

City of Norcross

*65 Lawrenceville Street
Norcross, GA 30071*

Meeting Minutes

Monday, October 7, 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**
Regular Meeting was called to order at 6:32 PM 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 Pro Tem	Present	
Andrew Hixson	Councilmember	Present	
Josh Bare	Councilmember	Present	
Matt Myers	Councilmember	Present	
Marshall Cheek	Councilmember	Present	

E. Presentation of Previous Meeting Minutes For Acceptance

1. 24-7136: Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

Motion

A motion to Approve the September 3rd Regular Council Meeting and Executive Session Meeting Minutes and the September 16th Special Called, Policy Work Session and Executive Session Meeting Minutes.

Mayor and Council - Regular Meeting - Sep 3, 2024 6:30 PM

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

Special Called Meeting - Special Meeting - Sep 16, 2024 6:30 PM

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

Policy Work Session - Policy Work Session - Sep 16, 2024 6:30 PM

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

Motion

A motion to Approve the following correction to the August 19 Policy Work Session Meeting Minutes:

24-7094: Retention of Contracted Professionals

RESULT: This Matter was Referred to Staff for the issuance of an RFP.

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

F. Set Agenda As Presented for Scheduled Meeting**1. 24-7137: Acceptance of the Agenda and Approval of the Consent Agenda Motion**

A motion to Approve the Consent Agenda and Accept the Agenda as Presented with the following items being moved to discussion:

24-7105: Approval of Elevation/Exterior Design of Norcross Public Safety Building

24-7126: Jain Society Site Plan, Fence, and Gates (Ornamental Entrances)

24-7027: Mural Installation on Dumpster Enclosure at 40 S Peachtree Street

24-7125: DDA Mural at Installation at 29 Jones Street

24-7065: Vehicular and Pedestrian Crosswalk Improvements in the Downtown District

24-7120: Rebate to Norcross Power Residential Customers

24-6977: Elected Official Compensation

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

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

Motion

A motion to Approve adding the following items from the floor:

24-7162: Acquisition of 65 North Peachtree, Norcross, Georgia

24-7163: Increase Budget for Consultant Agreement with Jacobs Engineering Group, Inc. Planning Services

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

G. Ceremonial Presentations, Recognitions, and Swearing in Ceremonies**1. 24-7138: Swearing in of Officer Cinthya Alvarez**

RESULT:	THIS MATTER WAS REFERRED TO
	Next: 11/4/2024 6:30 PM
TO:	Mayor and Council

2. 24-7139: Swearing in of Officer Judson Howard

RESULT:	SWORN IN BY MAYOR NEWTON
----------------	---------------------------------

3. 24-7140: Swearing in of Officer Terry Schaeffer

RESULT:	SWORN IN BY MAYOR NEWTON
----------------	---------------------------------

4. 24-7141: Swearing in of Officer Tyrell Trice

RESULT:	SWORN IN BY MAYOR NEWTON
----------------	---------------------------------

H. Floor Open to Citizens Desiring to Address the Governing Authority

a. Comments by Citizens

- Lynn Ward - Comments pertaining to item 24-7126 (Jain Society)
- Liz Simpson - Chair of NPAC – Extended a public invitation to the Heritage Park Stairs Mural Ribbon Cutting Ceremony scheduled for Saturday, October 12.
- Joe Beach - Suggestion to place public comment near the end of the agenda, following the Mayor and Council's discussion.
- Mary Dowdy – Expressed thanks for establishing the Homeless Task Force. Added comments pertaining to item 24-7126 (Jain Society) and a suggestion to diversify the invocation.
- Lydia Meacham (22:30) - Comments pertaining to Norcross Power's work on telephone poles near Queens Court; comments pertaining to item 24-7126 (Jain Society)
- Jim Eyre - Comments pertaining to public art processes and item 24-7125 (DDA Mural)
- Sally Warren – Comments pertaining to the Norcross Library

b. Comments by Council

c. Comments by City Manager

PH. Public Hearings

PH1. 24-7116: Special Use Permit - Event Center at 3150 Holcomb Bridge Road

Motion

A motion to Approve a Special Use Permit for an event center at 3150 Holcomb Bridge Road, Suite 102, contingent on operating hours being no later than 2:00 am, the legal limit for serving alcohol.

RESULT:	MOTION FAILS DUE TO LACK OF SECOND
MOVER:	Bruce Gaynor, Mayor Pro Tem
SECONDER:	

Motion

A motion to Deny a Special Use Permit for an event center at 3150 Holcomb Bridge Road, Suite 102.

RESULT:	DENY [4 TO 1]
MOVER:	Andrew Hixson, Councilmember
SECONDER:	Marshall Cheek, Councilmember
AYES:	Andrew Hixson, Josh Bare, Matt Myers, Marshall Cheek
NAYS:	Bruce Gaynor

PH2. 24-7123: Special Exception – Decorative South End Water Tower with South End Logo

Motion

A motion to table item 24-7123 to the October 21 Policy Work Session.

RESULT:	TABLED SENT TO [4 TO 1]
	Next: 10/21/2024 6:30 PM
TO:	Policy Work Session
MOVER:	Bruce Gaynor, Mayor Pro Tem
SECONDER:	Andrew Hixson, Councilmember
AYES:	Bruce Gaynor, Andrew Hixson, Josh Bare, Marshall Cheek
NAYS:	Matt Myers

J. Reports of the Mayor and Councilmembers

a. General Announcements

OCTOBER CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Artober Activities

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

Neighborhood Cleanup & Recycling Day

Saturday, October 12 | 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. | Norcross Public Works

NPAC's Mural Ribbon Cutting

Saturday, October 12 | 3:00 p.m. | Heritage Park

Movie Monday: Golda

Monday, October 14 | 1:30 & 6:30 p.m. | Cultural Arts & Community Center

Coffee With Council

Saturday, October 19 | 8:00 a.m. | 45 South Cafe

Pedal Norcross

Saturday, October 19 | 3:00 - 6:00 p.m. | Downtown Norcross

Policy Work Session

Monday, October 21 | 6:30 p.m. | City Hall, 2nd Floor Conference Room

Mayor's State Of The City

Wednesday, October 23 | 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. | Crowne Plaza

Witches Night Out

Thursday, October 24 | 5:30 p.m. | Downtown Norcross

Deutsche Klassic German Car Show

Saturday, October 26 | 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. | Downtown Norcross

Downtown Trick Or Treating

Saturday, October 26 | 3:00 a.m. - Supplies Last | Downtown Norcross

Movie Monday: Hocus Pocus

Monday, October 28 | 1:30 & 6:30 p.m. | Cultural Arts & Community Center

First Friday Concert: Xtreme Party Band

Friday, November 1 | 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. | Cultural Arts & Community Center

Dia De Los Muertos Festival

Saturday, November 2 | 5:00 - 9:00 p.m. | Thrasher Park

K. Board Appointments

1. 24-7142: Board Appointment - Norcross Public Arts Commission

Motion

A motion to Approve the appointment of the following candidate and term as presented:

Norcross Public Arts Commission

Robert Forro

12/1/2026

RESULT:	APPROVED [4 TO 0]
MOVER:	Andrew Hixson, Councilmember
SECONDER:	Bruce Gaynor, Mayor Pro Tem
AYES:	Bruce Gaynor, Andrew Hixson, Josh Bare, Marshall Cheek
ABSTAIN:	Matt Myers

2. 24-7143: Board Appointment - Parks, Green Spaces, and Trails Commission

Motion

A motion to Approve the appointment of the following candidate and term as presented:

Parks, Green Spaces, and Trails Commission

Jon Davis 12/01/2026

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

L. Consent Agenda**1. 24-7127: Restated Defined Benefit Retirement Plan**

Motion

A motion to Approve an Ordinance to amend and restate the Retirement Plan for the Employees of the City of Norcross, Georgia, in accordance with and subject to the terms and conditions set forth in the attached Adoption Agreement, any Addendum to the Adoption Agreement, the Georgia Municipal Employees Benefit System (GMEBS) Basic Plan Document, and the GMEBS Trust Agreement. When accepted by the authorized officers of the City and GMEBS, the foregoing shall constitute a Contract between the City and GMEBS, all as authorized and provided by O.C.G.A. § 47-5-1 et seq.

2. 24-7128: Award of Contract for Road Resurfacing

Motion

A motion to Approve a contract between the City of Norcross and Blount Construction Company, Inc. for road resurfacing, with total cost being \$891,391.25 (Gwinnett County 2014 SPLOST at 81%: \$564,247.81 City SPLOST match at 19%: \$101,600.00 GDOT LMIG: \$225,516.44).

3. 24-6975: Compliance with Agenda Publications

Motion

A motion to Approve an amendment to Chapter 2, Article II, Section 2-36 of the City Code of Ordinances for the City of Norcross, with the following enacting clause:

The Mayor and City Council of the City of Norcross, Georgia, hereby ordains that the adopted Code of Ordinances is 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 enumerated to accomplish that intention.

4. 24-7124: FY 25 Budget Amendment to Establish a Capital Project for Acquisition and Associated Costs for 65 North Peachtree Street

Motion

A motion to Approve the authorization of a FY 25 budget amendment appropriating \$600,000 in General Fund revenue from the sale of 1.73 acres of City property on West Peachtree and transferring an equal amount to the Capital Project Fund to set up a capital project for the costs of acquiring the property located at 65 North Peachtree Street and establishing initial funding towards subsequent restoration.

M. Items for Discussion**1. 24-7105: Approval of Elevation/Exterior Design of Norcross Public Safety Building**

Motion

A motion to Approve the attached Elevation/Exterior Design of the Norcross Public Safety Building as presented, with an additional condition that representatives of the Mayor and Council be involved in the final deliberations of value engineering before the maximum guaranteed price.

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

2. 24-7126: Jain Society Site Plan, Fence, and Gates (Ornamental Entrances)

Motion

Motion to Approve the Jain Society's proposed site plan, fence, and gates.

RESULT:	MOTION FAILED [2:3]
MOVER:	Matt Myers, Councilmember
SECONDER:	Bruce Gaynor, Mayor Pro Tem
AYES:	Gaynor, Myers
NAYS:	Hixson, Bare, Cheek

Motion

A motion to Deny the Jain Society's proposed site plan, fence, and gates.

RESULT:	DENY [3:2]
MOVER:	Andrew Hixson, Councilmember
SECONDER:	Josh Bare, Councilmember
AYES:	Hixson, Bare, Cheek
NAYS:	Gaynor, Myers

3. 24-7027: Mural Installation on Dumpster Enclosure at 40 S Peachtree Street

Motion

A motion to Approve a recommendation from the Norcross Public Arts Commission to indefinitely table the installation of a mural on the dumpster enclosure located at 40 S Peachtree Street

RESULT:	TABLED INDEFINITELY (WITH VOTE) [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Matt Myers, Councilmember
SECONDER:	Josh Bare, Councilmember
AYES:	Gaynor, Hixson, Bare, Myers, Cheek

4. 24-7125: DDA Mural at Installation at 29 Jones Street

Motion

A motion to Approve a recommendation from the Norcross Public Arts Commission to indefinitely table the installation of the proposed Jazz Mural at 29 Jones Street.

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

5. **24-7065: Vehicular and Pedestrian Crosswalk Improvements in the Downtown District**

Motion

A motion to Approve the purchase of sign(s), equipment, and electrical requirements to improve vehicular and pedestrian safety in the downtown district of Norcross.

RESULT:	APPROVED [4 TO 1]
MOVER:	Marshall Cheek, Councilmember
SECONDER:	Bruce Gaynor, Mayor Pro Tem
AYES:	Bruce Gaynor, Andrew Hixson, Matt Myers, Marshall Cheek
NAYS:	Josh Bare

6. **24-7120: Rebate to Norcross Power Residential Customers**

Motion

A motion to Approve the issuance of rebates for residential customers of record, with amounts ranging from a minimum of \$25 to a maximum of \$100.

RESULT:	APPROVED [4 TO 1]
MOVER:	Matt Myers, Councilmember
SECONDER:	Bruce Gaynor, Mayor Pro Tem
AYES:	Bruce Gaynor, Andrew Hixson, Matt Myers, Marshall Cheek
NAYS:	Josh Bare

7. **24-6977: Elected Official Compensation**

Motion

A motion to Approve staff to bring forward an ordinance for consideration increasing annual compensation for elected officials, effective January 1, 2026, based on the FY 24 and FY 25 employee merit increases, consistent with agenda item 23-6727, to prevent elected official compensation from failing to keep pace with salaries.

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

8. **24-7162: Acquisition of 65 North Peachtree, Norcross, Georgia**

Motion

A motion to Approve the attached purchase and sale agreement for the acquisition of 65 North Peachtree Street and authorize the Mayor to sign customary documents, as necessary, to close the transaction and authorize City Staff to fund the transaction.

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

9. **24-7110: Resolution to Authorize the Use of Eminent Domain Powers Concerning 65 North Peachtree, Norcross, Georgia**

Motion

A motion to table item 24-7110.

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

10. **24-7163: Increase Budget for Consultant Agreement with Jacobs Engineering Group, Inc. for Planning Services**

Motion

A motion to Authorize an increase to the budget for the consultant agreement with Jacobs Engineering Group, Inc. for Planning Services up to a maximum of \$100,000.

Amended Motion

A motion to Authorize an increase to the budget for the consultant agreement with Jacobs Engineering Group, Inc. for Planning Services up to a maximum of \$100,000, additionally authorizing the City Manager to spend up to \$100,000 for this purpose.

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**

The meeting adjourned at 9:12 PM with a motion by Councilmember Bare, Seconded by Councilmember Myers.

P. **Signed by**_____ **Mayor Craig Newton**

Q. **Attest:** _____ **Monique Philip, City Clerk**