



CITY OF LITHONIA
MINUTES– Council Meeting
Monday May 7, 2025 @ 5:30 pm

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

The meeting began at 5:37 pm.

Councilmember Honore was absent at the time of roll call. All members of the council were present at the time of roll call.

II. Moment of Silence

III. Approval of Agenda

Motion – made by Councilmember Wynn to approve the May 7, 2025 council meeting with the addition of the Resolution to certify the estimated roll back rate as letter A under new business. Councilmember Wynn seconded.

Motion passed 4-0.

IV. Public Comments

Vincent Robinson – 2613 Johnson Street – Mr. Robinson gave a comment about the blighted property located on Johnson Street. He stated he has concerns about the high grass. Chief DeJarnette stated that BellSouth owns the property and will inform Code Enforcement of the issue.

Doug Thompson – Business Owner of Flavaz Barbershop and member of the Downtown Development Authority - Mr. Thompson spoke about concerns with the Two Swords business located on main street. He stated that it appears they are acting as an event center at night. He also stated that there was an issue with the recent filming that took place in the city. He stated that parking was taken over by the production company that are reserved for customers. Mayor Reynolds suggested that we have signs that state parking is reserved for customers and that the production companies hold a meeting with all affected businesses before filming.

V. New Business

- a. For Decision – Resolution to Certify Estimated Roll-Back Rate – Chief DeJarnette, City Administrator

Chief DeJarnette gave an overview of the resolution presented to the council to certify the estimated roll-back rate for the city of Lithonia. He stated that this is due to DeKalb County no later than May 12th and no final numbers regarding the millage rate have been received yet. He clarified that the city is currently at a millage rate of 13.021 and that the city will have to opt out of the proposed property tax amendment yearly.

Motion – made by Mayor Pro Tem Inman to approve the resolution for the estimated roll-back rate. Councilmember Howard seconded.

Motion passed 4-0.

- b. For Decision – Upcoming Event Request – Renee Miller, Enigma Events

Renee Miller presented the details of the Thrive Family Field Day event to be held on May 8th at the back of the Lithonia Park. Mayor Reynolds clarified that she had spoken with the owner of the school and coordinated all details of the upcoming event prior to the meeting. Ms. Miller asked about the fencing being installed at the amphitheater ahead of an upcoming event and stated that she would like to pursue the T-Mobile Grant once again to get funding for some upgrades at the amphitheater.

No vote taken.

- c. For Decision – Quotes for Upgrades – Kelvin Sheppard, Lithonia Downtown Development Authority

Kelvin Sheppard presented the council with several quotes for the proposed work to be completed at the amphitheater. There was much discussion and requests for more information from potential vendors.

There was no vote taken.

- d. For Decision – Peddler's Permit Requests – Ashley Waters, City Clerk

Ashley Waters, City Clerk, presented a peddlers permit for the Caribbean Market located on Max Cleland Blvd. The request asked that a stand be erected outside of the business to display fresh fruits available.

Motion – made by Councilmember Howard to approve the peddlers permit for the Caribbean Market. Councilmember Sheppard seconded.

Motion passed 4-0.

- e. For Decision – Cricket at the Park – Chief DeJarnette, City Administrator

Chief DeJarnette provided the council with details of a situation that came to his attention regarding the rental of the lower fields. The city currently rents the lower fields to a Cricket team that plays in the park on Sunday mornings, however, the city continues to rent the fields on other days for events. An event coordinator for another event being held at the park contacted the city in response to an email sent from someone who works at DeKalb County. The email stated that the

fields were to be cleaned and that cars would be towed if they were parked in a certain area. The city of Lithonia did not authorize the email nor were we familiar with the person who sent the email. Chief Dejarnette states that after calling the number left at the bottom of the email correspondence, he spoke with this individual who stated he sent the email on behalf of Tropical Sports Club – Cricket Team to encourage the coordinator of the event to maintain the fields so that the cricket team could continue to play. Chief Dejarnette stated that this was a gross overstep by the Cricket Sports team and it was done intentionally to threaten the coordinator of the other event with the towing of vehicles. He suggested that the city refund all of the funds collected from Tropical sports Club regarding the rental of the lower fields and discontinue the relationship with this organization. There was much discussion.

Motion – made by Councilmember Sheppard to approve the refunding of the money and discontinuing the relationship with Tropical Sports Club – Cricket team. Mayor Pro Tem Inman seconded.

Motion passed 4-0.

VI. Executive Session (If Necessary)

VII. Updates and Reports

a. Mayor's Report

Mayor Reynolds opened a discussion about the Christmas festivities for this year. She stated she would like to begin to gather ideas and opinions for this upcoming holiday season. There was some general discussion on holding the tree lighting and festival on the same day, December 7th.

b. City Administrator Report

Chief Dejarnette gave an update the sidewalk project being completed currently as well as an update on the sewer capacity availability for an possible community development project. He also stated that meeting regarding the Housing Authority has been scheduled and that ARC as well as the city of Gainesville have offered to help. He also stated the recent event held at the park went smoothly and there were only two complaints received.

c. Police Update

d. Councilmember Update

Councilmember Sheppard thanked the city of behalf of the citizens for the no parking signs placed throughout the community during the events.

VIII. Adjournment

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

Motion passed 4-0.

The meeting adjourned at 6:56 pm.

ATTEST:



Ashley Waters, City Clerk





Mayor Shameka S. Reynolds

