

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

June 25, 2019

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

Also Present: City Manager Meg Kelsey; City Clerk Sue Olson; City Attorney Jeff Todd; Communications Manager Katie Van Schoor; Community Development Director Alton West

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Thornton, the invocation was given by Rev. Cody Turner, 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. McCamey, Council unanimously approved the minutes of the regular Council meeting held on June 11, 2019.

Tamala Hardnett, Executive Director of Heart2Heart Family Enrichment Center, came before the Council to present their community program for single women, mothers, and children in the foster care system and that may be without shelter. No action was taken.

Mayor Thornton recognized Council Member Gaskin for receiving a Certificate of Recognition at the GMA Annual Convention in Savannah this past weekend. The certificate is received for completing more than 42 hours of training from the UGA/GMA program.

Mr. Edmondson informed the Council that Governor Kemp had reappointed him to another term on the State Board of Funeral Directors.

On a motion by Mr. Gore seconded by Mr. Edmondson Council voted unanimously to adopt the following Resolutions:

RESOLUTION

CITY OF LAGRANGE

ADOPTION OF POLICIES AND PROCEDURES AND PROGRAM DESIGN
FOR COMMUNITY HOME INVESTMENT PROGRAM (CHIP) GRANT

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council Members and it is hereby resolved by authority of same.

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council Members have found it necessary to adopt policies and procedures and program design standards for the Community HOME Investment Program (CHIP) Grant Number 2019-114 and;

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council Members have adopted the Policies and Procedures for the homeowner rehabilitation design by DCA in accordance with the requirements of the SFY2019;

CHIP Program Administrative Manual, HUD and other required federal and state regulations. Whereas, the Manual should be used in conjunction with that already accepted Program Design based on the City's approved 2017 application.

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council Members that they have adopted the written Rehabilitation Standards designed by DCA in accordance with the requirements of the SFY2019 CHIP Program Description. Manuals, Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and other required federal and state regulations. The Standards will be used in conjunction with the City's already accepted design based on the City's Approved application;

Adopted the _____ day of _____, 2019

Signature of Executive Officer

Printed Name of Executive Officer

Attest

RESOLUTION

CITY OF LAGRANGE

ADOPTION OF CHIP GRANT HOMEOWNERS ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR
COMMUNITY HOME INVESTMENT PROGRAM (CHIP) GRANT

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council Members and it is hereby resolved by authority of same.

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council Members have found it necessary to adopt homeowners eligibility requirements for the Community HOME Investment Program (CHIP) Grant Number 2019-114 and,

WHEREAS, The Mayor and Council Members have established eligibility requirements as follows:

- Must be a single unity owner-occupied, stick built or modular housing unit (if allowed in the contract).
- Must be properly owned as per 24 CFR 92.254.
- Gross household income must be less than 80% of the average median income for the county as established by HUD.
- Must be a homeowner in the target area (See attached map)
- Must have and maintain fire insurance.
- Must have property taxes paid up to date.
- After rehabilitation property value limit not to exceed 95% of the median property values for the area as per 24 CFR 92.254.

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council Members will provide assistance through the CHIP grant according to the property value limits for homeownership activities as outline in the HOME Final Rule published on July 24, 2013.

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED AND ADOPTED, by the Mayor and Council Members the eligibility requirements that will be used to administer the CHIP program set forth by the Georgia Department of Community Affairs for financial assistance pursuant to this housing rehabilitation grant project.

Adopted the _____ day of _____, 2019

Signature of Executive Officer
Printed Name of Executive Officer

Attest

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 RETIREMENT PLAN FOR THE EMPLOYEES OF THE CITY OF LAGRANGE IN ACCORDANCE WITH AND SUBJECT TO THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS SET FORTH IN THE ATTACHED ADOPTION AGREEMENT, THE GENERAL MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES BENEFIT SYSTEM (GMEBS) MASTER PLAN DOCUMENT AND ANY AMENDMENTS THERETO; TO MODIFY THE NORMAL RETIREMENT BENEFITS FOR ELECTED OFFICIALS; TO REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; TO FIX AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

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 RECLASSIFY THE USE ZONE OF REAL ESTATE LOCATED AT 710 GREENVILLE STREET AND OWNED BY DIXIE MILL DEVELOPMENT LLC; 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 reclassify from use zone G-I (general industrial) to C-1 (neighborhood commercial district) the following described real estate, to wit:

All that tract or parcel of land lying and being in Land Lot 107 of the 6th Land District of Troup County, Georgia, known as 710 Greenville Street and designated as Troup County Tax Map Parcel 050-3A-016-006.

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 _____ June 11, 2019

SECOND READING AND ADOPTED _____ June 25, 2019

BY: /s/ James C. Thornton, Mayor

ATTEST: /s/ Sue Olson, City Clerk

On a motion by Mr. McCamey seconded by Mr. Arrington 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 ORDINANCE OF THE CITY SO AS TO MODIFY THE C-3 AND G-I ZONING DISTRICTS TO INCLUDE MICRODISTILLERY AS A PERMITTED USE; TO PROVIDE FOR THE LICENSING OF A MICRODISTILLERY WITHIN SAID PERMITTED DISTRICTS; 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 25-35-2 of the Zoning Ordinance of the City be modified by inserting therein, in proper alphabetical order, a new term and definition for Microdistillery, as follows:

“Microdistillery: A facility in which distilled spirits are manufactured producing fewer than fifteen thousand (15,000) barrels per year.”

SECTION 2:

That Section 25-35-65 of the Code be amended by inserting within subsection (1), in proper alphabetical order, the use of “Microdistilleries.” The lettered subsections within Section 25-35-65(1) shall be redesignated to accommodate for the insertion of the new permitted use for microdistilleries.

SECTION 3:

That subsection (1) of Section 25-35-66 of the Code be amended by inserting therein a new subsection p., to read as follows:

“p. Microdistilleries.”

SECTION 4:

All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with the provisions of this ordinance shall be and the same 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 _____ June 11, 2019

SECOND READING AND ADOPTED _____ June 25, 2019

SUBMITTED TO MAYOR AND APPROVED _____ June 25, 2019

BY: /s/ James C. Thornton, Mayor

ATTEST: /s/ Sue Olson, City Clerk

On a motion by Mr. McCamey seconded by Mr. Gaskin 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 ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES CODE OF THE CITY IN ORDER TO DEFINE, LICENSE AND REGULATE MICRODISTILLERIES; 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 creating therein a new Article IX, to be entitled “Microdistilleries” and to read as follows:

“ARTICLE IX – MICRODISTILLERIES

Sec. 30-20-300. Microdistillery License Authorized.

No individual shall be permitted to operate a microdistillery without first obtaining a proper microdistillery license from the City in the manner provided in this chapter, and each holder of a microdistiller license shall comply with the provisions of this chapter and all applicable state statutes, including rules and regulations promulgated by the Department of Revenue.

Sec. 30-20-301. License Fee.

The license fee for a microbrewery shall be \$50.00.

Sec. 30-20-302. License Requirements.

Applications for a microdistillery license shall include such information, and shall follow the requirements of, the application for all alcoholic beverages licenses as are contained within Article I of the Alcoholic Beverages Code. Microdistilleries shall be subject to the same regulation and requirements as for a Class B spiritous liquor license, including but not limited to hours of operation and distance requirements, as established in Article III of Chapter 30-5. Microdistilleries may offer such other sales as may be allowed by the laws of the State of Georgia.”

SECTION 2:

That subsection (a) of Section 30-20-116 of the Code be amended by deleting said subsection, in its entirety, inserting in lieu thereof a new Section 20-20-116(a) to read as follows:

“(a) *Manufacturer’s license.*

No manufacturer’s license shall be issued to a manufacturer engaged in distilling or blending alcoholic beverages except where such business is to be located in an area of the city which is properly zoned.”

SECTION 3:

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

SECTION 4:

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

INTRODUCED AND FIRST READING _____ June 11, 2019 _____

SECOND READING AND ADOPTED _____ June 25, 2019 _____

SUBMITTED TO MAYOR AND APPROVED _____ June 25, 2019 _____

BY: /s/ James C. Thornton, Mayor

ATTEST: /s/ Sue Olson, City Clerk

On a motion by Mr. Mitchell seconded by Mr. Edmondson Council voted unanimously to approve the following ordinance:

AN ORDINANCE

TO PROVIDE FOR THE ADOPTION OF A BUDGET CONTAINING ESTIMATES OF PROPOSED REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES FOR THE CITY OF LAGRANGE FOR THE 12-MONTH PERIOD BEGINNING JULY 1, 2019 AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2020; TO PROVIDE FOR SEPARABILITY; TO FIX AN EFFECTIVE DATE; TO REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAGRANGE HEREBY ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1:

For the expenses of the City Government and its activities for the 12-month period beginning July 1, 2019 and ending June 30, 2020, the amounts contained in the General Fund, Utilities Fund, General Capital Improvements Fund, Electric Fund, Water and Sewer Fund, Telecommunications Fund, Gas Fund, Sanitation Fund and Community Development Fund as shown in the Budget for the City of LaGrange, dated July 1, 2019 are hereby adopted and appropriated for the departments and activities of the City shown therein.

SECTION 2:

A copy of the Budget, dated July 1, 2019, is on file in the office of the City Manager of the City of LaGrange and is by this reference incorporated in and made a part of this Ordinance.

SECTION 3:

If any part of this Ordinance shall be declared unconstitutional or invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remainder of this Ordinance. The Mayor and Council of LaGrange hereby declare that it would have passed the remaining portion of this Ordinance had it known such part or parts would be adjudged invalid or unconstitutional.

SECTION 4:

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

SECTION 5:

This Ordinance after its adoption and upon approval by the Mayor shall become effective on July 1, 2019.

INTRODUCED AND FIRST READING _____ June 11, 2019

SECOND READING AND ADOPTED _____ June 25, 2019

SUBMITTED TO MAYOR AND APPROVED _____ June 25, 2019

BY: /s/ James C. Thornton, Mayor

ATTEST: /s/ Sue Olson, City Clerk

On a motion by Mr. McCamey seconded by Mr. Edmondson Council voted unanimously to approve the following ordinance:

AN ORDINANCE

TO LEVY AN AD VALOREM TAX FOR THE CITY OF LAGRANGE FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2019; TO PROVIDE FOR SEPARABILITY; TO REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; TO FIX AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAGRANGE ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1:

The millage rate necessary to produce revenue from taxation of tangible real and personal property in the City of LaGrange which, when combined with other revenues reasonably expected to be received by the City during the year, other than revenues derived from the tax imposed pursuant to this Section and which would provide revenues sufficient to defray the expenses of the City for the year is computed as follows:

- (a) For the purpose of raising revenue to pay the cost of the general government, ordinary expenses and for other purposes authorized by the Constitution and laws of the State of Georgia _____ 5.35 Mills

The millage rate of 5.35 as thus ascertained is then reduced by 5.35 mills, the millage rate which, if levied against the tangible property within the City of LaGrange, would produce an amount equal to the distribution of the proceeds of the tax imposed by the join County and Municipal Sales and Use Tax for the twelve-month period. Applying the reduction of the millage rate to the millage rate necessary to produce the total revenue results in the millage rate for the calendar year 2019 of -0-.

SECTION 2:

If any part of this ordinance shall be declared unconstitutional or invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remainder of this ordinance. The Mayor and Council of the City of LaGrange hereby declares that it would have passed the remaining portion of this ordinance had it known such part or parts would be adjudged invalid, or unconstitutional.

SECTION 3:

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

SECTION 4:

This ordinance after its adoption and upon approval by the Mayor of LaGrange shall become effective on July 1, 2019.

INTRODUCED AND FIRST READING _____ June 11, 2019

SECOND READING AND ADOPTED _____ June 25, 2019

SUBMITTED TO MAYOR AND APPROVED _____ June 25, 2019

BY: /s/ James C. Thornton, Mayor

ATTEST: /s/ Sue Olson, City Clerk

On a motion by Mr. Edmondson seconded by Mr. McCamey Council voted to approve the following ordinance with Mr. Mitchell and Mr. Gore voting in opposition, the vote passed 4-2.

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 SO AS TO MODIFY COMPENSATION OF ELECTED OFFICIALS; 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 5-5-10 of the Code of the City of LaGrange, entitled ACompensation,@ be amended by deleting said section, in its entirety, inserting a new section 5-5-10, to read as follows:

A~~Sec. 5-5-10.-Compensation.~~

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 2.13 of the Charter of the City, the monthly compensation of the Mayor and each member of the Council of the City of LaGrange shall be as follows:

Mayor \$1,000.00

Council Member \$ 800.00

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 upon the taking of office of those council members elected at the next regular municipal election pursuant to O.C.G.A. 36-35-4.

INTRODUCED AND FIRST READING _____ June 11, 2019

SECOND READING AND ADOPTED _____ June 25, 2019

SUBMITTED TO MAYOR AND APPROVED _____ June 25, 2019

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

ATTEST: /s/ Sue Olson, City Clerk _____

Mr. Edmondson stated he would like to thank the City utility crews for the work they did to restore power during a storm this past weekend. He also stated he was glad to see sidewalk work on Colquitt Street.

In good news closing comments, Ms. Van Schoor gave an update on our Leaving LaGrange Better Than We Found It litter pickup campaign. We had one of the best turnouts on June 15th along the second segment of The Thread around Eastside Park, with roughly 50 people cleaning up the area. A big thank you to the LaGrange Housing Authority and all of the city staff and volunteers for joining us. Ms. Van Schoor showed a video from that day.

Our next LLBTWFI is July 20th at Hollis Hand Elementary, 8:00-10:00 a.m. There are printed schedules on the table in the back of this room.

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

Mayor

City Clerk