

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

August 8, 2023

Present: Mayor Willie Edmondson; Council Members Jim Arrington, Tom Gore, Mark Mitchell, Leon Childs, Nathan Gaskin, and Quay Boddie

Also Present: City Manager Meg Kelsey; Assistant City Manager Bill Bulloch; City Attorney Jeff Todd; City Clerk Melissa Robertson; Communications Director Katie Van Schoor; City Planner Mark Kostial.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Edmondson, the invocation was given by Rev. Michael Jackson with Confidence Missionary Baptist Church, and Mayor Edmondson 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 July 25, 2023.

A public hearing was held to receive comments on a Board of Planning and Zoning Appeals recommendation to rezone property located at 613 Hines Street from Traditional Neighborhood Residential (TN-R) to Corridor Mixed Use (CR-MX). No comments were received and 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 ZONING MAP AND ORDINANCES OF THE CITY SO AS TO RECLASSIFY THE USE ZONE OF REAL ESTATE LOCATED ON HINES STREET AND OWNED BY KIMBLE CARTER; TO REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; TO FIX AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

A public hearing was held to receive comments on a Board of Planning and Zoning Appeals recommendation to rezone property located at 339, 389, and 425 Young's Mill Road from TN-R (Traditional Neighborhood Residential) and SU-R (Suburban Single Family Residential) to TN-MR (Traditional Neighborhood Medium Density Residential). Comments were received from Mr. James Urban, who lives at 420 Young's Mill Rd, who had concerns with traffic. Mr. Edmondson asked Mr. Kostial to speak on the traffic study that had previously been completed. No other comments were received and 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 ZONING MAP AND ORDINANCES OF THE CITY SO AS TO RECLASSIFY THE USE ZONE OF REAL ESTATE LOCATED ON YOUNGS MILL ROAD AND OWNED BY THE VIVIAN PHILLIPS CHARITABLE TRUST; TO REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; TO FIX AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Tripp Foster addressed the Council to thank them for their service and asked Mr. Childs if he could get clarification on a recent Facebook post he had made. Mr. Childs said at this time he would not like to elaborate, but is trying to bring about change in the housing conditions and slumlords in District 2.

On a motion by Mr. Gaskin seconded by Mr. Arrington, Council voted unanimously to authorize the Mayor and Clerk to execute an agreement between the City of LaGrange and Red Speed.

On a motion by Mr. Gaskin seconded by Mr. Mitchell, Council voted unanimously to authorize the Mayor and Clerk to execute an agreement between the LaGrange Development Authority and Remarms.

On a motion by Mr. Gaskin seconded by Mr. Boddie, Council voted to authorize the City Manager to purchase 406 E. Depot Street, with a purchase price of \$40,000. Mr. Gore abstained from voting.

Ms. Kelsey presented copies of the Financial Statements and payments of bills over \$2,000 for Council Members information.

Ms. Kelsey presented the Council with the ECAAH's funding request in the amount of \$450,000 to help fund a property acquisition and exterior building upgrades to house a center that will provide preservation, information, education, and hope for Black history in our community. On a motion by Mr. Arrington seconded by Mr. Mitchell, the Council voted unanimously to table the request to a later date.

On a motion of Mr. Mitchell, seconded by Mr. Gaskin Council voted unanimously to declare 300 Country Club Road as surplus, setting a minimum bid of \$172,000. Staff was directed to prepare and publish the appropriate notices to allow for seal bids.

Ms. Kelsey spoke on the funding request by the developer of the former Newman property for \$1.5 million dollars to help fund a pump station for the planned development. Mr. Gaskin made a motion to table the request to a later date, the motion was not seconded; therefore the -motion failed. Upon a motion by Mr. Arrington seconded by Mr. Mitchell, Council voted unanimously to deny the request for funding.

On a motion by Mr. Gaskin seconded by Mr. Mitchell, 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 MODIFY THE LAWFUL SPEED LIMITS ON A CERTAIN CITY STREET TO CONFORM TO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION RECOMMENDATIONS; 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 10-20-4 of the Code of the City of LaGrange be amended by deleting therefrom subsection (a)(1)d., in its entirety, inserting in lieu thereof a new Section 10-20-4(a)(1)d. to read as follows:

- “d. S.R. 1 school zone from a point 220 feet south of Willis Circle (M.P. 13.74) to a point 360 feet south of Buck Murphy Road (M.P. 14.17), a distance of .43 mile, 35 miles per hour, school days only, from 7:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. and from 3:45 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.”

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 _____ July 25, 2023

SECOND READING AND ADOPTED _____ August 8, 2023

SUBMITTED TO MAYOR AND APPROVED _____ August 8, 2023

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BY: /s/ Willie T. Edmondson, Mayor

ATTEST: /s/ Melissa Robertson, City Clerk

The Good News for tonight is that we are beginning a new year for our Leaving LaGrange Better than We Found It litter cleanups. Since 2018 (6 years) we have been hosting monthly litter cleanups throughout the city. We plan to begin our year Saturday, August 26th at Community Bank and Trust on West Point Road, 8AM. As always, it's open to the community.

There was no other business and the meeting was adjourned.

Mayor

City Clerk