

CITY OF LAGRANGE, GEORGIA
SPECIAL CALLED MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL

February 20, 2024

Present: Mayor Pro Tem: Jim Arrington; Council Members: Nathan Gaskin, Quay Boddie, Mark Mitchell, Leon Childs, Tom Gore

Also Present: City Manager Patrick Bowie; City Clerk Melissa Robertson; Assistant City Manager Bill Bulloch; City Attorney Jeff Todd; Communications Director Katie Van Schoor;

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Pro Tem Jim Arrington.

Mayor Pro Tem Jim Arrington addressed the audience and gave the purpose of the called special meeting, which was to consider the call of a special election for the vacancy of Mayor of the City of LaGrange, due to the death of Mayor Willie T. Edmondson.

Mr. Arrington requested City Attorney, Jeff Todd explain the process and timeline for calling for a special election. Mr. Todd explained that O.C.G.A. 21-2-540 requires that a special election be called at least ninety (90) days prior to the said election since it is to be held in conjunction with a state-wide general primary election, which is scheduled for May 21, 2024. In addition because Mayor Edmondson's remaining term was more than one year, Council is required to hold an election, rather than appoint someone to fill the term. Mr. Todd informed Council open qualifying would be March 11, 2024 and would close March 13, 2024 at 4:30 p.m.

Mr. Arrington allowed Titus Roberson to address the council with concerns of calling for this election at this time.

On a motion by Mr. Gore seconded by Mr. Mitchell, Council voted to authorize a called special election to fill the vacant seat of Mayor of the City of LaGrange. Voting in favor were Messrs. Gaskin, Gore, and Mitchell, and voting against were Messrs. Boddie and Childs. Therefore, the vote passed 3-2.

Mr. Arrington addressed the council and offered his letter of resignation from office as Council Member of the City of LaGrange, effective immediately due to his intention to run for Mayor of the City of LaGrange. Mr. Arrington then stepped down from the Council chamber desk so the meeting could continue.

On a motion by Mr. Gore seconded by Mr. Gaskin, Council voted unanimously to appoint Mr. Boddie as Mayor Pro Tem. Mr. Boddie spoke on continuing to try and follow Mayor Edmondson's mission of uniting the City.

There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned.

Approved: _____

Date: _____