

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

October 23, 2018

Present: Mayor Jim Thornton; Council Members Jim Arrington, Willie Edmondson, Nathan Gaskin, Tom Gore, LeGree McCamey, and Mark Mitchell

Also Present: City Manager Meg Kelsey; Assistant City Manager Teresa Taylor; City Clerk Sue Olson; City Attorney Jeff Todd; Communications Manager Katie Van Schoor; Community Development Director Alton West

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Thornton, the invocation was given by Reverend Adam Camp of Rosemont Baptist Church and Troup High School's Air Force Junior ROTC Cadet Col. Josh Smith led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

On a motion by Mr. McCamey seconded by Mr. Edmondson, Council unanimously approved the minutes of the regular Council meeting held on October 9, 2018.

A public hearing was held to receive comments on a request from the Troup County Board of Education to permanently close a portion of Highland Avenue to build an athletic facility at LaGrange High School. Mr. John Radcliffe, Assistant Superintendent, Maintenance and Operations, representing the Troup County Board of Education, presented to the Council information about the new addition and the reason for the request. One resident of Highland Avenue and LaGrange High School Principal Alton White spoke in favor of the closure. Several other area residents spoke in opposition to the closure. On a motion by Mr. Edmondson seconded by Mr. Mitchell, Council voted unanimously to deny the request.

Members of the Troup High School Air Force Junior ROTC spoke to the Council to update them on current projects and plans for future programs.

On a motion by Mr. Edmondson seconded by Mr. McCamey, Council voted unanimously to deny a notice of claim for damages filed on behalf of Ronnal Womack and referred it to the City's insurance company for handling.

On a motion by Mr. McCamey seconded by Mr. Arrington, Council voted unanimously to approve a request from David Blackwell to abandon property on LaGrange Avenue, subject to the City retaining a utility easement for access to a sewer lift station.

Council received a request to de-annex property located on Upper Big Springs. On a motion by Mr. Edmondson seconded by Mr. McCamey, Council unanimously voted to approve Staff moving forward with the de-annexation process.

Mr. Edmondson updated the Council on the District 2 parade and tree lighting ceremony that will be held on November 16<sup>th</sup>. The parade will begin at 6:00 at Calumet Park and proceed to Frank Cox Union Street School Park for the tree lighting. The next planning meeting will be November 3<sup>rd</sup> at 5:00 p.m. at 110 Hamilton Road, LaGrange, Georgia.

On a motion by Mr. Gaskin seconded by Mr. McCamey, Council voted unanimously to authorize the Mayor and Clerk to donate right-of-way located on Colquitt Street and Brown Street for the Hamilton Road widening project.

On a motion by Mr. Edmondson seconded by Mr. McCamey, 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 WITH CERTAIN CONDITIONS  
THE USE ZONE OF REAL ESTATE LOCATED ON

HAMILTON ROAD AND OWNED BY JAMES EVANS; 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 re-classify as C-3 (general commercial district) the following described real estate, to wit:

All those tracts or parcels of land lying and being in Land Lot 149 of the 6<sup>th</sup> Land District of Troup County, Georgia, located at 1503, 0 and 1509 Hamilton Road, and known as Troup County Tax Map Parcel Numbers: 051-2C-001-037, 051-2C-001-040, and 051-2C-001-041.

**SECTION 2:**

Pursuant to the police power of the City of LaGrange, the Mayor and Council hereby impose and establish certain conditions as a requirement for the rezoning of the property referenced above in Section 1. The following conditions are imposed for the protection or benefit of neighboring landowners in order to ameliorate the effects of rezoning this property to C-3 and shall apply to any development to occur on said property, to wit:

- (a) A 10-foot landscape strip shall be installed at the proposed Hamilton Road right-of-way line;
- (b) Any fence installed that is visible from the right-of-way shall be decorative or black-coated vinyl chain-link (barbed wire shall be prohibited);
- (c) Tax Parcels 051-2C-001-041 and 051-2C-001-040 shall be combined into one lot; and
- (d) Permanent freestanding signage installed shall be monument style and limited to no more than 10 feet in height and 100 square feet in area.

**SECTION 3:**

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

**SECTION 4:**

All parts, portions, sections, paragraphs, sentences, clauses, and phrases of this Ordinance are each hereby declared to be severable from each other and if any such part, portion, section, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance shall be declared unconstitutional or otherwise invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, such invalidity shall not affect any remaining parts, portions, sections, paragraphs, sentences, clauses or phrases thereof and the Mayor and Council of the City of LaGrange hereby declare that had they known that any such provision was or would be invalid, they would not have adopted that portion or part of the Ordinance but would have nevertheless adopted the remaining portions thereof.

**SECTION 5:**

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

INTRODUCED AND FIRST READING \_\_\_\_\_ October 9, 2018

SECOND READING AND ADOPTED \_\_\_\_\_ October 23, 2018

SUBMITTED TO MAYOR AND APPROVED \_\_\_\_\_ October 23, 2018

BY: /s/ James C. Thornton, Mayor \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST: /s/ Sue Olson, City Clerk \_\_\_\_\_

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In other business, Terry Wolsifer approached the Council to ask if they would reconsider recycling glass and also asked about SPLOST projects. No action was taken.

Catherine Stanford approached the Council with concerns about Tall Pines Apartments, regarding the safety of the structures and also for the recent violence. Mayor Thornton advised her that the Council was aware of concerns with that area and they were being addressed. No action was taken.

In good news closing comments, Ms. Van Schoor announced that there was a great turnout for the most recent Leaving LaGrange Better Than We Found It litter pick up event which was held on October 20, 2018. They were joined by the Hillside community and DASH, as well as several Youth Council members. The next pick up date will be November 3<sup>rd</sup> from 8:00 – 10:00 a.m. In other good news, two members of the City's Youth Council will be participating in the Youth Council Symposium at Tybee Island. They will have leadership training and roundtable discussions with the local Mayors and other Youth Council members to find solutions to problems facing our youth and communities.

There was no other business and the meeting was adjourned by Mayor Thornton.

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Mayor

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City Clerk