

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF THE CITY OF HINESVILLE GEORGIA, CHAPTER 14, ARTICLE I, BY ADDING SECTIONS TO BE NUMBERED SECTION 14-15 THROUGH SECTION 14-25, BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL FOR THE CITY OF HINESVILLE, GEORGIA TO ESTABLISH A MORE UNIFORM AND STANDARDIZED SYSTEM OF NAMING AND RENAMING ALL STREETS OR PUBLIC PLACES WITHIN THE CITY IN HONOR OF DESERVING INDIVIDUALS, BUSINESSES, OR ORGANIZATIONS; TO PROVIDE THAT NAMING AND OR RENAMING OF STREETS AND OR PUBLIC PLACES IS WITHIN THE SOLE DISCRETION OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL; TO PROVIDE FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND TO PROVIDE FOR OTHER LAWFUL PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, the City of Hinesville is a political subdivision of the State of Georgia, and has the responsibility to provide for the health, safety, and public welfare of its citizens and visitors to the city; and

WHEREAS, the proper naming of a street contributes to the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens by making sure that any necessary emergency response and deliveries are properly made; and

WHEREAS, the City of Hinesville has processed and approved proposed street (re)naming requests informally in the past; and

WHEREAS, a uniform and standardized system of naming and renaming all public and private streets is needed to provide the public with a clear understanding and expectation of what is required to name or rename a street; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Hinesville finds it to be in the best interest of the citizens of Hinesville to have formal procedures in place for naming and renaming streets; and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds that this Ordinance will accomplish the above-identified purposes.

NOW THEREFORE, THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HINESVILLE, GEORGIA HEREBY ORDAINS AS FOLLOWS:

Section 14-15. General policy.

This Ordinance shall be known and may be cited as the Street and Road Naming Ordinance of the City of Hinesville, Georgia, and may be cited within this document as "Ordinance".

As a general policy, the Mayor and City Council find that public property should be named after its principal function, location, or historical reference. However, significant community events, organizations, or well-known persons with important contributions to the community, state, or nation may deserve public recognition, which may occur by naming or renaming public rights-of-way or facilities.

Section 14-16.-Naming criteria and requirements.

- (a) Naming or renaming of a public right-of-way or facility shall occur only when the name is approved by a simple majority vote of the City Council, and the proposed naming or renaming satisfies at least one of the following criteria:
 - (1) It honors and commemorates a noteworthy person associated with the City of Hinesville, the State of Georgia, or the United State of America;
 - (2) It commemorates local history, places, events, or culture;
 - (3) It will strengthen neighborhood identity; or
- (b) The following shall not be considered for purposes of naming or renaming:
 - (1) Persons that resided in the City of Hinesville for less than five (5) years, other than prominent national figures;
 - (2) Names assigned to existing public property within the City or unincorporated Liberty County, where duplication of the name is likely to lead to confusion.
- (c) Naming requests shall consider:
 - (1) The number of residents and businesses directly affected;
 - (2) Community diversity;
 - (3) The historical significance of preexisting name or location;
 - (4) The appropriateness and compatibility of the request in relation to the existing area;
 - (5) The impact on emergency service delivery; and
 - (6) Continuity and stability
- (d) Request to name a public right-of way or facility in honor of a natural person should also consider the following:

- (1) Absent extraordinary or extenuating circumstances, the proposed honoree shall be deceased;
- (2) Whether the proposed namesake made a sustained contribution over an applicable time period, exerted efforts of benefit or significance to local, state, or national affairs and/or demonstrated leadership in government, cultural, or historical affairs, humanitarian efforts, or community development;
- (3) Contributions that beneficially changed the nature and characteristics of the community; and
- (4) Achievement by a native of Hinesville or of national or international acclaim in a specific field of endeavor that has reflected positively on Hinesville.

Section 14-17 -Renaming of public property, facilities, or streets.

- (a) All requests to rename public property shall be made in writing and directed to the attention of the City Manager. Such request shall include:

- (1) In the instance of the street or road way:

- A. A supporting petition signed by not less than sixty percent (60%) of all property owners abutting the public right-of-way;
- B. The present official name of the street which must follow the approved City standards for street naming/renaming;
- C. The proposed new name which must follow the approved City standards for street naming/renaming;
- D. The specific location of the street or road way;
- E. The name, address, and telephone number of the person requesting the name change;
- F. A statement of reasons supporting the renaming request;
- G. A thorough discussion regarding the history of the right-of-way, including all prior names associated therewith; and
- H. An endorsement by the Mayor and Councilmembers representing the district in which the right-of-way is located.

- (2) In the instance of a park, playground, recreational area or space:

- A. A supporting petition signed by not less than sixty percent (60%) of all property owners abutting the subject property;
- B. The present official name of the property;
- C. The proposed new name which must follow the approved City standards for street naming/renaming;
- D. The specific location of the property;

- E. The name, address, and telephone number of the person requesting the name change;
- F. A statement of reasons supporting the renaming request;
- G. A thorough discussion regarding the history of the property, including all prior names associated therewith; and

(3) In the instance of a building, structure or facility:

- A. The present official name of the building, structure, or facility;
- B. The proposed new name which must follow the approved City standards for street naming/renaming;
- C. The specific location of the property;
- D. The name, address, and telephone number of the person requesting the name change;
- E. A statement of reasons supporting the renaming request;
- F. A thorough discussion regarding the history of the property, including all prior names associated therewith; and

(4) In the instance of all other public property:

- A. The present official name of the property;
- B. The proposed new name which must follow the approved City standards for street naming/renaming;
- C. The specific location of the property;
- D. The name, address, and telephone number of the person requesting the name change;
- E. A statement of reasons supporting the renaming request;
- F. A thorough discussion regarding the history of the property, including all prior names associated therewith; and

Section 14-18.-Naming new facilities or public property.

- (a) All requests to name newly acquired, created or previously unnamed public property shall be made in writing and directed to the attention of the City Manager. Such requests shall include:
 - (1) The precise location and description of the subject property;
 - (2) A thorough discussion regarding the history of the property or surrounding area, as may be applicable;
 - (3) The name, address, and contact information of the requester;
 - (4) Upon receipt of a property naming request (submitted pursuant to this section), the City Manager shall submit a request to the Director of the Department of Inspections. The Director shall consider the

requirements of this Article and submit a recommendation to the City Manager for presentation to the Mayor and Council no later than sixty (60) days after receipt of the request. Recommendations are subject to approval by the City Council.

Section 14-19.-Naming Dedication Ceremony.

An applicant may request a dedication ceremony at the time the application is made to the City Manager. The City Manager, or his designee, shall be responsible for scheduling such ceremonies.

Section 14-20.-Donations and Gifts.

A donation or gift of land, goods, funding, equipment or other items may constitute a basis upon which to name or rename public property. The donation or gift shall be documented and recorded by the City Clerk.

Section 14-21.-Notification of street name changes; publishing, and posting of notices.

When the name of the street has been permanently changed pursuant to this Article, the public works administrator shall immediately, or as soon thereafter as practicable, notify utility companies and interested state and local agencies of the name change. Notification may encompass more than one renaming event and may be provided by publication in the newspaper of general circulation.

In addition to the foregoing factors to be considered by the Mayor and City Council in changing the name of an existing street, the Mayor and Council are also authorized to consider any and all of the relevant factors that they deem appropriate in making a street naming decision.

Section 14-22.-Prohibitions.

The City retains the right to reject, discontinue or abandon any naming that occurred pursuant to this Article when deemed in the best interests of the health, safety, and welfare of its residents and visitors to the city.

Section 14-23.-Severability

If any provision or provisions of this ordinance are held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect any of the other provisions which can be given effect without the invalid provision, and to this end, the provisions of this ordinance are declared to be severable.

Section 14-24.-Repealer

All ordinances and parts of ordinances in conflict with this Ordinance are hereby expressly repealed.


Section 14-25.-Effective Date

This Ordinance shall become effective once signed by the Mayor and Council of the City of Hinesville.

DULY ADOPTED THIS 16 DAY OF November, 2023, BY
THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HINESVILLE, GEORGIA.



Allen Brown, Mayor



Keith Jenkins, Mayor Pro Tem



Diana F. Reid, Councilmember



Vicky C. Nelson, Councilmember



Jason Floyd, Councilmember



Karl A. Riles, Councilmember

ATTEST:


Kenneth Howard, City Manager
Attestor