

City Council of Peachtree City
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, June 19, 2025
9:30 AM

Call to Order

The Mayor and Council of Peachtree City met in regular session on Thursday, June 19, 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

Announcements, Awards, Special Recognition

A. Hermes Awards: Gold Winners: Navigate PTC App & Sponsorship Packet

Public Communications Manager Vivian Lett announced that the City's communications team had earned several Hermes Creative Awards, which was one of the world's most competitive competitions. The team earned Gold Awards for the Navigate PTC App and the event sponsorship package. Honorable mentions went to the multi-use path brochure and the Asking for Help video with the Police and Fire departments.

Presentation

A. FY2024 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report

David Irwin of Mauldin & Jenkins LLC presented the annual comprehensive financial report for fiscal year 2024, saying they were issuing a clean, or unmodified, opinion, which was the highest standard. The findings showed compliance with accepted accounting practices and standards for use of federal funds. Irwin went over sections of the financial report his firm had provided, including the government-wide financial statement, general fund revenues and expenses, and the fund balance history and breakdown for the year. He outlined reasons why it was important to maintain a strong fund balance.

Irwin commended Financial Services Director Kelly Bush, Assistant Director Dustin Farron and staff for their excellent work during a year of administrative change. The Mayor echoed those comments.

Holland asked about the standards used, and Irwin said they followed the generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) and the standards were those of the Government Accounting Standards Board (GASB).

Public Comment

Tim Eden introduced himself as a certified public accountant who was raising his family in Peachtree City and wanted to give back to the community. He announced that he was running for City Council in this fall's election.

Pickleball player Jeff Williams chided Council for their inaction on getting new pickleball courts built. He was concerned that a few Council members were thinking of a 12-court

facility, but that would be an inadequate solution. He said a minimum of 18 courts would be needed, both for local players and to draw people from out of town.

Christine Castagna also represented the pickleball community, saying they had been fighting City Council for years to get more courts. The Recreation Master Plan recommended 24 courts at Meade; the Recreation Advisory Group (RAG) also supported this location for 18 courts. However, she continued, no action had been taken.

Castagna stated that Brown and Holland had both said they could not support what these advisory groups had proposed. She said Holland had told her previously he supported 21 courts at Meade, but now was saying he could not support even 18 there. She then asked Brown to listen to her constituents and the RAG volunteers. The Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (SPLOST) was passed two years ago and called for 12 lighted courts for a total of 18 citywide.

Castagna concluded by saying that Spalding County had 18 courts and estimated that tournaments held there brought more than \$4 million to the county's economy. The courts could help pay for themselves, she remarked.

Sue Reed said it took courage and vision to build Peachtree City, and Council should use their vision now to construct pickleball courts. She asked why Council was hesitating, saying these courts would be a good investment in the community.

Agenda Changes

Minutes

Holland moved to approve the May 8, 2025 City Council meeting minutes, the May 15, 2025 City Council meeting minutes, the May 15, 2025 Executive Session minutes, the June 5, 2025 City Council Meeting minutes, and the June 5, 2025 Executive Session minutes. Brown seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

A. May 8, 2025 City Council Meeting Minutes

APPROVED 4-0

B. May 15, 2025 City Council Meeting Minutes

APPROVED 4-0

C. May 15, 2025 Executive Session Minutes

APPROVED 4-0

D. June 5, 2025 City Council Meeting Minutes

APPROVED 4-0

E. June 5, 2025 Executive Session Minutes

APPROVED 4-0

Consent Agenda

Johnson moved to approve Consent Agenda items A through G. Brown seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

The Mayor noted that they had just appointed Christopher Jenkins, Robert Halverson, and Jack Allen to fill vacancies on the Planning Commission.

A. FY2026 Non-Profit Funding - Fayette County Council on Domestic Violence, Inc. d/b/a Promise Place
APPROVED 4-0

B. FY2026 Non-Profit Funding - Fayette Senior Services, Inc.
APPROVED 4-0

C. FEMA SAFER Grant - Cost Share Support
APPROVED 4-0

D. Replacement Vehicle for Stormwater Department
APPROVED 4-0

E. Station 85 Engineering Services
APPROVED 4-0

F. Planning Commission Appointments
APPROVED 4-0

G. Resolution 06192025-CA-G Public Declaration of Public Road and Approval of Easement
APPROVED 4-0

Old Agenda Items

None

New Agenda Items

A. 06-25-06 Engineering Services for Huddleston Road, Path, & Sewer Project

This was a first of its kind undertaking in Peachtree City, City Engineer Dave Borkowski noted, in that it combined sewer, storm water, and path projects. The projects consisted of a 2017 SPLOST project for a multi-use path along Huddleston Road from Paschall Road to a current path near SR 54, plus a Peachtree City Water and Sewerage Authority (WASA) project to extend public sewer to this same area. There were also storm water issues that would be addressed.

The first step in this process was to procure a design consultant with experience in these areas. There were five responses to the request for proposals (RFPs), and after review, a committee consisting of staff and a WASA representative unanimously recommended Rummel, Klepper & Kahl, LLP (RK&K) as the consultant. This would be a 30- to 36-month project, Borkowski remarked, and would cost approximately \$4 million, and they recommended a cap of \$280,000 for

the engineering services portion. That was about 7% of the construction cost, which was in the typical range.

Holland moved to award the contract for engineering services for the Huddleston Road path and sewer project to RK&K not to exceed \$280,000. Brown seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Hearings

None

Council/Staff Topics

A. Architectural Services Request for Proposals

Borkowski said they were currently reviewing the nine RFPs they had received back for architectural services for Fire Station 85 and other future projects and hoped to bring it to Council for an award in July.

B. Completion of Stormwater Projects

Also, Borkowski wanted to recognize the Storm Water Department for completing several projects including the sinkhole in Braelinn and the Parkgate detention pond repair.

C. Yard Sale Webpage and Navigate PTC

Johnson recalled Council had discussed the public's frustration with yard sale sign regulations at their retreat this year, and she was glad to see that a web-based listing had been established where citizens could post their sales, and shoppers could look for them. This would soon be on the Navigate PTC App, too. She thanked staff for their work, and Bush said GIS Manager Madhuri Adapala wrote the code.

D. Pickleball Remarks

Brown wanted to clarify her position in regard to pickleball facilities. She said she was upset when she attended the RAG meeting and realized they did not have information regarding a possible third location for pickleball at Riley Field, where there were already restrooms and parking. It was not given as an option because it could accommodate only 12 courts. That meant there would be two locations with 12 courts, for a total of 24, and would allow them to remove the courts at Braelinn.

Moving the mulch pit at Meade Field would be very costly, Brown stated. They were looking at alternate locations at Meade for pickleball, but it could not happen overnight. She said they could put 12 or 18 courts on an unused baseball field there, but that might be too close to a new townhome development.

Funding was another issue, she remarked. There was SPLOST money, but it would not be enough to build what everybody wanted where they wanted it. She also mentioned that citizens had told her they did not want all the pickleball to be on the south side of town. That was another reason to explore putting some courts

at Riley.

She asked the Pickleball Club members in attendance to wait because no matter what the RAG recommended, it was up to Council to weigh the options and figure out funding. Brown said the Mayor had added pickleball to the 2023 SPLOST and removed the Battery Way restrooms, but Learnard corrected her and said the restrooms were never in the SPLOST. Some neighbors did not want them, and they did not want to risk the SPLOST not passing because of that.

Brown said SPLOST did provide some funding for pickleball, but not the estimated \$2 million it would cost to put the courts where the Recreation Master Plan recommended. She asked the players to be patient as they explored the options. She said she was not looking at cutting the number of courts from 18 to 12, but preferred the plan that allowed for 24. Learnard said she was interested in talking more about that.

Holland said he would like to echo what Brown said. There was a misunderstanding that he and Brown only wanted 12 courts. The City Manager had given them some information, and he said he favored 18 courts at Meade and maybe looking at Riley a little later.

E. Courtesy on the Multi-Use Paths

Courtesy, or lack of it, on the cart paths was another topic on Holland's mind. He said he had noticed a decline in manners on the paths since he had moved to Peachtree City, especially when carts were passing pedestrians. He thought courtesy should be emphasized in the path safety brochure.

F. Memorial Monument

Holland proposed that Council donate a statue of the late resident alligator Flat Creek Floyd as the first piece of a public art program. Public Works could construct a base and mount the statue at a suitable location. He thought Council could donate this to the City. Holland had some pictures of the statue he wanted to order.

Executive Session

Adjourn

There being no further business, Brown moved to adjourn at 10:33 a.m. Holland seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

