

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

May 9, 2023

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

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

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Edmondson, the invocation was given by Rev. Ann Baker, Word of Grace Christian Center, and Mayor Edmondson led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

On a motion by Mr. Mitchell seconded by Mr. Gaskin, Council unanimously approved the minutes of the regular Council meeting held on April 25, 2023.

Mayor Edmondson presented a 25 year service award to David Everingham, Sewer Service Worker. Mayor Edmondson expressed his appreciation to Mr. Everingham for his years of service and dedication to the City of LaGrange.

A public hearing was held to receive comments on a Board of Planning and Zoning Appeals recommendation to annex and zone property located at 187 South Davis Road. No comments were received and Council heard the first reading of the following ordinances:

AN ORDINANCE

AN ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAGRANGE TO ANNEX TO THE CITY CONTIGUOUS REAL PROPERTY OWNED BY WSL REAL ESTATE HOLDINGS, LLC AND LOCATED ON SOUTH DAVIS ROAD; TO REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; TO FIX AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

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 CLASSIFY THE USE ZONE OF REAL ESTATE TO BE ANNEXED INTO THE CITY LOCATED ON SOUTH DAVIS ROAD AND OWNED BY WSL REAL ESTATE HOLDINGS, LLC; TO REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; TO FIX AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Russ Pickron addressed the Council with concerns regarding Council Member Leon Childs blocking him on his Facebook page. No action was taken.

Mr. Kostial presented information to the Council regarding a Board of Planning and Zoning Appeals recommendation to rezone property located adjacent to Panther Way and Pine Street from GP-GB (General Campus Business) and TN-R (Traditional Neighborhood Residential) to TN-MR (Traditional Neighborhood Medium Density Residential). On a motion by Mr. Mitchell seconded by Mr. Gaskin, Council voted unanimously to call for a public hearing to be held on June 13, 2023 at 5:30 p.m.

Mr. Kostial presented information to the Council regarding a Board of Planning and Zoning Appeals recommendation proposed UDO text amendments. On a motion by Mr. Mitchell seconded by Mr. Boddie, Council voted unanimously to call for a public hearing to be held on June 13, 2023 at 5:30 p.m.

Mr. Childs reported that he had received requests from citizens on McGregor Street, Edgewood Avenue, Juniper Street and Daniel Street for speed bumps due to speeding traffic in those areas. Mayor Edmondson referred the request to staff and to have the LaGrange Police Department do a traffic study with a recommendation. Mr. Childs also reported that he is hosting a Town Hall meeting on May 10, 2023 at the Griggs Center. He also reminded everyone about the Youth Summit in downtown LaGrange Saturday, May 13th from 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Mr. Boddie reported that Operation We Believe in You is in week four, with great results.

Mr. Gaskin asked for a moment of silence for former City employee Floyd Stargell. Mr. Stargell unexpectedly passed away earlier this week. Mr. Gaskin also asked the public to be mindful about how we conduct ourselves in a public setting because children are watching.

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

Ms. Kelsey reported that Council had discussed disposing of approximately 60 acres on Big Springs Road. The property was appraised at \$2.55 million, and on a motion by Mr. Gaskin seconded by Mr. Mitchell, Council voted unanimously to declare the property as surplus with a minimum bid of the appraised value.

Ms. Kelsey reported that the Redevelopment Agency met earlier this date to discuss the Redevelopment Plan for TAD #7. The redevelopment area for the proposed project is located at 220 Main Street and consists of approximately 2.05 acres between Main Street, Bull Street and Byron Hurst Street, and is one block from downtown LaGrange. The Agency voted unanimously to recommend to the Mayor and Council to create TAD #7, and to enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement with Troup County and Troup County School System. On a motion by Mr. Gaskin seconded by Mr. Boddie, Council voted unanimously to call for a public hearing to be held on June 13, 2023 at 5:30 p.m.

On a motion by Mr. Mitchell seconded by Mr. Gore, Council voted unanimously to appoint Fire Chief Willie Bradfield to the Troup County FEMA Board.

The Good News we would like to share tonight is that Mayor Edmondson spoke this morning at the Early Bird Breakfast about the Shift Forward, a strategic plan for Troup County presented by the Troup Strategy Center, formerly the Troup County Center for Strategic Planning. Mayor Edmondson, along with West Point Mayor Trammel, Hogansville Mayor Ayers, Troup County Commission Chair Crews, and Board Chairman Collins, discussed their four core objectives to help guide the entire county in the future. To read more about the full strategic plan, go to www.troupstrategy.com

There was no other business and the meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

Mayor

City Clerk