



**CITY OF LITHONIA**  
**MINUTES – CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION MEETING**  
**Monday, February 17, 2020 @ 7:00 PM**

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**I. Call to Order and Roll Call**

The Council Meeting was called to order at 7:01 pm by Mayor Shameka S. Reynolds. A roll call was taken and the following City Council Members were present: Diane Howard, Darold Honore, and Amelia Inman. Vanneriah Wynn later joined, and Ric Dodd was absent.

**II. “Lift Every Voice and Sing” – Children of First St. Paul AME Church, followed by Pledge of Allegiance**  
Councilwoman Howard led the song “Lift Every Voice and Sing” in unison followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**III. Approval of Agenda**

Councilwoman Inman motioned to approve the Agenda; the motion was seconded by Councilman Honore, and the agenda was approved by a vote of 4-0.

**IV. Approval of Council Meeting Minutes**

**a. January 28, 2020 – Zoning Public Hearing, Change to the Zoning Ordinance Text Amendments 2020-TA-001 @ 6:00 pm**

Councilman Honore motioned to approve the Zoning Public Hearing minutes; the motion was seconded by Councilwoman Howard, and approved by a vote of 3-0. Councilwoman Inman abstained.

**b. February 3, 2020 – City Council Meeting @ 7:00 pm**

Councilwoman Howard motioned to approve the City Council Meeting minutes; the motion was seconded by Councilwoman Inman, and approved by a vote of 4-0.

**V. Public Comments Response Update – City Administrator, Lathaydra Sands**

The storm water issue at 6976 Main Street where someone is dumping grease in the drainage outside of the building is currently being investigated. The Kiwanis Club is presenting tonight. Randall Street is on the list to be paved. Evangelist Barrett on behalf of Steve Minor with the Lithonia Art Center has shown no response to an email follow-up, a warning was issued by code enforcement.

**VI. Presentation**

**a. Kiwanis Club**

Mr. Donald Fleary provided presentation to include specific community involvement as partners in education with Lithonia Middle School since 1998, sponsoring various clubs with high/elementary schools. Richard Odom then provided detail on a Census oriented community education & awareness initiative that is being offered to the community.

**b. Lithonia Park Reservation**

**May 24 – Ms. Ajima Witter: “Colorgasm”**

Ajima Witter provided presentation for the Colorgasm event, vote deferred to March 2, 2020 City Council Meeting as an action item.

**June 27 – Mr. Wayne Ranger: “Music Festival”**

Mr. Wayne Ranger provided presentation for the Music Festival event, vote deferred to March 2, 2020 City Council Meeting as an action item.

**June 21 – Mr. Mickey Sparkle: “Fun Day”**

Mr. Mickey Sparkle provide presentation for the Fun Day event, vote deferred to March 2, 2020 City Council Meeting as an action item.

**c. Alcohol Beverage License Application**

Bawani Grocery, LLC – Mr. Varinder Sharma

Mr. Varinder Sharma provided presentation for selling beer and wine at Bawani Grocery, under new ownership and formerly Young’s Market, vote deferred to March 2, 2020 City Council Meeting as an action item.

**c. Request for Street Closure and to post Signage in parking lot at City Hall**

Dr. Vickie Spenceberry – Esousia Light House Health Fair / Blood Drive  
No Show.

**d. LDDA (~~Lithonia Downtown Development Authority~~)**

Deferred to March 2, 2020 City Council Meeting.

**VII. Action Items**

**a. Year 2020 Comp Plan MOA**

Councilwoman Howard motioned to approve Year 2020 Comp Plan MOA; the motion was seconded by Councilwoman Inman, and approved by a vote of 4-0.

**b. CERM Agreement**

Councilman Honore motioned to approve the CERM Agreement; the motion was seconded by Councilwoman Howard, and approved by a vote of 4-0.

**c. City Hall Rental Fee**

Councilwoman Howard motioned to approve the City Hall Rental Fee, \$25.00 per hour for non-profit organizations which can be exchanged for in-kind service hours to the community, and \$50.00 per hour for profit organizations. A two (2)-hour minimum rental, not to exceed four (4)-hour rental is required; the motion was seconded by Councilman Honore, and approved by a vote of 4-0. Kiwanis Club will email a community service hours report to the City Administrator and City Clerk.

**d. Film App Gateway Fee**

Councilman Honore motioned to increase the Film Application Gateway Fee to \$50.00; the motion was seconded by Councilwoman Inman, and approved by a vote of 4-0. Council will perform research to potentially increase the fee at another time.

**e. Attorney Selection**

To be discussed during Executive Session.

## VIII. Other Business

### a. Public Works Director; 6980 Main Street Update, Street Sweeper Update

Quinton Monson provided an update that there was no mold in the building, the roof will require repair work only. Estimates were provided for rental, new, and used street sweepers. Mayor Reynolds suggested that with the investment of a street sweeper that it could be leased to neighboring municipalities. Council representation is requesting the rental rate of usage for a few months to determine how much the street sweeper would be used.

### b. Mayor's Report: Annexation Proposal Update, Creation of a Department of Community Relations, Council Member Districts, Georgia Cities Week

*Annexation*; had a meeting with Gina Wright (State) and the Mayor of Stonecrest to annex the bordering locations (McDaniel, Lucas Drive, and far-end of Conyers Street) – those residents will be invited to a town hall to solicit their interest to annex. Phase 2 – will provide a map to provide the detail being proposed, Stonecrest is hoping to get the Quarry, Council opposed. Mayor Reynolds will coordinate/schedule a visit to the Quarry for Council.

*Community Relations Department*; continue to give thought to engaging people who are actively involved in the community to create the department.

Council Member Districts; each council member should continue to define their area and the Mayor will provide guidance/direction on those areas.

*Georgia Cities Week*; all Council Members should be involved in scheduling events. Council discussed the following ideas – Health Fair soliciting a DeKalb County Health Department Truck and Families Matters Therapies on Wiggins Street, DeKalb Workforce Bus for employment screening, closing Main Street and allowing business owners to participate, securing a food truck such as Slutty Vegan, kick-ball game-City of Lithonia vs. City of Stonecrest, bingo night, downtown party at night. Soliciting ideas from the public as well led to Wayne Ranger (Music Festival event) offering marketing/promotion assistance.

### c. Truck Route

Captain Tamesha Minafee provided reporting of truck routes located throughout the city.

## IX. Executive Session (if needed)

Councilwoman Howard motioned to go into executive session for personnel matters at 8:48 pm; the motion was seconded by Councilwoman Inman, and approved by a vote of 4-0.

City Council reconvened from Executive Session at 9:53 pm.

### *Attorney Selection*

Councilman Honore motioned to extend the contract of Denmark Winston providing that the contract is negotiated further as discussed during executive session; the motion was seconded by Councilwoman Howard, and approved by a vote of 4-0.

*City Clerk Selection Process*

Councilwoman Inman motioned to interview City Clerk applicants (total of 8) on February 26, 2020 between the hours of 12 noon until 4:00 pm, first applicant starting at 12:45 pm; the motion was seconded by Councilwoman Howard, and approved by a vote of 4-0.

*Chief of Police Selection Process*

Councilwoman Howard motioned to engage the Police Chief Association to review the selection of 5 candidates; the motion was seconded by Councilwoman Inman, and approved by a vote of 4-0.

**X. Adjournment**

Councilwoman Howard motioned to adjourn the work session meeting, the motion was seconded by Councilwoman Inman, and the meeting was adjourned at 10:00 pm.