City Council of Peachtree City
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, June 5, 2025
9:30 AM

Call to Order

The Mayor and Council of Peachtree City met in work session on Thursday, June 5, 2025. Mayor Kim Learnard called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. Council members attending: Laura Johnson, Suzanne Brown, and Clinton Holland.

Pledge of Allegiance and Moment of Silence

Presentation

A. Legislative Session Updates

District 72 State Rep. Josh Bonner updated Council on the 2025 General Assembly session. He summarized the budget process, saying education and school safety were paramount this year. Bills were passed that reduced the State income tax rate, banned cell phones for students in kindergarten through eighth grade, and guaranteed the right to in-vitro fertilization. Bonner remarked that he had been pleased to help Peachtree City raise the homestead property tax exemption for its seniors through the passage of House Bill 703.

Brown asked about Georgia's shortage of special education teachers, and Bonner acknowledged that was a concern. She also inquired about legislation that would require voters to declare a party upon registering and limit them to that party in primary voting. Bonner said that did notcome up this year, although bills regarding election security did.

B. Presentation of Peachtree City's 2025 Summer Interns

Human Resources Director Dr. Teaa Allston-Bing presented this year's cohort of summer interns, reporting that more than 600 applicants vied for the eight spots. The interns introduced themselves, telling what department they were working in and where they attended school. They were: Lauren Baxley, Public Works, University of Alabama; Emma Bednarowski, Recreation & Special Events, Georgia Institute of Technology; Sophie Castellon, Tourism. University of Georgia; Alexis Hollett, Public Communications, Georgia Institute of Technology; Mahika Kumar, Engineering Services, McIntosh High School; Kaitlyn Marmolejos, Library Services, Clayton State University; Mia Morrow, Human Resources, Georgia College & State University; Mackenzie Sarna, Fire and Rescue, University of West Georgia.

Public Comment

John Riley said he was frustrated that after years of discussion about new pickleball courts, the City might be backtracking on its commitment. The Recreation Advisory Group (RAG) had endorsed a site for 18 new courts, but, he went on, two Councilmembers were supporting another site that could accommodate only 12 courts with no growth potential. He said Peachtree City pickleball players deserved facilities equivalent to what other nearby communities offered.

Sue Reed also told Council that 12 courts were not sufficient for such a popular sport, and Cary Cook agreed that they needed at least 18 courts on Rockaway Road, as the RAG recommended.

Keith Larson of the Southside Cycling Club said there would be a cleanup the following Saturday at Gin Creek in honor of National Trail Day.

Agenda Changes

None

Work Session Discussion Items

A. FY2026 Non-Profit Funding - Fayette County Council on Domestic Violence, Inc. d/b/a Promise Place

Each year, Council was allowed to grant funding of $25,000 to groups that offered services the City did not, City Clerk Yasmin Julio explained. An application had been received from the Fayette County Council on Domestic Violence, also known as Promise Place, for $10,000 for fiscal year 2026. Council would be asked to approve this at their next regular meeting.

B. FY2026 Non-Profit Funding - Fayette Senior Services, Inc.

Julio said Fayette Senior Services had submitted an application for $15,000 that would also be on the June 19 meeting agenda.

C. Mayor and Council Compensation Discussion

State law required staff to conduct a review and comparison of Mayor and Council salaries with other Georgia municipalities of similar size every four years, Julio reported. The last time the salaries were reviewed was in 2019, and there were also procedures for the process of increasing the salaries. Allston-Bing said she and the City Manager had reviewed data regarding salaries in their target market, and Council had that information.

Learnard noted this came up in the February retreat and thanked staff for following up on it but said she would not be taking a pay raise if she were re-elected. Brown said she felt their compensation should be left where it was. Johnson and Holland agreed.

D. FEMA SAFER Grant - Cost Share Support

Fire Chief Clint Murphy explained this was the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) grant that they applied for every year. There was no matching amount required last year, he said, but that had been changed to require recipients to contribute 25% of the actual costs incurred during the first and second years of the grant, then 65% of the actual costs incurred during the third year. Murphy said he would have the dollar amounts for Council at the next meeting when he would ask Council for their support.

E. **Replacement Vehicle for Stormwater Department**

City Engineer Dave Borkowski said Council would be asked at the next meeting to approve replacement of a 2006 Ford Ranger used by the Stormwater Department with a 2025 Ford Explorer. The budgeted amount was $47,000, and the actual cost would be about $45,000. Borkowski said the total cost and the vendor would be presented at the next meeting. The 2006 vehicle would be surplussed.

F. **Station 85 Engineering Services**

Murphy introduced Tim Symonds of Morgan Mill Consulting, who was the project manager for Station 85. Firstly, Symonds said, they needed to appoint a civil engineer, then an architect. They were soliciting proposals from architectural firms now. He then said they were looking to use a construction manager at risk for the actual construction, which would enable the contractor to be involved in the whole design process, allowing them to come up with a guaranteed maximum price shortly after design was complete and also to get quickly into the construction phase.

The Engineering Department, Symonds stated, had gotten three quotes from local firms. The low bidder, Integrated Science & Engineering (ISE), had left some things out of their initial proposal, but still were the low bidder when they resubmitted. The recommendation was that Council appoint ISE as the civil engineer for this project.

Brown noted that she was glad to hear Symonds say this process would reduce the risk for cost overruns. Learnard mentioned that Symonds had the lead role in the County's recent conversion of an elementary school into a department of public health and asked if they used this same organizational system. He said they did and were able to come in under cost estimates.

Holland asked about the civil engineer's role, and Symonds said it would be to take care of the first phases, including earthwork and utilities.

G. **Annexation Study Status/Update**

On April 7, Planning and Development Director Shayla Reed stated, the City issued a request for proposals (RFP) for an annexation study and development impact fee schedule update. Just one proposal was received by the May 6 deadline, and the evaluation panel gave it a score of 4.5 out of 5. Staff then decided to remove the impact fee component, which brought the cost down to within the budgeted amount. This firm pledged to meet one on one with each Council member to discuss what they wanted from this project.

Reed said if it was Council's wish, they could work out a contract and bring this back in July. Strickland noted that Council had asked them at their last meeting to review the proposal. Staff needed direction, he said, and had no problem putting it back out if Council desired.

Johnson thanked them for their review, recalling that Council members had said previously if the cost was below the budgeted amount they would be comfortable with awarding the contract.

Brown, however, stated she could not support an annexation study at this time.

Holland noted he had been pushing for a study for three years, but he thought they needed more quotes, especially from Georgia firms. He wanted at least two more quotes to help them determine what the cost should be.

Learnard asked Strickland if there was anything they could have done differently to get more quotes? He said he thought combining the annexation study and the impact fee review might had put off a few companies.

Reed remarked that they sent the RFP to eight Georgia companies that had done work like this, but they chose not to move forward. Learnard asked if she knew why, and Reed responded that sometimes a project did not align with their schedules or they might not have staffing. One firm did question doing both the annexation and impact fee study at the same time.

Learnard told Holland that since this had been a priority of his, she would support him if he wanted to proceed. She said staff did its diligence in soliciting proposals and did not feel it was reasonable to put more staff time into this, especially since eight in-state firms had been contacted. Learnard stated that this annexation study, priced at $99,590, would be beneficial as they planned for the future.

They knew the areas they wanted to annex, Holland stated, but needed to understand the economic implications of taking on those properties. He thought they should table the annexation study until August or September, suggesting they find out why they got only one bid.

Learnard said she could support moving ahead now but could not support putting more staff time into the same thing in three or four months. Holland countered that they wanted this study but needed more quotes. Learnard again said she could not support using more staff time on this.

Johnson asked when the last annexation study was done and if there was a recommended timeline for cities to do them. Strickland said the most recent was in 2014, and Reed said when they were done depended on the city's needs and plans. The reason for conducting a study, she explained, was so that when annexation requests came to Council, they had the information they needed to make a sound decision.

Johnson told Holland she objected to his statement that they knew the areas they wanted to annex. They were not always in agreement, she stated, and it was important to have a plan that they could refer to when making these decisions. A study was needed after 10 years, she continued.

They needed an annexation policy, not a plan, Brown remarked. She wanted to let Council identify among themselves the areas they wanted to annex, not put a plan in front of the public. Johnson asked her what that would sound like, and Brown said it would be a policy that they worked out among themselves, adding they all agreed that any growth should be industrial growth.

Johnson pointed out that Councils changed, and that is why plans were helpful. Brown said Councils would change in any case.

The Mayor asked Holland what he wanted, and he said he had already stated his position. Learnard remarked that there was no majority opinion, so they would not direct staff to proceed on this any further.

H. Motorized Cart Decal Placement

Public Works Director Jonathan Miller introduced Keith Larson, vice chair of the Transportation Advisory Group (TAG) for a presentation on the group's work regarding placement of decals on motorized carts. TAG recommended that the ordinance by changed to require decals on both the front and back of the carts, rather than on the sides as was the current requirement. He said this could start with the next registration cycle. This was brought about by many citizen complaints regarding dangerous driving and the inability to identify fleeing carts if the decals were on the sides.

Decals could be affixed to the windshield in front, but some older carts did not have a spot for a decal in the rear. Larson said local golf cart dealers had told him they would be willing to help customers mount a blank plate for the decals. He noted that the City would have to conduct an extensive public education program to help cart owners with the change and suggested a safety day at Drake Field.

Holland said it seemed the ordinance needed to be updated, and Larson showed the section dealing with motorized carts, highlighting the parts that would need changing. City Manager Justin Strickland pointed out they were coming up on the new replacement cycle. Financial Services Director Kelly Bush noted there were financial implications to the change, and Assistant Financial Services Director Dustin Farron reported they would send out registration notices in October. Larson said the new decals were required by January 1. Farron said it took six to eight weeks to get the supplies after they were ordered, so they started in the fall.

Learnard asked Council if they were in favor of moving forward on a plan, in whatever form it might take, and they all said they were. The Mayor noted that staff and TAG would need to make recommendations on the timing, saying this was a big change.

Learnard asked what owners should do about the decals already on the sides? and Farron said they would either have to match the numbers or get them removed or covered.

Brown suggested a City logo decal that could cover the existing ones. She went on to express her support for the change, remarking that they all received numerous reports from citizens about incidents on the cart paths where the carts could not be identified from the rear. She suggested starting the identification with a letter, then a number, and remarked that some citizens with low registration numbers would not be happy about losing them.

Was there consideration of placement for carts without windshields? Johnson asked, but Larson replied that all carts were supposed to have windshields. Farron added that there were a lot of new types of carts that were not typical, and the language in the ordinance needed to be reviewed to determine what they wanted on the paths.

Learnard said this was an important conversation at the right time, and Strickland and Miller said they had the information they needed regarding the decals.

Johnson asked if there was a consideration if a damaged decal had to be replaced, and Farron said there was $15 or $20 fee.

Holland said he liked the idea of a City-sponsored cart safety day at Drake Field. He wondered if TAG could work on other modifications to the ordinance. Learnard said that was something staff would direct TAG on, and Larson replied that they had already had other projects from the City Manager, such as placement of new bike racks and deciding on cart parking requirements for new developments as part of the Unified Development Ordinance process.

I. **Fee Schedule Update**

Last year, Strickland reported, he added an annual review of the fee schedule to the budget preparation process. There were many updates then because it had not been reviewed in a while. This year there were fewer, the biggest one being, with the termination of the recreation agreement with Fayette County, recreation fees would change from "In-County" and "Out-of-County" to "Resident" and "Non-Resident." Also, State law had changed to require a permit for a public fireworks display from the Fire Department. The Police Department had requested to add an impound storage fee of $15 a day for vehicles stored on their property.

Johnson asked what a public fireworks display was, and Murphy said it would apply to a professional fireworks display, such as on the Fourth of July. Citizens did not have to worry about it.

Brown noted the addition of the short-term rental fee, and Strickland said all fees for that had been rolled into one.

Holland said he wanted to discuss with Strickland the amounts listed for the recreation fees but would do that later. Strickland then mentioned that they had thought the agreement with the County would end July 1, but the County was budgeting to end it on October 1, which was the start of Peachtree City's fiscal year. He said he did not need a vote on these fees and intended to keep the schedule with the budget process.

Holland then asked if there had been any additional talks with the County in regard to the fees. Strickland said that was up to Council, and Learnard noted that decision had been made.

Brown pointed out a duplication in the listing under the recreation fees.

J. FY26 Manager's Proposed Budget

The Mayor called a five-minute recess. Upon resuming, Strickland thanked department heads for the good job they did in working out their budgets with him. He began with the City's vision and values statement, and its budget policy, which called for no new expenses unless there were cuts or new revenues to balance them. He explained that inflation was up 22% over the past five years, and the cost of labor had climbed about 28% in that period.

He reported that the median sale price for a house in Peachtree City was $567,500, 27% higher than the national average. The average home was on the market for just 13 days, and 76% of those home sellers intended to stay in Peachtree City.

Bush then explained that the FY 2025 budget had included using about $70,000 in reserves. However, due to several factors, they should actually end the budget year by adding about $752,000 into the fund balance. The proposed FY 2026 budget was $58,406,380 without using or adding to the reserve fund, she stated.

Taxes were the largest revenue source at $48,084,290. They were anticipating a 4% increase in the tax digest, bringing ad valorem property tax revenue up to about $24.1 million, an increase of $945,000 from FY 2025. Staff would recommend that Council adopt the same millage rate as the previous year. Local option sales tax (LOST) was proposed to bring in about $13 million, up about $385,000 from the previous year. Interest income had gone down due to the expenditure of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds.

Bush explained the impact of House Bill 581, which kept the taxable assessed value for qualifying homeowners fixed at the FY 2025 rate for this year. Going forward, the State Revenue Commission could allow an increase of up to 3%, depending on inflation. Bush then showed a 13-year history of the City's millage rate, which had dropped from 7.178 in 2012 to the current 5.983. She presented a pie chart that showed that 44% of revenues came from property taxes, 22% from

LOST, and the remainder from other taxes, such as occupational tax, franchise taxes, fines and forfeitures, franchise fees, charges for services, and licenses and permits.

Expenses included a 2% cost of living adjustment (COLA) for City employees, three new firefighter positions, three Police reclassifications, increases in utility costs, ongoing competition for labor, and an increase in vehicle costs. Fuel costs were expected to continue to decline, and technology costs were holding steady with just a 2% increase for FY 26.

A graph showed that Peachtree City's COLA history was still lagging behind the national consumer price index (CPI) with an increase in COLA of 16% since 2020, while the CPI went up 20%. Bush said COLA helped the City stay competitive in the hiring market and also ensured employees had the same purchasing power they did in previous years.

Last year's budget included 17 new positions, Bush noted, and they had talked about the need for nine new firefighter positions when Station 85 came online, with plans to add three a year to get to that total. That, added to the Police reclassifications, would bring the total cost to $466,599, but the firefighter positions would be brought on in April, so half a year's expenses would be saved, making the net cost for these changes $292,771.

She looked at all the General Fund expenditures in the budget, noting that about half of the municipal taxes went to Public Safety. Police, Fire, Public Works, and Recreation made up the "big four" divisions that consumed 70% of the budget. The remaining 30%, outside of the library, were support services such as Finance and Human Resources. A pie chart showed that 63% of the expenditures went to salaries, with 23% going to other personnel costs, and 19% to contractual services.

Bush confirmed that sources of funds balanced with uses of funds to create a budget of $58,406,380 for FY 2026 with no anticipation of using cash reserves.

The Mayor wanted to make it clear to citizens what had spurred the budget increase. Strickland said the big drivers included electricity costs, which were going up by $105,000. He said they would be no more increases for the next three years. Health insurance was increasing by $265,000. The COLA would cost $655,000. The new firefighters would be $158,000 for half a year, and the Police reclassifications were $82,000. He said the departments did a good job trimming some items to find money for others. He especially commended the IT department for an increase of only 2%. Fuel costs had dropped, and Strickland mentioned they would be dropping ZenCity at a cost of $40,000.

Strickland noted this budget did not include some of the projects Council had discussed, such as the Battery Way restrooms, enclosure of the hockey rink, or enclosure of the Kedron pool. They would be talking about what a facilities bond could look like, but it was not budgeted. It was proposed for FY 2027, with the caveat that they could move on it this year, if required.

He handed the discussion over to Farron, who outlined the budgets for funds that supported specific City operations and services. He noted that the Storm Water Utility Fund was completely supported by user fees. No major operational changes were proposed, but they were in the midst of a cost and rates study to assess the long-term financial needs of the program. He noted that the same flat fee rate structure had been in place since 2013. The 2026 budget was set for approximately $2.9 million. The budget included $600,000 for renewal and extension projects, and more than $200,000 in reserve funds would have to be tapped, which Farron said indicated the need for a rate study.

The Amphitheater was completely supported by revenues, mostly from events, plus hotel/motel taxes. Profits were reinvested into the facility, and Farron listed a few recent projects. The proposed budget for FY 2026 was $1.97 million. Expenses went mainly to paying the artists who performed.

The hotel/motel tax fund came from an excise tax on short-term lodging and the projected revenue was $2.1 million. Money was distributed to other funds, with 3% going to the General Fund, 3.5% to the Convention and Visitors Bureau (CVB), 1.5% to Tourism and Product Development (TPD), plus $75,000 to the Amphitheater Fund. These percentages were determined by State law.

Assistant City Manager Chris Hobby went over the Capital Fund, listing major capital outlay projects including facilities improvements at $450,000 and the HVAC system and other work at the library, which had a total cost of $625,694 minus a grant of $312,847. He also listed projects that were financed, such as $910,000 for Public Works and Recreation equipment and $900,000 for technology replacements and software. The total for the CIP fund was about $1.4 million in the budget.

Holland asked if this was mostly maintenance related, and Strickland replied that they were trying to do preventative maintenance each year and had kept the cost the same as last year. The individual facilities improvement projects were listed in the budget.

All the ARPA projects were completed or under contract, Hobby noted. Those included Tennis Center renovations, LED lighting at the athletic fields, and City Hall renovations. The total for these projects was about $6.7 million.

He explained how impact fee money was budgeted, with $3.9 million going to new paths, and $259,000 to the Fire Department. The Police Department's share had been used to purchase the gun range. Strickland said most of the path money was not encumbered and could be used to make up for cost overruns on 2017 Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (SPLOST) projects. The impact fees had to be spent within six years of their collection.

Bush noted that $10 million of ARPA funds were identified as revenue loss and were sitting in contingency to make up for potential shortfalls.

She presented the five-year financial model with actual figures from 2023-2025 and projections for 2025 through 2031. This year, she pointed out, should end with a fund balance of almost 60%, but that would trend down to about 55% by 2031. She said a strong fund balance provided financial stability and credit strength, helped protect the City's bond rating, and provided emergency protection. It shielded them from revenue shortfalls and provided operational stability in prolonged economic disruptions. It provided strategic investment opportunities, Bush continued and allowed them to pay cash for things if advantageous and let them match grants and buy property.

She noted that she built a transfer of debt to a facilities bond into FY 2027, which would involve borrowing about $9.1 million for some of the larger capital improvement projects. She said the City's bond counsel and consultant agreed they were in a position to pull this forward and should be able to borrow at 4.3% or less due to their position with their strong bond ratings.

Learnard, referring to the financial model, asked Bush about the line that said "sale of capital assets." That was when they sold vehicles, for instance, and revenues were larger some years than others.

Bush pointed out again that the FY 2026 budget was balanced without use of reserves or with the intention to put money back into the reserves.

Holland noted that the projected figures for 2025 showed a change in the fund balance of about $750,000. That was as of right now, Strickland stated, not taking into account any possible real estate acquisitions or other things. He pointed out that it was impossible to estimate expenses and revenues down to the penny.

Brown said it was her understanding that they were saying there were some projects they should borrow money for because the interest rate they would pay would be lower than what they would earn if the money was invested. Citizens often thought that this money in reserves should never have been taken from them, Brown remarked. Should they borrow or give the money back to the taxpayers or let it sit? Where was the balance? They had tried as a Council to establish a range for the reserve fund balance, she commented.

Over the past few years, Bush reported, the reserve funds had fluctuated between 50 and 60%. She recalled the Great Recession of 2008-13 and the cutbacks the City was forced to make. She said they were now in a good position to weather a long-term financial hardship.

Learnard remarked it was a leadership philosophy issue. Brown said it was not like there would be a time when there was no revenue for an extended period of time. Strickland commented that they never knew when a recession could come, and Bush mentioned weather incidents.

Strickland remarked it was hard to know when to rely on a bond or when to spend out of the fund balance. They knew there were multiple projects on tap that would cost many millions, and a bond would be wise in that case. Bond rating agencies did not like to see a huge drop in funds all at once. Brown said that was the kind of advice they needed.

Holland asked if taking out a bond would affect their bond rating, and Bush said they were in a good enough financial position that it would not. Holland then stated that there would be a very small profit for the City from the difference in paying bond interest and accruing interest from the money in the reserve fund. Bush said they might want to pay cash for some of the smaller capital projects. The life of the project was something else to consider.

Holland asked if they had to spend money from a facilities bond in a certain amount of time, and Bush told him they had three years. Learnard pointed out that actually they were talking about a facilities authority bond.

Strickland said he felt many people moved to Peachtree City because of the services they provided, such as the path system and the excellent Public Safety departments. He presented a chart showing that, while Peachtree City had the highest municipal tax rate in the County, that number was misleading because other jurisdictions did not provide the same level of services as Peachtree City did, such as emergency medical services (EMS). Tyrone relied on the County for fire services. Once the County millage rate was added in, the total millage rate for Tyrone and Fayetteville actually was higher than Peachtree City's. Once school taxes were factored in, there was very little difference between the millage rates for all municipalities plus the unincorporated county.

Strickland pointed out that about two-thirds of the total property tax revenues went to the Board of Education. In Peachtree City, about 20% was for municipal taxes, and the remainder went to County taxes. Because most of the tax bill went to schools, the total tax difference between a $500,000 house in Peachtree City and one in Fayette County was just $500.

It cost $1.21 more a day to live in Peachtree City than in the County or in Woolsey, Strickland said, and for that amount, the Peachtree City resident got a Fire Department with an ISO 1 rating and premier EMS, parks, year-round swimming, a top-notch library, 100-plus miles of paths, and a nationally-certified Police Department. He commended staff for doing a great job of putting the money to good use, listing various facilities they had to maintain. He concluded with a list of items that would keep Peachtree City on the path to excellence, including keeping employee pay at the 85th percentile, pursuing 2023 SPLOST projects, utilizing new citizen advisory groups, and not sacrificing services.

The budget calendar showed a public hearing at the July 10 City Council meeting with adopting the budget and millage rate at the August 21 meeting. Learnard asked Council if they needed another meeting besides these, and Strickland said they could talk to him directly as well. Strickland said he did not anticipate doing a big presentation on the budget again, but they could have a meeting just to talk. They agreed they were good with the calendar for now.

New Agenda Items

A. 06-25-01 Resolution #06052025-NA-1 Fayette County Safe Streets for All

Borkowski said Council had heard a report from the consultants regarding this plan, along with a recommendation for action with the goal of pursuing grants to fund projects including a path bridge over SR 54 East and upgrading two street crossings with rapid flashing beacons. The projects would be funded through the 2023 SPLOST and the grant. The total cost would be about $8 million and the matching grant would be $1.6 million.

Brown moved to adopt the resolution and apply for the grants as outlined in the packet. Johnson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

B. 06-25-02 2025 Paving Bid - Stormwater Pipe Replacements & FY2025 Budget Amendment

Staff was requesting approval to replace six of the nine storm water pipes currently located beneath roadways slated for resurfacing with $708,163 from the Storm Water Utilities Fund.

Brown moved to award the replacement of six corroded storm pipes to Atlanta Paving for $708,163 and approve Budget Amendment 25-17 to reallocate Renewal and Extension Funds for this purpose. Holland seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

C. 06-25-03 Lighting Upgrades at Lacrosse and PAC Baseball Fields

Borkowski said Engineering and the Recreation departments recommended awarding the bid for lighting upgrades at the lacrosse and Peachtree City Athletic Complex (PAC) baseball fields to Georgia Power in the amount of $1.12 million. Georgia Power had verified they could meet all the specifications, he said.

Holland moved to approve item 06-25-03 Lighting Upgrades at Lacrosse and PAC Baseball Field to Georgia Power in the amount of $1,120,000. Johnson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

D. 06-25-04 City Council Meetings Date and Meeting Changes

The first recommended change, Julio said, was to move the June 19 meeting from evening to morning because all Council members would be traveling on the evening of the 19th to the Georgia Municipal Association convention. The next proposed change was to cancel the July 3 and 17 Council meetings and hold a special called meeting on July 10 at 9:30 a.m.

Holland asked if it was wise to cancel both open meetings in July during budget preparation season? Julio said that was up to Council, but it had been done for at least the past three years. Holland said they could keep the 17th meeting scheduled and cancel it if they wanted to. Learnard said she would not be present that week, which meant there would not be a quorum. Brown told Holland they could request a special called meeting to discuss the budget if there was a need. There would be ample time before the vote to adopt in August.

Brown moved to approve item 06-25-04, City Council Meetings Date and Meeting Change as presented. Johnson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Hearings

A. 06-25-05 Transmittal Resolution - 2025 Capital Improvement Element (CIE) Annual Update

Reed said the Capital Improvements Element (CIE) annual update would be submitted the Atlanta Regional Commission and the Georgia Department of Community Affairs upon Council's approval. The CIE was a component of the Comprehensive Plan and included a report of the impact fees collected and spent in FY 2024 and the updated CIE, as well. The packet included a table showing fees collected and spent. It also listed the projects that were included in those expenditures. She said the agencies would complete their reviews within 30 days, and she could bring this back to Council for approval in July.

The Mayor opened the public hearing. No one wished to speak, and she closed the hearing.

Brown asked if there was any part they were not in compliance with, and Reed said they were not.

Johnson moved to approve the adoption of the transmittal resolution of the 2025 CIE Annual Update. Brown seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Council/Staff Topics

1. Food Trucks

Strickland said there would be food trucks at Drake Field at lunch and dinner time that day, with a trivia contest in the evening.

2. Flag Day June 14

Brown noted that Flag Day was June 14. She said the words "Under God" were added to the Pledge of Allegiance in 1954, with no commas offsetting that phrase. She requested that Council members remember to say it that way without pauses from now on at the opening of their meetings.

Executive Session

Holland moved to adjourn to executive session at 1:00 p.m. to discuss the lease, purchase, or sale of real estate and pending or threatened litigation. Brown seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Holland moved to reconvene in regular session at 1:14 p.m. Johnson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Brown moved to deny the claim made by Mafizur Bhuiya. Holland seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Adjourn

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

The meeting adjourned at 1:15 p.m.

Martha Barksdale, Recording Secretary

Kim Learnard, Mayor