

REGULAR SESSION OF THE LAKE CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES

January 11th, 2021

Attendees: Mayor Ron Dodson, Mayor Pro-Tem Sowell, Councilmember Hoover, Councilmember Craven, Councilmember Kyles, Community Services Director Eddie Robinson, City Attorney Steve Fincher, City Clerk Eric Beckman, Finance Director Tonya Tripp, Sgt. JD Branch

6:00 Variance Hearing:

The Variance Hearing was called to order/opened by Mayor Dodson at 6:00 PM. In addition to the attendees listed above, a representative from Anchor Engineering was present to request Mayor and Council approval to reduce the 40' buffer to a 10' buffer at property located at 5613 Jonesboro Road. The reduction in buffer is needed based on "the steep natural topography of the lot as well as a 20' wide sanitary sewer easement crossing mid-way back on the property" necessitating the building be placed 10' from the north property line. Questions asked by Mayor and Council were answered satisfactorily. A motion to approve the variance was made by Councilmember Craven and seconded by Councilmember Hoover. The Mayor and Council approved the motion unanimously.

6:30 PM Work Session:

Mayor Dodson called the Work Session to order at 6:30 PM.

Invocation: Mayor Dodson

Pledge of Allegiance: Led by Mayor and Council

1. City Clerk Eric Beckman opened the discussion regarding making changes to the current City Alcohol Ordinance. Alcohol sales on Christmas Day was the topic of discussion. It was established that no other City within Clayton County allows alcohol sales on Christmas Day and therefore Lake City will leave the current ordinance in place.
2. Community Services Director Eddie Robinson briefed the Mayor and Council on a proposed new resolution to support a CDBG grant request for the Oswalt Nature Park. The grant would assist with drainage and erosion efforts. Whitley Engineering, Inc has quoted that approximately \$200K will be needed to complete the project. There was no objection to the resolution. Additional discussion continued reference using 2020 SPLOST funds to pay for the project if the grant is not approved.
3. Annual Car Show discussions led to the Mayor and Council agreeing to delay the event until Autumn. There were also discussions to open the show up to all cars in order to gain more attendance for the event. The decision was made to re-visit the discussion later in the year once Covid-19 issues were better mitigated.

4. The Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for the Lake City Community Park Playground was instigated by Community Services Director Eddie Robinson. The engineer is in the process of obtaining 3 bids to pour concrete in two to three places still. The decision was made to delay setting a date for the ribbon cutting event until Covid-19 dangers have been lessened and the rainy season is over. Discussion was also had regarding sanitization of the playground equipment. CDC rules do not require regular or constant sanitization. Signs were posted earlier in the day regarding distancing and safe play.
5. The Finance Director presented the Mayor and Council with a summary copy of the final 2021 budget that will be voted on for approval during the Council Meeting. Changes were made from Draft II to Draft III (final draft) that included increasing revenue by \$80K, decreasing Operating Transfers in by \$69,500 and increasing expenditures by \$10,500.

The Work Session ended at 7:00 PM.

7:00 PM City Council Session:

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

Invocation: Given before the 6:30 PM Work Session by Mayor Dodson.

Pledge of Allegiance: Led by Mayor and Council before the 6:30 PM Work Session.

Approval of Minutes: A motion to approve the minutes of the December 14, 2020 Council Meeting was made by Councilmember Sowell and seconded by Councilmember Kyles. The motion passed unanimously.

Old Business: None

New Business:

1. Mayoral and Council Appointments for 2021: Mayor Pro-Tem Councilmember Craven, City Judge-Ken Wood, Associate City Judges-David Harris and Crandall Bray, Clayton County Municipal Association Representative-Councilmember Craven, City Attorney-Fincher Denmark, LLC. A motion to approve was made by Councilmember Hoover, seconded by Councilmember Craven and passed unanimously.
2. A motion was made by Councilmember Sowell to continue contracting with Whitley Engineering Inc for City projects. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Hoover and passed unanimously.
3. A motion to approve and adopt the Fiscal Year 2021 Budget as presented was made by Councilmember Sowell, seconded by Councilmember Craven and passed unanimously.
4. Councilmember Hoover made a motion to approve the CDBG Grant Proposal Resolution, seconded by Councilmember Kyles and passed unanimously.
5. Clayton County Public School Superintendent Dr. Morcease Beasley gave a brief presentation with handout of the Clayton County Public Schools 2020 District Highlights. The handout is attached.

Police Report: Sgt. JD Branch presented the Police report to the Mayor and Council. Sgt. Branch reported that Part I crime in Lake City for December 2020 has decreased a little more than fifty eight percent when compared to 2019's data.

Public Comment: None

Adjournment: A motion to adjourn was made by Councilmember Craven and seconded by Councilmember Kyles. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 7:45 PM.