

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

March 10, 2020

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

Absent: Mayor Jim Thornton

Also Present: City Manager Meg Kelsey; City Clerk Sue Olson; Assistant City Manager Bill Bulloch; City Attorney Jeff Todd; Director of Community Development Alton West

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

On a motion by Mr. Edmondson seconded by Mr. McCamey, Council unanimously approved the minutes of the regular Council meeting held on February 25, 2020.

Connie Hensler, Executive Director of the Central Midwest Georgia American Red Cross, came before the Council to present a “Lifesaving” Award to Kendall Anderson. Ms. Anderson used her CPR skills to help revive someone experiencing a life threatening health emergency and stayed with them until medical professionals arrived. Mayor Pro-Tem Gaskin thanked Ms. Hensler for sharing this success story with the Council.

Shane Bates, 1st Vice President of the LaGrange Shriners, came before the Council to request permission for the Shriners to collect money on the corners of LaFayette Square and on less traveled city streets. Mr. Bates explained that the Shriners had a \$10,000 shortfall last year after the City changed the ordinance regulating collection of funds in streets/roadways. No action was taken.

Mr. West presented information to the Council a Board of Planning and Zoning Appeals recommendation to rezone 105 Cooley Road from C-1 (Neighborhood Commercial) to R-2 (Residential). On a motion by Mr. McCamey seconded by Mr. Mitchell, Council voted unanimously to call for a public hearing on April 14, 2020.

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

Ms. Kelsey reminded the Council that the Board of Planning and Zoning Appeals had recommended rezoning 610 Greenville Street from G-I (General Industrial) to C-3 (General Commercial) and Council had called for a public hearing that was to be held on March 10, 2020. However, the public hearing was not properly advertised, therefore, it could not be held at this time. On a motion by Mr. Edmondson seconded by Mr. McCamey, Council voted unanimously to call for a public hearing to be held on April 14, 2020.

On a motion by Mr. McCamey seconded by Mr. Gore, Council voted unanimously to adopt 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 ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES CODE OF THE CITY IN ORDER TO MODIFY THE RESTAURANT REQUIREMENT FOR CLASS B SPIRITOUS LIQUORS LICENSE UNDER CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES; 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 Alcoholic Beverages Code of the city be amended by deleting therefrom subsection (b) of Section 30-20-129, inserting in lieu thereof a new Section 30-20-129(b) to read as follows:

“(b) The holder of a Class B license shall operate such business only in connection with a restaurant or a private club unless otherwise provided for herein, and may sell beer (if licensed) and wine (if licensed) for consumption only on the premises and such other items which may normally be associated with the operation of a restaurant or a private club.”

SECTION 2:

That the Alcoholic Beverages Code of the city be amended by deleting subsection (d) from Section 30-20-116, inserting in lieu thereof a new Section 30-20-116(d) to read as follows:

“(d) *Pouring outlet.* Except for outdoor entertainment facilities with seating capacity of over seven hundred (700), owned or operated by the Downtown Development Authority of the City of LaGrange, no license to engage in the sale of alcoholic beverages by the drink for consumption on the premises shall be granted unless the restaurant for which the application is made is in an area properly zoned for such purpose, or is a permitted or conditional use in the zoning ordinances of the city.”

SECTION 3:

That the alcoholic beverages code of the City be amended by deleting subsection (b) of Section 30-20-117, inserting in lieu thereof a new Section 30-20-117(a) to read as follows:

“(b) No license for the retail sale of spirituous liquors under a Class B (pouring outlet) license shall be granted to any applicant who is not a citizen of the United States, or an alien lawfully admitted to be a permanent resident of the United States, and who is not a resident of the State of Georgia. Except for outdoor entertainment facilities with seating capacity of seven hundred (700), owned or operated by the Downtown Development Authority of the City of LaGrange, no license for the retail sale of spirituous liquors under a Class B (pouring outlet) license shall be granted except to the owner and operator of a restaurant or private club as defined herein.”

SECTION 4:

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

SECTION 5:

This Ordinance after adoption by the Council and upon approval by the Mayor shall become effective immediately.

INTRODUCED AND FIRST READING _____ February 25, 2020

SECOND READING AND ADOPTED _____ March 10, 2020

SUBMITTED TO MAYOR AND APPROVED _____ March 10, 2020

BY: /s/ James C. Thornton, Mayor _____

ATTEST: /s/ Sue Olson, City Clerk _____

Norma Tucker came before the Council to thank them and City staff for the work that was recently done in the Bell Line Community and at Jones Street Park, as part of the Leaving LaGrange Better Than We Found It Program. Several community members were also present and thanked the Council for their support.

In good news closing comments, Ms. Kelsey shared a video from the Leaving LaGrange Better Than We Found It litter clean up on Saturday, March 7, 2020 at Jones Street Park. The Bell Line Community as well as LaGrange College were partners for this event. The group picked up litter around the neighborhood as well as spread mulch around the playground and pine straw around bushes and trees in Jones Street Park. WellStar West Georgia Medical Center also provided wellness checks.

There was no other business and the meeting was adjourned by Mayor Pro-Tem Gaskin.

Mayor

City Clerk