

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

August 10, 2020

IN ORDER TO MAINTAIN SOCIAL DISTANCING, THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL HELD THEIR MEETING AT DEL AVANT, 141 MAIN STREET, LAGRANGE, GEORGIA.

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

Absent: Council Member Jim Arrington

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

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Thornton, the invocation was given by Rev. Ben Wills, First United Methodist Church, and Mayor Thornton 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 July 28, 2020.

Mayor Thornton presented a 30 year service award to Tim Yearta, Residential Sanitation Route Supervisor. Mayor Thornton expressed his appreciation to Mr. Yearta for his years of service to the community.

Leon Childs came before the Council to speak on behalf of the community, saying they appreciate Police Chief Lou Dekmar and they do not support defunding the police. Instead, he asks the Council to work together with the community, the police and the school system, and that money could be spent for youth initiatives and social services. Mayor Thornton, along with Council Members Mr. Edmondson and Mr. Gaskin, thanked Mr. Childs for working with the community, and for his great attitude and approach to the City Council. No action was taken.

Mr. Gaskin reported that he had attended an on-site assessment at a residence that had potentially qualified for the SOUL Program. He stated it was a very eye-opening experience and encouraged others to attend if possible.

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

Ms. Kelsey reported that Ricky Wolfe, Chairman of the DASH Board, had presented information to the Council in the Work Session meeting on August 10, 2020, requesting additional funding. On a motion by Mr. Edmondson seconded by Mr. McCamey, Council voted unanimously to increase funding to DASH by \$50,000, and that it would come from the money that had earlier been set aside from the CD fund.

Ms. Kelsey reported that LaGrange Housing Authority had presented information to the Council in the Work Session meeting on August 10, 2020, asking the City to be a co-applicant for Choice Grant Funding, and requesting the City to fund \$150,000 of the project, if they were approved for the grant. On a motion by Mr. Edmondson seconded by Mr. McCamey, Council voted to approve funding \$75,000 and asked that the LaGrange Housing Authority ask other sources for the remainder. Messrs. Edmondson, McCamey, Mitchell and Gore voted in favor of the funding, Mr. Gaskin voted in opposition and asked that the LaGrange Housing Authority furnish the Council with a current audit. Therefore, the vote passed 4-1.

On a motion by Mr. Mitchell seconded by Mr. Edmondson, Council voted unanimously to amend the Haralson Street Lease Agreement with the Callaway Foundation, allowing construction of a sidewalk to connect the Thread to the back of the newly established business located at 417 North Greenwood Street.

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 AND RE-ADOPT THE NOISE ORDINANCE IN ORDER TO PROHIBIT THE IGNITING OF CONSUMER FIREWORKS DURING CERTAIN HOURS; TO REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; TO FIX AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

On a motion by Mr. Edmondson 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 ANNEX TO THE CITY CONTIGUOUS REAL PROPERTY OWNED BY SYNOVUS TRUST COMPANY AS TRUSTEE OF THE TESTAMENTARY TRUST UNDER THE WILL OF FULLER E. CALLAWAY, JR. AND LOCATED ADJACENT TO CAMERON MILL ROAD; TO REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; TO FIX AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, Synovus Trust Company as Trustee of the Testamentary Trust Under the Will of Fuller E. Callaway, Jr. (hereafter "Owner") is the owner of land herein referred to which is contiguous to the existing corporate limits of the City of LaGrange, Georgia, as defined by the laws of the State of Georgia, such land being described in Exhibit "A" attached hereto;

WHEREAS, Owner has filed with the City of LaGrange written and signed application requesting that the land area described within Exhibit "A" be annexed to and made a part of the City of LaGrange, a copy of such request being attached hereto and made a part hereof as Exhibit "B";

WHEREAS, upon such request the Mayor and Council of the City of LaGrange have determined such applications meet the requirements of laws contained within O.C.G.A. § 36-36-20, et seq.;

WHEREAS, the City of LaGrange upon accepting said application timely notified the Board of Commissioners of Troup County, Georgia, of the proposed annexation and attached hereto as Exhibit "C" is evidence that said body interposes no land use classification objection to the annexation pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 36-36-11;

WHEREAS, the area proposed for annexation adjoins and is contiguous to the present corporate limits of the City of LaGrange as defined by the laws of this state;

WHEREAS, a complete survey of the area to be annexed has been prepared by a competent surveyor and has been filed with and reviewed by the Mayor and Council of the City of LaGrange,

Georgia with a copy of said plat of survey being attached to the ordinance as Exhibit “D” and by this reference made a part hereof;

NOW THEREFORE, the Mayor and Council of the City of LaGrange, Georgia, hereby ordain as follows:

SECTION 1:

That the applications of Synovus Trust Company as Trustee of the Testamentary Trust Under the Will of Fuller E. Callaway, Jr. for annexation of the areas contiguous to the City of LaGrange, as described in Exhibit “A” and as shown on the plat attached as Exhibit “D,” be and the same are hereby approved, and the contiguous area proposed for the annexation is hereby annexed to the City of LaGrange so that such land shall constitute a part of the land within the corporate limits of the City of LaGrange as fully and completely as if the limits had been marked and defined by a special act of the General Assembly of Georgia.

SECTION 2:

That a copy of this ordinance, together with a description of the area to be annexed thereto as Exhibit “A,” a copy of the written request for annexation attached thereto as Exhibit “B” and a copy of the plat of survey attached thereto as Exhibit “D,” all duly certified by the City Clerk of the City of LaGrange, be forwarded to and filed with the Georgia Department of Community Affairs and also forwarded to the Board of Commissioners of Troup County, Georgia.

SECTION 3:

That the area annexed as described in Exhibit “A” shall for the purposes of electing members of the City Council be within and designated as District 1.

SECTION 4:

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

SECTION 5:

This ordinance, after adoption and upon approval by the Mayor and Council, shall become effective according to the terms of O.C.G.A. § 36-36-2 on the 1st day of July, 2020.

INTRODUCED AND FIRST READING _____ July 14, 2020

SUBMITTED TO MAYOR AND ADOPTED _____ August 10, 2020

SUBMITTED TO MAYOR AND APPROVED _____ August 10, 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 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 CLASSIFY THE USE ZONE OF REAL ESTATE LOCATED ADJACENT TO CAMERON MILL ROAD AND OWNED BY SYNOVUS TRUST COMPANY AS TRUSTEE OF THE TESTAMENTARY TRUST CREATED UNDER THE WILL OF FULLER E. CALLAWAY, JR.; 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 classify as R-44 (residential district) the following described real estate which is to be annexed into the corporate limits of the City of LaGrange, to wit:

All that tract or parcel of land located adjacent to Cameron Mill Road and known as Troup County Tax Map Parcel: 070-1-000-041.

SECTION 2:

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

SECTION 3:

Pursuant to Official Code of Georgia Annotated Section 36-66-4(d)(4), this ordinance after adoption by the Council and upon approval by the Mayor, shall become effective upon the latter of the following dates: (1) the date the zoning is approved by the Mayor and Council; or (2) the date that the annexation of the above-referenced property becomes effective pursuant to Official Code of Georgia Annotated 36-36-2.

INTRODUCED AND FIRST READING _____ July 14, 2020

SUBMITTED TO MAYOR AND ADOPTED _____ August 10, 2020

SUBMITTED TO MAYOR AND APPROVED _____ August 10, 2020

BY: /s/ James C. Thornton, Mayor

ATTEST: /s/ Sue Olson, City Clerk

On a motion by Mr. McCamey seconded by Mr. Gore, Council voted unanimously to reappoint Bobby Carmichael, Greg Hall and Katie Van Schoor to two year terms on the Visit LaGrange Board.

In good news, closing comments Ms. Van Schoor reported that LGTV is starting a new segment called "I Am LaGrange", and will be featuring the people who make LaGrange special. The first segment focuses on LaGrange High School's Valedictorian Libby Criswell. She is a musician, journalist, our LaGrange Youth Council Vice-Chair, and is representative of the graduated seniors

of 2020. She is a part of what makes LaGrange special. There are so many wonderful people that make up our community. Other individuals that are planned to feature so far are April Ross (BeeTV), Earl Gordon Barnett, Chef Jeff and Lewis Powell.

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

Mayor

City Clerk