

City of Norcross

*65 Lawrenceville Street
Norcross, GA 30071*



Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, September 3, 2024

6:30 PM

Council Chambers

Mayor and Council

Mayor Craig Newton

Mayor Pro Tem Bruce Gaynor

Councilmember Andrew Hixson

Councilmember Josh Bare

Councilmember Matt Myers

Councilmember Marshall Cheek

- A. Call to Order by Mayor Craig Newton
- B. Invocation
- C. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America
- D. Roll Call (recorded)

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Craig Newton	Mayor	Present	
Bruce Gaynor	Mayor ProTem	Present	
Andrew Hixson	Councilmember	Present	
Josh Bare	Councilmember	Present	
Matt Myers	Councilmember	Present	
Marshall Cheek	Councilmember	Present	

Regular Meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM by Mayor Craig Newton

- E. Presentation of previous meeting minutes for acceptance

24-7111: Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

Motion

A motion to Approve/Deny the August 5th Regular Council Meeting Minutes and the August 19th Policy Work Session and Executive Session Minutes.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Andrew Hixson, Councilmember
SECONDER:	Marshall Cheek, Councilmember
AYES:	Gaynor, Hixson, Bare, Myers, Cheek

Mayor and Council - Regular Meeting - Aug 5, 2024, 6:30 PM

Policy Work Session - Policy Work Session - Aug 19, 2024, 6:30 PM

- F. Set the agenda for the scheduled meeting as presented.

24-7112: Acceptance of the Agenda and Approval of the Consent Agenda

Motion

A motion to Accept the Agenda and Approve the Consent Agenda, with the following moving to discussion:

24-7110: Resolution to Authorize the Use of Eminent Domain Powers Concerning 65 North Peachtree, Norcross Georgia

24-7092: West Peachtree Street RFP

24-7091: Gravel Pave Parking at Phase 2 Property (Britt Street Below Community Center)

24-7095: Salary Study

24-7104: Authorized Positions FY 2024-2025

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Andrew Hixson, Councilmember
SECONDER:	Matt Myers, Councilmember
AYES:	Gaynor, Hixson, Bare, Myers, Cheek

G. Ceremonial Presentations, Recognitions, and Swearing in Ceremonies

24-7113: Swearing in of Officer Tyrone Johnson

RESULT:	SWORN IN BY
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b. 24-7114: Swearing in of Officer Albert Florvil

RESULT:	SWORN IN BY MAYOR NEWTON
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H. Floor Open to Citizens Desiring to Address the Governing Authority

a. Comments by Citizens

Anne Hall, Norcross Gallery & Studios

Comments were shared regarding the postcard for the 2024 photography contest printed in English and Spanish.

Dr. Arlene Beckles, Representative-Elect

the incoming State Representative of District 96, will work to address the district's needs and challenges at the state level, keeping the Council abreast of upcoming measures, working directly with Councilman Josh Bare.

Dr. Amaitha Sampath, CPACS Cosmo Health

Comments introducing them as a community asset in the City of Norcross. They have been in business since 1980 and are federally funded. They provide social services to the underserved and medical services for the under- or uninsured.

Edith Riehm

Comments in favor of keeping the women's Library as a historic structure and for public use.

Tiny Willis

Comments do not favor the upcoming mural on the Heritage Park stairs and the Techie Home Project.

Ann Webb, President of the Norcross Women's Club

Comments were shared regarding the preservation of the History Library building and that it be used for public welfare in the future.

Lawrence

Comments were shared in favor of less density and investment in parkland on West Peachtree Street.

Jeff Hopper

Comments were shared in favor of the City releasing the Library under the purview of the Historic Preservation Commission for preservation.

Donna Glaze	Comments were shared in favor of the upkeep and beautification of History Norcross
Lynne Ward	Comments were shared in favor of moving the Techie Home development to Mitchell Rd and keeping the West Peachtree as greenspace.
Dr. Garcia,	Comments were shared, thanking the Mayor & Council and the City of Norcross for hosting the Hispanic Heritage Festivals and making them accessible to all.
Pierre Levy	Comments regarding an open invitation to the British Car Fayre on Saturday, September 7.
Wright Mitchell, CEO of Georgia Trust for Historic Preservation	Comments shared in opposition to the Mayor and Council's decision to condemn the Historic Library need legal protection to prevent being demolished.
Stan	Comments shared in opposition to the development on West Peachtree Street want to prevent congestion and a decrease in home values.
J Wilson, Vice President of Norcross Women's Club John Rubenstein	Comments shared in opposition to the condemnation of the Historic Library Comments were shared regarding the uncertainty of the use of the History Library building.
Gene Ramsay	Comments were shared regarding the Mayor and Council's promise to protect the Historic Library.
Cynthia R	Comments were shared regarding the Hispanic Heritage Festival, inviting the Police Department and the City Officials, and the need for more Hispanic employees at city hall.
Jimmy Garner	Questions were raised regarding the City's refusal to use the preservation easement and whether there was a historical easement when the property was given to the City.
Jim Eyre	Comments regarding proliferation signs in downtown Norcross that do not meet the Norcross ordinance, West Peachtree, should be reviewed; what effect will the speed limit reduction on Buford Highway have on local streets in favor of the Council action regarding the condemnation of the History Library.

b. Comments by Council**c. Comments by City Manager****PH. Public Hearings****J. Reports of the Mayor and Councilmembers****a. General Announcements****SEPTEMBER CALENDAR OF EVENTS****Atlanta British Car Fayre**

Saturday, September 7 | 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. | Downtown Norcross

On-Demand Shuttle Service Launch

Monday, September 9 | More Information At gwinnettcountry.com/microtransit
<<http://gwinnettcountry.com/microtransit>>

Movie Monday: A Man Called Otto

Monday, September 9 | 1:30 & 6:30 p.m. | Cultural Arts & Community Center

9/11 Remembrance Ceremony

Wednesday, September 11 | 8:15 a.m. | Betty Mauldin Park

Coffee With Council

Saturday, September 14 | 8:00 a.m. | 45 South Cafe

Artober Activities

Saturday, September 14 - Saturday, November 2 | Events Lineup At
norcrossga.net/artober <<http://norcrossga.net/artober>>

Hispanic Heritage Celebration

Saturday, September 14 | 2:00 - 6:00 p.m. | Summerour Middle School Parking Lot

Policy Work Session

Monday, September 16 | 6:30 p.m. | City Hall, 2nd Floor Conference Room

Historic Cemetery Tour

Sunday, September 22 | 2:00 p.m. | Norcross City Cemetery

Movie Monday: Mean Girls

Monday, September 23 | 1:30 & 6:30 p.m. | Cultural Arts & Community Center

Mayor's State Of The City

Thursday, September 26 | 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. | Crowne Plaza

Planting For Pollinators Workshop

Saturday, September 28 | 10:30 - 12:00 p.m. | City Hall

Jazz In The Alley: the Black Gold Orchestra

Saturday, September 28 | 7:30 - 9:30 p.m. | Betty Mauldin Park

First Friday Concert: Pangea

Friday, October 4 | 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. | Cultural Arts & Community Center

Norcross Art Splash Festival

Saturday, October 5 | 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. | Downtown Norcross

Sunday, October 6 | 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. | Downtown Norcross

K. Board Appointments

There are no Board, Commission, or Authority appointments/re-appointments for Mayor and Council to consider at this time.

L. Consent Agenda

RESULT:	ADOPTED ON CONSENT AGENDA [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Andrew Hixson, Councilmember
SECONDER:	Matt Myers, Councilmember
AYES:	Gaynor, Hixson, Bare, Myers, Cheek

1. 24-7097: Homelessness in the City of Norcross

Motion

A motion to Approve the creation of a Task Force to Combat Homelessness in the City of Norcross.

2. 24-7099: Proposed Artist Mural Agreement - Heritage Park Stairs Mural

Motion

A motion to Approve a Mural Agreement between the City of Norcross and artist Mikhaela "Cherry" Chandra for the installation of a mural on Heritage Park Stairs, located at 10 College Street.

3. 24-7089: Reduce Buford Hwy Speed Limit to 35 Mph, LOR and Ordinance Revisions

A motion to Approve an Amendment to The City Code of Ordinances Article 11 of Chapter 34 to Amend the On-System Roadways in The City and to Provide for Applicability to Speed at School Zones with the following enacting clause:

ENACTING CLAUSE. The Mayor and City Council of the City of Norcross, Georgia, hereby ordains that the adopted Code of Ordinances is hereby amended as more particularly set forth below. It is the intention of the Mayor and City Council, and it is hereby ordained that the following provisions shall become and be made a part of the Code of the City of Norcross, and the Sections in the Code in the Ordinance be numbered to accomplish that intention.

A motion to Reduce Buford Hwy speed limit to 35 mph, update to our list of roadways authorized for speed detection devices.

4. 24-7090: Award of Contract for Pinnacle Park Dredging

Motion

A motion to Approve a contract between the City of Norcross and Georgia Stormwater Services, LLC, in the amount of \$104,600 funded by the Norcross Springs LP under the Settlement agreement for Pinnacle Park dredging.

5. 24-7093: Norcross Occupational Tax Plan – Feasibility Study

Motion

A motion to Approve the issuance of a Feasibility to explore best practices across municipalities

in the region and county on the best methodology to levy and administer Occupational Tax in the City of Norcross.

M. Items for Discussion

1. 24-7110: Resolution to Authorize the Use of Eminent Domain Powers Concerning 65 North Peachtree, Norcross, Georgia

Motion

A Motion to Table this item, subject to the successful completion of negotiations with the Georgia Trust for Historic Preservation.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
TO:	Mayor and Council
MOVER:	Bruce Gaynor, Mayor Pro Tem
SECONDER:	Josh Bare, Councilmember
AYES:	Gaynor, Hixson, Bare, Myers, Cheek

2. 24-7092: West Peachtree Street RFP

Motion

A motion to Approve a recommendation to move forward with Techie Homes at the proposed acquisition price, for the development of 1.73-acre city-owned property on West Peachtree Street subject to the PRD process.

RESULT:	APPROVED [3 TO 2]
MOVER:	Matt Myers, Councilmember
SECONDER:	Marshall Cheek, Councilmember
AYES:	Bruce Gaynor, Matt Myers, Marshall Cheek
NAYS:	Andrew Hixson, Josh Bare

3. 24-7091: Gravel Pave Parking at Phase 2 Property (Britt Street Below Community Center)

Motion

A motion to proceed with the issuance of a Request for Proposals for the installation of gravel surface pervious parking spaces on the Phase 2 property fronting Britt Street below the Community Center.

RESULT:	APPROVED [3 TO 2]
MOVER:	Andrew Hixson, Councilmember
SECONDER:	Marshall Cheek, Councilmember
AYES:	Andrew Hixson, Matt Myers, Marshall Cheek
NAYS:	Bruce Gaynor, Josh Bare

4. 24-7095: Salary Study

Motion

1- A motion the Adopt the recommended pay ranges for all city positions, as contained in the salary study performed by Evergreen for the City.

2- A motion to Authorize employee pay increases recommended by the study based on the "compa ratio" methodology at the 65th percentile, which considers both longevity and past performance as well

as competitiveness, subject to a 20 percent limit.

3- A motion to Authorize a merit increase for employees not covered by the study but eligible for a merit increase, at the 4.7% rate reflected in the study as the smallest recommended salary adjustment.

4- A motion to Retain existing pay for sworn officers if the recommended increase is less than the \$10,000 increase authorized in February.

5- A motion to Authorize extending car allowances to all department heads as a benefit of senior staff.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Bruce Gaynor, Mayor Pro Tem
SECONDER:	Matt Myers, Councilmember
AYES:	Gaynor, Hixson, Bare, Myers, Cheek

5. 24-7104: Authorized Positions FY 2024-2025

Motion

A motion to Approve a resolution Authorizing Staff Positions and Pay & Classification System Assignments for FY25.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Josh Bare, Councilmember
SECONDER:	Matt Myers, Councilmember
AYES:	Gaynor, Hixson, Bare, Myers, Cheek

N. Adjourn in memory of

O. Adjourn to Executive Session for Personnel, Real Estate, or Legal

Councilmember Bare motioned to adjourn to exec from Real Estate and Personnel at 8:57 pm, seconded by Councilmember Myers. The vote was unanimously approved.

Signed by _____ Mayor Craig Newton

Attest _____ Monique Philip, City Clerk