

CITY OF HOSCHTON  
CITY COUNCIL  
FRIDAY, AUGUST 16, 2024 AT 9:00AM  
HOSCHTON COMMUNITY CENTER  
65 CITY SQUARE, HOSCHTON



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## RETREAT MINUTES

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**WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER** at 9:02am by Mayor Martin

**MOMENT OF SILENCE**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** led by Scott Courter

**AGENDA APPROVAL** A motion was made by Courter to approve the agenda with no changes, seconded by C. Brown, and all voted in favor.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION** A motion was made at 9:04am by Martin to enter executive session for real estate, personnel, and litigation, seconded by Courter, and all voted in favor.

Lawson exited the meeting at 10:30am.

A motion was made at 12:17pm by Martin to exit executive session, seconded by C. Brown, and all voted in favor.

### **DISCUSSION: VISION FOR FUTURE PROJECTS**

Mayor and Councilmembers discussed the agenda change from prayer to moment of silence. The Council believes it to be their job to ensure that everyone feels included, and a moment of silence, rather than a prayer from a specific religion, allows all attendees a moment of private reflection or prayer of their own.

The Mayor would like to move ahead with the concept plan for a parking deck that includes parking below, commercial property in the middle, and apartments at the top. There is \$14,000 budgeted for this plan.

The City has been working with Georgia Power to inventory and address potential issues with tree branches near power lines. City staff will continue to work on this task.

The Mayor proposed hiring a professional to install Christmas lights with a "Santa's Workshop" theme along the downtown area to draw people to Hoschton. All downtown businesses will be asked to participate. Councilmembers will approach the DDA and

business sponsors to defray the city's portion of the \$15,000.00 cost, as only \$3,000.00 is available in this year's budget.

Dr. Jerry Weitz, Consulting City Planner, was present to discuss potential road impact fees. He explained that they must be spent on road projects that add capacity to the network. It would probably be a six month to one year long process to set up the program. His recommendation is to wait until after the November ballot to see if the proposed TSPLOST program is approved by voters. If it is approved, the city would likely not need road impact fees at all.

Councilmember D. Brown shared his progress on the 5- and 10-year plan, explaining that he has produced 2030/2035 cost and revenue projections based on the city's growth pattern.

City staff will seek new branding for the Hoschton logo.

**ADJOURN** A motion was made at 1:58pm by Martin to adjourn, seconded by Courter, and all voted in favor.

#### ROLL CALL

##### Present:

Debbie Martin, Mayor  
David Brown, Mayor Pro-Tem  
Christina Brown, Councilmember  
Scott Courter, Councilmember  
James Lawson, Councilmember (left at 10:30am)  
Fredria Sterling, Councilmember

##### Also Present:

Abbott S. Hayes, Jr., City Attorney  
Jennifer Harrison, City Manager  
Dr. Jerry Weitz, Consulting City Planner  
Jen Williams, Assistant City Clerk  
Media

##### Absent:

Jonathan Jackson, Councilmember

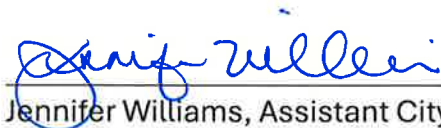
##### Approved:



Debbie Martin, Mayor

9/17/24

Date



Jennifer Williams, Assistant City Clerk

