

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

May 12, 2020

DUE TO THE CURRENT ORDERS FROM THE CDC AND GOVERNOR KEMP REGARDING SOCIAL DISTANCING, THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL MET VIA WEBEX TELECONFERENCE.

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

Also Present: City Manager Meg Kelsey; City Clerk Sue Olson; Assistant City Manager Bill Bulloch; City Attorney Jeff Todd; Community Development Director Alton West

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Thornton, the invocation was given by Chaplain Jimmy Pruitt of Grace Baptist Church, and Mayor Thornton led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

On a motion by Mr. McCamey seconded by Mr. Mitchell, Council unanimously approved the minutes of the regular Council meeting held on April 28, 2020.

Jimmy Pruitt, Manager for the LaGrange Warehouse for Feeding the Valley Food Bank, came before the Council with information for free food distribution sites to help meet the needs of families that need assistance. There will be drive-thru sites set up in the community through July, with 500 boxes of food at each site. Mayor Thornton thanked Mr. Pruitt for the information and for the assistance they are offering for the community. No action was taken.

Mr. West presented information to the Council on a request to annex property located on Cameron Mill Road. The Board of Planning and Zoning Appeals voted to recommend approval of the request. On a motion by Mr. Mitchell seconded by Mr. Edmondson, Council voted unanimously to call for a public hearing on June 9, 2020 at 5:30 p.m.

Ms. Kelsey presented copies of the April financial statements and payment of bills over \$2,000 for Council's information.

Ms. Kelsey updated the Council on the status of the City's operations during COVID-19. She stated that City Hall will re-open to the public on Thursday, May 14, 2020, and that staff has taken the necessary precautions to keep our employees and the public safe.

Ms. Kelsey reminded the Council that the Budget work session will be May 26, 2020, beginning immediately after the Council work session on that date.

Ms. Kelsey also discussed the restart of utility disconnections that will begin on June 1, 2020. Staff will notify those that are on the disconnect list over the next few days, via mail. As part of this agreement, the amount that's in arrears from the past three months will be separated from the monthly bill, and a payment arrangement can be made, giving the customer up to 6 months to pay in equal installments that past due amount. The customer will be required to keep their monthly bill current plus pay the payment arrangement during this 6 month time period. On a motion by Mr. Gaskin seconded by Mr. McCamey, Council voted unanimously to authorize staff to move forward with the process.

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 MODIFY THE GENERAL
PROVISIONS OF THE CITY UTILITIES TITLE TO REPEAL
THE REQUIREMENT THAT COLLATERAL DEBTS TO THE
CITY ARE A CONDITION FOR UTILITY SERVICE; TO

REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; TO FIX AN
EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

On a motion by Mr. Arrington seconded by Mr. Mitchell, Council voted unanimously to appoint Mr. Gaskin as the Voting Delegate for the 2020 GMA Annual Convention, to be held virtually.

In closing comments, Mr. Gaskin asked if there were any adjustments needed to our emergency plan or if we would just allow it to expire. Ms. Kelsey stated that as far as she knew there was no action that needed to be taken and it would expire on May 14, 2020.

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

Mayor

City Clerk