

**MINUTES OF CITY COUNCIL MEETING
CITY OF KENNESAW
Council Chambers
(2529 J.O. Stephenson Avenue, Kennesaw, GA 30144)**

**Livestream: www.kennesaw-ga.gov/publicmeetings/
March 3, 2025
6:30 PM**

Present	Mayor Derek Easterling Mayor Pro Tem Pat Ferris Councilmember Madelyn Orochena Councilmember Tracey Viars Councilmember Antonio Jones Councilmember Anthony Gutierrez Deputy City Clerk Christie Burgner City Manager Jeff Drobney City Attorney Randall Bentley, Sr.
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1. Invocation

City Attorney Randall Bentley, Sr. led the invocation.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Scout Troop 353 led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Call to Order

Mayor Easterling called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m.

4. Announcements

5. Presentations

6. Public Comment/Business from the Floor

6:31 p.m. Floor Open for Public Comments

No comments.

6:32 p.m. Floor Closed for Public Comments

7. Old Business

8. New Business

9. Committee and Board Reports

10. Public Hearing(s)

11. Consent Agenda

Motion by Councilmember Jones to approve the Consent Agenda. Seconded by Councilmember Gutierrez. There was no discussion.
Vote taken, motion unanimously approved 5-0. Motion passed.

A. **Minutes: February 10, 2025 Work Session**

Approval of the February 10, 2025, City Council work session minutes.

B. **Minutes: February 17, 2025 Regular Meeting**

Approval of the February 17, 2025, City Council regular meeting minutes.

C. **Road Closures: Big Shanty Festival**

Approval of road closures to support the Big Shanty Festival on April 11-13, 2025.

D. **Resolution: 2025 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Subrecipient Agreement**

Approval of a Resolution authorizing the subrecipient agreement for use of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds between Cobb County and the City of Kennesaw.

RESOLUTION 2025-14

E. **Resolution: Pipe Purchase for Stormwater Project**

Approval of a Resolution approving the purchase of pipe for Public Work's stormwater construction project.

RESOLUTION 2025-15

F. **Resolution: Professional Services Contract for Construction of the Public Safety Facility**

Approval of a Resolution executing a Professional Services Contract with Patterson & Dewar Engineers, Inc. for the construction of the Public Safety Facility.

RESOLUTION 2025-16

G. **Resolution: Contract for Construction of the Public Safety Facility**

Approval of a Resolution executing an agreement with Gay Construction for the construction of the new Public Safety Facility.

RESOLUTION 2025-17

H. **Resolution: 2025 RCS Productions Contract**

Approval of a Resolution executing a contract with RCS Productions Inc. for the 2025 Concert Series.

RESOLUTION 2025-18

I. **Resolution: 2025 Sports Association Facility Use Agreement**

Approval of a Resolution renewing the 2025 Sports Association Facility Use Agreement.

RESOLUTION 2025-19

J. Resolution: 2025 Livable Centers Initiative (LCI) application

Approval of a Resolution authorizing support for the Livable Centers Initiative (LCI) planning grant application and committing the required matching funds. Case MISC#2025-02.

RESOLUTION 2025-20

K. Final Plat Application: 3560, 3530 Cherokee Street and 1880, 1875 Maple Drive

Final plat application submitted by East Park JV LLC, VCP Kennesaw, and VCP Kennesaw PCB, LLC for (parcel # 20009904310, 20009904320, 20009904330, 20009904350); the final plat was submitted to revise the property line for Tract 2, Tract 7, Tract 4 and Tract 5 as well as notate updates to Cobb County easements (waterline, vault, sanitary and access easement). Case #FP2025-01.

12. General and Administrative

13. Public Safety

A. Crime Statistics: January 2025

Consideration to accept the January 2025 Crime Statistics.

Chief William Westenberger presented the January 2025 crime statistics (See Exhibit A).

Motion by Councilmember Viars to receive the January 2025 crime statistics as presented. Seconded by Councilmember Jones. There was no discussion.

Vote taken, motion unanimously approved 5-0. Motion passed.

14. Information Technology

15. Public Works and Building Maintenance

16. Recreation and Culture

17. Community Development

18. Public Comment/Business from the Floor

Sign-in Sheet [Exhibit B]

ANDREW BRAMLETT [City Resident]: Mr. Bramlett presented a local history story about Cobb Parkway aka Fourlane Highway (See Exhibit C)

TIMOTHY HEYING [City Resident]: Asked if the City had thought of putting a traffic light at Swift Cantrell Park. City Manager Dr. Jeff Drobney advised that the subject has been discussed.

19. City Manager's Report

A. Reports, Discussions, and Updates

Dr. Drobney stated that the plaza lights have been installed and should be on this evening when dark.

20. Mayor's Report

- A. Mayor and Council (re)appointments to Boards and Commissions. This item is for (re)appointments made by the Mayor to any Board, Committee, Authority, or Commission requiring an appointment to fill any vacancies, resignations, and to create or dissolve boards and commissions, as deemed necessary.

21. Council Reports & Discussions

Mayor Pro-Tem Pat Ferris expounded on Andrew Bramlett's presentation on the Fourlane. He stated that he still calls Cobb Parkway the Fourlane. Prior to I-75 being built, Cobb Parkway was the main route and had very high traffic. After I-75 opened, many hotels and restaurants disappeared and there was a dramatic change in the area. Mr. Ferris discussed all the good things coming up in the city, like the Mardi Gras pop-up, Pi-Day pop-up, concerts, and Big Shanty, just to name a few. Everyone can keep up to date by signing up to the City of Kennesaw's calendar.

Councilmember Gutierrez stated that his wife had been out of town for a conference, which made for a quiet weekend.

Councilmember Orochena invited everyone to view the new storyboards at Commemorative Park, Depot Park and Kennesaw City Cemetery.

Councilmember Jones wished City Clerk Lea Alvarez a happy birthday. Mr. Jones thanked the Parks Department for the Touch a Truck event and all the great events that are upcoming.

Councilmember Viars stated that she is excited about the new lights at the tunnel and heard that they can be controlled by an app on a phone. She jokingly wondered who was in control of the app.

Mayor Easterling advised that he attended the Touch a Truck event on Saturday, and it was phenomenal. He believes it was the most attended Touch a Truck in a long time, and there were lots of different vehicles, including a helicopter and fire truck. Mayor Easterling thanked the Parks and Recreation team for putting on these events. Parks has an amazing staff, and it takes everyone to put these events together. Mayor Easterling wished a happy birthday to City Clerk Lea Alvarez and advised that any mess in her office was the fault of Deputy City Clerk Christie Burgner.

22. Executive Session

Pursuant to the provisions of O.C.G.A 50-14-3, the City Council could, at any time during the meeting, vote to close the public meeting and move to executive session to discuss matters relating to litigation, legal actions and/or communications from

the City Attorney; and/or personnel matters; and/or real estate matters.

23. Adjourn

Mayor Easterling adjourned the meeting at 6:42 p.m. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on Monday, March 10, 2025, at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers. The public is encouraged to attend or view via Civic Clerk.

DRAFT



January 2025 Crime Statistics

Group A Crimes	Jan, 2025	Jan, 2024	YTD 2025	YTD 2024
AGGRAVATED ASSAULT	6 (+4)	2	6 (+4)	2
INTIMIDATION	16 (+9)	7	16 (+9)	7
SIMPLE ASSAULT	17 (-7)	24	17 (-7)	24
HOMICIDE OFFENSES	0 (+0)	0	0 (+0)	0
SEX OFFENSES	3 (+0)	3	3 (+0)	3
KIDNAPPING	1 (+0)	1	1 (+0)	1
MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT	3 (+1)	2	3 (+1)	2
BURGLARY	3 (+0)	3	3 (+0)	3
ANIMAL CRUELTY	0 (+0)	0	0 (+0)	0
EMBEZZLEMENT	0 (-1)	1	0 (-1)	1
BRIBERY	0 (+0)	0	0 (+0)	0
ARSON	0 (+0)	0	0 (+0)	0
ROBBERY	0 (+0)	0	0 (+0)	0
FORGERY	4 (+3)	1	4 (+3)	1
EXTORTION	0 (-1)	1	0 (-1)	1
FRAUD OFFENSES	17 (+3)	14	17 (+3)	14
LARCENY/ THEFT OFFENSES	17 (-2)	19	17 (-2)	19
VANDALISM	7 (+1)	6	7 (+1)	6
STOLEN PROPERTY OFFENSES	3 (+1)	2	3 (+1)	2
DRUG/ NARCOTICS OFFENSES	35 (+12)	23	35 (+12)	23
PORNOGRAPHY/ OBSCENE MATERIAL	0 (-1)	1	0 (-1)	1
WEAPONS LAW VIOLATIONS	3 (-1)	4	3 (-1)	4
Total	135	114	135	114

	Jan, 2025	Jan, 2024	YTD 2025	YTD 2024
Auto Accidents	87 (-18)	105	87 (-18)	105
Accident W/ Injury	17 (+9)	8	17 (+9)	8
Hit and Run	9 (-7)	16	9 (-7)	16
Hit and Run W/ Injury	0 (+0)	0	0 (+0)	0
Person Hit by Auto W/ Injury	1 (-1)	2	1 (-1)	2

	Jan, 2025	Jan, 2024	YTD 2025	YTD 2024
Dispatched Calls for Service	695 (-16)	711	695 (-16)	711
Self-Initiated Activity	1348 (+409)	939	1348 (+409)	939
Traffic Citations	576 (-1)	577	576 (-1)	577
Traffic Warnings*	788 (+323)	465	788 (+323)	465
Arrests**	86 (+1)	85	86 (+1)	85

* Warnings do not include verbal warnings

** Arrests do not include juvenile arrests

Names and Addresses will be disclosed in the Permanent Minutes of the
City of Kennesaw

PLEASE MAKE SURE YOUR NAME IS LEGIBLE AND CLEAR

**City Council Meeting
3/3/2025
Public Comment Sign-in**

	Name	Address	Topic
1	Andrew J. Brantlett	2990 Kennelwood Cir.	Local History
2	Tommy Hess	2089 Whitaker Cir	
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KENNESAW HISTORY

Cobb Parkway

Today, Cobb Parkway (US Highway 41) is one of the most important thoroughfares in Kennesaw, and it is hard to imagine a time without it. In 1945, federal and state officials announced the four-lane highway from Marietta to Atlanta would be extended north to Cartersville, making Cobb County the first county in Georgia where you could travel from one side to another using only a four-lane road. After several years of planning and construction, the first stretch of the new Highway 41 opened between Canton Road and Kennesaw in 1950. By the following year, the road would reach Cartersville.

Area officials evidently had trouble settling on a name. The road, at first, was given the name Fourlane Highway. Even today, longtime residents of Kennesaw and Acworth refer to Cobb Parkway as “the four lane.” In the 1970s, construction was progressing on Interstate 75, which many business owners realized would replace Fourlane Highway as the main thoroughfare. In 1975, concerned Marietta business leaders began to promote the highway as the region’s business corridor, and proposed changing its name from the mundane Fourlane Highway to “Cobb Parkway.” In late 1975, after only a few months of effort, the name was officially changed.



Left: US 41 in Kennesaw, c. 1950s.
Image from the National Archives and
Records Administration

Presented by Andrew J. Bramlett at the March 3, 2025,
City of Kennesaw Mayor & Council Meeting