



CITY OF LITHONIA
MINUTES– City Council Meeting
Monday March 4, 2024 @ 5:30 pm

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

The meeting began at 5:36 pm.

All members of the city council were present.

II. Moment of Silence

Councilmember Howard lead a prayer instead of a moment of silence.

III. Approval of Agenda

Motion – made by Mayor Pro Tem Inman to approve the March 4, 2024, council meeting agenda. Councilmember Sheppard seconded.

Motion passed unanimously.

IV. Public Comments

No Public Comments given.

V. Public Hearings

VI. Old Business

- a. **For Decision** – 2556 Wiggins Street Rezoning – Ashley Waters, City Clerk

Motion – made by Councilmember Howard to withdraw the petition for rezoning 2556 Wiggins Street without prejudice. Councilmember Wynn seconded.

Motion passed unanimously.

- b. **For Discussion** – 2501 Park Drive Rezoning 2nd Read – Ashley Waters, City Clerk

Ashley Waters, City Clerk, gave the second read of the 2501 Park Drive rezoning ordinance.

- c. **For Discussion** – 6853 & 6859 Magnolia Street Rezoning 1st Read – Ashley Waters, City Clerk

Ashley Waters, City Clerk, gave the first read of the 6853 & 6859 Magnolia Street rezoning ordinance.

VII. New Business

- a. **For Decision** – URA Resolution of Necessity – Ashley Waters, City Clerk
Motion – made by Councilmember Honore to approve the Resolution of Necessity.
Councilmember Howard seconded.
Motion passed unanimously.
- b. **For Decision** – SPLOST Bond – Chief Dejarnette, City Administrator
Chief Dejarnette explained a SPLOST Bond and what Council could expect as far as quotes that will be received, interest rates, and how a bond could allow the city to pursue and complete many projects. He provided details on early repayments, penalties for early repayment, and refinancing options.
Motion – made by Councilmember Sheppard to accept the SPLOST II Bond with Regions bank option b with a 4.09% interest rate. Councilmember Honore seconded.
Motion passed unanimously.
- c. **For Decision** – Lithonia Look Book – Mayor Pro Tem Amelia Inman
Motion – made by Councilmember Sheppard to approve the Lithonia Lookbook.
Councilmember Wynn seconded.
Motion passed unanimously.
- d. **For Decision** – Historic Preservation Committee Appeal – Mayor Shameka Reynolds Frinzetta Shivers requested an appeal of the Historic Preservation Committee’s decision on her window choices. Ms. Shivers presented the mayor and council with documentation that shows the original request for her window selection was approved but when she returned to the historic preservation committee about the second-floor installation of the same windows with the same specs, her request was denied.
Dawn Massey on behalf of the Historic Preservation Committee made a statement on the decision stating that the first request for the window selection installation made was approved with protest because the committee did not like the type of window being installed as it was not in keeping with the historical standards. She clarified that the second request was voted on and denied.
Mayor Reynolds vetoed the decision of the Historic Preservation Committee and allowed Ms. Shivers to complete the installation of the remaining windows in her home.
- e. **For Decision** – Tiny Home Workshop – Bill Johnston, Zoning Administrator

Bill Johnston, Zoning Administrator, was not able to attend the meeting so Ashley Waters, City Clerk, provided some information on a possible tiny home workshop. She requested that the council provide any questions they would like answered regarding tiny homes and tiny home communities to her so that Bill Johnston can present some information to them for clarity. The mayor and city council had several questions about Accessory Dwellings and asked that the City Clerk provide them to Bill Johnston to be answered in his presentation at the next work session meeting. The mayor and city council also provided some dates they would be open to touring tiny home communities in Clarkston as well as College Park.

No vote was taken.

f. **For Discussion** – 592 Lounge Proposal – Chief Dejarnette, City Administrator

Chief Dejarnette presented the mayor and city council with a proposal and letter of intent from the owner of 592 Lounge, Calvin Chan. He explained the details of the proposal and explained some of the requests therein. He stated that Mr. Chan would attend the next work session meeting to provide additional information and clarification.

VIII. Updates and Reports

a. **Police Department and City Administrator Update**

Chief Dejarnette provided an update on several stolen cars in the city and stated they found the suspects and recovered stolen property.

Chief Dejarnette stated the grant was now up and running with the help of Joyce McKibben and we are preparing a RFP for the parking lot on Wiggins Street. He stated the quotes for the parking lot are expected to come in around \$900,000 and the city's attorney office is looking into SPLOST funds to help cover the expense.

b. **Mayor's Report**

Mayor Reynolds stated she was informed by an attorney at DeKalb County that 2 million dollars could be coming this way. She stated it was a part of the agreement with DeKalb County and the smaller cities and that it is currently going through their legal department. Mayor Reynolds also stated that our State Representative Merita Johnson has stated she would like to provide help for the parking lot on Wiggins Street and plans to donate \$200,000 to the project.

c. **Council Member Updates**

IX. Executive Session (If Necessary)

(When an executive session is required, one will be called for the following issues: 1) Personnel, 2) Litigation, 3) Real Estate)

Motion – made by Councilmember Howard to enter Executive Session for personnel and real estate. Mayor Pro Tem Inman seconded.

Motion passed unanimously.

Motion – made by Councilmember Wynn to exit Executive Session. Councilmember Sheppard seconded.

Motion passed unanimously.

Motion- made by Council Member Sheppard to approve the purchase of three vehicles. Council member Howard seconded.

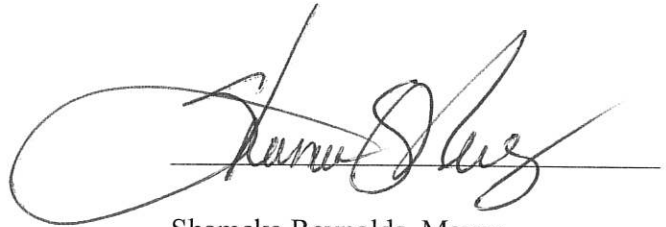
Motion approved unanimously.

X. Adjournment

Motion – made by Councilmember Wynn to adjourn the meeting. Mayor Pro Tem Inman seconded.

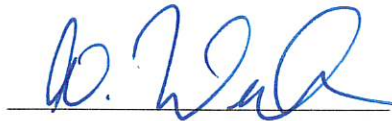
The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 7: 21 pm.



Shameka Reynolds, Mayor

Attest:



Ashley Waters, City Clerk

