

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

November 23, 2021

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

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

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Thornton, the invocation was given by Rev. Michael Jackson, Confidence Missionary Baptist Church, and Mayor Thornton led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

On a motion by Mr. Edmondson seconded by Mr. Arrington, Council unanimously approved the minutes of the regular Council meeting held on November 9, 2021.

A public hearing was held to receive comments on a request to annex/zone property located at 1360 LaFayette Parkway. No comments were received and Council heard the first reading of the following ordinances:

AN ORDINANCE

AN ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAGRANGE TO ANNEX TO THE CITY CONTIGUOUS REAL PROPERTY OWNED BY MCONE DEVELOPMENT, LLC AND LOCATED ON LAFAYETTE PARKWAY; TO REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; TO FIX AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

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 TO BE ANNEXED INTO THE CITY LOCATED ON LAFAYETTE PARKWAY AND OWNED BY MCONE DEVELOPMENT, LLC; TO REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; TO FIX AN EFFECTIVE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Chief Janet Moon, GACP President and Chief of the Peachtree Police Department, presented Chief Dekmar and the LaGrange Police Department with its 8th State Recertification, the first certification coming in 1998. The State Certification process is a voluntary program that agencies may choose to participate in to improve their overall performance and strengthen relationships with other agencies. Mayor Thornton and the Council congratulated the LaGrange Police Department and expressed their appreciation for their continued hard work.

Mr. Kostial presented information to the Council regarding a request to annex property located on New Airport Road. On a motion by Mr. Edmondson seconded by Mr. Mitchell, Council voted unanimously to authorize staff to proceed with the annexation process.

On a motion by Mr. Mitchell seconded by Mr. Arrington, Council voted unanimously to deny a Notice of Claim for Damages filed on behalf of Calin Ristau, and referred it to the City's insurance company for handling.

Mr. Edmondson thanked the Council for their support of the "Hands Helping Hands" community parade and tree lighting that was held on November 19, 2021. He expressed appreciation to Mayor Thornton for noticing the need for more street lights in the District 2 area. He also thanked the LaGrange Police Department for their hard work and a great job during a recent stand-off in a local neighborhood.

Ms. Kelsey reminded the Council that at its work session earlier this date, Marianne Lovejoy, Executive Director of Troup County Strategic Planning, presented information regarding the organization and its original plan as a whole. On a motion by Mr. Edmondson seconded by Mr. McCamey, Council voted unanimously to approve a budget adjustment to fund \$14,000 towards the cost of engaging Boyette Strategic Advisors to develop an action plan to serve as the working document for the project team in the implementation of strategies. This amount will be matched by Troup County, Hogansville, West Point, and the Callaway Foundation.

On a motion by Mr. Edmondson seconded by Mr. McCamey, Council voted unanimously to authorize the Mayor and Clerk to execute the Georgia Public Web Asset Purchase Agreement and Consent to Assignment of Contracts.

On a motion by Mr. Gaskin seconded by Mr. Edmondson, Council voted unanimously to authorize the execution, delivery and performance of the Fourth Amendment to MEAG Telecommunications Project.

In good news, closing comments, Ms. Van Schoor expressed appreciation for the wonderful Hands Helping Hands Parade and Tree Lighting on Friday, November 19th. It was extremely successful and well attended. Also, she reminded everyone about our Deck the City Halls event this Monday, November 29th 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Employees and our City leaders are encouraged to come to City Hall and help decorate the tree by bringing your own ornament and put a wish on the wishing tree out front. We will have coffee and pastries in the morning from 8:00 a.m. -11:00 a.m., then in the afternoon we will have queso dip and chips, a hot chocolate bar, lots of treats and Crave Cookies. Also, we want to mention Sweetland on Ice is now open and we are excited to offer free holiday movies to our community for the next four Fridays. This Friday we will show “The Christmas Story”, December 3rd will be “How the Grinch Stole Christmas”, December 10th is “It’s a Wonderful Life” and December 17th “The Polar Express”. She then showed a video our wonderful LGTV crew created to promote Sweetland on Ice.

There was no other business and the meeting was adjourned at 6:05 p.m. by Mayor Thornton.

Mayor

City Clerk