

## Business Development and Workforce Taskforce Meeting

Meeting Date: March 26, 2024

Meeting Time: 1:00PM-2:00PM

Location: City Hall – Conference Room 301B

YouTube Link: <https://youtube.com/live/xxinisriL4g?feature=share>

### **Present Task Force Members:**

Commissioner Tiffany Taylor  
Commissioner Carol Myers  
Wesley Mellina  
Michelle Pearson Tucker  
Tim Johnson  
Keisha Ryals  
Ilka McConnell

### **Facilitator:**

Kara Fresk

### **Staff & Guest**

Kenshundria Bailey-Allen  
Alejandra Calva  
Niki Jones  
Blaine Williams  
Mayor Kelly Girtz

- I. Commissioners Tiffany Taylor and Carol Myers welcomed the committee and introduced themselves and their role as co-chairs of the task force.
- II. Commissioner Carol Myers introduced Mayor Kelly Girtz who discussed the Taskforce Charge and Background with the focus of connecting Athens residents with
  - High Wage Employment
  - Small Business Development Opportunities
  - Worker Empowerment Rights
- III. Manager, Blaine Williams covered the key points highlighting:
  - Quantity vs. Quality of the proposed priorities/initiatives
  - \$4MM Budget
  - Sustainability of proposed priorities/initiatives
  - The unintended implications of proposed priorities/initiatives
- IV. Commissioner Myers introduced the Business Development and Workforce Taskforce Facilitator, Kara Fresk of Lion Leadership who discussed the process and timeline which includes:
  - Individual Interviews with each task force member
  - Sub-committee work sessions:
    - Focus areas to consider.
    - Gathering inventory of what exist in Athens Clarke County.
    - Researching Models and Ideas.
  - Full Group Task Force Meetings
    - Sub-Committee Presentations
    - Prioritize and complete the deliverable by July 2024.
- V. Commissioner Myers, scheduled the orientation meeting for
  - Tuesday April 9, 2024 12:30-2PM at Snipes Water Resource Center.

