

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

September 28, 2021

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

Absent: Council Member LeGree McCamey

Also Present: City Manager Meg Kelsey; City Clerk Sue Olson; Assistant City Manager Bill Bulloch; City Attorney Jeff Todd; Communications Manager Katie Van Schoor; Media Coordinator Adam Speas; Police Chief Lou Dekmar

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Thornton, the invocation was given by Rev. James Goodlet, First Presbyterian Church, and Mayor Thornton led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

On a motion by Mr. Edmondson seconded by Mr. Gore, Council unanimously approved the minutes of the regular Council meeting held on September 14, 2021.

Anthony Purcell, Chief of Police at UAB and Chairperson/President of the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA) presented Chief Dekmar and the LaGrange Police Department with an Advanced Career Accreditation with Excellence Award. Chief Purcell stated that the LaGrange Police Department was chosen for this honor because they have had no standard issues within its department in several years and continue to maintain efforts to deescalate situations without incident. Chief Dekmar credited his officers for the department's high standards. Mayor Thornton and the Council congratulated Chief Dekmar, Lt. Sanders, and the LaGrange Police Department for their outstanding work.

Mr. Speas introduced the 2021-2022 LaGrange Youth Council made up of 24 high school juniors and seniors. City Attorney Jeff Todd swore them in as a group and Mayor Thornton and Ms. Kelsey presented each of them with a LaGrange Youth Council pin.

On a motion by Mr. Mitchell seconded by Mr. Gaskin, Council voted unanimously to authorize the submittal of the Georgia Outdoor Stewardship Program Grant Application. The application is for a \$3 million grant to help create the new park at Ridley Lake. A copy of the application is on file in the City Manager's office.

On a motion by Mr. Edmondson seconded by Mr. Gore, Council voted unanimously to reappoint Ellen Harris to a three year term on the LaGrange/Troup County Hospital Authority.

In good news, closing comments, Ms. Van Schoor reported that we are extremely excited to start another successful year of our LaGrange Youth Council and are looking forward to see what they can accomplish this year. Also, our Leaving LaGrange Better Than We Found It kicks off this weekend Saturday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 8:00 – 10:00 a.m. in Jones Street Park. Our community partners are LaGrange College and the Bell Line Community. As always this event is open to the public.

There was no other business and the meeting was adjourned at 5:55 p.m. by Mayor Thornton.

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Mayor

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City Clerk