



CITY OF LITHONIA
MINUTES– Council Meeting
Monday May 6, 2024 @ 5:30 pm

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

The meeting began at 5:43 pm. Councilmember Honore was absent at the time of roll call. All other members of Council were present.

II. Moment of Silence

Councilmember Diane Howard lead a prayer.

III. Approval of Agenda

Motion – made by Mayor Pro Tem Inman to approve the May 6, 2024 council meeting agenda with the addition of “The Heathen” movie as item A under action items. Councilmember Wynn seconded.

Motion passed 4-0.

IV. Public Comments

Oletha Reid -2550 Park Drive Lithonia GA 30058. Mrs. Reid spoke about her concerns with the construction of Church and Stone Mountain Street. She also mentioned concerns about garbage and truck parking at Albert Way and Park Drive.

V. Discussion Items

a. Millage Rate

Chief Dejarnette asked that the Council prepare for the upcoming Millage Rate meetings and provide their availability to him at their earliest convenience. He stated he will inform them all of the best meeting dates and times once he has received all availability.

b. Budget Meeting Schedule

Chief Dejarnette asked that the Council prepare for the upcoming budget meetings and provide their availability to him at their earliest convenience. He stated he will inform them of all the best meeting dates and times once he has received all availability.

c. Lithonia Amphitheatre/LDDA

Mayor Reynolds asked for the council’s opinion on how to proceed with the handling of the amphitheater. She expressed her concerns with the current management under the Lithonia Downtown Development Authority. Councilmember Sheppard and Mayor Pro Tem Inman

expressed their concerns and wishes to see the amphitheater managed by the Urban Redevelopment Authority.

VI. Action Items

a. “The Heathen” Movie

Nicole Pemberton gave a presentation and requested permission to film her film “The Heathen” in the City of Lithonia. Her request included the use of the Lithonia Cemetery and a lane closure for one day. Additional details and filming location were also discussed.

Motion – made by Councilmember Howard to approve the movie permit for “The Heathen”. Mayor Pro Tem Inman seconded.

Motion passed unanimously.

b. Insurance renewal

Chief Dejarnette informed the council that he will request some additional options for insurance coverage.

c. Str8 and Natural Movie Night

No one attended the meeting.

d. Annexation

No vote taken.

e. Safebuilt Contract

Motion – made by Councilmember Sheppard to approve the contract with SafeBuilt add the services of Fire Marshall. Councilmember Wynn seconded.

Motin passed unanimously.

VII. Reports and Updates

a. Police Update

No Update.

b. Mayor’s Report

Mayor Reynolds stated the Small Cities conference was awesome and very informative. She stated we have some great people in City Hall, they were on top of any information she sent to them from the conference. She mentioned that she enjoyed Cities Week and got great feedback. The seniors are even requesting Bingo and movie night monthly.

There was some further discussion on monthly events and how it could bring the city's senior community and youth community together.

There was mention of looking into new metal trash cans on main street with the City logo with the use of SPLOST or Grant funds. Chief Dejarnette explained it could be more cost efficient to request them at the same time as the parking lot construction.

c. Councilmember Update

Councilmember Wynn commended Officer Vong for responding to a noise complaint that was not in the city of Lithonia and attempting to remedy the issue. He was very friendly and helpful. She stated that there is still an issue with loud music being played on Friday and Saturday nights. Chief Dejarnette stated that there is an effort to find out who owns the problem home/area at this time.

Councilmember Inman stated she would like us to look into the addition of a dog park in the city. She stated it would be something people could walk to and enjoy and that the city could host a grand opening.

Councilmember Sheppard stated she would like the Council to begin to think about the addition of a restroom facility in the City. She stated that the vision of the city is that people will come and visit and enjoy our amenities and we need to be able to accommodate them with restrooms.

Councilmember Howard stated she attended the Olympic kickoff event at the Exchange recreational center and it was very nice. She stated she also planned to attend the closing ceremony.

VIII. Executive Session (If Necessary)

(When an executive session is required, one will be called for the following issues: 1) Personnel, 2) Litigation, 3) Real Estate)

Motion – made by Councilmember Wynn to enter Executive Session for Real Estate. Councilmember Howard seconded.

Motion passed 4-0.

Motion – made by Councilmember Howard to exit Executive session. Councilmember Sheppard seconded.

Motion passed 4-0.

The Council gave city staff the consensus to negotiate the terms of sale of the property located at Swift and Main Street.


IX. Adjournment

Motion – made by Councilmember Howard to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember Sheppard seconded.

The motion passed 4-0.

The meeting adjourned at 7:12 pm.

Attest:



Ashley Waters, City Clerk





Shameka Reynolds, Mayor