

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

August 24, 2021

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

Absent: Council Members Willie Edmondson and Mark Mitchell

Also Present: City Manager Meg Kelsey; City Clerk Sue Olson; Assistant City Manager Bill Bulloch; City Attorney Jeff Todd; Communications Manager Katie Van Schoor; City Planner Mark Kostial

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Thornton, the invocation was given by Dr. John Beyers, First United Methodist Church, and Mayor Thornton led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

On a motion by Mr. McCamey seconded by Mr. Arrington, Council unanimously approved the minutes of the regular Council meeting held on August 12, 2021.

Ms. Kelsey reminded the Council of the discussion in Work Session earlier today regarding the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Grant funds. The State has received \$4.8B and will be accepting applications from local governments that the Governor must approve. On a motion by Mr. Gaskin seconded by Mr. McCamey, Council voted unanimously to approve the following requests to be submitted to the State with a Resolution of Support from the City; DASH - \$250,000 to fund Hillside West Gateway Development, workforce housing; LaGrange Housing Authority - \$500,000 to fund renovation and repurposing of the Unity School Campus for community services; Troup County for the Griggs Center – City will endorse a request for \$8M by Troup County for Phase II and III of the Griggs Center; City of LaGrange to request \$2M to fund sewer infiltration & inflow remediation, to match a \$2M bond; City of LaGrange – to fund water and sewer improvements for a residential development on Mooty Bridge Road; City of LaGrange – to fund an expansion of DCA Innovative Grant for workforce development; New Ventures – to fund a 24/7 emergency shelter with multiple transitional housing pods, warming center and human services support.

On a motion by Mr. McCamey seconded by Mr. Gaskin, Council voted unanimously to approve the following uses of the approximately \$5.6M ARPA funds that the City will receive from the State; \$1.4M for the McGregor Street Park; \$2M for new water meters; and \$800,000 for lost revenue from the General Fund due to COVID; and, also, funding that has been previously discussed is \$1M for Phase I of the Griggs Center renovation; \$500,000 for LaGrange Housing Authority; and \$250,000 for DASH.

On a motion by Mr. Gaskin seconded by Mr. McCamey, Council voted unanimously to approve an Amendment to Hogansville Gas Facilities Agreement. This agreement will clean up the existing agreement, recognizing that Hogansville is redelivering gas to Meriwether County. A copy of the document is on file in the City Manager's office.

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 SECTION 10-20-104 OF THE CODE IN ORDER TO DELETE THEREFROM CERTAIN LOADING/UNLOADING SPACES LOCATED ON MAIN STREET; TO REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; TO FIX AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

In good news, closing comments, Ms. Van Schoor reported on the success of this weekend's "Dancing for The Thread" fundraiser. The annual event raised roughly \$95,000 for Friends of The Thread. Our very own City Councilman Jim Arrington and his wife Cathy participated in the competition. Congratulations to everyone who made this event a huge success especially Natalie Hale, our Executive Director.

There was no other business and the meeting was adjourned at 5:40 p.m. by Mayor Thornton.

Mayor

City Clerk