



CITY COUNCIL Planning Retreat – Minutes

February 8, 2023 at 1:00 PM | Grand Hyatt Buckhead | 3300 Peachtree Rd NE, Atlanta, GA 30305

I. ROLL CALL/DECLARATION OF QUORUM

Present: Rebecca C. Benton, Mayor
Tom Hutcherson, Mayor Pro Tem
Shannon Black, Councilmember
Aaron Higgins, Councilmember
Stevie Wall, Councilmember
Karen Williams, Councilmember
Robert Byrd, City Manager
Craig Call, City Attorney
Chris Lightle, Finance Officer
Brian Crooks, City Planner
Chief Wade Simmons, Fire Department
Chief Ashley Brown, Police Department
Caroline Hankins, Director of Human Resources
Kiley Fusco, Clerk of Council
Chris Burke, HGB
Holmes Bell, HGB
Liberto Chacon, HGB
Stanley Hurd, EOM
Trevor Shoemaker, EOM

Absent: John Wilcher, Councilmember

II. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Rebecca Benton called the retreat to order at 1:00 p.m.

III. REPORTS

A. Capital Project Report

Chris Burke and Holmes Bell presented an Engineering update. Their presentation has been provided as an attachment.

B. Finance Department Report

Finance Officer Chris Lightle gave the Finance Department Report. His presentation has been provided as an attachment. He also discussed

emergency/weather event funding as well as the use of Tyler Technologies' remote backup system.

C. **Planning & Zoning Report**

City Planner Brian Crooks gave the Planning & Zoning and Development Authority Reports. His presentation has been provided as an attachment.

D. **Police Department Report**

Chief Ashley Brown gave the Police Department Report. His presentation has been provided as an attachment.

E. **Fire Department Report**

Chief Wade Simmons gave the Police Department Report. His presentation has been provided as an attachment.

IV. TRAINING SESSION

A. **Election Year Guidelines**

City Manager Craig Call led a training session on Election Year Guidelines. His presentation has been provided as an attachment.

V. OPEN FORUM

A. **Discussion Topics - Staff**

HR Director Caroline Hankins led a group discussion on meeting times.

B. **Discussion Topics - Mayor & Council**

Councilmember Karen Williams shared an information sheet from a World Trade Center Savannah/Savannah Economic Development Authority program on welcoming our new South Korean neighbors to our local communities as part of Hyundai Motor Group Metaplant America.

Councilmember Aaron Higgins shared a draft of GMA's Civility Pledge in addition to information regarding the GMA/Georgia Association of Chiefs of Police/Local Government Risk Management Services "Excellence in Policing" Program. All documents have been provided as an attachment.

VI. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Rebecca Benton requested a motion to enter Executive Session. Councilmember Aaron Higgins moved to enter Executive Session at 4:25 p.m.

Motion to Enter; PASSED (UNANIMOUS)

MOVER: Higgins

SECONDER: Williams

AYES: Black, Higgins, Hutcherson, Wall, Williams

NAYS:

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Rebecca Benton called the retreat back to order and adjourned at 4:51 p.m.

The foregoing minutes are true and correct and approved by me on this _____ day of _____, 2023.

Rebecca C. Benton, Mayor

Attest:

Kiley Fusco, Clerk of Council