

CITY OF LAGRANGE, GEORGIA
REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL

August 28, 2018

Present: Mayor Jim Thornton; Council Members Jim Arrington, Nathan Gaskin, Tom Gore, LeGree McCamey, and Mark Mitchell

Absent: Council Member Willie Edmondson

Also Present: City Manager Meg Kelsey; Assistant City Manager Teresa Taylor; City Clerk Sue Olson; City Attorney Jeff Todd; Communications Manager Katie Van Schoor; Community Development Director Alton West; Senior Planner Leigh Threadgill

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Thornton, the invocation was given by Reverend Amy Peek of First Baptist Church on the Square and Mayor Thornton led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

On a motion by Mr. McCamey seconded by Mr. Gaskin, Council approved the minutes of the regular Council meeting held on August 14, 2018.

A public hearing was held to receive comments on a request to change the name of East Crovat Street and West Crovat Street to Boss Street. Leon Childs and another resident of the area spoke in favor of the name change. Mr. Childs reported that he had spoken with every resident on the street and had found no one in opposition. William Hill, also a resident of East Crovat Street, spoke in opposition to the request. Council heard the first reading of the following ordinance:

AN ORDINANCE

AN ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE
CITY OF LAGRANGE TO AMEND THE CODE OF THE CITY;
TO AMEND THE CODE SO AS TO RENAME EAST CROVAT
AND WEST CROVAT STREET AS BOSS STREET; TO
REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; TO FIX AN
EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Laura Breyfogle, representing The Sierra Club, appeared before the Council requesting City Council adopt a Resolution urging the Municipal Electric Authority of Georgia (MEAG) to vote against the continuation of the Plant Vogtle Nuclear Expansion Project unless Southern Company commits to pay the latest and any future cost increases to complete the project for all project Co-owners. No action was taken.

Ms. Kelsey reported to the Council that the 2018-2019 Chamber of Commerce Tourism budget request had been presented at today's Work Session. On a motion by Mr. Gore seconded by Mr. McCamey, Council unanimously voted to approve the request. Mr. Mitchell made a motion to amend the approval, stating that the Chamber must provide a breakdown of expenditures every 30 days. The motion was seconded by Mr. McCamey and carried unanimously.

Ms. Kelsey reminded the Council that at the August 14, 2018 Work Session, they were presented with a request from Groundswell to support the PAYS Program in the amount of \$50,000 for a program that will provide energy efficient initiatives in the homes of low-moderate income families. This money will be used for program design costs. On a motion by Mr. Arrington seconded by Mr. Gaskin, Council voted unanimously to approve the request to invest \$50,000 from the CD Fund for the program.

Ms. Kelsey reported to the Council that because of the unexpected death of Assistant Municipal Court Judge David Fowler, a replacement had to be named. On a motion by Mr. Mitchell seconded by Mr. Gaskin, Council unanimously voted to appoint Luther Jones as the Assistant Municipal Court Judge.

Council heard the first reading of the following ordinance:

AN ORDINANCE

AN ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAGRANGE TO AMEND THE CODE OF THE CITY; TO AMEND THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CITY SO AS TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF PLANNING AND ZONING APPEALS; TO REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; TO FIX AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Council heard the first reading of the following ordinance:

AN ORDINANCE

AN ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAGRANGE TO AMEND THE CODE OF THE CITY; TO AMEND THE CODE SO AS TO PROHIBIT AGGRESSIVE SOLICITATION; TO DEFINE PROHIBITED ACTIVITY; TO PROVIDE FOR PENALTIES; TO REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; TO FIX AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

On a motion by Mr. Gore seconded by Mr. Mitchell, Council unanimously voted to approve the following ordinance:

AN ORDINANCE

AN ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAGRANGE TO AMEND THE CODE OF THE CITY; TO MODIFY THE UTILITIES DISCOUNT PROVISION WITHIN CHAPTER 20-20; TO REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; TO FIX AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAGRANGE, GEORGIA,
HEREBY ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1:

That Chapter 20-20 of the Code, concerning the utilities discount, be amended by deleting therefrom sections 20-20-1 through 20-20-7, inserting in lieu thereof the following:

“Sec. 20-20-1. – Eligibility.

There is hereby created a senior discount for utility account holders who are sixty-five (65) years of age or older and meet the qualifications established by the Georgia Department of Human Services for the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) program.

Sec. 20-20-2. – Application.

Eligible customers shall apply for the discount in the City’s customer service office by providing proof of age and total

gross annual household income. Household income includes Alimony, Child Support, Pension, Wages, Social Security, SSDI, SSI, TANF/AFDC, Unemployment, and any other forms of income defined by the Georgia Department of Human Services for LIHEAP eligibility.

Sec. 20-20-3. – Discount.

The discount to be applied to each monthly utility bill will be based on the services the applicant receives from the city and shall equal \$11.00 for electric service, \$6.30 for natural gas service, \$1.40 for water service, \$12.00 for a 68 gallon garbage can, and \$15.00 for a 96 gallon garbage can.”

SECTION 2:

All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with this ordinance are hereby repealed.

SECTION 3:

This ordinance after adoption by the council and upon approval by the mayor shall become effective immediately.

INTRODUCED AND FIRST READING _____ August 14, 2018 _____

SECOND READING AND ADOPTED _____ August 28, 2018 _____

SUBMITTED TO MAYOR AND APPROVED _____ August 28, 2018 _____

BY: /s/ James C. Thornton, Mayor _____

ATTEST: /s/ Sue Olson, City Clerk _____

On a motion by Mr. McCamey seconded by Mr. Mitchell, Council voted unanimously to approve the following ordinance:

AN ORDINANCE

AN ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAGRANGE TO AMEND THE CODE OF THE CITY; TO AMEND THE ZONING MAP AND ORDINANCES OF THE CITY SO AS TO RECLASSIFY THE USE ZONE OF REAL ESTATE LOCATED AT 504 GREENVILLE STREET AND OWNED BY DARRELL TRAYLOR AND SANDY JO TRAYLOR; TO REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; TO FIX AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAGRANGE, GEORGIA HEREBY ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1:

That the zoning map and ordinances of the City of LaGrange be amended so as to reclassify from use zone C-1 (neighborhood commercial district) to C-3 (general commercial district) the following described real estate, to wit:

All that tract or parcel of land lying and being in Land Lot 108 of the 6th Land District of Troup County, Georgia, known as 504 Greenville Street and designated as Troup County Tax Map Parcel 050-3B-017-001.

SECTION 2:

All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with this ordinance are hereby repealed.

SECTION 3:

This ordinance after adoption by the Council and upon approval by the Mayor, shall become effective immediately.

INTRODUCED AND FIRST READING August 14, 2018

SECOND READING AND ADOPTED August 28, 2018

SUBMITTED TO MAYOR AND APPROVED August 28, 2018

BY: /s/ James C. Thornton, Mayor

ATTEST: /s/ Sue Olson, City Clerk

At the July 24, 2018 Council meeting, Council heard a first reading of an ordinance to prohibit solicitation within public rights-of-way. This ordinance was tabled at the August 14, 2018 meeting for further discussion and recommendations. A substitute ordinance was presented to Council and Mr. Gore made a motion to consider the substitute ordinance. This motion did not carry due to lack of a second. On a motion by Mr. Mitchell seconded by Mr. Arrington, Council voted 3-2 to pass the original ordinance with Mr. Mitchell, Mr. Arrington and Mr. Gaskin voting in favor and Mr. McCamey and Mr. Gore voting against the following ordinance:

AN ORDINANCE

AN ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAGRANGE TO AMEND THE CODE OF THE CITY; TO AMEND THE CODE SO AS TO PROHIBIT SOLICITATION WITHIN PUBLIC RIGHTS-OF-WAY; TO DEFINE PROHIBITED ACTIVITY; TO PROVIDE FOR A PENALTY; TO REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; TO FIX AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAGRANGE, GEORGIA, HEREBY ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1:

That Chapter 35-3 of the Code be amended by deleting therefrom sections 35-3-1 through 35-3-4, inserting in lieu thereof the following new sections 35-3-1 and 35-3-2, as follows:

Sec. 35-3-1. Definitions. For the purposes of this code section, *solicit* shall mean to request an immediate donation of money or other thing of value from another person including employment, business or contributions or to request the sale of goods or services.

Sec. 35-3-2. Solicitation within vehicle travel lanes. It shall be unlawful for any person to solicit upon or within the public streets or roadways within the city.

Sec. 35-3-3. Penalties. Any person who shall violate the provisions of this ordinance shall upon conviction in the Municipal Court of the City be punished as provided in Code Section 1-1-6.”

SECTION 2:

All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with this ordinance are hereby repealed.

SECTION 3:

This Ordinance after adoption by the Council and upon approval by the Mayor shall become effective immediately.

INTRODUCED AND FIRST READING _____ July 24, 2018

SECOND READING AND ADOPTED _____ August 28, 2018

SUBMITTED TO MAYOR AND APPROVED _____ August 28, 2018

BY: /s/ James C. Thornton, Mayor

ATTEST: /s/ Sue Olson, City Clerk

In good news closing comments, Ms. Van Schoor announced that our City of LaGrange Animal Services will receive a \$3,000 Georgia Department of Agriculture Grant as a part of its dog and cat sterilization program. In other good news, we'll be celebrating the City of LaGrange's first Employee Spirit Day this Saturday, September 1st at Sweetland. Council was invited to celebrate a day of fun and fellowship with our employees this Saturday.

There was no other business and the meeting was adjourned by Mayor Thornton.

Mayor

City Clerk