



CITY OF LITHONIA
MINUTES–CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION VIRTUAL MEETING
Tuesday, January 19, 2021 @ 5:30 PM

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

The City Council Work Session Virtual Meeting was called to order at 5:35 pm by Mayor Shameka S. Reynolds. A roll call was taken, and the following City Council Members were present: Diane Howard, Darold Honore, Amelia Inman, Vanerriah Wynn, and Ric Dodd. City Attorney Valorri Jones later joined the call.

II. Moment of Silence

A moment of silence was observed.

III. Approval of Agenda

Councilman Dodd motioned to approve the City Council Work Session Agenda January 19, 2021; the motion was seconded by Councilwoman Howard and approved by a vote of 5-0.

IV. Approval of Council Meeting Minutes

a. December 21, 2020 – City Council Public Hearing on 2020 Comprehensive Plan Update and Work Session Virtual Meeting Minutes

Councilwoman Howard motioned to approve the City Council Public Hearing on the 2020 Comprehensive Plan Update and Work Session Virtual Meeting Minutes for December 21, 2020; the motion was seconded by Councilwoman Inman and approved by a vote of 5-0.

b. January 4, 2021 – City Council Virtual Meeting Minutes

Councilwoman Inman motioned to approve the City Council Virtual Meeting Minutes based on edits (*Section b page 1 is incomplete*); the motion was seconded by Councilman Dodd.

Councilwoman Inman rescinded her motion to table for the next meeting, the motion was seconded by Councilman Dodd and approved by a vote of 5-0.

c. January 6, 2021 – Special Called TAN (Tan Anticipation Note) Virtual Meeting Minutes

Councilwoman Inman motioned to approve the Special Called TAN (Tan Anticipation Note) Virtual Meeting Minutes for January 6, 2021; the motion was seconded by Councilman Dodd and approved by a vote of 5-0.

V. Public Comments Response–City Administrator Lathaydra Sands

City Administrator Sands stated that Chief Pollard discussed during the public meeting that Ms. Holmes and for Mr. Blount could load and unload but not for an extended amount of time. Ms. Radford’s complaint about mattresses behind her building was addressed by Public Works. Mayor Reynolds indicated that she and Chief Pollard will be meeting with Ms. Holmes at 11:00 am tomorrow morning.

VI. Presentation (NONE)

VII. Action Items

a. Alcohol License – Mr. Doug Thompkins, Flavas Barbershop

Councilman Honore motioned to grant Mr. Doug Thompkins of Flavas Barbershop an alcohol license; the motion was seconded by Councilwoman Howard and approved by a vote of 3-0. Councilwoman Wynn and Councilman Dodd were opposed.

Councilman Honore questioned the new proposed legislation if to move forward or wait. Mayor Reynolds indicated that as per the attorney, it was okay to proceed. Councilwoman Howard asked City Clerk Robinette Blount for clarity on the procedure for Servers in an establishment. Councilwoman Inman asked for clarity on the approval process through the state, and who tracks the application process (City Clerk). Councilwoman Wynn had no questions. Councilman Dodd is uncomfortable because the newly drafted alcohol ordinance has not been approved, could lead to opening the door for every business to obtain a license, and do the citizens want this.

b. Welcome Signage

Councilwoman Inman motioned to approve the first rendering, colors black and gold, changes to be added the granite background instead of the gold color and frame the granite with gold, and is a visible height for everyone to see, the motion was seconded by Councilwoman Howard, and approved by a vote of 5-0.

c. 2021 LMIG Project

Councilman Honore motioned to approve the 2021 LMIG Project; the motion was seconded by Councilwoman Inman and approved by a vote of 5-0.

d. COVID Policy Adoption

Councilman Dodd motioned to approve the COVID Policy Adoption; the motion was seconded by Councilwoman Howard and approved by a vote of 5-0.

*Councilman Dodd proposed the following change: approvals for leave should read **Mayor or City Administrator**, not Mayor and City Administrator.*

VIII. Other Business

a. Annexation Update

Councilman Dodd requested the update. Mayor Reynolds stated that State Representative Doreen Carter needs the resolution that was adopted in 2020 to move forward. Council agrees to pursue all areas that were addressed as the exhibit. Mayor Reynolds made a request that Councilman Dodd head the next phase. Councilman Honore suggested hiring a marketing firm as well.

b. Demi Oche – One Powerhouse

Mayor Reynolds indicated that Ms. Demi Oche will make a presentation during the February 1st meeting and provided a brochure for everyone in the meantime.

c. Mayors Report, Councilmember District Update

Mayor Reynolds is proposing 2 court dates per month instead of 3 for budget restraints. Councilman Honore proposed a financial committee budget meeting is scheduled for which

Mayor Reynolds is requesting to get underway next week, and a special called meeting at another time for any action that needs to take place.

Councilman Honore motioned to approve the court trial calendar for the 2nd Friday morning and the 4th Monday evening of each month effective February 2021 for budgetary concerns, the motion was seconded by Councilwoman Howard, and approved by a vote of 5-0.

Mayor Reynolds stated that former City Accountant Craig recommended the city request a \$250,000.00 TAN and move the mortgage note to 4th quarter. The actual number over budget was \$56,000.000 which included \$50,000.00 for litigation and \$6,000.00 for the litigation insurance deductible. Mayor Reynolds stated that she appointed Maxine Baptiste owner of Occasions on Main on the LDDA Board, and there is a reappointment for Mr. Jhavon Green and Mr. Robert Merriweather. There are also plans for a QuickTrip being built on the land the city owns, however there could be a potential conflict with a historic pipeline being on that property.

Councilwoman Howard stated that the outside glass on the Masonic Lodge has been replaced and the floors and ceilings will be part of the next phase. Councilman Honore set up a meeting with the sign person, has not found any planters yet and looking for any suggestions. Councilwoman Inman asked if City Hall could be refinanced, Ms. Sands will investigate the current rate, scheduling the next Lithonia Roundtable for the month of February, and thereafter the third Thursday of each month at 5:00 pm. No updates from Councilwoman Wynn. Councilman Dodd is requesting a copy of the annexation resolution.

IX. Executive Session (NONE)

X. Adjournment

Councilman Dodd motioned to adjourn the City Council Work Session Virtual Meeting, the motion was seconded by Councilwoman Wynn; the motion was approved by a vote of 5-0, and the meeting was adjourned at 7:44 pm.