

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

May 8, 2018

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

Also Present: City Manager Meg Kelsey; Assistant City Manager Teresa Taylor; City Attorney Jeff Todd; Director of Community Development Alton West; Communications Manager Katie Van Schoor.

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. Edmondson seconded by Mr. Arrington, Council approved the minutes of the regular Council meeting held on April 24, 2018.

A public hearing was held to receive comments on a request to rezone property along Bryant Lake Blvd. from C-3 General Commercial to R-3 Residential and HDR-LU High Density Residential Limited Use. Mr. Dennis Drewyer, the zoning applicant appeared before the Mayor and Council and gave an overview of the proposed plans for a mixed use development with commercial and residential. He stated that he attended the Home Owners Association meeting for the neighboring Bryant Lake Subdivision to receive input. Ms. Kendall Butler, the declarant for Bryant Lake Subdivision expressed her concerns about the density of the proposed development and she recommended denial of the request. A number of area residents appeared before the Mayor and Council in opposition to the rezoning. Council heard a 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 MAP AND ORDINANCES OF THE CITY SO AS TO RECLASSIFY WITH CERTAIN CONDITIONS THE USE ZONE OF REAL ESTATE LOCATED ADJACENT TO HAMILTON ROAD AND BRYANT LAKE BOULEVARD AND OWNED BY GREG ROGERS; TO REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; TO FIX AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

On a motion by Mr. Mitchell seconded by Mr. McCamey, Council voted to postpone the second reading of this ordinance to June 12, 2018 to allow DCA to complete the DRI (Development of Regional Impact) process.

A public hearing was held to receive comments on the Eastside Park Master Plan. Ms. Threadgill gave an overview of the proposed plan. Area residents appeared before the Mayor and Council and expressed support and offered suggestions. On a motion by Mr. Edmondson seconded by Mr. Gaskin, the Council unanimously adopted the Eastside Park Master Plan.

Ms. Yvonne Lopez and Ms. Lee Jones appeared before the Council and discussed the ongoing activities of Ark Refuge Ministries. No action was taken.

Dr. Robert Tucker appeared before the Mayor and Council to discuss a funding request for a Blueprint for Leadership Program offered by the Calumet Park Neighborhood Association in collaboration with Greater Achievement Youth Empowerment Academy and the Ark Refuge. This program is multi-dimensional program that seeks to provide positive activities and foster academic excellence, and employability and life skills which deter delinquent and anti-social behavior. No action was taken.

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

On a motion by Mr. Mitchell seconded by Mr. McCamey, Council unanimously voted to authorize the Mayor and Assistant City Manager to execute an Amendment to the Power Sales Contract with MEAG. A copy of the contract is on file in the City Manager's office.

In good news closing comments, Ms. Van Schoor reported construction began in Southbend Park on the southern end of Downtown LaGrange and Tom Hall Parkway was officially opened on May 6, 2018. She also announced the ground breaking for The Thread's 3rd segment on May 21, 2018.

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

Mayor

Assistant City Manager