



CITY OF LITHONIA
MINUTES – CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Monday, February 3, 2020 @ 7:00 PM

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

The Council Meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm by Mayor Shameka S. Reynolds. A roll call was taken and the following City Council Members were present: Diane Howard, Darold Honore, Amelia Inman, Vanneriah Wynn, and Ric Dodd.

II. Opening Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance

Deacon Ricky R. Lee, Antioch Lithonia Missionary Baptist Church led the Prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. Approval of Agenda

Councilman Dodd motioned to approve the Agenda; the motion was seconded by Councilwoman Howard, and the agenda was approved by a vote of 5-0.

IV. Approval of Council Meeting Minutes

- a. January 17, 2020 – Special Called FY2020 Budget Meeting @ 7:00 PM
Councilwoman Inman motioned to approve the Special Called FY2020 Budget Meeting Minutes for January 17, 2020; the motion was seconded by Councilman Dodd, and approved by a vote of 5-0.
- b. January 21, 2020 – City Council Work Session Meeting @ 7:00 PM
Councilwoman Howard motioned to approve the Work Session Meeting Minutes for January 21, 2020; the motion was seconded by Councilwoman Inman, and approved by a vote of 5-0.

V. Public Comments

Maxine Young, Owner of 5 properties, and business owner in Lithonia since 2005 has several concerns. Swift Street parking lot is piled up with junk cars; she is part-owner of the parking lot and is concerned that fixing the parking lot has been overlooked. She has talked to Robert Merriweather regarding the junk cars and he indicated that he was paying rent to someone to store the cars. Cars and tires are also piled up on Born Street and appear to be a dumping ground. On 6976 Main Street, someone is dumping grease in the drainage outside of the building and this is an environmental issue. The town needs to be cleaned up. People from Granite Crossing Apartments are smoking outside of her business on the rear of Main Street. Mayor Reynolds thanked Maxine and informed her that the city administrator and clerk would follow up with her as soon as possible.

Donald Fleary, with the Lithonia Stonecrest Kiwanis Club indicated that their meeting place is no longer available at the Lithonia Women's Club for free. They have been very active in the Lithonia community for nearly 30-years, partnering in education, and with other organizations to host various events. The Kiwanis Club and its members present are seeking consideration to utilize city hall to host their monthly meeting.

Ann Whatley, stated that for the past 8 years there have been unresolved issues to include the truck and traffic activity on Randall Avenue, additionally there is a very large hole on Randall Avenue at the corner that she's noticed for about 6 weeks. Ms. Whatley is suggesting that DeKalb County is notified of this to spur things along.

Evangelist Barrett, On behalf of Steve Minor with the Lithonia Art Center regarding the outside wall mural, and temporary signage outside the building being in breach of the ordinance. Mayor Reynolds indicated that City Administrator Lathaydra Sands would be working with Ms. Barrett on resolution of this matter.

VI. Presentation

- a. Carlene Anderson: Public Safety Community Awareness
Carlene, an educator, social worker, and parent provided a presentation seeking to partner with the Lithonia community through the Trauma Community Initiative to promote awareness workshops for victims of violence and violence prevention.
Carlene D. Anderson
carlenedanderson@gmail.com
Phone: 973-277-9770
Dennis Allen with the Lithonia Lions Youth Football & Cheerleaders then offered to connect with Ms. Anderson.
lithoniaparklions@gmail.com
Phone: 404-630-1595
- b. Anita Baines of She's Happy Hair: Community Employment Opportunities
Introduction of Mark the CEO; business is new to the Lithonia and Stonecrest area, looking to hire young and vibrant individuals. He also referenced ways that the company provides outreach to the community, and would like to be a partner with Lithonia for community-held events.

VII. Action Items

- a. **Year 2020 Comp Plan**
City Administrator Lathaydra Sands indicated the attorney is making some changes; deferred to February 17, 2020 Work Session.
- b. **City Hall Rental Fee**
Deferred to February 17, 2020 Work Session.
- c. **New Public Works Truck**
Councilman Honore motioned to approve the 2020 1500 Tradesman Crew Cab 4/2 through Chrysler Jeep Dodge, \$27,785.92; the motion was seconded by Councilman Dodd, and approved by a vote of 5-0.
- d. **Pot Hole Repair**
Councilwoman Inman motioned to approve HEH Paving for pothole repairs, \$64,703.40; the motion was seconded by Councilman Dodd, and the agenda was approved by a vote of 5-0.
- e. **2020-TA-001 (Special Events Facility Ordinance Amendment)**
Councilman Dodd motioned to approve Special Events Facility Ordinance Amendment 2020-TA-001; the motion was seconded by Councilwoman Howard, and the agenda was approved by a vote of 3-0.
Councilwoman Inman and Councilwoman Wynn abstained.
- f. **Moratorium 19-12-01**
Councilman Dodd motioned to lift Moratorium 19-12-01; the motion was seconded by Councilwoman Howard, and the agenda was approved by a vote of 5-0.
- g. **July 4, 2020 Sandz Caribbean Music (Leroux Duncan)**
Councilwoman Howard motioned to approve the July 4, 2020 Sandz Caribbean Music event; the motion was seconded by Councilwoman Howard, and approved by a vote of 5-0.

VIII. Other Business

a. Police Chief Selection Process

To be discussed during Executive Session.

b. Annexation Proposal Update

City Administrator indicated 3 presentations were received, deferred to February 17, 2020 work session for discussion, vote to take place on March 2, 2020 city council meeting.

c. 6980 Main Street

Deferred to February 17, 2020 Work Session.

d. Crosswalks Update

Deferred to February 17, 2020 Work Session.

e. Street Sweeper Update

Deferred to February 17, 2020 Work Session.

f. Creation of a Department of Community Relations

Deferred to February 17, 2020 Work Session.

g. Bike Trail Update

Mayor Reynolds met with Arabia Mountain Alliance and in discussion with the Housing Authority and Mr. Merriweather to assist in moving forward to clean-up for paving.

h. Council Member Districts

Mayor Reynolds indicated identifying areas for each council member.

i. Trucks on Randall Street

Councilman Dodd indicated that private property is being damaged by trucks driving on Randall Street, and is asking that the ordinance is amended. The City Attorney will review the ordinance for amendments.

Deferred to February 17, 2020 Work Session.

j. Attorney Selection

Deferred to February 17, 2020 Work Session.

k. Georgia Cities Week

Mayor Reynolds is suggesting that all Councilmembers are involved in planning. A date will be scheduled to revisit. Deferred to February 17, 2020 Work Session.

IX. Executive Session (if needed)

Councilwoman Howard motioned to go into executive session for personnel matters at 8:40 pm; the motion was seconded by Councilman Dodd, and approved by a vote of 5-0.

City Council reconvened from Executive Session at 10:07 pm. Councilman Dodd motioned to move forward with the Chief selection process as discussed in executive session; the motion was seconded by Councilwoman Howard, and approved by a vote of 5-0.

X. Adjournment

Councilwoman Howard motioned to adjourn the city council meeting, the motioned was seconded by Councilman Dodd, and the meeting was adjourned at 10:09 pm.