



**MINUTES  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
July 6, 2010  
7:00 P.M.**

The City Council of the City of Forest Hill met on the above date at **7:00** P.M. with Mayor James Gosey presiding. The following Council Members and officials were present: Mayor Pro Tem Dulani Masimini, Damian Dalcour, Lyndia Thomas, Gerald Joubert, Mustafa Sami, Andrew Sanders, City Manager Sheyi I. Ipaye, Acting City Secretary Grace Edwards, Police Chief Robert Herbert, Director of Economic Development & Community Relations Venus Wehle, and City Attorney Warren Spencer.

**Opening Agenda:**

**A. Call to Order**

With a quorum present, Mayor Gosey called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

**B. Invocation**

Invocation was delivered by Mr. Lynn Fuller.

**C. Pledge of Allegiance to Flags**

Pledge to the United States and Texas flags were recited.

Immediately after the pledge to the United States and Texas flags were recited, Mayor and Council immediately address Item #6. Sheyi Ipaye, City Manager presented Robert Herbert, as Chief of Police for the City of Forest Hill.

Council Member Thomas made a motion to accept Robert Herbert as Police Chief for the City of Forest Hill, seconded by Council Member Dalcour, which *passed* as follows:

Ayes: Mayor James Gosey and Council Members: Dalcour, Thomas, Joubert, Sanders, Sami, and Mayor Pro Tem Masimini

Nays: None

Absent: None

Honorable Judge Glen Lewis gave Chief Robert Herbert the Oath of Office. Mayor and Council took a brief recess at 7:09 P.M., to enjoy refreshments prepared by the City of Forest Hill Celebration Committee. Mayor and Council reconvened into regular session at 7:29 P.M. Mrs. Herbert and Sheyi Ipaye, City Manager pinned the rank, insignia and badge on Robert Herbert, Police Chief for the City of Forest Hill.

**D. Mayor's Report:**

- **Report on the 2010 36<sup>th</sup> CDBG Public Works Allocations**

The City of Forest Hill's Public Works Department was awarded \$86,928.00 for the 2010 Community Development Block Grant Allocation.

**E. City Manager's Report:**

- **Update on the City of Forest Hill Building located at 3219 California Parkway and Public Works Building located at 3101 Horton Road.**

The New City of Forest Hill Building is progressing very well. The color scheme is coming together, states Sheyi Ipaye, City Manager. There were some concerns regarding the New City of Forest Hill Building and Monument Signs. The City Manager has committed to addressing all concerns. Information regarding the placement of speakers in the New City Hall Building Council Chambers was presented to the Mayor and Council. Discussions arose regarding major changes to the New City Hall Building. City Manager Sheyi Ipaye confirmed that there were no major changes to be addressed at this time.

The City Manager feels that the New Public Works Building bids for the necessary repairs are too expensive. Mr. Ipaye would like to approach the repairs in phases, rather than doing all the repairs at one time. Discussion ensued regarding the reasons for not allowing the Public Works Department Employees to move into the New Public Works Building immediately. The City Manager feels that the facility (A Tin Building) is not appropriately equipped to house human beings presently. Mayor Gosey feels that the City of Forest Hill might have some other options regarding possibly selling this building. City Manager states that he will go back to the drawing board regarding this project. He stressed the importance of careful consideration, in an effort to prevent unnecessary mistakes.

- **Report concerning the City of Forest Hill tax rate and collections**

The City Manager included information in the 07-06-10 City Council Packet regarding the City of Forest Hill tax rate and collections. The City of Forest Hill tax rate is \$1.06, the highest rate in Tarrant County. Mr. Ipaye visited with Jeff Law, Director/Chief Appraiser, Tarrant County Appraisal District in an effort to better understand the City of Forest Hill's declining property values. As of the end of last month \$81,000,000.00 is still under protest in the City of Forest Hill; these figures are taken from a total evaluation of \$365,000,000.00. The City Manager says that we have to tighten our belts. The 2010-2011 budget will not be very lenient. Mr. Ipaye, City Manager stated that the Tarrant Appraisal District Residential Building Permits Report he received for 2008, 2009, and 2010 fiscal years were very disheartening. In order for the City of Forest Hill to move forward there has to be more new projects and development in the City. Sheyi Ipaye, City Manager encourages the residents to come together to make the City of Forest Hill better place to live.

- **Update on the Sealed Bid Auction for the sale of city owned property**

There was a brief discussion regarding the nine (9) city owned properties that are up for bids. The City Manager feels that we as a City own far too much property. The burden

of keeping these properties up is very expensive and time consuming. The City Manager feels that the properties up for sealed bids, are a great opportunity for anyone interested in owning property in the City of Forest Hill.

- F. Citizens Presentation:** At this time, any person with business before the Council not scheduled on the agenda may speak to the Council. No formal action can be taken on these items at this meeting.

**Jimmie Sanders, 7005 Stonewall Rd.** – Mr. Sanders spoke in reference to the Recall Petitions for James Gosey, Mayor and Dulani Masimini, Council Member being in the Star Telegram Newspaper. He stated that individuals on the City Council have committed worse offenses and those offenses are purposely being ignored. Mr. Sanders feels that everyone on the City Council should be treated the same. He does not want any additional taxes. Mr. Sanders feels too much time is wasted on agenda items. Likewise, too many items are being placed on the agenda. Mr. Sanders also feels the council meetings last too long.

**Loretta J. Muldrew, 3300 Valley Forge Trail** – Mrs. Muldrew disappointed that Valley Forge Trail is receiving an overlay rather than a total reconstruction; she feels that the overlay of Valley Forge Trail is a waste of money.

- G. Consent Agenda:** - All consent agenda items are considered to be routine by the City Council and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Council Member so requests, in which event, the item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered in its normal sequence on the agenda.

1. Consider the minutes of July 6, 2010 regular council meeting.

**Council Member Joubert made a motion to accept the consent agenda item with the necessary corrections, seconded by Council Member Sami, which *passed* as follows:**

**Ayes: Mayor Gosey and Council Members: Dalcour, Thomas, Joubert, Sanders, Sami  
And Mayor Pro Tem Masimini**

**Nays: None**

**Absent: None**

**The following corrections were made to deliberation item #7, Ayes: Mayor Gosey, and Council Members: Dalcour, Thomas, Joubert, Sami, Sanders, and Mayor Pro Tem Masimini. The following corrections were made to deliberation item #10, Council Member Sami wanted to make sure the City of Forest Hill will follow through with what we have agreed upon as a City. Council Member Sami encourages the council to get a contract for this facility and make this facility a priority. The following corrections were made to Item #J under Executive Session, Council Member Sami left the executive session at 9:40 P.M. The following correction were made to Item #K, Council Member Thomas made a motion to hire Warren Spencer as our new City Attorney and Prosecutor, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Masimini, which passed as follows: Ayes: Mayor Gosey, and Council Members: Thomas, Mayor Pro Tem Masimini Nays: Council Member Joubert Absent: Council Member Sami, Sanders, and Dalcour.**

- H. Deliberation Agenda:**

2. Discuss and consider possible action to give authorization to the City Manager to renew agreement with Tarrant County for the assessment and collection services of Ad Valorem Taxes levied by the City.

**Council Member Sami made a motion to renew the agreement with Tarrant County for the assessment and collection services of Ad Valorem Taxes levied by the City, seconded by Council Member Joubert, which *passed* as follows:**

**Ayes: Mayor Gosey, and Council Members: Dalcour Thomas, Joubert, Sanders, Sami and Mayor Pro Tem Masimini**

**Nays: None**

**Absent: None**

3. Discuss and consider possible action regarding the approval of Resolution No. 07-2010, Tarrant County Home Investment Partnership Program.

**Council Member Thomas made a motion to approve Resolution No. 07-2010, seconded by Council Member Joubert, which *passed* as follows:**

**Ayes: Mayor Gosey, and Council Members: Dalcour, Thomas, Joubert, Sanders, Sami and Mayor Pro Tem Masimini**

**Nays: None**

**Absent: None**

4. Discuss and consider possible action regarding the approval of Resolution No. 08-2010, for Oncor Steering Committee.

**Council Member Joubert made a motion to accept Resolution No. 08-2010, seconded by Council Member Thomas, which *passed* as follows:**

**Ayes: Mayor Gosey, and Council Members: Dalcour, Thomas, Joubert, Sanders, Sami and Mayor Pro Tem Masimini**

**Nays: None**

**Absent: None**

5. Discuss and consider possible action regarding removing Clifford Blackwell, and Debbie Maness signatory from City's bank, Texpool, and other institutions and entities and authorizing City Manager and Acting City Secretary as signatories.

**Council Member Thomas made a motion to remove Clifford Blackwell, and Debbie Maness signatory authority from City's bank, Texpool, and other institutions and entities and authorizing City Manager and Acting City Secretary as signatories, seconded by Council Member Sanders, which *passed* as follows:**

**Ayes: Mayor Gosey, and Council Members: Dalcour, Thomas, Joubert, Sanders, Sami and Mayor Pro Tem Masimini**

**Nays: None**

**Absent: None**

6. Discuss and consider possible action regarding confirming Robert Herbert, Chief of Police for the City of Forest Hill, Texas.

Immediately after the pledge to the United States and Texas flags were recited, Mayor and Council immediately address Item #6. Sheyi Ipaye, City Manager presented Robert Herbert as Chief of Police for the City of Forest Hill. There was a brief recess for refreshments prepared by the Celebration Committee at 7:09 P.M. Mayor and Council reconvened back into regular session at 7:29 P.M.

Council Member Thomas made a motion to accept Robert Herbert as Police Chief for the City of Forest Hill, seconded by Council Member Dalcour, which *passed* as follows:

**Ayes: Mayor James Gosey and Council Members: Dalcour, Thomas, Joubert, Sanders, Sami, and Mayor Pro Tem Masimini**

**Nays: None**

**Absent: None**

Honorable Judge Glen Lewis gave Chief Robert Herbert the Oath of Office. Mrs. Herbert and Sheyi Ipaye, City Manager pinned the rank, insignia and badge on Police Chief Robert Herbert.

7. Discuss and consider possible action regarding placing the Recall Petitions for James Gosey, Mayor and Dulani Masimini, Council Member on the November 2010 ballot.

Council Member Joubert made a motion to place the Recall Petitions for James Gosey, Mayor and Dulani Masimini, Council Member on the November 2010 ballot, seconded by Council Member Sami, which *did not pass* as follows:

**Ayes: Council Member Joubert, and Sami**

**Nays: Mayor Gosey, and Council Members: Dalcour, Thomas, Mayor Pro Tem Masimini**

**Absent: None**

**A lengthy discussion ensued around this particular agenda item.**

8. Discuss and consider possible action regarding procedures for City Council appointments to Boards, Commissions and Committees.

Mayor Pro Tem Masimini motion that all applications for Board, Commissions and Committees must have the majority support of the City Council, seconded by Council Member Thomas, which *passed* as follows:

**Ayes: Mayor Gosey, and Council Members: Dalcour, Thomas, Joubert, Sanders, Sami and Mayor Pro Tem Masimini**

**Nays: None**

**Absent: None**

9. Discuss and consider possible action regarding appointments to Boards, Commissions and Committees.

**No action was taken on this agenda item.**

**Mayor and Council placed a ten (10) day deadline on submitting applications for Boards, Commissions, and Committees.**

10. Discuss and consider possible action regarding City Council procedures for placing items on the agenda.

**No action was taken on this agenda item.**

11. Discuss and consider possible action concerning changing regularly scheduled city council meetings from two (2) meetings per month, to one (1) meeting per month. This item was tabled from 06-15-10 regular council meeting.

**Council Member Thomas pulled this item.**

12. Discuss and consider possible action regarding public transportation service for the residents of Forest Hill provided by the Fort Worth Transportation Authority the "T."

**Mayor Gosey pulled this item.**

13. Discuss and consider possible action regarding City of Forest Hill street signs.

**Council Member Thomas asked the City Manager to check the cost associated with changing the City of Forest Hill street signs.**

14. Discuss and consider possible action regarding a timeline for deliberation agenda items that have been formally voted upon.

**Council Member Thomas made a motion to accept a timeline of sixty (60) days before bringing formally voted upon items back to the Council, seconded by Council Member Sanders, which *did not pass* as follows:**

**Ayes: Council Members: Thomas, and Sanders**

**Nays: Mayor Gosey, and Council Members: Joubert, Sami, and Mayor Pro Tem Masimini**

15. Discuss and consider possible action regarding changing the City of Forest Hill youth curfew.

**Mayor Pro Tem Masimini made a motion to change the City of Forest Hill youth curfew from 11:00 P.M. to 10:00 P.M., the motioned *died* due to lack of a second.**

**Council Member Joubert left executive session at 11:14 P.M.**

**RECESS INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION** - Pursuant to Section 551.071, Texas Government Code, the Council reserves the right to convene in Executive Session(s) from time to time as deemed necessary during this meeting for any posted agenda item, to receive advice from its attorney as permitted by law.

16. **Section 551.074, Texas Government Code: Personnel Matters (a)(1) to deliberate the appointment, employment, employment evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of a public officer or employee:**
  - a) Discuss Charter Amendments relative to Personnel Issues
  - b) Discuss credit card policies and ethics issues

**I. Reconvene into regular session.**

Council reconvened into regular session at 11:32 P.M.

**J. Take any action necessary pursuant to executive session.**

No action was taken.

**K. Adjournment**

With no further business to discuss the Council adjourned at 11:33 P.M.

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Grace Edwards, Acting City Secretary

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James Gosey, Mayor