

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

May 14, 2019

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

Also Present: City Manager Meg Kelsey; City Attorney Jeff Todd; Communications Manager Katie Van Schoor; Senior Planner Leigh Threadgill; Community Development Director Alton West

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Thornton, the invocation was given by Rev. Tom Farr of First Baptist Church on the Square 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 April 23, 2019.

A public hearing was held to receive comments on a request for a Special Use Permit for 102 W. Bacon Street. No comments were received. On a motion by Mr. Edmondson seconded by Mr. Gaskin, Council voted unanimously to approve the Special Use Permit. Mr. McCamey disclosed that he is related to the applicant but did not abstain from the vote.

A public hearing was held to receive comments on a request to rezone property located on Hills & Dales Farm Road from R-1 (Residential) to C-1 (Neighborhood Commercial). The applicant, Peter Stewart with Shoal Ventures, presented information to the Council regarding the planned project for this land. Murray Shine and Mitch Cummings, residents of Buckeye Creek Subdivision located near this property, appeared before Council expressing concerns for increased traffic and more construction on this road, as well as concerns for the C-1 zoning for future use. Debbie Jones, an employee of Vernon Woods Retirement Community, spoke to the Council with concerns regarding the posting of the signs for the public hearing, stating she believes they were not properly posted due to them being placed in an area that is not visible to traffic, and that it wasn't properly advertised. No other comments were received 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 WITH CERTAIN CONDITIONS THE USE ZONE OF REAL ESTATE LOCATED ADJACENT TO HILLS AND DALES FARM ROAD AND OWNED BY SYNOVUS TRUST COMPANY, N.A. AS SUCCESSOR TRUSTEE FOR ALICE HAND CALLAWAY, ET AL., AND SYNOVUS TRUST COMPANY, N.A. IN ITS CAPACITY AS SUCCESSOR TRUSTEE OF THE TRUST CREATED UNDER THE WILL OF FULLER E. CALLAWAY, JR. FOR THE BENEFIT OF CHARLES D. HUDSON, JR., ET AL.; TO REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; TO FIX AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

A public hearing was held to receive comments on a request to amend the conditions of a prior rezoning for property located at Pegasus Parkway and Orchard Hill Road. The applicant, Ron Orr, came before the Council to explain the reason for the amendments. No other comments were received 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 WITH CERTAIN CONDITIONS THE USE ZONE OF REAL ESTATE LOCATED ON PEGASUS PARKWAY AT ORCHARD HILL ROAD AND OWNED BY SOUTHPOINT REALTY GROUP, LLC; TO REPEAL CONFLILCTING ORDINANCES; TO FIX AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Ernest Pickett with the LaGrange Housing Authority appeared before the Council to ask for the Council's support for the new Phoenix Landing project, as they work to upgrade the Whitesville Road corridor into LaGrange. The Housing Authority is asking the City to waive fees relating to building permits, and sewer and tap fees to assist with this project. Council agreed that more information is needed on this subject and no action was taken.

Kevin Hollis with Edward Jennings Development, LLC, who is the developer for the new Sunbelt Rentals on Whitesville Road, came before the Council to express what a pleasurable experience they have had while working with City staff on this project, and wanted to thank the Council for this most refreshing experience and contributing to the positive experience and success of their project.

Ms. Threadgill presented to the Council a Board of Planning and Zoning Appeals recommendation on a request to rezone 710 Greenville Street from G-I (General Industrial) to C-1 (Neighborhood Commercial). On a motion by Mr. Edmondson seconded by Mr. McCamey, Council voted unanimously to call for a public hearing to be held on June 11, 2019 at 5:30 p.m.

Ms. Threadgill presented to the Council a Board of Planning and Zoning Appeals recommendation to modify the C-3 and G-I zoning districts to include microdistillery as a permitted use. On a motion by Mr. McCamey seconded by Mr. Arrington, Council voted unanimously to call for a public hearing to be held on June 11, 2019 at 5:30 p.m.

Mr. Gore stated that he would like to address the comments made earlier in the meeting by Debbie Jones, regarding the proper posting of signs for the public hearing to rezone property on Hills & Dales Farm Road. He wanted to clarify that we have always posted signs correctly and as required. He suggested there may be more we can consider doing to make sure all areas of advertising are covered. Mayor Thornton asked the staff to consider more options of advertising.

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

On a motion by Mr. McCamey seconded by Mr. Arrington, Council voted unanimously to authorize the Mayor and Clerk to execute the following Resolution to abandon a portion of Bull Street:

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 32-7-2, the governing authority may, under certain circumstances, abandon all or any part of municipal street right of way;

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council have determined that it is in the best interest of the City to abandon a portion of Bull Street in conjunction with construction of the transportation project which has resulted in the realignment of Bull Street;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the City of LaGrange, Georgia, and it is so ordained by the authority thereof, that the governing authority hereby abandons a portion of the right-of-way of Bull Street more particularly shown as TRACT NO. 1A and TRACT NO. 1C upon the attached plat, in doing so finding that such action is in the best public interest of the City of LaGrange. This resolution, upon execution by the Mayor and Clerk, shall be spread upon the minutes, accompanied by the drawing of the area abandoned.

Moreover, under authority of O.C.G.A. § 32-7-4(a)(2)(B), the governing authority further authorizes the exchange of said abandoned Bull Street right-of-way for the right-of-way shown as TRACT NO. 1B, TRACT NO. 1D, TRACT NO. 1E and TRACT NO. 1F on the attached drawing, said right-of-way constituting the newly aligned Bull Street. The Mayor, City Manager and Clerk are hereby authorized to execute such documents as may be reasonably necessary to carry out the intent of this Resolution.

SO ORDAINED this _____ day of May, 2019.

CITY OF LAGRANGE, GEORGIA (SEAL)

BY: _____
Mayor

ATTEST: _____
City Clerk

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

On a motion by Mr. Mitchell seconded by Mr. McCamey Council voted unanimously to accept property owned by the Callaway Foundation (Skatepark). A copy of the agreement is on file in the City Manager's office.

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

CITY OF LAGRANGE - OUT OF SERVICE

VEHICLE #	NOTES	MAKE/MODEL	VIN
2159	*	2010 CHEVY IMPALA	2G1WD5EMXB114179
2319	*	2009 CHEVY IMPALA	2G1WS57M191175197
4311	*	2008 CHEVY SILVERADO	1GCEK19078Z141146
2196	2196P18	2008 CHEVY IMPALA	2G1WS55R379286380
3131	*	2006 FORD F250	1FTSX21526ED31832
4186	*	2005 FORD F250	1FTNF20Y95EA50475
3119	*	2003 FORD F650	3FDNF65403MB02589
3187	*	2005 FORD F750	3FRXF75G45V150903
4503	*	2008 FORD RANGER	1FTYR10D38PB12733

2158	*	2006 CHEVY IMPALA	2G1WS551169429688
2136	*	2002 FORD CROWN VICTORIA	2FAFP71W72X105064
2141	*	2010 CHEVY IMPALA	2G1WD5EM3A1126858
2154	*	2010 CHEVY IMPALA	2G1WD5EM01127918
2165	*	2007 CHEVY IMPALA	2G1WS55R879289470
3701	3701S18	2002 DODGE RAM	1D7HA16N82J174927
3713	*	2002 NEW HOLLAND	31034843

* : NO OUT OF SERVICE
R.O.

In other business, Dr. Jimmy McCamey thanked the City Council and praised the staff for their assistance and walking him through the process in obtaining a Special Use Permit for a Group Home.

Council Member McCamey, on behalf of the DLDA, commended City staff for always assisting them and also for their efforts for the city clean-up day.

In good news closing comments, Ms. Van Schoor shared with the Council a video for our Leaving LaGrange Better Than We Found It city-wide litter pickup on April 26th. She stated that we had a terrific showing, many community members joined us and several industries/businesses held their own cleanups including Caterpillar, Calumet Bank, Duracell, Bowman Hollis, Jindal Films, Houze & Associates, Hobby Lobby, McKeen Realty, LaGrange Academy, Pure Life Studios, and Motel 6. Some have even pledged to continue to have cleanups throughout the year. Our next monthly cleanup will be Saturday, June 15th from 8:00 – 10:00 a.m. on the second segment of The Thread at Eastside Park. This will be one of The Thread Popup events, and we are excited to have the LaGrange Housing Authority partner with us on this litter pickup. We will also have a scavenger hunt with prizes and hope to partner with groups throughout the year. Anyone is welcome to join us and can do so by contacting Ms. Van Schoor. We appreciate everyone's participation on April 26th! It was a lot of fun.

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

Mayor

City Clerk