

REGULAR SESSION OF THE LAKE CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES

September 14th, 2020

Attendees: Mayor Ron Dodson, Mayor Pro-Tem Sowell, Councilmember Hoover, Councilmember Craven, Councilmember Kyles, Eddie Robinson, Code Enforcement Officer Wolcott, Police Chief Whitmire, City Attorney Steve Fincher, City Manager Chris Leighty

6:00 PM Zoning Hearing:

1. Mr. Jones the property owner at 5476 North Parkway requested the property be re-zoned from Residential RS-150 to Manufacturing. Councilmember Craven made a motion to approve. It was seconded by Councilmember Hoover and passed unanimously.
2. David Weinstein representing M and M LLC. Asked for a Zoning Variance for 1587 and 1579 Burks Drive. The variance would be for Code Sections 42-328 and Section 42-327 to use gravel for surface lots. Councilmember Craven asked if there would be any overnight truck parking and Mr. Weinstein said there would be some truck parking but that was not the intent for the business. Councilmember Hoover asked how many residents lived on Burks Drive. The City Manager told her there approximately ten houses on Burk Drive. The Mayor asked for the hours of operation and was told the hours of operation would be 7:00 AM – 4:30 may 5:00 PM Monday through Friday. The Mayor asked what the containers would haul and Mr. Weinstein stated construction debris, rocks, sand and dirt. Councilmember Hoover made a motion to accept and it was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Sowell and passed unanimously.

6:30 PM Work Session:

1. The City Manager informed the Mayor and Council the Bids for the playground equipment were in and that nine companies had bid. The City Manager stated that he, Eddie Robinson and Mark Whitley would individually score the bids and narrow it down to three bids.

2. Candy Wolcott gave an update pertaining to the 2020 CENSUS. Lake City was at 44.2% for self-reporting. She had fifteen people register for the CENSUS during the Lake City community clean up.
3. Eddie Robinson gave the Mayor and Council a report of the community clean up. Eddie stated that we had filled nine 30-yard dumpsters that held three to five tons in each dumpster for a total of twenty-seven to thirty-five tons of debris. The Mayor stated he appreciated all the hard work.
4. The City Manager informed the Mayor and Council the city had received the second installment of the Georgia Cares Act monies. The work session ended at 6:51 PM.

7:00 PM City Council Session:

Call to order:

Mayor Dodson called the Council meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Invocation:

Police Chief Whitmire gave the invocation

Pledge of Allegiance:

Approval of Minutes:

A motion to approve the minutes of the August 10th, 2020 Council Meeting was made by Councilmember Kyles and seconded by Councilmember Hoover and passed unanimously.

Old Business:

1. The City Auditor James Whittaker gave the Mayor and Council the audit report for the Fiscal Year 2019 Budget. He stated there were no major deficiencies and we were in compliance with the State of Georgia. He stated the city had a 117% reserve fund and zero long term debt. In addition, the city pension was 81% funded. The City Manager recognized Mr. Whittaker for his work on the audit. The City Manager also recognized the outstanding work the Finance Director Tonya Tripp did pertaining to the audit and the overall budget and Eric Beckman for his contributions to the Budget as well. Councilmember Hoover asked if there was an area that

needed a correction and Mr. Whittaker stated to work on our tax reconciliations. The City Attorney Steve Fincher asked who other cities were using for the taxes and Mr. Whittaker stated a majority of the cities used the County Tax Commissioner.

2. The City Manager advised the Mayor and Council the city had received the estimate for using the Clayton County for our elections. The annual cost would be approximately \$25,000.00 dollars per election. There was no action taken.

New Business:

1. The Mayor and Council was briefed about a Mask Ordinance for the Covid-19 Pandemic. This ordinance would require anyone in Lake City in a public space to wear a face mask. Councilmember Hoover asked how would we know when COVID-19 was over. The Mayor responded when the Governor said it was over. Councilmember Hoover also stated she had concerns about whether it could be enforced or whether the Police Department had time to enforce a mask ordinance. Councilmember Craven made a motion to accept, it was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Sowell and passed four – one with Councilmember Hoover voting against the ordinance.
2. The Mayor and Council was presented a resolution to keep the Millage rate of 7.5 for Fiscal Year 2020. A motion to accept was made by Councilmember Craven and Seconded by Councilmember Kyles and passed unanimously.
3. The City Manager briefed the Mayor and Council on the bid process for the playground equipment. A Request for proposal was made by Mark Whitley's firm for a design and build of a playground at the Lake City Community Park. The bids would be sent to City Hall and we received nine packages. Eddie Robinson, Chris Leighty and Mark Whitley opened the packages and scored them for completeness. The next step was then to evaluate each package and narrow it down to the three top bids. These three top bids would then be presented to the council for their input.
4. Steve Yazell from Wyyerd made a presentation to the Mayor and Council to bring fiber to Lake City residents. This would also provide internet access as well. In addition they would still pay a franchise fee to the city. Councilmember Craven asked how many cities in Clayton County Wyyerd

was currently providing the service to and Mr. Yazell responded Lake City would be the first. He stated they had been providing fiber to Clayton County Schools for approximately four years. Council took no action on this item.

5. The Mayor and Council was presented information pertaining to a new ten years franchise agreement with Comcast. The City Manager informed the Mayor and Council the City Attorney already had the new agreement and was working with Comcast's legal to work out the details.

Police Report:

Chief Whitmire stated that Part I crime for the month of August was down 84% and that Year to Date Part I crime was down 19.5%.

Public Comment:

A resident had issues with 1311 and 1332 Tsali with both houses being used for boarding houses. In addition, they recommended the City go back to two clean up days per year. The resident stated the house on the corner of Tsali was overgrown and Code Enforcement needed to get out there. Code Enforcement advised they were aware of the houses on Tsali and was currently working to address the issue.

Adjournment:

A motion to adjourn was made by Mayor Pro Tem Sowell and seconded by Councilmember Craven and passed unanimously. The Council meeting adjourned at 8:15 PM.