



CITY OF LITHONIA
MINUTES– Special Called Meeting
Monday November 25, 2024 @ 5:30 pm

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

The meeting began at 5:35 pm.

All members were present at the time of roll call.

II. Moment of Silence

III. Approval of Agenda

Motion – made by Councilmember Sheppard to approve the November 25, 2024, special called meeting agenda. Councilmember Wynn seconded.

Motion passed unanimously.

IV. Discussion Items

a. For Discussion- Event Request – Renee Miller, Enigma Events

Renee Miller presented information regarding the Igloo event request to be held in April or May of 2025. The council stated that there were parking concerns with the event in previous years and the event coordinator provided details on how they would eliminate those concerns during the upcoming event. Mrs. Miller stated that there would be no parking signs placed in areas of concern and a shuttle to transport patrons supplied by the event coordinator. Councilmember Sheppard raised concerns about security to patrol the area of the event and Mrs. Miller reassured the Council that the event coordinator will be working with Lithonia Police to provide additional security.

b. For Discussion – New Years Eve – Downtown Business Owners

Annette Radford requested that businesses along main street be granted permission to remain open later for New Years Eve celebrations until 2:30 or 3:00 am.

Motion – made by Councilmember Sheppard to approve new years eve time extensions for businesses on Main Street until 2:30/3:00 am. Councilmember Howard seconded.

Motion passed unanimously.

c. For Discussion – 2025 Holiday and Meeting Schedule – Ashley Waters, City Clerk

Ashley Waters presented the council with a draft meeting and holiday calendar for 2025. She asked if the council had any questions and/or concerns to let her know and she would adjust. She stated that she would be bringing these items back before the council at an upcoming meeting for a vote.

d. For Discussion – HB 581 – Chief DeJarnette, City Administrator

Chief DeJarnette explained the details of House Bill 581 that details property taxes and state regulations of the property tax calculations. He stated that would be future discussions, public hearings, and a vote on the decision to opt in or out of House Bill 581 in future meetings.

V. 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, 4) Cyber Security

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

Motion passed unanimously.

Motion – made by Councilmember Wynn to exit Executive Session and return to the regular council meeting. Councilmember Howard seconded.

Motion passed unanimously.

Motion – made by Councilmember Sheppard to approve holiday bonuses of \$500 to all fulltime employees. Mayor Pro Tem Inman seconded.

Motion passed unanimously.

VI. Updates and Reports

a. Mayor's Report

Mayor Reynolds stated that she is aware of the concerns involving the post office and has met with the manager along with Chief DeJarnette to communicate those concerns. She also stated she is preparing the flyer for the upcoming Jingle on Main event.

Mr. Demmons, manager at Citizen's Trust bank attended the meeting. He stated that he has expressed to company that the city has concerns about the bank remaining empty and the upkeep of it currently. Members of council and city staff informed him that there are public safety concerns regarding the bank and atm shelter on the property as the homeless have now taken up residence in the structure. He requested that members of city staff and council participate in a meeting to be held at the beginning of the new year to express these concerns directly.

b. City Administrator Report

c. Police Update

d. Councilmember Updates

Councilmember Howard expressed her concerns with the post office parking and leaving mailboxes open while delivering the mail. She also expressed concerns with reflector strips on the roads around the city.

Mayor Pro Tem Inman stated she would like to consider a lookbook refresh for the new year.

Councilmember Wynn stated that she had some code enforcement concerns with the burning of leaves and a sofa. Councilmember Sheppard and Mayor Pro Tem Inman stated there is a need for trash pickup and removal in areas of the city. Mayor Pro Tem Inman stated that Georgia Works could help with the clean up efforts.

VII. Adjournment

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

Motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 7:05 pm.

Attest:



Ashley Waters, City Clerk





Shameka Reynolds, Mayor