

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

October 10, 2023

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

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; Media Coordinator Adam Speas

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Edmondson, the invocation was given by Pastor Brad Thompson of Callaway Baptist Church, and Mayor Edmondson led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

On a motion by Mr. Gaskin, seconded by Mr. Childs, Council unanimously approved the minutes of the regular Council meeting held on September 26, 2023

On a motion by Mr. Gore seconded by Mr. Arrington, Council voted unanimously to appoint Barbie Watts to the unexpired term of Sarah Barintine on the Historic Preservation Commission

A public hearing was held to receive comments on a Board of Planning and Zoning Appeals recommendation to amend the zoning ordinance of the city to allow certain existing structures to utilize vinyl siding as part of an exterior remodeling project. No comments were received and the Council heard the first reading of 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 ORDINANCE OF THE CITY TO
ALLOW CERTAIN EXISTING STRUCTURES TO UTILIZE
VINYL SIDING AS A PART OF AN EXTERIOR REMODELING
PROJECT; TO REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; TO
FIX AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Media Coordinator Adam Speas introduced Alyssa Parker and Londyn Fryer, both students with LaFayette Christian School who recently completed an internship with the Communications Department. Both Alyssa and Londyn spoke on the impacts of this six-week experience and thanked the Mayor and Council for giving them the opportunity

Ms. Kelsey reviewed with Council an agreement request from GDOT for roadway lighting assistance from SR 14 spur from S of SR 109 to SR 14/US 29. The city would assume responsibility for the energy, operation, and maintenance of the system. GDOT will be responsible for the design and installation, to include all cost of the materials for the system. Upon a motion by Mr. Mitchell seconded by Mr. Gore, the Council authorized the Mayor and Clerk to execute the agreement between The City of LaGrange and GDOT.

Ms. Kelsey presented copies of the September financial statements and payment of bills over \$2,000 for Council's information.

Ms. Kelsey spoke on a request from Phillip Abbott, developer of The Rail District, to provide streetscape to connect the development to the downtown area making it easily accessible for foot traffic. Upon a motion by Mr. Arrington seconded by Mr. Gaskin, Council unanimously approved the City Manager to hire an engineer to develop plans and projected cost analysis for this project.

Ms. Kelsey spoke on a request brought to the City to relinquish control and quitclaim a small piece of property on Pegasus Parkway and Old Hutchinson Mill Rd. Ms. Kelsey noted that the property was abandoned during the Pegasus Parkway and Old Hutchinson Mill realignment. Upon a motion by Mr. Gaskin seconded by Mr. Gore, Council unanimously approved the request.

Mr. Fiveash came before the Council to provide an update on the crime suppression details. Current statistics have accounted for 91 arrests, 21 drug investigations, 45 warrants, and 12 guns being taken off the streets. Mr. Fiveash asked the community to help out and if they see something that doesn't appear right to say something.

Ms. Kelsey spoke on a joint resolution from KIA that requests support of the production and manufacturing for the KIA electric vehicle. Upon a motion by Mr. Gaskin seconded by Mr. Gore, the Council voted unanimously to approve the Mayor and Clerk to execute a resolution of support for the KIA electric vehicle project.

On a motion by Mr. Gaskin 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 MODIFY THE CODE SO AS TO CLARIFY THE RULES FOR MEADOWWAY CEMETERY; 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 subsection (1) of Section 15-20-22 of the Code of the City of LaGrange be amended by deleting said subsection, in its entirety, and inserting in lieu thereof a new Section 15-20-22 (1) to read as follows:

“(1) *Shadowlawn Cemetery and Meadowway Cemetery:*

- a. There shall be no wall or enclosure of any kind installed on the lot conveyed hereunder.
- b. There shall be no slab of any kind placed upon said lot.
- c. There shall be only one (1) monument on said lot above the said surface of the ground, except on a two-grave lot. Monuments on a two-grave lot shall not exceed forty-eight (48) inches in length at the base and monuments on a single-grave lot shall not exceed thirty (30) inches in length at the base. Each grave may be marked with a footstone installed level with the surface of the ground.
- d. There shall be no trees, shrubs or any other plants on said lot.
- e. All monumental work placed on the lot shall be of marble, granite or bronze and shall be set on a foundation that will insure its permanency, and shall be erected under the supervision of the superintendent.
- f. The lots shall be used only for the burial of the owner of the lot and his immediate family.
- g. The use of wooden boxes is prohibited.

- h. The title to the lots conveyed hereunder may not be sold, transferred or assigned until notice of such sale, transfer or assignment is given in writing to the city and entered upon the records of the city.”

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 _____ September 26, 2023

SECOND READING AND ADOPTED _____ October 10, 2023

SUBMITTED TO MAYOR AND APPROVED _____ October 10, 2023

BY: /s/ Willie T. Edmondson, Mayor

ATTEST: /s/ Melissa Robertson, City Clerk

The Good News for this evening is Sweetland Amphitheatre is excited to partner with the Troup County School System for this Friday’s Black Violin concert. On Friday, a group of our local Troup County school musicians will play before the concert begins on the Great Lawn – and then a smaller group of students will actually perform on stage with Black Violin. We had some generous local supporters pay for the young musicians in the Troup County School System to attend the concert for free. Thank you to Brent and Lizzie from Sweetland for helping to set this up for our community. We are excited about celebrating our young musicians in this event and appreciate the Troup County School System for partnering with us.

We are also excited to have the LaGrange Youth Council host the GMA Youth Symposium this weekend at Great Wolf Lodge. Approximately 115 youth council members from across the state will be a part of this big event. They will learn leadership skills and discuss issues that are important for them. It is going to be a great weekend.

There being no other business, Mayor Edmondson adjourned the meeting.

Mayor

City Clerk