



**CITY OF LITHONIA**  
**MINUTES–CITY COUNCIL VIRTUAL MEETING**  
**Tuesday, July 5, 2022 @ 5:30 PM**

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

The City Council Virtual Meeting was called to order at 5:36 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, and Yolanda Sheppard. Vanneriah Wynn later joined.

**II. Moment of Silence (Observed)**

**III. Approval of Agenda**

Councilman Honore motioned to approve the agenda as written, the motion was seconded by Councilwoman Sheppard and approved by a vote of 4-0.

**IV. Approval of Council Meeting Minutes**

- a. **May 18, 2022, Special Called Park Bookings Amphitheater and Lithonia Park (5:30 pm)**
- b. **May 24, 2022, Special Called Moratorium on Business Licenses (5:30 pm)**
- c. **June 3, 2022, Budget Meeting Work Session #1 (12:00-2:00 pm)**
- d. **June 6, 2022, City Council (5:30 pm)**
- e. **June 9, 2022, Millage Rate Meeting (11:00 am)**
- f. **June 9, 2022, Millage Rate Meeting (6:00 pm)**
- g. **June 10, 2022, Budget Meeting Work Session #2 (12:00-2:00 pm)**
- h. **June 20, 2022, Work Session (5:30 pm)**
- i. **June 22, 2022, Special Called Film Application “Heels”**

Councilman Honore motioned to approve the Meeting Minutes for May 18, 2022, May 24, 2022, June 3, 2022, June 6, 2022, June 9, 2022, Millage Rate Meeting 11:00 am and 6:00 pm, June 10, 2022, June 20, 2022, and June 22, 2022, the motion was seconded by Councilwoman Inman and approved by a vote of 4-0.

**V. Public Comments Response**

City Administrator Sands stated the Witter’s were provided an update regarding Lithonia Park.

**VI. Action Item**

**a. Lowe Engineers On-Call Contract for City Engineer Services**

Councilwoman Honore motioned to accept the Lowe Engineers On-Call Contract for City Engineer Services for discussion, the motion was seconded by Councilwoman Inman.

Councilwoman Inman asked what the services cover, Administrator Sands replied the categories are provided with a fee schedule and it depends on the task. Councilwoman Howard asked if quotes were still required, Administrator Sands replied only for engineering services and quotes would still come before council. Councilwoman Sheppard asked if the hourly rate had increased, Administrator Sands concluded after discussion that she would request that Lowe’s cap the contract at \$15K. Councilman Honore asked that City Administrator Sands keep an eye on the \$15K spending and provide council with updates.

Councilman Honore withdrew his motion for approval of Lowe Engineers. Tabled for Work Session once Administrator Sands obtains information on the hourly rate that comprises \$15K.

**b. Lowe Engineers – Stormwater Annual Reporting**

Tabled as well, that it coincides with the On-Call Contract.

**c. GMA Lease Agreement**

Councilwoman Inman motioned to approve the GMA Lease Agreement 3-year term at a 4.04% interest rate with all terms, the motion was seconded by Councilwoman Sheppard and approved by a vote of 4-0.

Councilwoman Inman motioned to approve the Resolution for the GMA Lease Agreement, the motion was seconded by Councilwoman Sheppard and approved by a vote of 4-0.

**d. FY23 Budget Approval**

Councilman Honore motioned to approve the FY23 Budget, the motion was seconded by Councilwoman Sheppard and approved by a vote of 4-0.

**e. Monetizing Digital Sign**

Councilwoman Inman motioned to approve 12 businesses that are current and in good standing with the city at \$50/month advertisement for the first year beginning August 1, 2022, and ending August 1, 2023, with an additional fee for graphics, the motion was seconded by Councilwoman Howard and approved by a vote of 4-0.

Councilwoman Inman confirmed that City Administrator Sands would manage the process; application and making contact with the businesses jointly.

**f. Associate Judge Appointment**

Councilwoman Howard motioned to approve the Associate Judge Appointment of Ms. L’Erin Barnes Wiggins, the motion was seconded by Councilwoman Inman and approved by a vote of 4-0.

**g. Entrance Signage**

After discussion Mayor and Council determined the quote provided by PW Director Monson is too high, Councilwoman Sheppard will provide PW Director Monson a few referrals from other local companies. Quotes will be obtained for the following streets: Max Cleland, Main, Swift, Stone Mountain, Conyers, (replacing existing signs). Councilwoman Inman made a suggestion that Hansen’s is contacted to participate in cost.

PW Director Monson provided a quote from LED Lighting for signage needed at the Max Cleland cross walk, tabled for the Work Session Agenda for discussion to move forward. Additionally, will obtain a quote for lighting signage for the newly erected stop sign at Main/Swift Streets.

**VII. New Business (NONE)**

**VIII. Old Business**

**a. Old City Hall Building**

Public Works Director Monson indicated there were no additional updates. Councilman Honore as previously stated that Georgia Peach Credit Union has an interest to be in the city, recently coming up in conversation with the credit union’s president during a Chamber of Commerce meeting, the credit union would build out the space to suitability. Councilwoman Howard expressed the need to establish appropriated funding for building projects, lending favor to completing the least amount of necessary work needed for the old city hall building.

**b. Masonic Lodge Repairs**

Public Works Director Monson had no new updates. Councilwoman Sheppard is obtaining window dressings.

**c. Vacant Building Ordinance**

Councilwoman Inman suggested that everyone read through the ordinance and share ideas on

enforcement specific for the city, meeting with Dawn Massey first with follow up to schedule a Special Called Meeting for discussion.

**d. Lowe Engineer estimate on Max Cleland**

PW Director Monson shared one quote of \$9,350.00 to restripe center lines on Max Cleland, placement of turtles to slow traffic down when approaching, move stop sign closer to Max Cleland, additionally move stop sign up at Swift and Main to see on-coming traffic, funds fall under splost funds in transportation. Will obtain a few more quotes to provide at the Work Session. Councilwoman Inman asked if Johnson/Main Street could be looked at as well.

**IX. Other Business**

**a. City Administrator Report**

Waiting on the contract from Legal for the CSM contract for LMIG. City hall will be closed to the public until 2:00 pm on 7/14 for the defensive driving course. Reminder of the business license moratorium to determine which business uses will be required to obtain SLUP, Councilwoman Sheppard and Councilwoman Howard confirmed availability next week to review the list of uses to include Bill Johnston Zoning Administrator. Council was asked to submit all outstanding invoices by 7/6 to close out FY22. Direction needed to review and provide changes on the Park Management RFP, Councilwoman Sheppard agreed to assist.

**b. Police Department Report**

Interim Chief DJ emailed everyone last Thursday on an issue involving the GBI and United States Attorney General's office, several arrests were made, additional update forthcoming via email.

**c. Mayors Report, Councilmember District Update**

Mayor Reynolds asked council to mark your calendars and be present for the July 14 Senior Center ribbon cutting ceremony at 10am. Additionally asking for council's assistance with issues occurring with the Housing Authority. Councilwoman Sheppard indicated that Georgia Power created potholes in the Randall Avenue area, there is also an issue with dumping occurring at the citizens trust bank parking lot. Councilwoman Inman is working on getting volunteers through Officer Brown for the next quarterly clean-up, a date has not yet been established, reminder of the roundtable on July 14 at 5:30 pm, looking for speakers who are SME's, thanked Lithonia police department, and admin team for organizing the GMA conference. Councilman Honore indicated the GMA conference went very well and highlighted insight received from the social media class being more present in the community, ideas to share are forthcoming. Councilwoman Howard talked to PW Director Monson about community concerns regarding the electricity being used at the Kelly Park gazebo by a few people in addition to someone sleeping in the gazebo, the electric outlets are being used by the public behind old city hall, entices homeless people to linger and vagrant behavior, suggesting to lock the electrical outlets, Mayor Reynolds indicated the park is a public community area and the police will administer removal of any inappropriate activity. Councilwoman Howard and Mr. Monson met with a pest control representative that works with dekalb county, information forth coming to include fees and ways to combat the rodent situation, next virtual advisory committee meeting is July 7 at 3:30 pm. Councilwoman Wynn expressed a concern from people in the community about an event that took place this past weekend at Bruce Street Park, no one was aware of the event, a truck moved one of the boulders to park, Interim Chief of Police DJ indicated that he reached out to Mr. Billups, Deputy Chief over all parks and he stated no events were scheduled at any of the parks, currently working on a solution to share calendars.

**VIII. Executive Session (None)**

**IX. Adjournment**

Councilwoman Howard motioned to adjourn the meeting, the motion was seconded by Councilman Honore; the motion was approved by a vote of 5-0, and the meeting was adjourned at 7:16 pm.