for 1209 N Peachtree Parkway, Target (Lora Hooks)~~ **Withdrawn by Applicant**

Council/Staff Topics

Holland commented that Council had a retreat this week where they discussed, among many other topics, the SR 54 Corridor Study that he and Learnard were working on. They also looked at how to correct issues with the hockey rink. The future of the Kedron pool was discussed with options including building a long-lasting fiberglass structure or replacing the bubble.

Executive Session

Brown moved to convene in executive session to discuss real estate at 7 p.m. Holland seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Holland moved to reconvene in regular session at 7:18 p.m. Brown seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Adjourn

There being no further business, Brown moved to adjourn the meeting. Holland seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 7:18 p.m.

Martha Barksdale, Recording Secretary

Kim Learnard, Mayor