

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

November 12, 2019

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

Absent: Council Members Jim Arrington and LeGree McCamey

Also Present: City Manager Meg Kelsey; City Clerk Sue Olson; City Attorney Jeff Todd; Communications Manager Katie Van Schoor; Senior Planner Leigh Threadgill; Community Development Director Alton West; Police Chief Lou Dekmar

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Thornton, the invocation was given by Rev. Ben Wills of First United Methodist Church and Mayor Thornton led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

On a motion by Mr. Edmondson seconded by Mr. Mitchell, Council unanimously approved the minutes of the regular Council meeting held on October 22, 2019.

Mayor Thornton introduced the latest addition to the LaGrange Police Department, Officer Donut. Officer Donut is a four month old Labrador Retriever who will be assisting the department as a Community Therapy Dog.

A public hearing was held to receive comments on a request to rezone 1702 Adamson Street from R-2 (Residential) to R-3 (Residential). The applicant, Jack Dallas, explained to the Council the need for the rezoning and the type of housing he is proposing. Two residents of the current home, Lou Kessner and Chester Gray, spoke in favor of the rezoning. Yvonne Lopez with Ark Refuge also spoke in favor of the rezoning. There were no other comments and 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 THE ZONING MAP AND ORDINANCES OF THE CITY SO AS TO RECLASSIFY THE USE ZONE OF REAL ESTATE LOCATED AT 1702 ADAMSON STREET AND OWNED BY JACK DALLAS, JR; TO REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; TO FIX AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Mayor Thornton recognized the 2019 class of LaGrange 101 and presented certificates to each of them for completing the six week course. The class was designed to give citizens an opportunity to learn about the LaGrange City government.

Mr. Edmondson updated the Council on the District 2 second annual tree lighting and parade that will be held on November 22, 2019. The parade will begin at Calumet Park at 6:00 p.m. and end at Frank Cox Union Street Park for the tree lighting ceremony. Several citizens will be honored during the ceremony, including City Manager Meg Kelsey.

Mr. Edmondson also reported that the sidewalks on Colquitt Street are coming along nicely and look great.

Mr. Gaskin and Mayor Thornton attended a dinner this week with officials from Sewon, where a check was presented to the City of LaGrange for \$40,000. Mr. Gaskin then presented the check to Ms. Kelsey.

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

Ms. Kelsey informed the Council that she had received a funding request from Troup County Adult Mental Health Court for \$40,000. The request is a 10% match required for Accountability Court Judges for FY19 and FY20. Chief Dekmar informed the Council of how successful the Mental Health Court has been. On a motion by Mr. Edmondson seconded by Mr. Gaskin, Council voted unanimously to amend the budget to fund the request for \$40,000 contingent upon Troup County's continuing participation.

Ms. Kelsey brought before the Council a request for a change in Personnel Policy 6.1, Sick Leave. Ms. Kelsey recommended changing the current policy to add an additional 80 hours of sick relative leave if the employee has over 600 hours in their sick bank, only if needed in extreme cases. Each case will be evaluated by the Department Head and City Manager. On a motion by Mr. Mitchell seconded by Mr. Edmondson, Council voted unanimously to approve the policy change.

On a motion by Mr. Edmondson seconded by Mr. Mitchell, Council voted unanimously to declare the following items as surplus:

VEHICLE #	MAKE/MODEL	VIN
2119	2006 Chevrolet Impala	2G1WS551569431928
2130	2005 Chevrolet Impala	2G1WF55K259382201
2131	2002 Ford Crown Victoria	2FAFP71W72X105453
2145	2003 Dodge Intrepid	2B3HD46VX3H500928
2149	2004 Dodge Intrepid	2B3HD46V44H702312
2163	2007 Ford Crown Victoria	2FAHP71W27X104601
2179	2007 Chevrolet Impala	2G1WS55R379288985
2198	1999 Ford Crown Victoria	2FAFP71W0XX238711
2317	2008 Ford Crown Victoria	2FAFP71V58X145062
2320	2009 Chevrolet Impala	2G1WS57M291172440
3535	2003 Chevrolet Silverado	2GCEC19V131183094
4268	1989 John Deere 655	M00655A360233

On a motion by Mr. Mitchell seconded by Mr. Gore, 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 CODE BY MODIFYING THE DEFINITION OF ADEQUATE SHELTER FOR DOMESTICATED ANIMALS; 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 10-30-1 of the code be amended by deleting therefrom the definition for the term of *adequate shelter* inserting in lieu a new defined term of *adequate shelter*, to read as follows:

“*Adequate shelter* means a protective covering for a domestic animal that provides adequate space and protection to maintain the animal in a state of good health, and that prevents pain, suffering, or significant risk to the animal’s health. *Adequate shelter* shall consist of a completely enclosed structure with four (4) sides, a constructed floor, and a roof with a door opening. It should also be clean, dry and compatible with current weather conditions, in addition to age, size, species and condition of the animal. The structure should be of sufficient size to allow the animal to stand, turn around lie down and go in and out of the structure comfortably. To be adequate, some type of bedding that is quick drying must be provided to maintain comfortable temperatures within the structure during the months of November through March. In addition, the structure shall include a heavy plastic or rubber flap to cover the door and window openings during the months of November through March. From April through November, the structure shall either be shaded or moved out of direct sunlight. If the shelter is made of wood, it shall be raised at least two (2) inches off the ground to prevent seepage or rotting. Examples of inadequate shelter include, but are not limited to, lean-tos, metal or plastic drums, boxes, abandoned vehicles, porches, decks, or material that does not provide sufficient protection from the elements.”

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 _____ October 22, 2019 _____

SECOND READING AND ADOPTED _____ November 12, 2019 _____

SUBMITTED TO MAYOR AND APPROVED _____ November 12, 2019 _____

BY: /s/ James C. Thornton, Mayor

ATTEST: /s/ Sue Olson, City Clerk

On a motion by Mr. Edmondson seconded by Mr. Mitchell, Council voted unanimously to appoint Trip Penn to fill the unexpired term of Speer Burdette on the DDA II Board.

Mr. Gaskin asked everyone to remember in prayer the victim of a shooting earlier today on Troup Street.

In good news closing comments, Ms. Van Schoor shared with the Council a video of the 2nd LaGrange 101 Class and congratulated each of them.

On a motion by Mr. Gore seconded by Mr. Mitchell, Council voted unanimously to adjourn to Executive Session to discuss property acquisition.

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

Mayor

City Clerk