

CITY OF LAGRANGE, GEORGIA
REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL

July 25, 2023

Present: Mayor Willie Edmondson; Council Members Jim Arrington, Tom Gore, Mark Mitchell, Leon Childs and Quay Boddie

Absent: Council Member Nathan Gaskin

Also Present: City Manager Meg Kelsey; Assistant City Manager Bill Bulloch; City Attorney Jeff Todd; City Clerk Melissa Robertson; Communications Director Katie Van Schoor; City Planner Mark Kostial.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Edmondson, the invocation was given by Rev. Mike Reeves with Open Range Cowboy Church, and Mayor Edmondson led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

On a motion by Mr. Arrington, seconded by Mr. Mitchell Council unanimously approved the minutes of the regular Council meeting held on July 13, 2023.

Ms. Sherry Kennedy came before the Council with concerns of being removed from her home by her current landlord, and as a result is having a hard time finding a place to stay. Mr. Edmondson asked Meg if she knew of any agencies that could help with Ms. Kennedy's situation. Mr. Childs let Ms. Kennedy know that his heart goes out to her in this situation. Mr. Mitchell provided Ms. Kelsey with an email copy of the "Street Beat" Newsletter from Wanda Walker, and Ms. Kelsey will get this information to Jeremy Butler to reach out to Ms. Kennedy.

Ms. Corinthia Brooks came before the Council with concerns of LaGrange needing a homeless shelter for people who have fallen on hard times. Mr. Edmondson thanked Ms. Brooks for coming before the Council, and informed her that Mike Wilson of The LaGrange-Troup County Homeless Coalition was working at the current warming center site to open a homeless shelter to service our citizens. Mr. Edmondson said hopes are to have the center open in the Fall of 2023.

Mr. Kostial presented information to the Council regarding a Board of Planning and Zoning Appeals recommendation to amend the character area designation assigned to 1374 South Davis Road from Professional Park Development to Industrial. On a motion by Mr. Mitchell seconded by Mr. Arrington, Council voted unanimously to call for a public hearing to be held on August 22, 2023 at 5:30 p.m.

Ms. Kelsey reported that the City Council had received a funding request from the LaGrange Housing Authority. The request was for one million dollars of ARPA funds to help construct a Community Center. Ms. Kelsey also informed the Council that the remaining ARPA funds were a little over \$500,000. On a motion by Mr. Childs seconded by Mr. Boddie, Mr. Childs requested the remaining ARPA funds be given towards the completion of the Community Building. The motion was opposed by Messrs. Arrington, Mitchell, and Gore and the request was denied with a 3-2 vote.

On a motion by Mr. Mitchell seconded by Mr. Gore, Council voted unanimously to authorize Tax Allocation District #7.

Council heard the first reading of the following ordinance:

AN ORDINANCE

AN ORDINANCE AN ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAGRANGE TO AMEND THE CODE OF THE CITY; TO MODIFY THE LAWFUL SPEED LIMITS ON A CERTAIN CITY STREET TO CONFORM TO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION RECOMMENDATIONS; TO REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; TO FIX AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

On a motion by Mr. Mitchell seconded by Mr. Arrington, Council voted unanimously to approve the following ordinance:

AN ORDINANCE

AN ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAGRANGE TO AMEND THE CODE OF THE CITY; TO MODIFY THE VOTING PRECINCTS AND POLLING PLACES WITHIN THE CITY; TO REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; TO FIX AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAGRANGE HEREBY ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1:

That Section 1-5-2 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of LaGrange be amended by deleting said section in its entirety, inserting in lieu thereof a new Section 1-5-2, to be entitled “Voting precincts and polling places” to read as follows:

“Section 1-5-2. - Voting precincts and polling places.

(a) The voting precincts for the City of LaGrange shall be numbered one (1), two (2), three (3), four (4) and twelve (12). All such precincts are shown on a map bearing the legend “Voting_Precincts_City_Only_draft_4-10-23” (the “map”). Copies of the map are on file in the office of the city clerk of the city and by this reference are incorporated in and made a part of this chapter.

(b)(1) For Precinct One (the “Hollis Precinct”), the polling place shall be the First United Methodist Church Hollis of LaGrange and shall be that portion of Precinct One which lies within the corporate limits of the city as the same now exists or may hereafter be amended by annexation, described as follows:

Precinct: HOLLIS

Troup County

Tract: 960201

Blocks: 2016; 2017; 2022-2024; 2029-2031

Tract: 960300

Blocks: 1000-1013; 2001-2011; 2018; 2020; 2021; 2025-2028; 2032-2041; 2043-2045; 2047; 3013; 3016-3025; 3027-3031; 3038

Tract: 960401

Blocks: 1014-1033; 2000; 3000-3004; 3007-3012; 3014; 3015; 3026

Tract: 960402

Blocks: 2012-2014

(2) For Precinct Two (the “Admin Precinct”), the polling place shall be the Department of Drivers Services and shall be that portion of Precinct Two which lies within the corporate limits of the city as the same now exists or may hereafter be amended by annexation, described as follows:

Precinct: ADMIN

Troup County

Tract: 960300

Blocks: 2042; 2043; 2046

Tract: 960600

Blocks: 4003-4008; 4027-4029; 4041

Tract: 960800

Blocks: 1000-1044; 2000-2041; 2044; 2045; 2047-2053; 3000-3021

Tract: 960901
Blocks: 2055; 3022-3032

Tract: 960904
Blocks: 1045-1050; 1052-1058; 1062; 1064-1068;
1076; 1085; 1095; 1098; 1099

- (3) For Precinct Three (the “Hammett Precinct”), the polling place shall be the Faith Baptist Church Gymnasium and shall be that portion of Precinct Three which lies within the corporate limits of the city as the same now exists or may hereafter be amended by annexation, described as follows:

Precinct: HAMMETT

Troup County

Tract: 960501
Blocks: 1000; 1001; 1004-1016; 2000-2028; 3000-3008; 4000-4025

Tract: 960503
Blocks: 1003; 1038

Tract: 960504
Blocks: 2039-2045

- (4) For Precinct Four (the “Griggs Precinct”), the polling place shall be the Griggs Center and shall be described as follows:

Precinct: GRIGGS

Troup County

Tract: 960600
Blocks: 1020-1022; 2000-2007; 2012-2014; 2019; 2021; 2023-2039; 3000-3010; 4002; 4009; 4010-4026; 4030-4040; 4042-4054

Tract: 960700
Blocks: 1000-1019; 1023-1037; 3012-3023; 3025-3031; 3033; 3038-3041; 3044; 3045; 4000; 4001; 4003-4008

- (5) For Precinct Twelve (the “Gardner Precinct”), the polling place shall be the Troup County School System Administrative Services Center and shall be that portion of Precinct Twelve which lies within the corporate limits of the city as the same now exists or may hereafter be amended by annexation, described as follows:"

Precinct: GARDNER

Troup County

Tract: 960503
Blocks: 1017; 1026-1028; 1030-1037

Tract: 960504
Blocks: 2020; 2021; 2023-2025; 2027-2038; 2046

Tract: 960600
Blocks: 1007-1016; 1018; 1019; 1023-1025; 1029; 1040; 1041; 1045; 1071

- (c) For the purposes of the precinct boundary descriptions contained in subsection (b) hereof:

- (1) The terms “tract” and “Block” shall mean and describe the same geographical boundaries as provided in the report of the Bureau of the Census for the United States decennial census of 2020 for the State of Georgia;

- (2) The term “precinct” is synonymous with the term "voting precinct" and means a geographical area designated by Article 7 of Chapter 2 of Title 21 of the O.C.G.A., within which all electors vote at one polling place;
- (3) Whenever the description of any precinct (district) refers to Troup County or the City of LaGrange, it shall mean the geographical boundaries of the county or the city as shown on the census map for the United States decennial census of 2020 for the State of Georgia, except as the boundaries of the city may be changed or amended by annexation;
- (4) Precinct names and designations are included for convenience only; and in the event the description of any precinct (district) contains a conflict between the geographical boundaries and the boundaries of the following named precinct, the geographical boundary as shown on the census maps for the United States decennial census of 2020 for the State of Georgia shall control, except as amended by annexation;
- (5) Any part of a city which is not included in any precinct (district) described in subsection (b) shall be included within that precinct contiguous to such part which contains the least population according to the United States decennial census of 2020 for the State of Georgia;
- (6) Any part of the city which is described in subsection (b) of this section as being included in particular precinct (district) shall nevertheless not be included within such precinct (district) if such part is not contiguous to such precinct (district). Such noncontiguous part shall instead be included within that precinct (district) contiguous to such part which contains the least population according to the United States decennial census of 2020 for the State of Georgia;
- (7) Additionally, any property located in the unincorporated area of Troup County, upon annexation of that area to the city limits of the city, shall be added to the city precinct to which the annexed area is contiguous and which contains the least population according to the United States decennial census of 2020 for the State of Georgia.

SECTION 2:

All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

SECTION 3:

This ordinance after its adoption by the Council and upon approval by the Mayor shall become effective immediately.

INTRODUCED AND FIRST READING _____ July 13, 2023
 SECOND READING AND ADOPTED _____ July 25, 2023
 SUBMITTED TO MAYOR AND APPROVED _____ July 25, 2023

BY: /s/ Willie T. Edmondson, Mayor

ATTEST: /s/ Melissa Robertson, City Clerk

On a motion by Mr. Arrington seconded by Mr. Mitchell, the Council voted unanimously to approve the following ordinance:

AN ORDINANCE

AN ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAGRANGE TO AMEND THE CODE OF THE CITY; TO AMEND THE ZONING MAP AND ORDINANCES OF THE CITY SO AS TO RECLASSIFY THE USE ZONE OF REAL ESTATE LOCATED ON SOUTH DAVIS ROAD AND OWNED BY LAGRANGE DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY; TO REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; TO FIX AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAGRANGE, GEORGIA HEREBY ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1:

That the zoning map and ordinances of the City of LaGrange be amended so as to reclassify from use zone CR-MX (corridor mixed use district) to use zone CP-GI (campus general industrial and agribusiness district) the following described real estate, to wit:

All that tract or parcel of land located on South Davis Road and known as Troup County Tax Map Parcel Number: 051-1D-000-054.

SECTION 2:

All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with this ordinance are hereby repealed.

SECTION 3:

This ordinance, after adoption by the Council and upon approval by the Mayor, shall become effective immediately.

INTRODUCED AND FIRST READING _____ July 13, 2023

SECOND READING AND ADOPTED _____ July 25, 2023

SUBMITTED TO MAYOR AND APPROVED _____ July 25, 2023

BY: /s/ Willie T. Edmondson, Mayor

ATTEST: /s/ Melissa Robertson, City Clerk

On a motion by Mr. Gore seconded by Mr. Mitchell, Council voted unanimously to approve the following ordinance:

AN ORDINANCE

AN ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAGRANGE TO AMEND THE CODE OF THE CITY; TO AMEND THE UNIFIED DEVELOPMENT FEE SCHEDULE

TO INCLUDE A FEE FOR TOWNHOME PLAN REVIEW; TO MODIFY THE DESCRIPTION OF THE COMMERCIAL PLAN REVIEW FEE; TO REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; TO FIX AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAGRANGE, GEORGIA HEREBY ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1:

That Section 25A-1-9 of the Unified Development Ordinance of the City of LaGrange be amended by deleting said section, in its entirety, inserting in lieu thereof a new Section 25A-1-9 to read as follows:

“Section 25A-1-9. Fees.

- (1) Fees for permits and other approvals required under the UDO shall be established from time to time by resolution of the mayor and council.
- (2) Application and plan review fees shall be submitted with the application, and upon acceptance of said submission for review and consideration, shall not be refundable, except where otherwise specified herein. Failure to pay a required application fee shall cause the application to be returned to the applicant without acceptance for review or consideration by the City.
- (3) Permit fees, if any, shall be submitted as a prerequisite to issuance of a permit.
- (4) Prior to approval of a Final Plat or Certificate of Occupancy, the developer shall pay to the City such fees and performance and/or maintenance bonds as shall be required by the UDO or established by the mayor and council.
- (5) Application and plan review fees are provided in the below UDO Fee Schedule.

UDO Fee Schedule

Calculating Building Valuation	Unless otherwise stated, the valuation for all new construction will be based on the actual contract cost of the work or calculated by using the latest construction cost data as published in the Building Safety Journal by the International Code Council (ICC). For Interior Completion only, the construction cost is valued at 50% of the calculated ICC building valuation.		
Fee Payment	Fees are non-refundable and due at time of application.		
ITEM	SUBITEM	FEE	
Administrative Fee	Applies to All Permits	\$25.00	
Commercial Plan Review Fee	Applies to anything other than single-family residential and two-family dwellings	50% of building permit fee (Minimum of \$200.00)	
Townhome Plan Review Fee	Applies to each Townhome unit	\$150.00	
Subdivision Plan Review Fee	For plats which create five (5) lots or less	\$250.00	
	For plats which create more than five (5) lots	\$250.00 Plus \$25.00 per lot	
Permit Fees	Total Valuation	Up to \$2,000.00	\$75.00 (Minimum Permit Fee)
		\$2,001.00 to \$25,000.00	\$75.00 for the first \$2,000.00 plus \$14.00 for each additional \$1,000.00, or fraction thereof, to and including \$25,000.00
		\$25,001.00 to \$50,000.00	\$397.00 for the first \$25,000.00 plus \$8.00 for each additional \$1,000.00, or fraction thereof, to and including \$50,000.00
		\$50,001.00 to \$100,000.00	\$591.25 for the first \$50,000.00 plus \$5.00 for each additional \$1,000.00, or fraction thereof, to and including \$100,000.00
		\$100,001.00 to \$500,000.00	\$841.25 for the first \$100,000.00 plus \$4.00 for each additional \$1,000.00, or fraction thereof, to and including \$500,000.00
		\$500,001.00 to \$1,000,000.00	\$2,441.25 for the first \$500,000.00 plus \$3.25 for each additional \$1,000.00, or fraction thereof, to and including \$1,000,000.00
		\$1,000,001.00 and Up	\$4,066.25 for the first \$1,000,000.00 plus \$2.50 for each additional \$1,000.00, or fraction thereof
Trade Permit (MEPs)	Electrical, Plumbing, HVAC, etc.	\$80 + \$5.00 for each \$1,000 or fraction thereof, of valuation of work being done	
Land Disturbance	Up to 1 Acre	\$25.00	
	Over 1 Acre	\$350.00 Plus \$50.00 per acre	
Demolition Permit	Residential & Commercial	\$100.00	
Driveway Permit	Per Driveway	\$50.00	
Re-Inspection Fee	Residential & Commercial	\$75.00	
Inspections Outside of Normal Business Hours	Normal business hours: Monday – Friday, 8:00am to 5:00pm	\$125 per hour (3 hour minimum)	
Certificate of Occupancy (Building)	Residential	\$10.00	
	Commercial	\$100.00	
ITEM	SUBITEM	FEE	
Swimming Pool Permit	Residential & Commercial	Based on permit fee valuation	
Portable Storage Buildings	Residential & Commercial	\$75.00	
Sign Permit	Applies to all zoning districts	\$1.00 per sq. ft. of sign face	
Temporary Banner Permit	Sign Permit	\$35.00	
Unpermitted Work	Required permit of any kind not obtained before work commencing. (One courtesy warning shall be issued per contractor before enforcement action is taken)	Double permit fee (Original permit fee + 100% penalty)	
Temporary Pole	Per Pole	\$75.00	
Historic Preservation Application Fee	Certificate of Appropriateness	\$50.00	
Zoning Applications and Permits	Administrative Variance Application	\$50.00	
	Variance Application	\$300.00	
	Zoning Map Amendment Application (Rezoning)	\$300.00	
	Special Permits	\$300.00	
	Annexation Application Fee	\$300.00	

SECTION 2:

All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with this ordinance are hereby repealed.

SECTION 3:

This ordinance after adoption by the Council and upon approval by the Mayor shall become effective immediately.

INTRODUCED AND FIRST READING _____ July 13, 2023

SECOND READING AND ADOPTED _____ July 25, 2023

SUBMITTED TO MAYOR AND APPROVED _____ July 25, 2023

BY: /s/ Willie T. Edmondson, Mayor _____

ATTEST: /s/ Melissa Robertson, City Clerk _____

Upon a motion by Mr. Mitchell seconded by Mr. Arrington, and unanimously passed, Council voted to appoint Christina Porter to a two-year term on the Board of Visit LaGrange.

Upon a motion by Mr. Mitchell seconded by Mr. Boddie, and unanimously passed, Council voted to appoint Garrett Fiveash to a three-year term on the LaGrange Gas Authority Board.

The Good News for tonight is that the City is now accepting applications for LaGrange 101. This is a free 6-week class for citizens who are interested in learning more about city government. Also, a reminder for Thursday’s naming ceremony for Moss and Wood Park. We will honor the two men named for the park – Rev. Dr. Otis Moss, Jr. and Dr. Benjamin Wood. We are excited to report Dr. Moss will be speaking. The event will be at 10:30 and is open to the public.

There was no other business and the meeting was adjourned.

Mayor

City Clerk