



**CITY OF LITHONIA
MINUTES– CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Monday, May 1, 2023 @ 5:30 pm**

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

The meeting began at 5:39 pm. Roll call was taken by Mayor Shemeka Reynolds. Councilmembers Amelia Inman, Darold Honore, and Vanerriah Wynn were all present. Councilmembers Yolanda Sheppard and Diane Howard were absent.

II. Moment of Silence

A moment of silence was observed.

III. Approval of Agenda

Motion – made by Councilmember Wynn to approve the May 1, 2023 Council Meeting Agenda. Councilmember Inman seconded.

The motion passed 3-0.

IV. Approval of Council Meeting Minutes

Approval of the minutes was deferred as they are not ready yet.

V. Public Comments Response

There were no responses given.

VI. Action Item

a) Larry Long – Old City Hall

Mr. Long gave an introduction of himself on behalf of the Knights of Pythias Hall Association Inc. He explained that they are a sponsor for Georgia Decal Bright from the Start program and work to instrumentally lessen the burden of government by providing social and civic programs on behalf of municipal state and federal governments. This program includes the happy helping summer food supplement program that provides meals to participants 18 years or younger and special needs participants 19 years old or younger. He stated that a food service management company will prepare pre-packaged, non-port, nutritious balanced healthy meals in a restaurant style container. Mr. Long explained they would like to partner with the city to implement the summer food supplement program here in the community. The program requires a venue for participants to congregate in a camp-like setting for one (1) hour and thirty (30) minutes while engaging in enrichment activities and eating their meals. He included that a memorandum of understanding and an informational flyer distributed to the Lithonia community would be needed. He clarified he is seeking dates and times of operation to be June 1st thru August 1st and stated that meals can be served in the mornings for breakfast and lunch or in the afternoon for snack and supper. Councilmember Inman stated she had concerns with flexibility as the

city often gets requests or deals for filming. Mr. Long explained that the alternative would be tents, tables, and chairs and they would set up outside in the event of filming. Councilmember Honoré asked about the storage of supplies and inventory during and after the daily events. Mr. Long explained that they would only require tables and chairs. Food would be delivered and distributed, and no other supplies would be needed. Nothing would be left overnight, and everything would be cleaned before leaving. Councilmember Inman asked about liability insurance as this event would involve children and Councilmember Honoré asked if a memorandum of understanding would be submitted to the city for approval. Mr. Long stated that the organization they partner with has liability insurance and a memorandum of understanding would be submitted. Councilmember Honoré asked that the clerk ensure a certificate of assurance is included in the contract and that the City's Attorney review the memorandum of understanding before Council votes and locks the city in.

Motion – made by Councilmember Honoré to move forward with the review of the memorandum of understanding for the Knights of Pythias with the city's attorney. Councilmember Inman seconded.

The motion passed 3-0.

b) Sewer Cover Main Street+

Chief Dejarnette gave an overview of the work that would need to be completed and provided the council with three (3) quotes for review that outlined the repair costs. He stated that the repair costs will be paid through Stormwater. Councilmember Inman asked if the intersection being discussed could be repaired or shifted. She stated because of the way it was previously constructed, it is a dangerous intersection. Chief Dejarnette stated that a study would need to be completed and that he would contact Hari Karikaran to request one so that both issues could be addressed at the same time. Councilmember Inman asked about a blockage located across the street from the Academy building and asked Chief Dejarnette if the city could work with the owner to remove it. She stated that would also help a lot with the dangerous intersection.

Motion – made by Councilmember Inman to table the repairs for the sewer cover on Main Street and Parkway and to review opening the right-of-way with Lowes Engineering. Councilmember Honoré seconded.

The motion passed 3-0.

c) Swift St Roadway

Chief Dejarnette gave an overview of the repairs needed at 7061 Swift Street. He provided the Council with estimates of the repair costs and stated that the repair cost would be paid through SPLOST.

Motion – made by Councilmember Inman to approve Complete Contractors Partners LLC to do the road and sidewalk repairs with the sewer riser on Swift Street and the city is to make sure that they include a more detailed description of the work in the contract. Councilmember Wynn seconded.

Motion passed 3-0.

VII. New Business

VIII. Old Business

IX. Other Business

a) Police Department Report

Chief Dejarnette stated that there is a new Lithonia Police Department Instagram page and introduced two new community relations officers, Sergeant Hazelwood, and Officer Keys. He also mentioned that the city is working on QR codes and trying to move things forward. Councilmember Inman asked if Sergeant Hazelwood needed Council's support in some way. Chief Dejarnette explained that he is currently working on getting her another phone to manage the social media page. Chief Dejarnette also introduced Ashley Waters, the new assistant City Clerk. Councilmember Inman offered a warm welcome to the city.

A representative on behalf of Commissioner Lorraine Cochran-Johnson attended the meeting just as an audience member.

The Mayor of Pine Lake, Melanie Hammet, also attended the meeting and stated she loved the City's agenda template so much that she asked her City Manager to create theirs exactly like it. She stated she was attending the meeting as an observer.

b) Mayor's Report, Councilmember District Update

There was no mayor's update. Councilmember Inman mentioned the movie night event held on Friday in observance of Georgia's Cities Week and said there was a nice turn out. Councilmember Wynn spoke about attending the Bingo event on Saturday and said it was a great event. Some citizens asked if the city could have another bingo event in the summer, maybe once a month.

X. Executive Session

Motion – made by Councilmember Honoré to go into Executive Session for personnel. Councilmember Inman seconded.

Motion passed 3-0.

Motion – made by Councilmember Honoré to exit the Executive Session and return to the regular council meeting. Councilmember Inman seconded.

Motion passed 3-0.

Motion – made by Councilmember Inman to approve Executive Session minutes. Councilmember Honoré seconded.

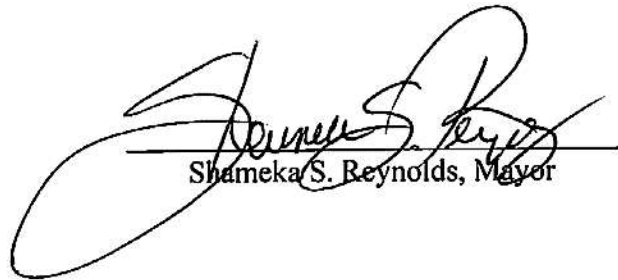
Motion passed 3-0. No action was taken in executive session.

XI. Adjournment

Motion – made by Councilmember Wynn to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember Inman seconded.

Motion passed 3-0.

The meeting ended at 7:12 pm.



Shameka S. Reynolds, Mayor

Attest:

Ashley Waters, City Clerk