



CITY OF LITHONIA
MINUTES– Special Called Meeting
Monday March 13, 2024 @ 7:00 pm

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

The meeting began at 7:06 pm. Councilmember Howard was absent. All other members of the city council were present.

II. Moment of Silence

III. Discussion Item

a. **For Discussion** – First Saint Paul AME Church – *Ashley Waters, City Clerk*

Pastor Crawford expressed his concerns with the city of Lithonia and the process of obtaining a temporary certificate of occupancy. He explained he had a previous meeting with city staff and the DeKalb County fire marshal about the requirements and steps to receive a Temporary Certificate of Occupancy and it was said that the city would not issue a temporary certificate of occupancy. He stated that he felt it was a decision made by the city of Lithonia and wanted an explanation as to why city staff would not issue one. Several other members of the first Saint Paul AME Church spoke about the want and need to access their new building and asked the city to grant them access with a temporary certificate of occupancy.

Mayor Reynolds clarified that the city does not grant temporary certificates of occupancy and stated the city is doing all they can to ensure that the church is granted access to their building once all requirements have been met. She asked that there be another meeting with select parties and the DeKalb Fire Marshall at the Church's location next week at a time that works for all parties. She stated this will be the time to make clear what can and cannot be done and what requirements are left to be met by the church.

IV. 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 Sheppard to go into Executive Session for personnel.
Councilmember Honore seconded.

Motion passed 4-0.

Motion – made by Councilmember Wynn to exit Executive Session and return to the special called meeting. Councilmember Sheppard seconded.

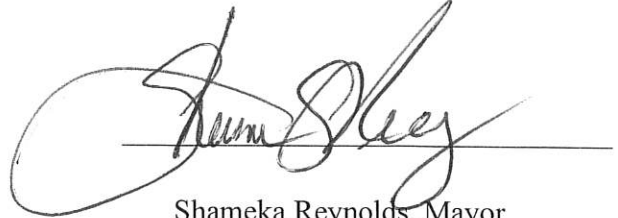
Motion passed 4-0.

V. Adjournment

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

The motion passed 4-0.

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Shameka Reynolds", written over a horizontal line.

Shameka Reynolds, Mayor

Attest:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "A. Waters", written over a horizontal line.

Ashley Waters, City Clerk

