



CITY OF LITHONIA

MINUTES—CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING ON 2020 COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE AND WORK SESSION VIRTUAL MEETING

Monday, December 21, 2020 @ 5:30 PM

PUBLIC HEARING ON 2020 COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

The City Council Public Hearing for the 2020 Comprehensive Plan Update Virtual Meeting was called to order at 3:09 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, Vanneriah Wynn, and Ric Dodd.

II. Review and Discussion of Comprehensive Plan Update

City Administrator Lathaydra Sands provided a summary of the final draft; the executive summary stayed the same, brief history updated from the 2015 edition, by state law a section on demographics and broadband was an added requirement, housing inventory was discussed, the zoning administrator was involved to look at the future land use map section and provided an update to ARC, areas of concern were cultural assets, green space, Main Street, residential and commercial vacancies, Bruce Street, and the category for the housing area was updated. Council had no changes to make or concerns on the Comprehensive Plan Update.

III. Adjournment

Councilwoman Howard motioned to adjourn the City of Lithonia 2020 Comprehensive Plan Update meeting, the motion was seconded by Councilwoman Inman; the motion was approved by a vote of 5-0, and the meeting was adjourned at 5:47 pm.

CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

The City Council Work Session Virtual Meeting was called to order at 5:48 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, Vanneriah Wynn, and Ric Dodd.

II. Moment of Silence

A moment of silence was observed.

III. Approval of Agenda

Councilman Honore motioned to approve the agenda; the motion was seconded by Councilman Dodd; the agenda was approved by a vote of 5-0.

IV. Approval of Council Meeting Minutes

a. November 30, 2020 – Zoning Public Hearing Virtual Meeting@ 3:00 PM

Item #1 City-initiated amendment to the text of the zoning ordinance that will allow establishment of adult day care facilities and family daycare homes in Lithonia's five (5) single-family residential zoning districts

Item #2 Rezoning of 6880, 6884, and 6860 Robinson Street

Item #3 A Variance for 6880, 6884, and 6860 Robinson Street

Councilwoman Wynn motioned to approve the Zoning minutes, the motion was seconded by Councilman Dodd; and approved by a vote of 5-0.

b. November 30, 2020 – Special Called Small Business Grant Proposal and Procedures for LDDA Virtual Meeting @ 4:00 PM

Councilwoman Inman motioned to approve the LDDA Small Business Grant Application, the motion was seconded by Councilwoman Wynn; and approved by a vote of 5-0.

c. December 7, 2020 – City Council Virtual Meeting @ 5:30 PM

Councilman Dodd motioned to approve December 7, 2020 City Council Meeting minutes, the motion was seconded by Councilwoman Wynn; and approved by a vote of 5-0.

V. Public Comments Response-City Administrator Lathaydra Sands

City Administrator Lathaydra Sands stated that Chief Pollard has provided all officers with the business hours of operation and the businesses are complying at this time regarding the music noise levels that Ms. Dawn Massey reported on Main Street. Ms. Ajima Woodard was informed that no changes have been made at this time to re-open the park regarding her Colorgasm event that occurs during the month of May. Chief Pollard indicated that he had not spoken to Ms. Yvonne Holmes regarding parking for her handicap clients, that he would be getting with Major Ferguson, and the signage posting needs to be revisited by council to make any changes. In follow up to Ms. Shametha Woods' request for Pine Mountain Road, Chief Pollard stated that DeKalb has placed a sign on the street and the DOT was contacted regarding the process to obtain approval, once the street documentation is obtained, the item would come before council. Councilwoman Howard asked for clarity on the trucking route through the city and Chief Pollard indicated that all trucking traffic activity would be reviewed to include hours for delivery or pickup, Councilwoman Wynn asked if a temporary sign could be obtained until everything is resolved, Chief Pollard indicated that language within the ordinance at this time is not enforceable.

VI. Presentation (Limit 8 minutes per person)

a. Mr. Willard Smith, Sr. Inspector DeKalb County Fire Rescue Fire Marshal's Division/Inspections

Mr. Willard Smith was not available for the virtual call and will be rescheduled.

VII. Action Items

a. Comprehensive Plan Update

Councilman Honore motioned to approve the Comprehensive Plan Update, the motion was seconded by Councilwoman Howard; and approved by a vote of 5-0.

b. Covid Grant/Residential Services: Covid Cleaning for Seniors affected by the Covid Virus

Tabled for further discussion to include outline of the service proposed and cost.

c. 2021 Budget

Councilwoman Inman motioned to approve the 2021 Budget, the motion was seconded by Councilman Dodd; and approved by a vote of 5-0.

Councilwoman Inman inquired about code enforcement funds; how much of the funds were used and if the provision for software will be included. City Administrator Lathaydra Sands stated that she

will ask the City Accountant (Craig) about the funds that were used in 2020. Councilman Honore proposed that a date is designated for a budget meeting to make any amendments.

d. Police Department Fleet

Councilman Honore motioned to move forward with the next step to allow City Administrator Lathaydra Sands to submit the documentation to the finance company to obtain the contract that would include actual numbers and due dates, the motion was seconded by Council

City Administrator Lathaydra Sands indicated that the city attorney had no issues with the contract. Councilwoman Wynn asked if there are any vehicles that are currently being financed; Chief Pollard indicated there are 2 vehicles. Councilwoman Howard and Councilman Honore would like to review the contract further and are concerned that the city does not have a 2021 budget in place yet to include this cost. Chief Pollard is proposing to move forward with obtaining the contract that would include actual numbers and due dates.

VIII. Other Business

a. Alcohol Ordinance No. 2020-11-02

Mayor Reynolds stated that information would be presented by City Clerk Robinette Blount at the City Council Virtual Meeting in January 2021.

b. Mayors Report, Councilmember District Update

Mayor Reynolds wished everyone a Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays and to remain socially distanced and to sanitize. Mayor stated that the On Common Ground newspaper wants to do business with the City of Lithonia; she will forward the proposal to Council.

Councilwoman Howard had no updates. Councilman Honore wished everyone Happy Holidays. Councilwoman Inman wished everyone a Happy Holiday and to stay safe around their families. Councilwoman Wynn hopes that the information that Chief Pollard provided the residents in the Pine Mountain Road area about the truck signs will be helpful, and especially thanked Ms. Howard, Ms. Sands, and the Mayor for helping her during the month of August with her illness, further thanking Ms. Inman, Mr. Honore, and Mr. Dodd. Councilman Dodd announced that Str8N Natural's toy giveaway is on Wednesday and wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Police Chief Pollard wished everyone from the police department a Happy Holiday and relayed a thank you expression from the officers for the money blessing. Mrs. Harper thanked Mayor and Council for a magnificent job this year and that she is proud to be a citizen in the City of Lithonia.

VII. Executive Session (NONE)

VIII. Adjournment

Councilman Dodd motioned to adjourn the meeting, the motion was seconded by Councilwoman Inman; the motion was approved by a vote of 5-0, and the meeting was adjourned at 6:47 pm.