



**CITY OF LITHONIA MINUTES--  
Work Session Meeting Monday  
May 20, 2024 @ 5:30 pm**

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**I. Call to Order and Roll Call**

The meeting began at 5:38 pm. Councilmembers Sheppard and Wynn were absent at the time of roll call. All other members of Council were present.

**II. Moment of Silence**

Councilmember Diane Howard lead a prayer.

**III. Approval of Agenda**

**Motion** – made by Councilmember Honore to approve the May 22, 2024 Work Session meeting agenda. Councilmember Mayor Pro Tem Inman seconded.

**Motion passed 3-0.**

**IV. Public Comment Responses**

Chief Dejarnette gave a response to the public comment given by Oletha Reid at the last council meeting. He stated city staff is looking into the truck parking and trash and that we are awaiting quotes for the repairs to Max Cleland and Stone Mountain Street.

**V. Discussion Items**

a. Historic Preservation Committee

Mayor Reynolds stated that she was informed about possible walking tours hosted by DeKalb County that would bring visitors to historic sites located in the city. She asked if anyone else had heard this and asked for opinions on hosting visitors at this time. She stated that she did not think the city was ready to host tours and that she had questions that should like to ask Dawn Massey about the tours. Chief Dejarnette stated he would request that Dawn Massey attend a meeting.

b. Insurance Renewal

Chief Dejarnette presented the insurance renewal information and stated that there had been a large increase in price. He clarified that everyone is seeing higher insurance prices, and the city was not exempt. There was much discussion about the options the city has in terms of looking for other insurance. Chief Dejarnette stated he was having a hard time securing quotes because the current policy covers everything and shopping around would require several different insurance companies, surveys of all assets, and then quotes. Several council members expressed their concerns with splitting up the city's assets among different companies. Chief Dejarnette stated that he would place this item on the next council meeting's agenda.

## **VI. Reports and Updates**

### **a. Police Update**

Chief Dejarnette gave an update on two new divisions here at Lithonia Police Department, the Street Crimes division and the Drug & Traffic Unit. He stated that officers have also been implementing measures to deter truck traffic in and out of the city.

### **b. City Administrator Update**

Chief Dejarnette stated the public works staff is currently looking into the creek and mosquito concerns on Bruce Street. He clarified that this is a State water way and therefore a state issue. Public Works will contact DeKalb County's roads and drainage and request a state contact to further look into the cause. Chief Dejarnette stated there were concerns about a beaver or two creating a dam.

Chief Dejarnette informed the council that their GMA conference information was being put together and that Millage Rate and Budget meetings would begin soon.

### **c. Mayor's Report**

Mayor Reynolds provided details of an upcoming Juneteenth event held at Bruce Street park June 23<sup>rd</sup>. She stated that she would reach out to DeKalb to ensure the park's availability. Mayor Reynolds clarified if it was time for a new comprehensive study to be completed and there was some discussion on the Lithonia Lookbook being drafted for Mayor Pro Tem Inman.

### **d. Councilmember Update**

Councilmember Honore informed council that the amphitheater now has a new stage and new curtains installed.

Doug Williams, member of the Downtown Development Authority, requested that council approve a purchase of a banner to help with the Farmer's Market marketing. Mayor Reynolds instructed him to request the payment of the banner from the Downtown Development Authority.

## **VII. 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 Real Estate, litigation, Personnel, and cyber security. Mayor Pro Tem Inman seconded.

**Motion passed 3-0.**

**Motion** – made by Mayor Pro Tem Inman to exit Executive session. Councilmember Honore seconded.

**Motion passed 3-0.**

Motion- made by Mayor Pro Tem Inman to approve the purchase of 7005 Swift Street. Councilmember Howard seconded.

Motion passed 3-0.


**VIII. Adjournment**

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

**The motion passed 3-0.**

The meeting adjourned at 7:50 pm.

Attest:

  
Ashley Waters, City Clerk



  
Shameka Reynolds, Mayor