

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

January 28, 2020

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

Also Present: City Manager Meg Kelsey; City Clerk Sue Olson; City Attorney Jeff Todd; Communications Manager Katie Van Schoor

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Thornton, the invocation was given by Rev. Pete Shoger, Southcrest Church, and Mayor Thornton led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

City Attorney Jeff Todd swore in Council Member Willie Edmondson.

On a motion by Mr. McCamey seconded by Mr. Edmondson, Council unanimously approved the minutes of the regular Council meeting held on January 14, 2020.

Mike Wilson, representing the LaGrange-Troup County Homeless Coalition, presented to the Council information on a HUD Grant they have received for a new program to help combat the growing homeless population in LaGrange and Troup County. This program, called Coordinated Entry, will help provide those seeking assistance with access to one or two places that will get them the assistance they need. Mayor Thornton and the Council thanked Mr. Wilson for his work in the community.

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 Mike Pilgrim and referred it to City's insurance company for handling.

Mr. Edmondson thanked the City for the opportunity to attend the Georgia Cities United Summit in Atlanta the weekend of January 25-27, 2020. It was a great opportunity to network and meet other officials from around the State.

Mr. Gaskin reported that he would like to see the City of LaGrange partner with other cities to have better transportation options between LaGrange and bigger cities, such as Columbus and Atlanta.

Ms. Kelsey reported to the Council information regarding the upcoming UDO public hearing that is scheduled for February 11, 2020. Ms. Kelsey reminded the Council that Ms. Threadgill has resigned from the City, and she believes it is best to cancel the scheduled public hearing until a new City Planner is hired. It will be rescheduled at a later date, once the new Planner is on board and familiar with the UDO. On a motion by Mr. Edmondson seconded by Mr. Gaskin, Council voted unanimously to cancel the public hearing until further notice.

Ms. Kelsey reported to the Council that the LaGrange Police Department has recommended reversing the one-way traffic flow on Marshall Street and West Bacon Street. LPD has had residents of Highland Avenue reach out to them regarding the traffic at LaGrange High School during drop-off and pick-up times, and that because of the way the one-way traffic currently flows, traffic is backing up onto Highland Avenue and blocking their driveways. No action was taken, City Attorney Todd will have an ordinance prepared for a first reading on February 11, 2020.

On a motion by Mr. Edmondson seconded by Mr. Arrington, Council voted unanimously to authorize the Mayor and Clerk to execute a First Amendment to the Lease Agreement with The Callaway Foundation for Southbend Park. A copy of the amendment is on file in the City Manager's office.

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 AMEND SECTION 10-20-96 OF THE CODE SO AS TO PROHIBIT PARKING ON A PORTION OF BROAD STREET; 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 10-20-96 of the Code of the City of LaGrange be amended by deleting the first paragraph under the entry for *Broad Street*, inserting in lieu thereof a new first paragraph under the entry for *Broad Street* to read as follows:

“The north side, from its intersection with Springdale Drive East to its intersection with Ben Hill Street, parking is prohibited.”

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 _____ January 14, 2020

SECOND READING AND ADOPTED _____ January 28, 2020

SUBMITTED TO MAYOR AND APPROVED _____ January 28, 2020

BY: /s/ James C. Thornton, Mayor

ATTEST: /s/ Sue Olson, City Clerk

On a motion by Mr. Edmondson seconded by Mr. McCamey, Council voted unanimously to reappoint Carolyn Haamid to a one year term on the Community Action For Improvement Board.

On a motion by Mr. Gore seconded by Mr. Edmondson, Council voted unanimously to reappoint Donnie Dukes to a five year term on the Construction Board of Adjustment and Appeals.

On a motion by Mr. McCamey seconded by Mr. Edmondson, Council voted unanimously to reappoint Jeff Brown and Frank McRae to four year terms to the Development Authority of the City of LaGrange.

On a motion by Mr. Arrington seconded by Mr. Mitchell, Council voted unanimously to reappoint LeGree McCamey, Edward Smith, Janice Burks Davidson, Al Brannon and Bill Stump, Jr. to two year terms on the Downtown LaGrange Development Authority (DDA I).

On a motion by Mr. Edmondson seconded by Mr. McCamey, Council voted unanimously to reappoint Darby Pippin to a five year term on the LaGrange Development Authority.

On a motion by Mr. McCamey seconded by Mr. Arrington, Council voted unanimously to reappoint Jim Thornton, Mark Mitchell, LeGree McCamey, Willie Edmondson, Tom Gore, Nathan Gaskin, Jim Arrington and Meg Kelsey to one year terms on the LaGrange Governmental Finance Corporation.

On a motion by Mr. Arrington seconded by Mr. Mitchell, Council voted unanimously to reappoint Jim Baker to a one year term as Municipal Court Judge.

On a motion by Mr. Edmondson seconded by Mr. Gore, Council voted unanimously to reappoint Luther Jones to a one year term as Assistant Municipal Court Judge.

On a motion by Mr. Arrington seconded by Mr. Mitchell, Council voted unanimously to reappoint Tom Gore to a one year term on the Records Committee.

On a motion by Mr. McCamey seconded by Mr. Arrington, Council voted unanimously to reappoint Jim Thornton, LeGree McCamey, Willie Edmondson, Tom Gore, Mark Mitchell, Nathan Gaskin and Jim Arrington to one year terms on the Solid Waste Management Authority.

On a motion by Mr. Edmondson seconded by Mr. McCamey, Council voted unanimously to appoint Norma Tucker to a one year term on the Troup County Board of Health.

On a motion by Mr. Gaskin seconded by Mr. McCamey, Council voted unanimously to reappoint John Brant to a one year term on the Troup County FEMA Board.

On a motion by Mr. McCamey seconded by Mr. Arrington, Council voted unanimously to appoint Terrance Garrett to fill the unexpired term of Kathy Tilley on the Visit LaGrange Board.

On a motion by Mr. Arrington seconded by Mr. Gore, Council voted unanimously to appoint Nathan Gaskin to a one year term as Mayor Pro-Tem.

In good news closing comments, Ms. Van Schoor shared with the Council a video about a local Scout who was inspired by our Leaving LaGrange Better Than We Found It litter campaign. Will Bartlett, a Senior at Troup High School, and his parents, Jay and Gina Bartlett, joined us for a litter pickup in the summer of 2018. Will was so inspired to do something about litter, that he created a trash trap for West Point Lake as part of his Eagle Scout project. Will's father, Jay, is a City employee.

Ms. Van Schoor also shared with the Council that she will begin accepting applications for the LaGrange Youth Council on Friday, January 31st. The deadline is March 20th at 5:00 p.m. Applications will be available at City Hall and online on our website. Also, we will have a City employee day at Sweetland on Ice, February 4th, 5:00 – 9:00 p.m. and all are invited.

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

Mayor

City Clerk