

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

June 21, 2022

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

Also Present: City Manager Meg Kelsey; City Clerk Sue Olson; Assistant City Manager Bill Bulloch; City Attorney Jeff Todd; Communications Manager Katie Van Schoor; City Planner Mark Kostial

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Thornton, the invocation was given by Rev. Meckina Kendricks, Smyrna Baptist Church, and Mayor Thornton led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

On a motion by Mr. Gaskin seconded by Mr. Arrington, Council unanimously approved the minutes of the regular Council meeting held on June 14, 2022.

Adam Speas introduced Intern Anna Claire Miller, rising sophomore at High Point University in North Carolina. Ms. Miller stated that, over the past few weeks, she has spent time with several departments, including the City Clerk, City Attorney, Marketing and Communications, and the LaGrange Police Department. Overall, Ms. Miller said she had a wonderful experience and is thankful for the opportunity. Mayor Thornton thanked Ms. Miller for her report and dedication to the city.

Mr. Gaskin reported that he is happy to see a lot of construction within the city.

Ms. Kelsey reported that the Bull Street streetscape project is nearing completion and we are all excited about that. She also reported that we are looking forward to our own Mayor Thornton leading the Georgia Municipal Association sessions at the upcoming convention.

On a motion by Mr. Edmondson 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 MAP AND ORDINANCES OF THE CITY SO AS TO RECLASSIFY THE USE ZONE OF REAL ESTATE LOCATED ON DANIEL STREET AND OWNED BY HABITAT FOR HUMANITY, TROUP COUNTY, INC.; 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 CR-MX (corridor mixed use district) to TN-R (traditional neighborhood low-density residential district) the following described real estate, to wit:

All that tract or parcel of land located on Daniel Street and known as Tax Map Parcel Number 050-3A-020-012.

**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 14, 2022 \_\_\_\_\_

SECOND READING AND ADOPTED \_\_\_\_\_ June 21, 2022 \_\_\_\_\_

SUBMITTED TO MAYOR AND APPROVED \_\_\_\_\_ June 21, 2022 \_\_\_\_\_

BY: /s/ James C. Thornton, Mayor \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST: /s/ Sue Olson, City Clerk \_\_\_\_\_

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On a motion by Mr. Edmondson 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 ZONING MAP AND ORDINANCES OF THE CITY SO AS TO RECLASSIFY THE USE ZONE OF REAL ESTATE LOCATED ON COTTON ROAD AND OWNED BY CHARLES RANDALL COTTON; 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 CP-GI (campus general industrial and agribusiness district) to CR-MX (corridor mixed use district) the following described real estate, to wit:

All that tract or parcel of land located on Cotton Road and known as Tax Map Parcel Number 039-3-000-020.

**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 14, 2022 \_\_\_\_\_

SECOND READING AND ADOPTED \_\_\_\_\_ June 21, 2022 \_\_\_\_\_

SUBMITTED TO MAYOR AND APPROVED \_\_\_\_\_ June 21, 2022 \_\_\_\_\_

BY: /s/ James C. Thornton, Mayor \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST: /s/ Sue Olson, City Clerk \_\_\_\_\_

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On a motion by Mr. Mitchell seconded by Mr. Arrington, 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, 2022 AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2023; 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, 2022 and ending June 30, 2023, 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, 2022 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, 2022, 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, 2022.

INTRODUCED AND FIRST READING \_\_\_\_\_ June 14, 2022

SECOND READING AND ADOPTED \_\_\_\_\_ June 21, 2022

SUBMITTED TO MAYOR AND APPROVED \_\_\_\_\_ June 21, 2022

BY: /s/ James C. Thornton, Mayor

ATTEST: /s/ Sue Olson, City Clerk

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

AN ORDINANCE

TO LEVY AN AD VALOREM TAX FOR THE CITY OF LAGRANGE FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2022; 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 \_\_\_\_\_ 4.57 Mills

The millage rate of 4.57 as thus ascertained is then reduced by \_\_\_\_\_ 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 joint 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 2022 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, 2022.

INTRODUCED AND FIRST READING \_\_\_\_\_ June 14, 2022

SECOND READING AND ADOPTED \_\_\_\_\_ June 21, 2022

SUBMITTED TO MAYOR AND APPROVED \_\_\_\_\_ June 21, 2022

BY: /s/ James C. Thornton, Mayor \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST: /s/ Sue Olson, City Clerk \_\_\_\_\_

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On a motion by Mr. Gaskin seconded by Mr. Gore, 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 CHAPTER 20-15 OF THE CODE IN ORDER TO MODIFY WATER AND WASTEWATER USER CHARGES; 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 20-15-10 of the code of ordinances of the City of LaGrange be amended by deleting therefrom subsection (a), inserting in lieu thereof a new Section 20-15-10(a) to read as follows:

“(a) The water rates inside and outside of the city are as follows:

		<b><u>Inside City</u></b>	<b><u>Outside City</u></b>
(1)	Base charge of	\$6.00	\$9.00
(2)	Plus a Flow Charge for all water used calculated as follows:		
		<b><u>Inside City</u></b>	<b><u>Outside City</u></b>
a.	First 25,000 gallons per gallon	\$0.0042	\$0.0063
b.	Next 25,000 gallons per gallon	\$0.0038	\$0.0057
c.	Next 3,700,000 gallons per gallon	\$0.0034	\$0.0051
d.	Over 4,000,000 gallons per gallon	\$0.0030	\$0.0045”

**SECTION 2:**

That Section 20-15-11 of the code of ordinances of the City of LaGrange be amended by deleting therefrom subsection (a), inserting in lieu thereof a new Section 20-15-11(a) to read as follows:

“(a) The wastewater user charge applicable to all users connected to the city’s wastewater system, inside or outside of the city as appropriate, shall be calculated as follows:

	<b><u>Inside City</u></b>	<b><u>Outside City</u></b>
(1) Base charge of	\$5.00	\$7.50
(2) Plus a Flow Charge for each gallon of metered water used as follows:		
	<b><u>Inside City</u></b>	<b><u>Outside City</u></b>
	\$0.0053	\$0.0080”

**SECTION 3:**

That Section 20-15-11 of the code of ordinances of the City of LaGrange be amended by deleting therefrom subsection (c), inserting in lieu thereof a new Section 20-15-11(c) to read as follows:

“(c) Upon request by large commercial or industrial customers that demonstrate to the city an anticipated process water loss of at least fifteen (15) percent (water that will not return to the wastewater system), the charge per gallon of metered or estimated wastewater shall be the rate listed above divided by 0.9. The city shall decide whether a metering system or estimation method will be utilized, what type of metering will be required, the length of any testing period, and the frequency of meter calibration. In the event the metering or estimation becomes unreliable in the sole opinion of the city, the metered water volumes shall be used for wastewater billing until a mutually agreeable solution is reached.”

**SECTION 4:**

That Section 20-15-10 of the code of ordinances of the City of LaGrange be amended by inserting therein a new subsection (c) to read as follows:

- “(c) *Continuity of service.* The City does not guarantee an uninterrupted or undisturbed supply of water. The City will not be responsible for any loss or damage resulting from the interruption or disturbance of service for any cause other than gross negligence of the City. The City will not be liable for any loss of profits or other consequential damages resulting from the use of service or any interruption or disturbance of service. The City shall not in any way be responsible for the transmission, use, or control of water beyond the point of connection to the customer’s premises.”

**SECTION 5:**

That Section 20-15-3 of the code of ordinances of the City of LaGrange be amended by deleting in its entirety, subsection (b), inserting in lieu thereof a new Section 20-15-3(b) to read as follows:

- “(b) *Separate, when required.* Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, a separate water meter shall be required for each living unit, living quarters or place of business to which water is supplied by the city; except that a duplex, apartment complex, trailer park or other combination of living units may use one (1) master water meter for the purpose of measuring the water used by all of the individual living units combined, provided the property owner shall assume the responsibility of payment for all water and wastewater charges. For any customer who so uses a master water meter, the monthly bill for said water or wastewater service shall be calculated by the city as follows:

- (1) The metered consumption shall be divided by the total number of living units to determine average consumption;
- (2) Average charges shall be calculated using the average consumption and appropriate rate schedule; and
- (3) Total charges shall be calculated by multiplying the average charges by the total number of living units. The total number of living units is defined as all of the living units and service connections downstream of the master meter regardless of actual occupancy.”

**SECTION 6:**

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

**SECTION 7:**

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



INTRODUCED AND FIRST READING \_\_\_\_\_ June 14, 2022

SECOND READING AND ADOPTED \_\_\_\_\_ June 21, 2022

SUBMITTED TO MAYOR AND APPROVED \_\_\_\_\_ June 21, 2022

BY: /s/ James C. Thornton, Mayor

ATTEST: /s/ Sue Olson, City Clerk

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On a motion by Mr. Gaskin seconded by Mr. Arrington, Council voted unanimously to reappoint Sue Olson and Lisa Duke to three year terms on the LaGrange Gas Authority.

On a motion by Mr. Mitchell seconded by Mr. Gore, Council voted unanimously to reappoint Davie Biagi and Jim Arrington to four year terms and to appoint Michael Coniglio to a four year term on the Tree Advisory Board.

On a motion by Mr. Gaskin seconded by Mr. Mitchell, Council voted unanimously to reappoint Nikki Franklin, Greg Hall and Katie Van Schoor to two year terms on the Visit LaGrange Board, with terms ending on June 30, 2024.

In good news, closing comments, Ms. Van Schoor reported that our City of LaGrange Utility crew that travelled to Bowling Green, Kentucky in December to help in the aftermath of the December 11<sup>th</sup> tornados that claimed 17 lives, is being honored by the Bowling Green Municipal Utilities Board. They issued a Resolution thanking LaGrange's crew as well as several other municipal crews giving their deepest appreciation for the extraordinary efforts, craftsmanship and professionalism in rebuilding their community.

There was no other business and the meeting was adjourned at 5:45 p.m. by Mayor Thornton.

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Mayor

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City Clerk