

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

January 8, 2019

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

Absent: Council Member Tom Gore

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

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Thornton, the invocation was given by Rev. Michael Jackson, Confidence Missionary Baptist Church, and Mayor Thornton led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

On a motion by Mr. McCamey seconded by Mr. Gaskin, Council unanimously approved the minutes of the regular Council meeting held on December 20, 2018.

Mayor Thornton presented a 25 year service award to Debbie Costley, Lead Customer Service Representative. Mayor Thornton expressed the gratitude of the Mayor and Council for Ms. Costley's years of service to the citizens and the City of LaGrange.

A public hearing was held to receive comments on amending the airport zoning regulations. No comments were received and 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 AIRPORT ZONING ARTICLE OF THE ZONING ORDINANCE TO INCLUDE DEPARTURE SURFACES WITHIN THE AIRPORT ZONES; TO UPDATE THE AIRPORT ZONES; TO MODIFY THE NOTIFICATION AND DEPARTURE SERVICE DEFINITIONS WITHIN THE ORDINANCE; TO REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; TO FIX AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

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

Ms. Kelsey reported to the Council that the LaGrange Troup County Chamber of Commerce had approved a request from the Tourism Advisory Committee for two unbudgeted special projects; \$21,700 to Troup County Parks & Recreation for George Harris Baseball Complex, and \$55,000 to Rockweave Music Festival, for a total of \$76,700. Due to the size of the expenditures, it will require a budget adjustment and approval by the City Council. On a motion by Mr. Edmondson seconded by Mr. McCamey, Council voted unanimously to approve the request. Mr. Gaskin asked that this be an opportunity for local vendors to be used, especially with Parks & Recreation.

On a motion by Mr. Mitchell seconded by Mr. Gaskin, Council voted unanimously to approve the following Resolution establishing Qualifying Fees for the 2019 Municipal Election:

**A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING  
QUALIFYING FEES FOR 2019 MUNICIPAL ELECTION**

WHEREAS, O.C.G.A. Sec. 21-2-131 (a)(1) requires that qualifying fees for public offices be fixed and published; and

WHEREAS, O.C.G.A. Sec. 21-2-131 (a)(1) requires that the governing body of a municipality fix and publish qualifying fees for each of its offices not later than February 1 the year the general election is to be held; and

WHEREAS, O.C.G.A. Sec. 21-2-131 (a)(1) states the qualifying fee for each office to be filled in the upcoming election shall not be more than three (3) percent of the income derived from such office paid in the preceding calendar year.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council of the City of LaGrange, Georgia, do hereby fix the qualifying fee for the office of Council Member at Two Hundred Sixteen (\$216.00) dollars do hereby publish the same.

This 8<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2019

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James C. Thornton, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Sue Olson, Clerk

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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 RETIREMENT PLAN FOR THE EMPLOYEES OF THE CITY OF LAGRANGE IN ACCORDANCE WITH AND SUBJECT TO THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS SET FORTH IN THE ATTACHED ADOPTION AGREEMENT, GENERAL ADDENDUM TO THE ADOPTION AGREEMENT, THE GEORGIA MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES BENEFIT SYSTEM (GMEBS) MASTER PLAN DOCUMENT AND ANY AMENDMENTS THERETO; TO CLARIFY PORTABILITY SERVICE RULES; TO REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; TO FIX AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

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On a motion by Mr. Edmondson seconded by Mr. McCamey, Council voted unanimously to approve the following Board re-appointments:

- Carolyn Haamid to a one year term for Community Action for Improvement
- Warner Bankston to a five year term on the Construction Board of Adjustment and Appeals

- Jim Thornton, Mark Mitchell, LeGree McCamey, Willie Edmondson, Tom Gore, Nathan Gaskin, Jim Arrington and Meg Kelsey to one year terms on the LaGrange Governmental Finance Corporation
- Luther Jones to a one year term on the LaGrange Troup County Memorial Park Board
- James Baker to a one year term as Municipal Court Judge
- Tom Gore to a one year term on the Records Committee
- Jim Thornton, LeGree McCamey, Willie Edmondson, Tom Gore, Mark Mitchell, Nathan Gaskin and Jim Arrington to one year terms on the Solid Waste Management Authority
- Carrie Hightower to a one year term on the Troup County Board of Health
- Wayne Pittman to a three year term on the Troup Council on Aging

On a motion by Mr. McCamey seconded by Mr. Arrington, Council voted unanimously to appoint John Brant to a one year term on the Troup County FEMA Board.

On a motion by Mr. Mitchell seconded by Mr. Gaskin, Council voted unanimously to appoint Jim Arrington to a one year term as Mayor Pro-Tem.

In good news closing comments, Ms. Van Schoor announced that our LaGrange Youth Council will be hosting a movie in the park event Thursday February 14, 2019. The event begins at 5:00 p.m. with the movie will beginning after sunset, around 6:30 p.m. It will be put on by our young adults for young adults and the public. The event is free, our Youth Council will be selling concessions. They are raising awareness to mental health awareness, everyone is invited to attend.

On a motion by Mr. McCamey seconded by Mr. Edmondson, Council voted unanimously to adjourn to Executive Session.

On a motion by Mr. McCamey seconded by Mr. Arrington, Council voted unanimously to reconvene the regular Council meeting.

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

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Mayor

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City Clerk