

**MINUTES OF CITY COUNCIL MEETING
CITY OF KENNESAW
Council Chambers
(2529 J.O. Stephenson Avenue, Kennesaw, GA 30144)
March 4, 2024
6:30 PM**

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

City Resident Carlene Fregeolle led the invocation.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

City resident Andrew Bramlett led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Call to Order

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

4. Announcements

- A. This public meeting is being conducted via the use of real-time telephonic technology allowing the public simultaneous access to the public meeting. You may also attend in person with limited seating available at both the Council Chambers and the Ben Robertson Community Center, if needed. Mayor and Council will be conducting their meeting via real-time telephonic technology using Zoom Meeting and Facebook Live. You can access the meeting via the following link: <https://www.facebook.com/CityofKennesaw/>
- B. If you are not able to attend a meeting in-person and would like to provide public comment on a specific agenda item, you can email kennesawcouncil@kennesaw-ga.gov no later than 6:00 PM the night of the regular meeting. Your comments on a specific agenda item will be read aloud or grouped into categories for the record. **Facebook Live is not monitored for public comment.**

5. Presentations

6. Public Comment/Business from the Floor

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

No comments.

6:33 p.m. Floor Closed for Public Comments

7. Old Business

8. New Business

9. Committee and Board Reports

10. Public Hearing(s)

A. Ordinance: Charter Amendment to Section 3.04 "Oath of Office"

FIRST PUBLIC HEARING

Consideration of approval of an ordinance to amend the City of Kennesaw Charter § 3.04, "Oath of Office."

City Clerk Lea Alvarez presented an ordinance to amend the Kennesaw Charter § 3.04 "Oath of Office." The proposed amendments include codifying the Oath of Office, Loyalty Oath, and the Statuary Oath, as well as the process necessary to file those oaths. The aforementioned oaths shall be administered before an officer of the state authorized to administer oaths at an open public meeting of the Mayor and City Council before a person takes any elected office in the city government. Ms. Alvarez also explained that the oaths taken by our municipal officers shall be filed in the office of the judge of the probate court. The Charter amendment was advertised in the Marietta Daily Journal on February 23, 2024, and March 1, 2024. It will be advertised again in the March 8, 2024, edition. Since this amendment requires two public hearings, the final public hearing will be held on Monday, March 18, 2024, at a regular meeting of the Mayor and Council at 6:30 p.m. where final action will take place.

6:33 p.m. Floor Open for Public Comments

No comments.

6:34 p.m. Floor Closed for Public Comments

B. Ordinance: Oaths for Boards, Commissions, and Authorities

Consideration of approval of an ordinance to adopt an oath as prescribed by the Code of Ordinances of the City of Kennesaw, Georgia § 2-71(f) and O.C.G.A § 45-3-1; and the Loyalty Oath as set forth in O.C.G.A § 45-3-13.

City Clerk Lea Alvarez presented an ordinance to adopt an oath as prescribed by the Kennesaw Code of Ordinances § 2-71(f) and O.C.G.A § 45-3-1; and the Loyalty Oath as set forth in O.C.G.A § 45-3-13. The proposed ordinance codifies the Oath of Office and Loyalty Oath, as well as the process necessary to file those oaths. Ms. Alvarez shared the oaths shall be administered before the mayor, municipal court judge, associate judge, or an officer of the state authorized to administer oaths before a

person assumes office as a member of a board, commission, or authority. Further, after the oaths are administered, they will be filed in the office of the judge of the probate court. The public hearing was advertised in the Marietta Daily Journal on February 23, 2024, and March 1, 2024.

Motion by Councilmember Ferris to approve [ORDINANCE NO. 2024-04, 2024](#) to adopt an oath as prescribed by the Code of Ordinances of the City of Kennesaw, Georgia § 2-71(f) and O.C.G.A § 45-3-1; and Loyalty Oath as set forth in O.C.G.A § 45-3-13, as presented with changes noted. Seconded by Councilmember Viars.

6:35 p.m. Floor Open for Public Comments

No comments.

6:36 p.m. Floor Closed for Public Comments

Vote taken, motion unanimously approved 4-0. Motion passed.

11. Consent Agenda

Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Jones to approve the Consent Agenda engross. Seconded by Councilmember Orochena.

Vote taken, motion unanimously approved 4-0. Motion passed.

- A. **Minutes: February 12, 2024, City Council Work Session**
Approval of the February 12, 2024, City Council work session minutes.
- B. **Minutes: February 12, 2024, City Council Executive Session**
Approval of the February 12, 2024, City Council executive session minutes.
- C. **Minutes: February 19, 2024, City Council Regular Meeting**
Approval of the February 19, 2024, City Council regular meeting minutes.
- D. **Cemetery Deed: Section III, 58-E to Sandra Bryant**
Authorization for the Mayor to execute a deed for Section III, 58-E to Sandra Bryant.
- E. **Road Closures: Big Shanty Festival**
Approval of road closures to support the Big Shanty Festival on April 19-21, 2024.
- F. **Resolution: CDBG Subrecipient Agreement**
Approval of a Resolution for the 2024 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Subrecipient Agreement between Cobb County and the City of Kennesaw.

[RESOLUTION NO. 2024-08, 2024](#)

- G. **Resolution: Conveyance of Property at 1920 Twelve Oaks Circle for**

Driveway Relocation

Approval of a Resolution to convey a section of the City owned property at 1920 Twelve Oaks Circle in fee simple to Harold and Patricia Anderson.

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-09, 2024

H. Resolution: Sports Association Facility Use Agreement

Approval of a Resolution to authorize the Mayor to execute a Sports Association Facility Use Agreement between the Kennesaw Baseball and Softball Association (KBSA) and the City of Kennesaw.

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-10, 2024

I. Resolution: Revenue Administration Policy

Approval of a Resolution to adopt the City of Kennesaw's Revenue Administration Policy.

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-11, 2024

J. Resolution: Debt Management Policy

Approval of a Resolution to adopt the City of Kennesaw's Debt Management Policy.

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-12, 2024

12. General and Administrative

13. Public Safety

14. Information Technology

15. Public Works

16. Recreation and Culture

17. Community Development

18. Public Comment/Business from the Floor

6:36 p.m. Floor Open for Public Comments

ANTHONY GUTIERREZ [Candidate for City Council, Post 5]: Mr. Gutierrez spoke about voter turnout in the City of Kennesaw. He believes the city could do better and suggests sending out mass postcards to remind residents to vote and to get involved.

BEATRICE SHAKAL [Candidate for City Council, Post 5]: Ms. Shakal announced she is running for City Council, Post 5 for the Special Election. She is running as a wife and a mother trying to make sure this city is enjoyable for many generations to come. Ms. Shakal shared she is looking forward to getting to know our city's residents and to hopefully join the City Council here soon.

ANDREW BRAMLETT [City Resident]: Mr. Bramlett presented a local history story regarding Kennesaw School students (See **Exhibit A**).

ANN PRATT [City Resident]: Ms. Pratt asked for the thoughts and prayers of our community for her Associate Pastor Terry Philips, and his wife Mary. Their granddaughter was the young lady who lost her life at the University of Georgia. Ms. Pratt said the family is having an incredibly hard time right now.

SARA TORRES [Candidate for City Council, Post 5]: Ms. Torres shared that for almost a decade, the City of Kennesaw has been her home that she has shared with her husband and two dogs. A graduate of Kennesaw State University, Ms. Torres owns and operates her own marketing agency in Kennesaw. As a candidate for Post 5, her focus is on understanding and representing the diverse needs of the community. If elected, her priorities will be to enhance public services, advocate for improved infrastructure, and champion robust safety measures. To learn more about her vision, Ms. Torres asked everyone to visit her campaign website, votesaratorres.com

6:43 p.m. Floor Closed for Public Comments

19. City Manager's Report

A. Reports, Discussions, and Updates

Dr. Drobney shared he had an opportunity to look at the amphitheater, and it is coming along nicely. He mentioned Parks and Recreation had a great event on Saturday called Touch-A-Truck.

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 Jones went to Touch-A-Truck over the weekend with his son. He thanked Parks and Recreation, the Kennesaw Police Department, and all the businesses and vendors that made the event happen.

Councilmember Orochena attended the Newly Elected Officials Training in Athens, Georgia. She enjoyed the opportunity to meet other newly elected officials across the state.

Councilmember Ferris gave Chief Westenberger congratulations on a successful community event over the last week. It had a great turnout. He is grateful for the Kennesaw Police Department's incredible community outreach.

Councilmember Viars quizzed Mayor Easterling on how many days are left until the Big Shanty Festival - 47 days!

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 6:52 p.m. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on Monday, March 11, 2024, at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers. The public is encouraged to attend or view via Facebook Live.

Lea Alvarez, City Clerk

KENNESAW HISTORY

Kennesaw School Students

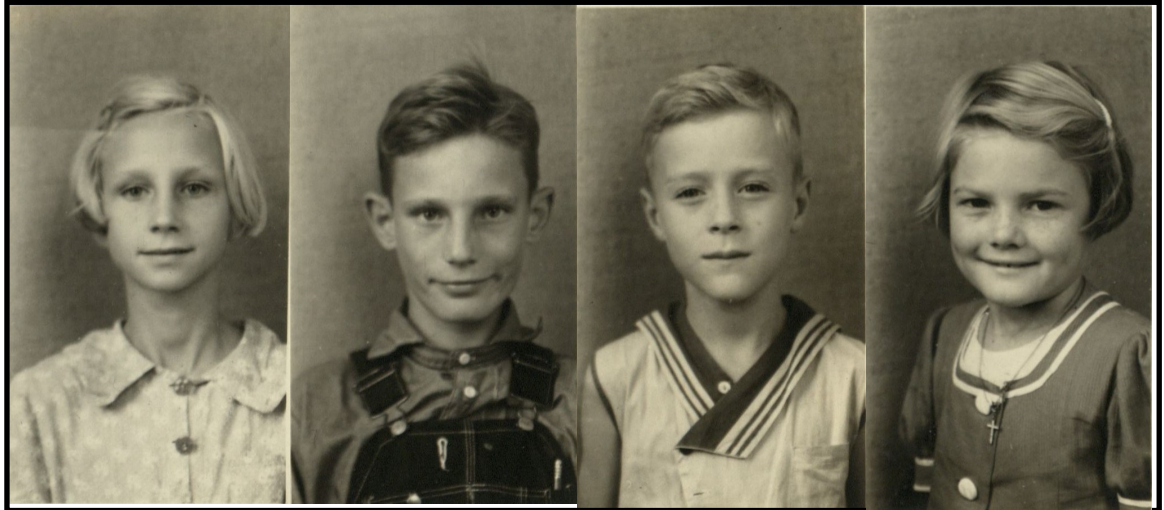
Left to right:

Effie Lee
Kuykendall

David
Woodruff

Joe Ellis

June Moon



In 1938, the Kennesaw School that sat next to the cemetery was lost in a fire. While work was progressing on a new building, students from Kennesaw were sent to schools across North Cobb, including the Eli Whitney School in Acworth that now houses J. D.'s Barbeque. It took several years for a building to be built that could accommodate all of the students.

Between the time of the fire and the new building, Helen Terrell (later Helen McGee) was a third grade teacher. According to a 2011 interview, when she taught school, class was held inside of a closed grocery store. The location of this store is not known. She also recalled walking to school from Acworth each day.

While Helen Terrell was teaching Kennesaw students, she saved photos of her pupils for her scrapbook. Recently, her daughter Nancy was kind enough to let me scan the scrapbook. Several of the photos are reproduced above.

Presented by Andrew J. Bramlett at the March 4, 2024,
City of Kennesaw Mayor & Council Meeting

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

PLEASE MAKE SURE YOUR NAME IS LEGIBLE AND CLEAR

Mayor & Council Regular Meeting

3/4/2024

Public Comment Sign-in

	Name	Address	Topic
1	Andrew J. Bramlett	2990 Sommerfield Ct, Kennesaw	Local History
2	Sara Torres	2008 Chatterfield Drive, 30144	City Council
3	(M)	4016 Polkvorde Dr	voter info
4	Gunn Pratt	Kennesaw, Ga.	
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