



CITY OF LITHONIA
MINUTES—CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION VIRTUAL MEETING
Monday, June 15, 2020 @ 5:30 PM

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

The City Council Work Session Virtual Meeting was called to order at 5:34 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, Vanerriah Wynn, and Ric Dodd. City Attorney Valorri Jones joined the call as well.

II. Moment of Silence

A moment of silence was observed.

III. Approval of Agenda

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

IV. Approval of Council Meeting Minutes

a. June 1, 2020 – City Council Virtual Meeting @ 5:30 PM

Councilwoman Inman motioned to approve the June 1, 2020 City Council Virtual Meeting Minutes; the motion was seconded by Councilwoman Wynn, and approved by a vote of 5-0.

b. June 4, 2020 – Special Called Virtual Meeting @ 11:00 AM

Councilwoman Inman motioned to approve the June 4, 2020 Special Called Virtual Meeting Minutes; the motion was seconded by Councilman Honore, and approved by a vote of 5-0.

V. Public Comments Response for June 1, 2020 City Council Virtual Meeting – No Public Comments

VI. Presentation (Limit 8 minutes per person)

a. Event Ordinance- Ms. Dawn Massey

Ms. Dawn Massey would like to propose that historic landmarks and cultural assets are exempt from the event ordinance and to amend the ordinance as pertaining to the 2 buildings that she owns for hosting events. Mayor and Council have agreed to allow for a Variance.

VII. Action Items

a. Emergency Variance Request 2020 Comp Plan-Extension Request

Councilwoman Howard motioned to approve the Emergency Variance Request 2020 Comp Plan-Extension Request; the motion was seconded by Councilwoman Wynn, and approved by a vote of 5-0.

b. TAN Resolution Approval

Councilwoman Inman motioned to approve the TAN Resolution Approval for the amount of \$180,000.00 not to exceed a 3% interest rate and providing the City's Tax ID number and not a social security number; the motion was seconded by Councilwoman Howard, and approved by a vote of 5-0.

c. Public Works-Dump Truck Repair

Councilwoman Honore motioned to approve the Public Works-Dump Truck Repair with Courtesy Ford for \$2,599.43 with a 2-year warranty; the motion was seconded by Councilwoman Howard, and approved by a vote of 5-0.

d. Police Vehicles

Councilman Honore motioned to table the vote and defer to the July 6, 2020 City Council Meeting pending review of Splost Funds.

e. Street Sweeper

Councilwoman Howard motioned to approve the lease agreement with NCL Government Capital for the Night Hawk Raptor II for a 5-year term with a monthly payment of \$2,227.80; the motion was seconded by Councilman Honore, and approved by a vote of 5-0.

f. Storm Water App- Dude Solutions

The vote for the storm water app with Dude Solutions was tabled pending review of the contract.

g. Ordinance Amendment to Revise Licensing Eligibility

Councilwoman Howard motioned to approve Ordinance Amendment to Revise Licensing Eligibility No. 2020-05-18; the motion was seconded by Councilman Honore, and approved by a vote of 5-0.

h. Mural Ordinance

The Mural Ordinance was tabled pending clarity of language used for the grandfather clause with a vote for approval during the July 6, 2020 City Council Meeting. Council is in agreement to allow Mr. Paul to complete the mural.

i. Parking Ordinance

Councilwoman Inman motioned to approve Parking Ordinance No. 2020-05-20; the motion was seconded by Councilwoman Wynn, and approved by a vote of 5-0.

j. Revenue Enhancement Opportunities/Audit

Council and Mayor are requesting that Attorney Denmark provide presentation for discussion during the July 6, 2020 City Council Meeting.

VIII. Other Business

- a. **Mayors Report: COVID-19 Update**; possibility that everything will open by end of June as per the governor of Georgia, Council and Mayor agree that the City of Lithonia should not open the Amphitheatre and Park event spaces at this time pending updated data provided by the state. **Informational sign on Main Street**, Doug Thompkins is only interested in purchasing an informational sign in front of his business. Council and Mayor are in agreement to place informational signs in other strategic areas, and to have LDDA and LBA involved in the process. **Councilmember District Update**; Councilwoman Wynn inquired about grant awards for COVID-19. Mayor Reynolds indicated that she has been in conversations with the CEO since March/April. The county was awarded funds, and further involvement is needed to involve county commissioners to obtain reimbursement for covid materials and

hazard pay for essential workers. Councilwoman Howard stated that there is a concern with up to 5 trees that have become hazardous on Conyers Street, branches falling etc. She is working with Mr. Monson (Public Works Director) on removal. Councilwoman Wynn indicated there are 2 ladies who use wheelchairs that are riding in the street because the sidewalks on Conyers Street are in need of repair, and if funding is available through Splost funds for repair. Mayor Reynolds suggested that Councilwoman Wynn reach out to Mr. Monson to see if it's on the list of work to be performed and to work with City Administrator Lathaydra Sands if needed. Councilwoman Inman indicated that Martin Tire Company tends to have oversized cars parked at the corner intersection that are obstructing traffic by blocking the view of traffic to make a left-hand turn. Mayor Reynolds asked that City Administrator Lathaydra Sands involve code enforcement to provide resolution.

b. Fees for landscape maintenance of abandoned residential lots

Councilwoman Inman is recommending that the city look into charging fees to the owners of abandoned lots to maintain their lawns, referencing an enactment that the City of Clarkston currently has in place, and to look into the City of Lithonia's current ordinance. Mayor Reynolds suggested obtaining Clarkston ordinance as a point of reference.

IX. Executive Session- Personnel

Councilman Honore motioned to adjourn for executive session to discuss personnel matters; the motion was seconded by Councilwoman Howard, and approved by a vote of .5-0. The council entered executive session at 7:32 pm.

Councilman Dodd motioned to adjourn executive session at 8:10 pm; the motion was seconded by Councilman Honore, and approved by a vote of 5-0.

Executive Session reconvened at 8:13 pm.

Councilwoman Howard motioned to increase the Interim Chief of Police from \$21 per hour to \$55k in salary; the motion was seconded by Councilman Honore, and approved by a vote of 5-0.

Council and Mayor are requesting Zoom Interviews for the permanent role of Chief of Police to begin on Wednesday June 24 and Thursday June 25, two candidates each day at 1:00 pm and 2:00 pm.

X. Adjournment

Councilwoman Howard motioned to adjourn the meeting, the motion was seconded by Councilwoman Wynn; the motion was approved by a vote 5-0, and the meeting was adjourned at 8:17 pm.