

BUSINESS MINUTES

December 8

2014

The Riverdale Mayor and City Council met on Monday, Dec. 8 2014 at 7:00PM for the purpose of conducting a regular business session. The meeting was held in the Courtroom Chambers on the 1st floor at Riverdale City Hall, located at 7200 Church Street, Riverdale, GA 30274.

City of Riverdale Mayor & Council Meeting



MAYOR
Dr. Evelyn Wynn-Dixon

CITY COUNCIL
Cynthia Stamps-Jones, Ward 1
An'cel Davis, Ward 2
Wanda Wallace, Ward 3
Kenneth Ruffin, Ward 4

CITY MANAGER
E. Scott Wood

CITY CLERK
Sherry D. Henderson

CITY ATTORNEY
L'Erin F. Barnes



**CITY OF RIVERDALE
MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2014
BUSINESS MINUTES**

CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME:

Meeting was called to order at 7:20PM

ROLL CALL:

All members of the governing body were present at the meeting.
Sherry D. Henderson, City Clerk declared a quorum.

Attendee Name	Title	Status
Evelyn Wynn Dixon	Mayor, At-Large	Present
Cynthia Stamps Jones	Council Member, Ward 1 Parliamentarian	Present
An'cel Davis	Council Member, Ward 2 Mayor Pro-Tem	Present
Wanda Wallace	Council Member, Ward 3	Present
Kenneth Ruffin	Council Member, Ward 4	Present

INVOCATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Invocation & Pledge were led by Deacon Craig Cason.

OFFICER IN ARMS TO READ RULES OF CONDUCT:

Rules of Conduct read by Officer V. Barnes.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA WITH ANY ADDITIONS/DELETIONS:

The following amendments were made to the agenda:

- Addition(s):** RESOLUTION TO REPEAL ASST. CITY MGR POSITION;
RESOLUTION TO RE-CREATE THE ASSISTANT CITY MGR.
POSITION;
RESOLUTION TO AWARD CONTRACT WORK FOR TE GDOT
GRANT PROJECT;
- Deletion(s):** CIVIC LIVE WEBSITE DEVELOPMENT.
- Tabled:** None.
- Postponed:** None.

MOTION: Council Member Wanda Wallace moved to approve the Agenda, with the additions and deletion. Council Member An'cel Davis moved to second the motion. **The measure was APPROVED by a vote of 4/0.**

Attendee Name	Title	VOTE
Evelyn Wynn Dixon	Mayor, At-Large	
Cynthia Stamps Jones	Council Member, Ward 1 Parliamentarian	YEA
An'cel Davis	Council Member, Ward 2 Mayor Pro-Tem	YEA
Wanda Wallace	Council Member, Ward 3	YEA
Kenneth Ruffin	Council Member, Ward 4	YEA



CONSENT AGENDA:

Adoption of the November 24 2014 Mayor & Council Meeting Minutes.

MOTION: Council Member Wanda Wallace moved to approve the consent agenda. Council Member An’cel Davis moved to second the motion. **The measure was APPROVED by a vote of 4/0.**

Attendee Name	Title	VOTE
Evelyn Wynn Dixon	Mayor, At-Large	
Cynthia Stamps Jones	Council Member, Ward 1 Parliamentarian	YEA
An’cel Davis	Council Member, Ward 2 Mayor Pro-Tem	YEA
Wanda Wallace	Council Member, Ward 3	YEA
Kenneth Ruffin	Council Member, Ward 4	YEA

PUBLIC COMMENT (5 minute limit):

Mr. Craig Cason 812 King Road, Riverdale GA 30274 404-552-8799

Mr. Cason provided information on the new Charter School in Riverdale. The School will not compete with the Clayton County School System. However, the Charter School (Dubois Integrity Academy) will work collaboratively together with the School System for the greater good of our students and community. . Cason further stated his team did their due diligence and has worked with the City’s Planning & Zoning Department the past 2 years, to ensure compliance and readiness. The Charter School will be the only K-Grade 5 Charter School in the County that focuses on STEM Curriculum.

Mayor and Council extended a warm welcome for this new development in the community, and anticipate a successful program in Riverdale.

Council Member Davis welcomed Mr. Alan Dotson, Athletic Director

Council Member Davis extended a warm welcome to Mr. Alan Dotson, the City’s Athletic Director. On behalf of Mayor and Council, Councilman Davis presented Mr. Dotson with a baseball signed by all members of the Governing Body.

RESOLUTION(S):

RESOLUTION NO. 101-12-2014 Budget Amendment 15-03, to transfer funds from Cultural Affairs to Athletics Dept.

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF RIVERDALE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL TO AUTHORIZE FINANCE DIRECTOR TO AMEND THE BUDGET AND TRANSFER FUNDS FROM CULTURAL AFFAIRS TO ATHLETICS DEPT; TO PROVIDE FOR SEVERABILITY; TO PROVIDE FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Presented by Don Turner, Finance Director.



It is necessary to amend the budget to transfer budget funds from Cultural Affairs Department to the Athletic Department.

**Mayor Dixon called for questions from the Board.
There were none.**

MOTION: Council Member Wanda Wallace moved to approve the measure. Council Member An’cel Davis moved to second the motion. **The measure was APPROVED by a vote of 4/0.**

Attendee Name	Title	VOTE
Evelyn Wynn Dixon	Mayor, At-Large	
Cynthia Stamps Jones	Council Member, Ward 1 Parliamentarian	YEA
An’cel Davis	Council Member, Ward 2 Mayor Pro-Tem	YEA
Wanda Wallace	Council Member, Ward 3	YEA
Kenneth Ruffin	Council Member, Ward 4	YEA

RESOLUTION NO. 102-12-2014 Budget Amendment 15-02, to transfer funds from Finance Department to Tax Collector.

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF RIVERDALE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL TO AUTHORIZE FINANCE DIRECTOR TO AMEND THE BUDGET AND TRANSFER FUNDS FINANCE DEPARTMENT TO TAX COLLECTOR; TO PROVIDE FOR SEVERABILITY; TO PROVIDE FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Presented by Don Turner, Finance Director.

It is necessary to amend the budget and transfer funds to the Tax Collector. The Tax Collector will no longer report to the Finance Department and be part of the Finance Department.

**Mayor Dixon called for questions from the Board.
There were none.**

MOTION: Council Member Wanda Wallace moved to approve the measure. Council Member An’cel Davis moved to second the motion. **The measure was APPROVED by a vote of 4/0.**

Attendee Name	Title	VOTE
Evelyn Wynn Dixon	Mayor, At-Large	
Cynthia Stamps Jones	Council Member, Ward 1 Parliamentarian	YEA
An’cel Davis	Council Member, Ward 2 Mayor Pro-Tem	YEA
Wanda Wallace	Council Member, Ward 3	YEA
Kenneth Ruffin	Council Member, Ward 4	YEA



RESOLUTION NO. 103-12-2014 Authorize City Manager to enter into contract with Civic Live for website development.

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF RIVERDALE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL TO AUTHORIZE CITY MANGER TO ENTER INTO CONTRACT WITH CIVIC LIVE FOR WEBSITE DEVELOPMENT; TO PROVIDE FOR SEVERABILITY; TO PROVIDE FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Presented by Lemmy Paskel, IT Director and Nate Mingo, Assistant City Manager.
NO ACTION – item removed from the Agenda.

RESOLUTION NO. 104-12-2014 TO REPEAL SECOND ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER POSITION.

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF RIVERDALE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL TO REPEAL RESOLUTION NO. 60-06-2014 WHICH CREATED THE POSITION OF THE 2ND ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER; TO REPEAL RESOLUTION NO. 63-06-2014 WHICH APPOINTED NATE MINGO TO THE POSITION OF 2ND ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER; TO PROVIDE FOR SEVERABILITY; TO REPEAL ALL CONFLICTING RESOLUTION.

Mayor Dixon called for questions from the Board.

Council Member Stamps-Jones inquired asked Mr. Wood (City Manager) if he could share his thoughts on the measure.

[Clerk's Note: The City Manager, Mr. Wood read an open letter to address the subject. For the record, the letter was added to the minutes]

Mr. E. Scott Wood read the following letter in Open Council Meeting:

I'm not sure how many of you did so before being elected, but be assured that before coming to work here I read the Riverdale city charter, specifically with respect to the responsibilities of the city manager. It was then, and remains now, my distinct professional opinion that the city manager has the responsibility to name not only the assistant city managers but the various department heads as well. And that opinion has on at least two different occasions been shared by at least two different and qualified municipal or labor attorneys. I was asked before coming here if I had any problem working with two assistant city managers and I said "Absolutely Not!" I meant it then and I mean it now. But I had no idea that embedded within that seemingly innocent question was a functional override of the city charter which prevented the city manager from making those specific staff appointments. And how could I or anyone else have possibly anticipated that? But fairly soon after realizing it I did point it out and frankly I don't think I did the wrong thing by doing so.

Lord knows I have made my share of mistakes over the years and will, no doubt, make many more. But when I realize I have made one, when it is clearly pointed out to me, I think it incumbent on me to do whatever is required to correct it. Most respectfully to you as elected officials, it has been, and remains, my professional opinion that city council naming---specifically selecting by personality---the assistant city managers, is a well-intentioned and honorable, but evident, error for two reasons; (1) attorneys have pointed out that it is not in compliance with the city charter; and (2) from an operational or managerial perspective--- it simply is not a sound business model. Again very respectfully, policy makers should be about developing and implementing wise and visionary policy---not imposing personnel decisions on the city manager.

Part of my responsibility as your city manager is to assess existing frameworks and personnel alignments and to advocate change whenever I consider those changes as opportunities to improve the managerial performance or operational efficiency of the city. And that is what I have done. Think about it. Do you really want a city manager to do otherwise? Obviously you do not have to embrace or ratify my every recommendation. We all know that. Sometime you will and some time you won't. That is your prerogative. But do you really want to stifle your city manager, or criticize him or make him feel uncomfortable for confronting a situation within the city that is not legally compliant or operationally advisable and then recommending a correction to that problem? It is certainly not my purpose or intention to promote division or contention over this or any other issue. I much prefer the peaceful and harmonious route. Life is just more pleasant that way. But it is also not my professional character or individual personality to remain mute when I see opportunities to achieve greater legal compliance or operational improvements within the Riverdale administration. And I am bewildered by the inference that some people may think I should have no opinion or when and if I do I should just remain sheepishly deaf and dumb. I hope I never do that, whether in my work or personal life. Within their respective spheres of specialized responsibility I consider virtually every department head to be a de facto assistant city manager....day in and day out. So whether we have two assistant city managers, one assistant city manager, or zero assistant managers is not the prevailing issue here to me. The prevailing issue to me is ensuring that whatever number you settle on are created and constituted the right way, and that the city manager is allowed to fill them, and the various department head positions as well. With that said, be assured that I will enthusiastically comply with and conform to Mayor and Councils preference in that regard. My only request---my only request-- is that the city manager be allowed to make staff appointments---to fill whatever positions for which you authorize creation and provide funding-- without what has admittedly been well-intentioned but obvious impediment. That's all. That is the right way to do business and we should all be about doing business on behalf of the City of Riverdale the right way.

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Mr. Wood stated it is the decision of the Board whether the positions should be recreated or not. He further elaborated he could not have anticipated a violation in the charter regarding the appointment of the ACM's. The City Manager should not be prevented from identifying and selecting his or her own Assistant City Manager(s). He felt it is not a sound business model, as it currently stands. Policy makers should be responsible for policy and not impose on the City Manager.

Council Member Stamps-Jones indicated that the Assistant City Manager positions were created to strengthen our City. Riverdale can create its own blueprint. She would like to correct the measure as well. For the record, she does not think the newly created Assistant City Manager position(s) will be filled by the City Manager.

Mr. Wood indicated it should be the responsibility of the City Manager to fill the ACM positions.

Councilman Davis stated Mr. Wood was aware of the two (2) ACM positions in place during the City Manager interview process, and if Mr. Wood had any concerns with the business model he should have stated his concern at that time. Mr. Davis would have appreciated if Mr. Wood spoke up during the interview process for his City Manager position.

Council Member Wallace asked the Clerk's Office to have the Agenda Packets ready Wednesdays, prior to the upcoming Council Meeting for review. She elaborated the need for the city to move ahead. She's been in office 14 years, and stated city employees need to do their jobs.

Councilman Ruffin stated he is ready to move on.

Mayor Dixon expressed her desire is to follow due process and abide by the Charter. She recommends to repeal the positions and re-create.

MOTION: Council Member Wanda Wallace moved to approve the measure. Council Member Kenny Ruffin moved to second. **The measure was APPROVED by a vote of 3/2**

Attendee Name	Title	VOTE
Evelyn Wynn Dixon	Mayor, At-Large	YEA
Cynthia Stamps Jones	Council Member, Ward 1 Parliamentarian	NAY
An'cel Davis	Council Member, Ward 2 Mayor Pro-Tem	NAY
Wanda Wallace	Council Member, Ward 3	YEA
Kenneth Ruffin	Council Member, Ward 4	YEA

RESOLUTION NO. 105-12-2014 RE-CREATE THE SECOND ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER POSITION.

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF RIVERDALE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL TO RECREATE THE POSITION OF SECOND ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER; TO PROVIDE FOR A JOB DESCRIPTION OF THE SECOND ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER; TO ADD THE SECOND ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER POSITION TO THE CITY OF RIVERDALE'S PAY AND CLASSIFICATION PLAN AND ORGANIZATIONAL CHARTER; TO PROVIDE FOR SEVERABILITY; TO REPEAL ALL CONFLICTING RESOLUTIONS; TO PROVIDE FOR AN EFFECTICVE DATE.



Mayor Dixon called for questions from the Board.
There were none.

MOTION: Council Member An’cel Davis moved to approve the measure. Council Member Cynthia Stamps-Jones moved to second the motion. **The measure FAILED by a vote of 2/3.**

Attendee Name	Title	VOTE
Evelyn Wynn Dixon	Mayor, At-Large	NAY
Cynthia Stamps Jones	Council Member, Ward 1 Parliamentarian	YEA
An’cel Davis	Council Member, Ward 2 Mayor Pro-Tem	YEA
Wanda Wallace	Council Member, Ward 3	NAY
Kenneth Ruffin	Council Member, Ward 4	NAY

RESOLUTION NO. 106-12-2014 TO REPEAL THE ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER POSITION.

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF RIVERDALE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL TO AUTHORIZE THE REPEAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 54-05-2014 WHICH CREATED THE POSITION OF ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER, TO AUTHORIZE THE REPEAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 59-06-2014 WHICH APPOINTED CAMILLA MOORE TO THE POSITION OF ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER; TO AUTHORIZE THE REPEAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 61-06-2014 WHICH AMENDED THE JOB DESCRIPTION OF THE ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER POSITION; TO PROVIDE FOR SEVERABILITY; TO REPEAL ALL CONFLICTING RESOLUTIONS; TO PROVIDE FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Mayor Dixon called for questions from the Board.
There were none.

MOTION: Council Member Wanda Wallace moved to approve the measure. Council Member Kenneth Ruffin moved to second the motion. **The measure was APPROVED by a vote of 4/0.**

Attendee Name	Title	VOTE
Evelyn Wynn Dixon	Mayor, At-Large	
Cynthia Stamps Jones	Council Member, Ward 1 Parliamentarian	YEA
An’cel Davis	Council Member, Ward 2 Mayor Pro-Tem	YEA
Wanda Wallace	Council Member, Ward 3	YEA
Kenneth Ruffin	Council Member, Ward 4	YEA

RESOLUTION NO. 107-12-2014 TO RE-CREATE THE ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER POSITION.

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF RIVERDALE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL TO RECREATE THE POSITION OF AN ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER; TO PROVIDE FOR A JOB DESCRIPTION OF THE ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER POSITION; TO ADD THE POSITION TO THE CITY OF RIVERDALE PAY AND CLASSIFICATION PLAN AND ORGANIZATIONAL CHART; TO PROVIDE FOR SEVERABILITY; TO REPEAL ALL CONFLICTING RESOLUTIONS; TO PROVIDE FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Mayor Dixon called for questions from the Board. There were none.



MOTION: Council Member Wanda Wallace moved to approve the measure. Council Member Kenneth Ruffin moved to second the motion. **The measure was APPROVED by a vote of 4/0.**

Attendee Name	Title	VOTE
Evelyn Wynn Dixon	Mayor, At-Large	
Cynthia Stamps Jones	Council Member, Ward 1 Parliamentarian	YEA
An’cel Davis	Council Member, Ward 2 Mayor Pro-Tem	YEA
Wanda Wallace	Council Member, Ward 3	YEA
Kenneth Ruffin	Council Member, Ward 4	YEA

RESOLUTION NO. 108-12-2014 AUTHORIZE CITY OF RIVERDALE MAYOR TO ISSUE A SPONSOR LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION INDICATING THE BIDDER TO BE AWARDED THE CONTRACT FOR WORK TO BE COMPLETED IN THE CITY PURSUANT TO THE TRANSPORTATION ENHANCEMENT GRANT AWARDED BY GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (“GDOT”) FEDERAL AID PROJECT.

A RESOLUTION OF THE RIVERDALE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO ISSUE A SPONSOR LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION INDICATING THE BIDDER TO BE AWARDED THE CONTRACT FOR THE WORK TO BE COMPLETED IN THE CITY PURSUANT TO THE TRANSPORTATION ENHANCEMENT GRANT AWARDED TO THE CITY BY AND THROUGH THE GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (“GDOT”) FEDERAL AID PROJECT CSTEE-0009-00(009), P.I. NUMBER 0009009; TO PROVIDE FOR EVERABILITY; TO REPEAL ALL CONFLICTING RESOLUTIONS; TO PROVIDE FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Presented by Camilla Moore, Assistant City Manager and Director of Planning & Zoning.

Mayor Dixon called for questions from the Board. There were none.

MOTION: Council Member Wanda Wallace moved to approve the measure. Council Member An’cel Davis moved to second the motion. **The measure was APPROVED by a vote of 4/0.**

Attendee Name	Title	VOTE
Evelyn Wynn Dixon	Mayor, At-Large	
Cynthia Stamps Jones	Council Member, Ward 1 Parliamentarian	YEA
An’cel Davis	Council Member, Ward 2 Mayor Pro-Tem	YEA
Wanda Wallace	Council Member, Ward 3	YEA
Kenneth Ruffin	Council Member, Ward 4	YEA



UPDATE FROM CLERK'S OFFICE:

Sherry D. Henderson, City Clerk

The City of Riverdale Administrative offices will be closed Dec. 24-26 in National Observance of Christmas. We will re-open on Monday, Dec. 29th @ 8AM.

As we continue to serve the needs of our community, the City of Riverdale is proud sponsor the annual "toys for tots" campaign for the Christmas Season. Please support the community and those in need, by donating an unwrapped gift/toy. Donations will be accepted before 5PM on Dec. 22nd. Gifts will be distributed to families at the Riverdale Centre on December 23rd @ 12noon. For additional information please contact the Clerk's Office or Riverdale Fire Dept.

MARTA's Board of Directors held Public Hearing at the Clayton County Administration Building on Thursday, Dec. 4th. MARTA bus was onsite at the Riverdale Centre to drive citizens to the Public Hearing to learn more about the proposed Bus Service Modifications, set for March 21, 2015.

State Representative Darryl Jordan hosted the Affordable Care Act Town Hall meeting at Riverdale City Hall, on thu Dec. 4th. Open Enrollment for the Affordable Care Act ends Feb. 15, 2015. For info on enrollment centers please contact the Clerk's Office.

Please be mindful, Georgia is vulnerable to extreme cold and winter storms this time of year. As part of your Winter Weather Preparedness, please sign up for CodeRed – this city's emergency communication network to inform and empower you to be aware of inclement weather and plan accordingly. CodeRed signup is available at City Hall or online at www.riverdalega.gov

Also, in preparation of inclement weather, the City of Riverdale has partnered with NLC Utility Service Program to provide warranty protection for your buried, outside water and sewer lines. Additional Information available at City Hall.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENT(S):

Council Member Cynthia Stamps-Jones, Ward 1

Council Member Stamps-Jones thanked everyone for coming out tonight. Please sign up for CodeRed if you haven't so already. She wished everyone Happy Holidays.

Council Member An'cel Davis, Ward 2

Council Member Davis thanked everyone for attending the meeting. Councilman Davis and Chief Spivey recently visited Center of Hope. Mr. Davis thanked Chief Spivey for his time. He asked everyone to pray for our country, state, and City of Riverdale.

Council Member Wanda Wallace, Ward 3

Council Member Wallace Thanked everyone for attending tonight's meeting.



Council Member Kenny Ruffin, Ward 4

Council Member Ruffin thanked everyone for their time, he looks forward to seeing everyone next year.

Mayor Evelyn Wynn-Dixon, At-Large

Mayor Dixon thanked everyone for attending Council Meeting. The Christmas Tree Lighting Concert on Sat. Dec 6th was a huge success, and very well attended. She wished everyone Happy Holidays.

ADJOURNMENT: Council Member Wanda Wallace moved to adjourn. Council Member An'cel Davis moved to second the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 8:28PM.