



**CITY OF LITHONIA  
MINUTES–SPECIAL CALLED VIRTUAL MEETING  
COPS Grant Award  
Monday, January 27, 2022 @ 5:00 PM**

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

The Special Called Meeting was called to order at 5:04 pm by Mayor Shameka S. Reynolds. A roll call was taken, and the following City Council Members were present: Diane Howard, Darold Honore, and Yolanda Sheppard. City Accountant Keesha McGurn was on the call. Vanerriah Wynn was absent. Amelia Inman.

**II. Approval of Agenda**

Councilwoman Howard motioned to approve the agenda, the motion was seconded by Councilwoman Sheppard and approved by a vote of 3-0.

**III. Discussion**

**a. COPS Grant Award**

Mayor Reynolds stated the purpose of the meeting, council needed more information to make a decision and wanted the accountant on the line to see what the future looks like if the grant is approved or denied, and the extension deadline is nearing. City Accountant Keesha McGurn stated the federal funds to be received totals in rounded figures 827k over a 3-year period and the city will fund \$278k. Information was received from Chief Pollard regarding how the funds will be sent and City Administrator Sands provided information on how the city will repay in unequal installments, the first year using 70k from the American Rescue arc funds, 35k from this years funding and 35k from the second piece that will come in April/May/June or July. Second year replace funding through fines. The way the numbers are projecting the first year is fine, for the other 2 years strictly relying upon fines. Looks good on paper, what happens if the police officers do not produce. No concerns about the reporting requirements. Happy to take more detailed questions.

*Council Questions:*

Councilwoman Howard asked if the city is expected to retain these officers on payroll after the 3-year period. City Accountant: yes, the expectation is that the officers are kept on for at least 1 additional year, another clause the government will consider getting out of the grant, repayment during the first year \$93k, \$114k the second year. Councilwoman Howard confirmed through Administrator Sands there are currently 7 officers, if the grant is approved there would be 15 officers for 2,662 residents. Councilwoman Howard asked ms mcgurn if the city has funding for cars, Administrator Sands and Chief Pollard confirmed there are 9 cars assigned to the police department.

**IV. Executive Session (NONE)**

**V. Adjournment**

Councilwoman Wynn motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:39 pm, the motion was seconded by Councilwoman Howard and approved by a vote of 4-0.