

## Regular Council Meeting

August 7th, 2023

Present: Mayor Brandon Johnson, Council members Stephen “Doc” Ayers, Dan Leard, Tony Haynie, Mike MacNabb, Patrick Guarnella and Tray Hicks.

Others Present: City Manager Jon Herschell, Economic/Community Development Director Jason Ford, City Attorney Robert Leverett, Representatives of the Press and interested citizens.

The Regularly scheduled meeting of the Hartwell City Council was held Monday August 7th, 2023 in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 456 E. Howell Street, Hartwell, Georgia.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Mayor Brandon Johnson.

Following the invocation given by Mayor Johnson, everyone stood for the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag.

Hearing no corrections or additions to the minutes of the June 2023 Regular Council Meeting, a motion was made by Councilman Leard to approve the minutes as recorded. Motion was seconded by Councilman Ayers and carried unanimously 6-0.

The Mayor requested Christian Hatch to review the City's FY 2022 Financial Audit. Mr. Hatch gave a detailed run down of the City's finances. The audit had no findings, and Mr. Hatch praised the city for retiring debt, maintaining healthy cash-flow, and investing into the City's utility systems.

Next on the agenda the council considered the 2nd reading of the zoning amendments. After some brief discussion about the merits of the amendments councilmen Hicks made a motion to pass the zoning changes with the exception of modifying the amendment to exclude mandatory garages on town-homes. Councilman Leard made a 2nd and the motion carried 5-1, with Councilman Ayers opposed. Councilman Ayers stated he was in favor of the amendments as they were written.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Janet Fleming  
City Clerk



Special Called Meeting  
July 20<sup>th</sup> 2023 12pm City Hall

Mayor Brandon Johnson called a special meeting on July 20<sup>th</sup> 2023 at 12pm to discuss SPLOST proportions for the upcoming SPLOST referendum. After some back in forth negotiations with Hart County the Board of Commissioners agreed to the city's portion of 17.3%. Councilman Dan Leard made a motion to accept. Councilman Patrick Guarnella seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-2 with Councilman Hicks and McNabb dissenting.