



**CITY OF FAIRBURN**  
**City Council Meeting Minutes**  
**City Hall**  
**56 Malone Street**  
**Fairburn, GA 30213**  
**January 13, 2014**  
**7:00 P.M.**

The Honorable Mayor Mario Avery

The Honorable Ron Alderman  
The Honorable Alex Heath  
The Honorable Marian Johnson

The Honorable Lydia Glaize  
The Honorable Elizabeth Hurst  
The Honorable Hattie Portis-Jones

City Administrator:  
City Clerk:  
City Attorney:

Mr. Tom B. Barber  
Mrs. Brenda B. James  
Mr. Randy Turner

- I. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: By Honorable Mario Avery.**
- II. ROLL CALL:** All Members of Council were present which constituted a quorum.
- III. PRESENTATIONS:**

Mayor Avery read the following proclamation to the Landmark Boys Cross Country Team into the record and presented it to Coach Bill Thorn and Shelly Thompson.

**Proclamation**

Recognition of the Landmark Christian School Boys Cross Country Team

**Whereas**, Landmark Christian School is an outstanding institution; and  
**Whereas**, under the leadership of Athletic Director, Wayne Brantley; Coaches Bill Thorn and Shelly Thompson, the Landmark Christian School Boys Cross Country Team has shown the community the result of hard work, persistent dedication, and teamwork; and  
**Whereas**, the Cross Country Team is Georgia High School Association Region 5A Champions; and  
**Whereas**, they are Georgia High School Association A-Private State Champions; and  
**Whereas**, Senior Spencer Geerling was name to the ATC All-Metro Men's Cross Country Team; and  
**Whereas**, Coaches Bill Thorn and Shelly Thompson were named All-Metro

Cross Country Men's Team Coaches; and

**Whereas**, the City of Fairburn is proud to be the home of such an outstanding institution and team.

**Now**, therefore, I Mario B. Avery, Mayor of the City of Fairburn, the City Council and citizens of Fairburn, choose to recognize the Landmark Christian School Boys Cross Country Team on their great accomplishments and wish them continued success. I do hereby proclaim Wednesday, January 15, 2014 as LANDMARK CHRISTIAN SCHOOL DAY in the City of Fairburn.

Signed this 13<sup>th</sup> day of January 2014.

Mayor Avery read the following proclamation to Creekside High School Football Team and presented it to Coach Olten Downs.

### **Proclamation**

#### **Recognition of the Creekside High School Varsity Football Team**

**Whereas**, Creekside High School is an outstanding Fulton County School, established in 1990, located in Fairburn, Georgia; and

**Whereas**, under the leadership of Principal, Ronald Maxwell, Athletic Director Mekia Troy and Head Coach Olten Downs, the Creekside Varsity Football Team has shown the community the result of hard work, persistent dedication and teamwork; and

**Whereas**, despite the tragic loss of teammate DeAntre Turman, #2 (Tre' Tre') in a 2013 preseason game, the team used the incident as motivation, and dedicated the season to his memory and continue to amassed more wins than any other Fulton County School; and

**Whereas**, Coach Olten Downs was named Coach of the Year and also honored as the Atlanta Falcons Class 5A High School Coach of the Year; and

**Whereas**, several players were named to the All-Region Team and Seniors Dexter Knox winning Player of the Years, and Chris Collins winning Defensive Player of the Year; and

**Whereas**, Creekside Varsity Seminoles won the Region 4-5A State High School Football Championship, and have been named the High 5 Sports Team of the Year!

**Now**, therefore, I Mario B. Avery, Mayor of the City of Fairburn, the City Council and citizens of Fairburn, choose to recognize the Creekside High School Varsity Football Team on their great accomplishments and wish them continued success. I do hereby proclaim Sunday, February 23, 2014, as CREEKSIDE HIGH SCHOOL DAY in the City of Fairburn.

Signed this 13<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2014.

#### **IV. APPOINTMENT OF THE MAYOR PRO-TEM FOR 2014**

Council Member Glaize made a motion to appoint Council Member Johnson as the Mayor Pro-Tem for 2014 with Council Member Portis-Jones providing the second. **The motion Carried.**

**V. MUSICAL SELECTION;**

Mrs. Maria Burrell the twin sister of Mayor Avery sang “I Won’t Complain” and dedicated it to her brother.

**VI. MAYOR’S STATE OF THE CITY ADDRESS:**

Immediately following the musical selection a video was shown feathering many highlights in the City of Fairburn. At the end of the video, Mayor Avery proceeded with his State of The City Address. He gave many thanks to Council Members Russell and Vaughan for their participation in the good things that happened in Fairburn during their time on Council. Some of the items presented were:

- Hiring of Qualified Staff
- Management Development Training for managers
- Upgrade in the Bond Rating for the City of Fairburn
- Great job done regarding the Lost Option Sales Tax
- Update in City Ordinances
- Personnel Code being rewritten
- Great and improved Court Department
- Resources and Reputation of Fairburn Police
- LED Lighting in Downtown Fairburn
- Highway 74
- Economic Development
- Duncan Park
- Fairburn Festival
- New Senior Housing
- Youth of Fairburn and the good things they are accomplishing
- Need to pass Redevelopment Referendum
- Water Authority
- Plant Vogtle

Upon finishing his address, Mayor Avery thanked all elected officials that were present and all city employees. He introduced his wife and family. He once again, acknowledged former Council Members Russell and Vaughan.

**VII. MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS:**

Council Member Alderman said he had been in the City of Fairburn since 1968 and this is his third term on Council and he has seen a lot of changes. He said being at Landmark brought back good memories for him, because his

son wrestled in this same gym. He said Landmark and Creekside Schools have great leaders. He also said he is very pleased with Mayor Avery and the City Administrator. He said Mayor Avery is always fair and open to everyone. He said he wanted to thank Council Members Russell and Vaughan for a great job.

Council Member Heath said the citizens are the most important people. He said he is from Fairburn and remembers playing little league baseball here. He spoke on the financial situation of the city and said things are really looking up. He thanked his Pastor, Jerry Young and said he believes we should love one another as the lord has loved us.

Council Member Hurst thanked everyone for coming out to the meeting. She said life is a journey and her 7 year journey as Council Member has been a great one. She said council does not always agree but they agree to disagree and move on. She introduced Bishop Lackey and Pastor Danita Jones as her Spiritual Advisors. She also introduced former Representative Keith Heard as her business partner and political mentor. She said she looks forward to working with the newly elected members of Council and thanked all citizens of Fairburn.

Council Member Portis-Jones congratulated Landmark Christian School and Creekside High School on their proclamations. She said she ran for office because she felt there was not enough education being provided for our youth. She encouraged every citizen to get engaged in its government. She commended the former City Council Members and congratulated Council Member Lydia Glaize. She thanked Council Member Hurst for her guidance during the election. She thanked her husband and family for being here with her.

Council Member Johnson said ditto to all that has been said and thanked her husband for always supporting her. She said Fairburn is her home and this is her third term on Council. She said the city has wonderful leadership and she thanked them all.

Council Member Glaize said she is a public servant. She said she was raised in the projects by her single mother with her brothers and sisters. She introduced her mother from Alabama and thanked her for being with her tonight. She thanked her husband of over 30 years and said they have 6 children. She said her brother; sister and son are also here with her tonight. Council Member Glaize introduced Kathy Foreman of Landmark Christian School. Miss Foreman won the Gatorade Runner of the Year for being the fastest girl runner in the state. She said she appreciates Mayor Avery for coming to Landmark and introduced the Landmark Board Members who were present. She said AD Bradley was elected Coach of the Year. Council Member Glaize stated she must say openly that she supports Mayor Avery and

the council. She said she is beholding to Christ and when there is a disagreement amongst Council she will do so agreeably and respectfully. She told Mayor Avery that God showed him 4 years ago what to do and he will finish what he started. She thanked all the pastors present.

Mayor Avery thanked Landmark Christian School for allowing the city to use their facility. He also thanked Langston Hughes R.O.T.C. for participating in the ceremony. He thanked and introduced his pastor, Creflo Dollar and his wife. Finally he thanked his mother.

#### **VIII. ADJOURN COUNCIL MEETING:**

Council Member Hurst made a motion to adjourn the Meeting at 8:30 pm with Council Member Alderman providing the second. **The motion carried.**

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Brenda B. James City Clerk

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Mario Avery, Mayor