

REGULAR SESSION OF THE LAKE CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES

July 8th, 2019

Attendees: Mayor Ron Dodson, Mayor Pro-Tem Sowell, Councilmember Hoover, Councilmember Craven, Finance Director Tonya Tripp, City Clerk Eric Beckman, Police Chief Whitmire, City Attorney Steve Fincher, City Manager Chris Leighty

6:30 PM Work Session:

1. The Mayor and Council recognized the passing of Councilmember Ralph McDuffie.
2. The City Manager presented an update of the work being done at the Lake City Community Park. Phase I of the park update had been delayed by weather but would continue with an anticipated completion date the second or third week in August.
3. During the work session, the Mayor discussed the agreement with Red Speed to provide License Plate Readers and Speed Detection Cameras to be placed close to Lake City Elementary School. This would slow down speeders and ensure a safer environment for the children. The Mayor and Council had approved this measure but was waiting on the School Board to approve before we could move forward with the initiative.
4. A resident spoke about having a community yard sale and this was supported by the Mayor and Council.

7:00 PM City Council Session:

Call to order:

Mayor Dodson called the Council meeting to order at 7:00 PM. The Mayor and Council asked for a moment of silence in remembrance of Councilmember McDuffie.

Invocation:

City Manager Chris Leighty gave the invocation

Pledge of Allegiance:**Approval of Minutes:**

Councilmember Craven made a motion to approve the minutes of the June council meeting it was seconded by Mayor Pro-tem Sowell and passed unanimously.

Old Business:

1. The Mayor and Council held a discussion pertaining to the extension of the ninety-day moratorium of assembly Uses in Lake City. The Mayor and Council extended the moratorium for an additional ninety-days so the City Attorney could prepare an amendment to update the existing city ordinance for Assembly Usage. Mayor Pro-tem Sowell made the motion to approve and it was seconded by Councilmember Craven and passed unanimously.

New Business:

1. Jimmy Whitaker the contracted auditor for Lake City briefed the Mayor and Council on the findings of the Fiscal Year 2018 budget. Mr. Whitaker stated the city was in good financial condition and was in compliance with State Law. The City Manager recognized Tonya Tripp for her outstanding work and integrity for her work on the city's behalf as the Finance Director.
2. Two resolutions were presented to the Mayor and Council. They both were required because budgeted funds were moved from one-line item to pay for a different cost from the Fiscal Year 2018. The first resolution pertained to an increase for the Community Center. This was done to pay for unanticipated repairs to the floor of the building. The second resolution was for additional equipment for Public Works.
3. The City Manager presented for council approval an extension of the Waste Management contract. The terms would extend the contract to June 30th, 2021. There will be a 2.5% increase for the service which would increase the cost for residential pick up by 0.35 cents per month and for recycling

the increase would be 0.02 cents per month. A motion to accept the contract was made by Councilmember Craven and seconded by Councilmember Hoover the motion passed unanimously.

4. The City Manager discussed with the Mayor and Council the issue with an overwhelming number of requests to place links from organizations on our city web page and Facebook page. After the discussion it was recommended that we not accept any additional links.

Police Report:

Police Chief Whitmire briefed the Mayor and Council and stated the Part I crimes were down 30% Year to Date. He also stated the police department would be having a coffee with a cop event at the Dunkin Doughnuts shop on July 18th. In addition, National Night Out would be the first week in August and the Lake City Police Department would partner either with Clayton County or Forest Park Police. The Mayor asked if the Police Department was at full strength and the Chief stated it was at full strength but there were still a couple of officers who were injured and on light duty. Councilmember Hoover asked who conducted the Psychological evaluations for the Police Department. Chief Whitmire advised her that Stone and Associates conducted the evaluations.

Public Comment:

A Lake City resident spoke about having a community wide yard sale. He also stated he would like to be involved in organizing the event. The Mayor and Council thanked him for his participation. Another resident spoke to the Mayor and Council about planting local or native plants in our park. She also was interested in a pollinator plant area. The Mayor and Council liked the idea and told the City Manager to look into the topic for further discussion.

Adjournment:

A motion to adjourn was made by Councilmember Craven and seconded by Mayor Pro-tem Sowell. The meeting adjourned at 7:52 PM.