

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

November 10, 2020

IN ORDER TO MAINTAIN SOCIAL DISTANCING REQUIREMENTS, THE COUNCIL MEETING WAS HELD AT DEL AVANT, 141 MAIN STREET, LAGRANGE, GA.

Present: Mayor Pro-Tem Nathan Gaskin; Council Members Mark Mitchell, Tom Gore, Jim Arrington, Willie Edmondson, 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; Community Development Director Alton West; Strategic Initiatives Manager Mark Kostial; Police Chief Lou Dekmar

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Pro-Tem Gaskin, the invocation was given by Rev. Jimmy McMillian of Baptist Tabernacle, and Mayor Pro-Tem Gaskin led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

On a motion by Mr. McCamey seconded by Mr. Arrington, Council unanimously approved the minutes of the regular Council meeting held on October 27, 2020.

Chief Dekmar, on behalf of Wrap Technologies, recognized Corporal Robbie Hall for his actions on a domestic violence/mental health incident in September where he successfully deployed a “BolaWrap”. BolaWrap is a hand-held remote restraint device that discharges an 8-foot bola style tether to wrap a subject’s legs or arms effectively from 10-25 feet. Corporal Hall was able to take the subject into custody without inflicting pain or injuries. He was presented with a recognition Crystal for his quick thinking and actions.

Chief Dekmar and Mayor Pro-Tem Gaskin recognized the 2020 graduating class of the Citizen’s Police Academy, and presented eight participants certificates for completing the ten week course. Class participants learned about day-to-day operations, visited the pistol simulator at West Georgia Tech and participated in use-of-force scenarios.

Mr. West presented information to the Council regarding a request from Wesley Smith to annex 71 Busch Drive. On a motion by Mr. Gore seconded by Mr. McCamey, Council voted unanimously to instruct staff to proceed with the annexation.

Mr. West presented to the Council information on a recommendation from the Board of Planning and Zoning Appeals to rezone 100-104 Jordans Way and 107-127 Aaron Drive from R5 A1200 (Residential) to R-2 (Residential). On a motion by Mr. Mitchell seconded by Mr. Gore, Council voted unanimously to call for a public hearing to be held on December 8, 2020 at 5:30 p.m.

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

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 DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICES CHAPTER TO REMOVE THE POSITION OF DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICES; TO MODIFY SAID CHAPTER TO ACCOUNT FOR SAID REMOVAL; TO REMOVE FROM SAID DEPARTMENT THE MAINTENANCE AND OPERATION OF SANITARY SEWER SYSTEMS; TO PROVIDE RESPONSIBILITY FOR SAME TO BE WITH THE DORECTOR

OF UTILITIES; TO REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES;
TO FIX AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Buddy Johnston came before the Council to introduce himself as the new owner of Nissan of LaGrange. Mayor Pro-Tem Gaskin welcomed him and invited him to attend to future Council meetings.

In good news, closing comments, Ms. Kelsey reported that our Leaving LaGrange Better Than We Found It litter campaign had its biggest turnout this past weekend. We partnered with LaGrange Academy and LaGrange College and we had more than 100 people help us clean the area of Vernon Road and Vernon Street. Mayor Pro-Tem Gaskin and Councilman Mitchell participated in the cleanup. Our LaGrange Youth Council Chair Zoie Mitchell helped to coordinate this event. Also, we want to invite the Council to our Deck the City Halls event Monday, November 30, 2020, from 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. This event is for all employees to help decorate City Hall and enjoy treats throughout the day. We will once again have our wishing trees in front of City Hall for the public to write down their wishes for 2021 and attach them to the trees.

There was no other business and the meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m. by Mayor Pro-Tem Gaskin.

Mayor

City Clerk