



CITY OF
FOREST PARK

**CITY OF FOREST PARK
CITY COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION MEETING**

Monday, December 15, 2025, at 7:00 PM
Forest Park City Hall | Council Chambers
745 Forest Parkway, Forest Park, GA
30297

The Honorable Mayor Angelyne Butler, MPA
The Honorable Kimberly James The Honorable Delores A. Gunn
The Honorable Hector Gutierrez The Honorable Latresa Akins-Wells
The Honorable Allan Mears
Latosha Clemons, Interim City Manager
Randi Rainey, City Clerk
Danielle Matricardi, City Attorney

APPROVED MINUTES

- I. **CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME**
Mayor Pro Tem James called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.
- II. **INVOCATION/PLEDGE**
Evangelist Gunn provided the invocation, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.
- III. **ROLL CALL - CITY CLERK**

Present

Mayor Butler
Councilmember Kimberly James
Councilmember Delores Gunn
Councilmember Hector Gutierrez
Councilmember Latresa Akins-Wells
Councilmember Allan Mears

Absent

Others in attendance: Pauline Warrior, Chief of Staff; Josh Cox, IT Director; Rodney Virgil, Level 2 Support Engineer; Javon Lloyd, PIO; John Wiggins, Finance Director; Talisa Adams, Procurement; Yasmin Huerta, Procurement; Shalonda Brown, HR Director; Diane Lewis, HR Deputy Director; Rochelle Dennis, Economic Development Director; Charise Clay, Main Street Manager; SaVaughn Irons, Principal Planner; Dorthy Roper-Jackson, Municipal Court Director; Tarik Maxwell, Director of Rec and Leisure; Alton Matthews, Public Works Director; Brandon Criss, Police Chief, and Danielle Matricardi, City Attorney.

Special Guest: State Rep. Rhonda Burnough, Chair Alieka Anderson-Henry, Ms. Victoria Williams, Clayton County School Board Rep., CCPS Board member Jessie Goree, Rev. and Mrs. Michael Clinckscale, Rock Church of Atlanta, Mayor Elect Ellison, CCPS Board Member Joy Tellis Cooper, FPMA founder Dr Leon Beeler, President Dr. Kenneth Paden, FPMA members Paul Bishop Fortson, Pastor Joe Durham, and Dr. Wanda Folami.

IV. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA WITH ANY ADDITIONS / DELETIONS

Councilmember James requested that the presentations be moved to the end of the agenda after New Business.

It was moved to amend the agenda to move Presentations after New Business.

The motion was made by Councilmember James and seconded by Councilmember Mears.
Voting Yea: Councilmember James, Councilmember Gunn, Councilmember Gutierrez, Councilmember Akins-Wells, and Councilmember Mears.

V. ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA WITH ANY ADDITIONS / DELETIONS

There were no Consent Agenda items added or removed.

VI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Council Approval of Work Session and Regular Meeting Minutes from December 1, 2025—City Clerk

It was moved to adopt the minutes of December 1, 2025, as printed.

The motion was made by Councilmember Akins-Wells and seconded by Councilmember James.

Voting Yea: Councilmember James, Councilmember Gunn, Councilmember Gutierrez, Councilmember Akins-Wells, and Councilmember Mears.

VII. PUBLIC COMMENTS

(All Speakers will have 3 Minutes)

Mayor Butler reminded the public that, pursuant to Section 2-1-7 of the City Code, all public comments must relate to items on the agenda or to matters within the jurisdiction of the City Council. She emphasized that the Council does not have authority over pending personnel actions and, therefore, speakers are asked to refrain from commenting on ongoing disciplinary proceedings or personnel matters. Mayor Butler explained that this restriction is necessary to preserve the fairness and impartiality of the review and appeals process. She noted that public comments regarding such matters may only be made after a final decision has been issued. Mayor Butler referenced Mr. Finch's earlier comments as an example of statements that fall within this restriction.

There were four (4) Public Comment Speakers to sign up, but only one (1) Public Comment Speaker spoke.

Dr. Folami stated that she wanted to speak briefly to ensure there was no negativity during the evening's meeting and noted that the group would be prepared for January 1. On behalf of the Concerned Citizens, she wished the Mayor and Council a Merry Christmas, expressing holiday

greetings to all in attendance. She concluded by thanking the governing body.

VIII. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Interim City Manager Chief Clemons addressed the Mayor and Council and, on behalf of the organization, recognized Madam Mayor Angelyne Butler for her leadership and service to the City of Forest Park. She expressed appreciation for the mayor's commitment to the community and her dedication throughout her term. Chief Clemons concluded her remarks and ended the City Manager's report.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

2. **Council Approval of Professional Recruitment Services for a new City Manager-Executive Office**

It was motioned to approve Sumpter Consulting to complete the nationwide search for a new City Manager.

The motion was made by Councilmember James and seconded by Councilmember Gutierrez. Voting Yea: Councilmember James, Councilmember Gunn, Councilmember Gutierrez, Councilmember Akins-Wells, Councilmember Mears.

3. **Council Approval Regarding a Resolution to Establish a Technology Fee for the Municipal Court—Municipal Court Department**

It was moved to approve a Resolution to Establish a Technology Fee for the Municipal Court.

The motion was made by Councilmember Akins-Wells and seconded by Councilmember James.

Voting Yea: Councilmember James, Councilmember Gunn, Councilmember Gutierrez, Councilmember Akins-Wells, Councilmember Mears.

4. **Council Approval of the Willie Finch Community Gardens and the Three Wall Structures on Pineridge Road-Procurement Department**

It was moved to approve Sarah Neuburger as the vendor for the Willie Finch Community Garden and the Three Wall Structures on Pineridge Road.

The motion was made by Councilmember Akins-Wells and seconded by Councilmember James.

Voting Yea: Councilmember James, Councilmember Gunn, Councilmember Gutierrez, Councilmember Akins-Wells, Councilmember Mears.

Comments/Discussion from the Governing Body:

Councilmember Akins-Wells stated that the mayor had indicated she still had funds available for the project and noted that she wanted this to be reflected on the record. Mayor Butler acknowledged this and stated she would still allocate her funds as discussed. Councilmember Akins-Wells then emphasized the project's importance to the broader community, noting that it would benefit residents across the city.

X. PRESENTATIONS

5. Financial Reporting of FY2025-2026 Monthly Financial Report- Finance Department

Mr. Wiggins presented the FY 2025–2026 Monthly Financial Report for November. He reported that General Fund revenues were budgeted at \$43,825,008.57, with \$136,853 collected for the month of November and \$20,177,008.12 collected year-to-date. Expenditures reflected the same budget amount, with \$2,330,007.13 spent in November and \$17,041,009.87 in year-to-date expenditures. He also provided an overview of General Fund spending by department, noting the current budget amounts, actual spending, and the percentage of the budget utilized to date. He stated that the City has used 39% of the General Fund budget so far.

Mr. Wiggins additionally summarized all other funds for November, highlighting each fund's revenue and expenditure budgets along with their actual financial activity. He concluded his financial report.

XI. CLOSING COMMENTS BY GOVERNING BODY

A special program was held in honor of Mayor Angeline Butler to commemorate her eight years of service to the City of Forest Park. The event featured a series of presentations, tributes, and recognitions celebrating her leadership, accomplishments, and historic role within the community. A tribute video highlighted major milestones during her administration, including economic development initiatives, the redevelopment of the Gillem Logistics Center, and the City's financial turnaround.

State and County Recognitions:

State Representative Rhonda Burnough presented a proclamation from Governor Brian P. Kemp and the State of Georgia acknowledging Mayor Butler's historic service and achievements. Clayton County Chairperson Dr. Alike Anderson Henry presented a proclamation from the Clayton County Board of Commissioners recognizing Mayor Butler's economic, fiscal, and community accomplishments. Members of the Clayton County Board of Education, including Victoria Williams, Jessie Gorree, and Joy Tellis Cooper, presented a proclamation honoring Mayor Butler's support for schools, families, and youth initiatives. The City of Forest Park presented Mayor Butler with the Key to the City in recognition of her historic service and lasting impact on the community.

Community and Faith Leaders:

The Forest Park Ministers Association presented a plaque recognizing Mayor Butler's partnership with the faith community and led prayers in her honor. Reverend Clinkscales and Mrs. Clinkscales of Rock Church and other members of the FPMA also offered prayers and words of appreciation.

Personal Testimonials and Remarks:

Councilmembers James, Gunn, Gutierrez, Akins-Wells, and Councilmember Mears expressed individual gratitude and shared reflections on their experiences working with Mayor Butler.

Former campaign supporters and community members, such as Dr. Folami and Yasmine Julio, spoke about her early journey to elected office and her positive impact on citizens and youth throughout the city.

Mayor's Farewell Remarks

Mayor Angelyne Butler delivered her farewell address, expressing gratitude for the recognition extended to her. She noted that while she had not sought celebration, she deeply appreciated the acknowledgment of her service and journey. She reflected on her personal and spiritual path to leadership, describing her tenure as one guided by purpose, preparation, and faith.

The mayor shared personal reflections on her upbringing, crediting her parents for instilling integrity, resilience, and a commitment to service. She emphasized the importance of choosing integrity over expediency, noting that leadership victories achieved at the cost of one's values are ultimately pyrrhic victories that do not serve the greater good.

Mayor Butler also spoke about her daughter as a source of inspiration and pride, highlighting lessons of courage, discipline, and growth. She addressed members of the governing body individually, affirming their leadership qualities, growth, and readiness to continue advancing the City of Forest Park. She emphasized that effective governance is founded on tenacity, discernment, ethical conviction, and a commitment to serving the community.

Throughout her remarks, the mayor acknowledged both the challenges and accomplishments of her tenure, recognizing supporters as well as critics, and emphasizing that adversity often served as preparation rather than punishment. She concluded by expressing confidence in the City's future leadership, calling for unity, continued progress, and gratitude for the opportunity to serve the residents of Forest Park.

To view the program in its entirety, please visit <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HAvfOTTypsQ>.

XII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

(When an Executive Session is required, one will be called for the following issues: Personnel, Litigation, or Real Estate) OCGA is §50-14-1 (A)(2).

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Butler adjourned the meeting at 8:55 p.m.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, those requiring accommodation for Council meetings should notify the City Clerk's Office at least 24 hours before the meeting at 404-366-4720.


City Clerk Signature


Mayor's Signature