



MINUTES
City of McDonough
City Council Workshop
McKibben Chambers City Hall
136 Keys Ferry Street
August 7, 2025
6:00 PM

The Regular Scheduled Workshop of the City of McDonough City Council was held on Thursday, August 7, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.

Mayor Sandra Vincent called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

The City Clerk called roll for the meeting, as follows:

Mayor Sandra Vincent	Present
Mayor Pro Tem Kamali Varner	Arrived after the start of the meeting
Councilmember Jamal Burt	Present
Councilmember Darryl Payton	Present
Councilmember Scott Reeves	Present
Councilmember Rufus Stewart	Present
Councilmember Vanessa Thomas	Present

Others in attendance: City Administrator, Steve Morgan; City Attorney, Emilia Walker; City Clerk, Christy Taylor; Police Chief, Ken Noble; Fire Chief, Dave Williams; Deputy City Administrator, Andrew Baker; Community Development Director, Sylvia Smith; Finance Director, Dr. Ralph Igwedibie; Public Works Director, William VonDenBosch; Assistant Finance Director, Deborah Upshaw; Open Records Officer, Kathy Story; and Help Desk Technician, Rob Monnelus.

Councilmember Stewart gave the Invocation; and Councilmember Payton led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Vincent called for a motion to approve the agenda. Councilmember Burt made a motion to approve, and Councilmember Stewart seconded. The vote was six in favor. Those voting in favor were Mayor Vincent, Councilmember Burt, Councilmember Payton, Councilmember Reeves, Councilmember Stewart, and Councilmember Thomas. Mayor Pro Tem Varner was not present for the vote.

The City Clerk sounded the items on the Consent Agenda, as follows:

6A. Technology Services

Brian Linton, Director

Request for authorization to pay the Henry County Tyler New World Public Safety Software invoice in the amount of \$21,568.32. Funding Source: Line Item 100-5.1535.52.1301.

6B. Technology Services

Brian Linton, Director

Request for authorization to pay two ClearGov invoices for annual maintenance renewal totaling \$34,093.00. Funding Source: Line Item 100-5.1535.52.1301

6C. Administration

Christy Taylor, City Clerk

Approval of the July 21, 2025, City Council Meeting Minutes

Mayor Vincent called for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as sounded. Discussion ensued. Councilmember Stewart made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda, and Councilmember Thomas seconded. The vote was six in favor. Those voting in favor were Mayor Vincent, Councilmember Burt, Councilmember Payton, Councilmember Reeves, Councilmember Stewart, and Councilmember Thomas. Mayor Pro Tem Varner was not present for the vote.

Public Comments:

Eddy Smith – Councilmembers need to be more informed.

Questions related to the 23-24 City of McDonough Audit Report

Michael Williams – incident at Avalon Park

Homelessness

Thank you to the McDonough Police officers.

Reverend Elliott – Councilmember Stewart has served the City well and he will be missed.

Thank you for your service to the officers who have served for 20 years.

News story on WSB-TV in July about Rufus Stewart Park was incorrect

A Proclamation Honoring Mrs. Idahlia Johnson was issued on behalf of the City of McDonough, to be presented to Ms. Johnson by Councilmember Stewart and Mayor Vincent.

Mayor Vincent issued the appointments and administered the oath of the McDonough Housing Authority Commissioners to Leanette Duffey and John Teague, who were both present for the meeting.

Police Chief Ken Noble made presentations to Officers Ricky Jewel, Antonio Kemp, Kyle Helgersen, Carlos Glenn, and Victor Itegebe in recognition of 20 years of dedicated service to the City of McDonough Police Department.

Jimmy Whitaker presented the findings of the 2023-2024 City of McDonough Audit.

On behalf of Ross+ Associates, Paige Hatley presented the 2025 Draft Annual Update Report for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024, to the City's adopted Capital Improvements Element, relating to the City's Impact Fee Program.

Mayor Vincent opened the Public Hearing. No one spoke in favor; and no one spoke in opposition. Mayor Vincent closed the Public Hearing.

Mayor Vincent called for a motion to adopt a Resolution authorizing the transmittal of the 2025 Draft Annual Update Report for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024, to the City's adopted Capital Improvements Element, relating to the City's Impact Fee Program, to the Atlanta Regional Commission for Regional and State Review. Councilmember Reeves made a motion to adopt Resolution 25-08-07, as presented; and Councilmember Thomas seconded. The vote was seven in favor.

Finance Department Director, Dr. Ralph Igwedibie presented the request for adoption of a Resolution amending the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Budget; adjusting, reclassifying, and correcting certain revenues and expenditures by fund, as reflected in the schedule of the budget amendment, which was approved at the July 21, 2025, City Council Meeting. Discussion ensued.

Councilmember Stewart made a motion to adopt Resolution 25-08-07.1 amending the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Budget, and Councilmember Burt seconded. The vote was seven in favor.

Public Works Director, William VonDenBosch presented a request for the approval to purchase a Forklift from Crown Lift Trucks, at a cost of \$23,500.00. He identified the funding source as Line Item: 505-5.4420.54.2500. Discussion ensued.

Councilmember Reeves made a motion to approve the forklift purchase as presented, and Councilmember Stewart seconded. The vote was seven in favor.

City Planner, Aaron Hypolite offered a presentation and overview of the Blacksville Historic Preservation efforts and requested the approval of an Agreement for Consulting Services with Georgia Conservancy, at a total cost of \$10,000.00, to be paid in \$5,000 increments. Discussion ensued.

Councilmember Stewart made a motion to approve the Agreement with Georgia Conservancy as presented and to authorize the Mayor to sign the agreement; and Councilmember Burt seconded. The vote was seven in favor.

City Administrator, Steve Morgan presented a request for authorization to utilize Moss and Associates to provide architectural services and prepare drawings that will allow the City to draft an RFP for construction of the new police precinct at Avalon, at a cost of \$357,500.00. He identified the funding source as SPLOST VI.

Councilmember Reeves offered that he believed the City should put out a Request for Proposals on the project, considering the proposed amount. Discussion ensued. Councilmember Reeves made a motion to put the project out for bid, per the requirements of the Purchasing Policy, and Councilmember Thomas seconded. The vote was seven in favor.

City Administrator Morgan also presented a request for approval of the renewal of Anthem Blue Cross Blue Shield Health and Dental Insurance; and authorization for the Mayor to sign all related documents. He said after negotiations with Anthem, the renewal costs would increase by five percent. Discussion ensued.

Mayor Pro Tem Varner made a motion to approve the renewal of Anthem Blue Cross Blue Shield Health and Dental Insurance and authorize the Mayor to sign all related documents; and Councilmember Stewart seconded. The vote was seven in favor.

Mayor Vincent called for a motion to go into Executive Session for Litigation O.C.G.A. 50-14-2; Real Estate O.C.G.A. 50-14-3 (b)(1); and Personnel O.C.G.A. 50-14-3 (b)(2). Councilmember Stewart made a motion to approve, and Councilmember Reeves seconded. The vote was seven in favor.

Mayor Vincent called for a motion to reconvene Regular Session. Councilmember Burt made a motion to reconvene, and Councilmember Stewart seconded. The vote was seven in favor.

There were no action items to report.

Mayor Vincent adjourned the meeting at 8:53 p.m.

Christy L. Taylor, CMC
City Clerk

OPEN MEETINGS COMPLIANCE NOTICE: This is a regularly scheduled meeting of Mayor and Council of the City of McDonough duly noticed pursuant to the requirements of the Georgia Open Meetings Law (O.C.G.A. § 50-14-1, et seq). Notice of the meeting schedule was published in the *Henry Herald* on November 30, 2024; and a copy the meeting schedule was posted at City Hall and on the City's website, as required by law.