

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

July 23, 2019

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

Absent: Council Member Willie Edmondson

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

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Thornton, the invocation was given by Council Member McCamey, and Mayor Thornton led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

On a motion by Mr. McCamey seconded by Mr. Gaskin, Council unanimously approved the minutes of the regular Council meeting held on July 11, 2019.

Chip Giles, Director of Transportation for the Troup County School System and former Principal of Long Cane Middle School, and Matthew Graham, Long Cane's GreenPower USA Instructor, introduced the members of the GreenPower USA National Championship teams from Long Cane Middle School. The 999 car won 1<sup>st</sup> place and the 000 car finished 2<sup>nd</sup> in the nation, and roughly 40 GreenPower teams are expected to race in LaGrange again this year. Mr. Giles stated that these students have worked hard and accomplished great things, and they are a credit to our community.

Rev. April McGlothin-Eller with Wellroot Family Services, formerly The United Methodist Children's Home, came before the Council to introduce herself and share what the organization is doing in our community. Rev. McGlothin is partnering with church leaders to restore children and families from trauma, through the church. She invited the Council to a State of Hope Celebration and Ribbon Cutting for the Troup County Office located at Western Heights Baptist Church on August 26<sup>th</sup>. Mayor Thornton thanked Rev. McGlothin for the information.

Jeff Brown came before the Council to discuss Ms. Kelsey's recommendation for the Tourism RFP. Mr. Brown stated that a few months ago he and a group of local citizens had increasing concerns about the Chamber of Commerce so they formed the Troup County Development Authority and submitted an RFP to the City. Mr. Brown acknowledged that the Council would most likely accept Ms. Kelsey's recommendation but told the Council that his proposal was still available should they decide to go a different direction. The Mayor thanked Mr. Brown for his continued service to the community.

Ms. Kelsey gave a presentation to the Council during the work session earlier today regarding a recommendation for a Tourism RFP. On a motion by Mr. McCamey seconded by Mr. Gaskin, Council voted unanimously to accept Ms. Kelsey's proposal to establish the LaGrange Convention and Visitor's Bureau, City Council will appoint a Board of Directors and the Board will appoint a Director.

On a motion by Mr. Mitchell seconded by Mr. McCamey Council voted unanimously to authorize the Mayor and Clerk to enter into a contract with Troup County and the Troup County Board of Education for upgrading the Troup County Archives storage and filing system at Ft. Georgia. A copy of the agreement is on file in the City Manager's office.

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 SECTION 10-20-96 OF THE CODE SO AS TO  
PROHIBIT PARKING ON A PORTION OF BULL STREET; TO  
REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; TO FIX AN  
EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

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On a motion by Mr. McCamey seconded by Mr. Gaskin 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 ORDINANCE OF THE CITY SO AS TO PROVIDE GENERAL REGULATIONS REGARDING OUTDOOR LIGHTING FIXTURES; TO REQUIRE LOCATION OF SUCH FIXTURES SO AS TO MINIMIZE GLARE AND STRAY LIGHT TRESPASSING ACROSS LOT LINES; TO ESTABLISH STANDARDS BASED UPON PROPERTY USAGE; TO PROVIDE EXCEPTIONS; 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:**

(1) Purpose. The regulations of this section are intended to:

- (a) Permit reasonable uses of outdoor lighting for nighttime safety, utility, security, productivity, enjoyment and commerce;
- (b) Curtail and reverse the degradation of the nighttime visual environment and the night sky;
- (c) Preserve the dark night sky for astronomy;
- (d) Minimize glare, obtrusive light and artificial sky glow by limiting outdoor lighting that is misdirected, excessive or unnecessary;
- (e) Conserve energy and resources to the greatest extent possible; and
- (f) Help protect the natural environment from the damaging effects of night lighting from human-made sources.

(2) General regulations. Outdoor lighting fixtures shall be located, aimed or shielded to minimize glare and stray light trespassing across lot lines and into the public right-of-way, and according to property usage shall conform to the following standards:

At Property Lines Including Rights-of-Way	Maximum Footcandles
At property line abutting a residential or an agricultural use	0.5
At property line abutting an office or institutional use	1.0
At property line abutting all other uses	1.5

Off-Street Parking Lots	Minimum Footcandles	Average Footcandles	Maximum Footcandles
Agricultural uses	None	None	4.0
Residential uses	0.5	2.0—3.0	4.0
Office-professional uses	1.0	3.0—4.0	6.0
Industrial uses	1.0	4.0—5.0	8.0
All other uses	2.0	6.0—7.0	12.0

- (3) Parking areas. All lighting fixtures servicing parking lots must be directed downward and not towards buildings or other areas.
- (4) The following luminaries and lighting systems are expressly exempt from the regulations of this division:
  - (a) Underwater lighting used for the illumination of swimming pools and fountains;
  - (b) Temporary holiday lighting;
  - (c) Lighting required and regulated by the Federal Aviation Administration, or other authorized federal, state or local government agency;
  - (d) Emergency lighting used by police, fire, or medical personnel, or at their direction;
  - (e) All outdoor light fixtures producing light directly from the combustion of fossil fuels, such as kerosene and gasoline; and
  - (f) Security lighting controlled and activated by a motion sensor device for a duration of ten minutes or less.

**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 \_\_\_\_\_ June 11, 2019

SECOND READING AND ADOPTED \_\_\_\_\_ June 25, 2019

SUBMITTED TO MAYOR AND APPROVED \_\_\_\_\_ June 25, 2019

BY: /s/ James C. Thornton, Mayor

ATTEST: /s/ Sue Olson, City Clerk

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In good news closing comments, Ms. Van Schoor recognized two summer interns that have assisted in the Marketing/Communications Department. Iyanla Mosely is a graduate from Callaway High School and a rising Junior at the University of Alabama and Olivia Smith is a graduate from LaGrange High School, a former Youth Council Member, and will be a Freshman at Auburn University this Fall. Their goal was to make a video that answered the question – What do I love about LaGrange? Ms. Van Schoor showed a video that each of them had put together, and stated that she was extremely proud of them both.

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

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Mayor

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City Clerk