

**City of Locust Grove
Council Meeting Minutes
Public Safety Building – Courtroom Chamber
3640 Highway 42 S. – Locust Grove, GA 30248
Tuesday, September 7, 2021
6:00 PM**

Members Present:	Staff Present:
Robert Price – Mayor	Tim Young – City Manager
Carlos Greer – Councilman	Bert Foster – Assistant City Manager
Willie Taylor – Councilman	Misty Spurling – City Clerk
Vincent Williams – Councilman	Jennifer Adkins – Assistant City Clerk
Rod Shearouse – Councilman	Daunte’ Gibbs – Community Development Director
Rudy Breedlove – Councilman	Jack Rose – Public Works Director
Keith Boone – Councilman	Derrick Austin - Police Chief
	Andy Welch - Attorney
	Staff not Present:
	Anna W. Ogg - Main Street Mgr.

Mayor Price called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM

Invocation given by Assistant City Manager Bert Foster

Councilman Breedlove led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA –

Mayor Price asked for a motion. Councilman Greer made the motion to approve the September 7, 2021 meeting agenda.

RESULT	APPROVED AGENDA
MADE MOTION	COUNCILMAN GREER
2 ND MOTION	COUNCILMAN BREEDLOVE
VOTE	MOTION CARRIED - ALL IN FAVOR

PUBLIC COMMENTS –

Ms. Marie Brock: resident at 174 Lakeview Drive in the Skyland community, stepped forward to comment. Ms. Brock made a comment the Skyland community has turned into a truck stop. Tractor trailer trucks, and box trucks are tearing up the streets throughout and causing people to move. Ms. Brock said the Code Enforcement is doing a good job; however, something else must be done to eliminate the truck parking.

Mr. Young said we posted the position last week to hire a second Code Enforcement officer and discussion took place.

Ms. Brock said trucks are parked everywhere and said one specific house has three tractor cabs parked in the yard. Ms. Brock said she loves her home and the neighborhood and does not want to sell her home, but

this must be resolved. Mr. Young said we are working on trying to clean up that area and the clubhouse as well.

Councilman Boone made a comment about the trucks dropping trailers at the County line store on Highway 42 and discussion on who can regulate. Mr. Young said hopefully with an additional Code Enforcement officer we can accommodate more after hours and weekend activity.

Councilman Greer made a comment the trucks are very annoying; however, said we need to also consider the owner/operators of these trucks that live in the city. Councilman Greer said fuel costs have increased and discussion took place. Councilman Greer said we have discussed a location for truck parking a few times before at a location possibly on the south side of the city and asked is that still an option. Mr. Gibbs said the latest discussion is for potential truck parking at Walker Crossing; however, nothing beyond inquiry or interest in zoning codes. Discussion took place.

Mr. Young said we do recognize we need to address the issue and will look at what can be done regarding zoning violations after hours.

Councilman Greer said he understands it is a nuisance; however, we need to take everyone into consideration and review the population of truck drivers. Councilman Taylor said even if a location was provided for them to park there would still be a fee to park. Councilman Greer agreed but said at least the city would be providing a location. Nothing further.

PUBLIC HEARING ITEMS – NONE

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES –

1. AUGUST 2, 2021- REGULAR MEETING MINUTES –

Mayor Price asked for a motion. Councilman Williams made the motion to approve the August 2, 2021, regular meeting minutes.

RESULT	APPROVED AUGUST 2, 2021 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
MADE MOTION	COUNCILMAN WILLIAMS
2 ND MOTION	COUNCILMAN GREER
FAVOR	MOTION CARRIED – ALL IN FAVOR

2. AUGUST 16, 2021- WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES –

Mayor Price asked for a motion. Councilman Greer made the motion to approve the August 16, 2021 workshop meeting minutes.

RESULT	APPROVED AUGUST 16, 2021 WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES
MADE MOTION	COUNCILMAN GREER
2 ND MOTION	COUNCILMAN BREEDLOVE
FAVOR	MOTION CARRIED – ALL IN FAVOR

ACCEPTANCE OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT –

3. AUGUST 2021 FINANCIAL STATEMENT –

Mayor Price asked for a motion. Councilman Greer made the motion to approve the August 2021 Financial Statement.

RESULT	APPROVED AUGUST 2021 FINANCIAL STATEMENT
MADE MOTION	COUNCILMAN GREER
2 ND MOTION	COUNCILMAN BOONE
FAVOR	MOTION CARRIED – ALL IN FAVOR

UNFINISHED BUSINESS/ACTION ITEMS –

- 4. Ordinance to modify zoning conditions for Oak Ridge Meadows POD E (a.k.a. Locust Grove Station POD E) located north of Locust Grove Griffin Road (Parcel ID: 130-01017000) -**

Mayor Price asked for a motion to deny the request. Councilman Greer made the motion to deny the request.

RESULT	REQUEST DENIED
MADE MOTION	COUNCILMAN GREER
2 ND MOTION	COUNCILMAN BREEDLOVE
FAVOR	MOTION CARRIED – ALL IN FAVOR

- 5. Ordinance to rezone 2.85 +/- acres located at 170 Pine Grove Road (Parcel ID: 127-02019004) in Land Lot 232 of the 2nd district –**

Mayor Price asked for a motion. Councilman Taylor made the motion to approve the request by approving ordinance #21-09-058.

RESULT	APPROVED ORDINANCE #21-09-058
MADE MOTION	COUNCILMAN TAYLOR
2 ND MOTION	COUNCILMAN SHEAROUSE
FAVOR	MOTION CARRIED – ALL IN FAVOR

- 6. Ordinance to amend Chapter 17, Zoning Ordinance, adding Table 17.04.041, Principal Uses aloud in each zoning district coupled with NAICS (North American Industry Classification Systems) codes –**

Mayor Price asked for a motion. Councilman Williams made the motion to approve the request by approving ordinance #21-09-059.

RESULT	APPROVED ORDINANCE #21-09-059
MADE MOTION	COUNCILMAN WILLIAMS
2 ND MOTION	COUNCILMAN SHEAROUSE
FAVOR	MOTION CARRIED – ALL IN FAVOR

- 7. Resolution to create a streetlight district in Bunn Farms, Phase I, subdivision –**

Mayor Price asked for a motion. Councilman Taylor made the motion to approve the request by approving resolution 21-09-060.

RESULT	APPROVED RESOLUTION #21-09-060
MADE MOTION	COUNCILMAN TAYLOR
2 ND MOTION	COUNCILMAN BREEDLOVE
FAVOR	MOTION CARRIED – ALL IN FAVOR

8. Ordinance to approve the preliminary plat for South Unity Grove Road subdivision, located on 490 South Unity Grove Road –

Mayor Price asked for a motion. Councilman Shearouse made the motion to approve the request by approving ordinance #21-09-061

RESULT	APPROVED ORDINANCE #21-09-061
MADE MOTION	COUNCILMAN SHEAROUSE
2 ND MOTION	COUNCILMAN BREEDLOVE
FAVOR	MOTION CARRIED – ALL IN FAVOR

9. Resolution approving the architectural plans submitted for Chick-fil-A, located at 1005 Bandy Parkway –

Mayor Price asked for a motion. Councilman Greer made the motion to approve the request by approving resolution #21-09-062.

RESULT	APPROVED RESOLUTION #21-09-062
MADE MOTION	COUNCILMAN GREER
2 ND MOTION	COUNCILMAN SHEAROUSE
FAVOR	MOTION CARRIED – ALL IN FAVOR

10. Resolution approving architectural plans submitted for Locust Grove Phase II Building 3, located on Colvin Drive –

Mayor Price asked for a motion. Councilman Shearouse made the motion to approve the request by approving resolution #21-09-063.

RESULT	APPROVED RESOLUTION #21-09-063
MADE MOTION	COUNCILMAN SHEAROUSE
2 ND MOTION	COUNCILMAN TAYLOR
FAVOR	MOTION CARRIED – ALL IN FAVOR

11. Ordinance to amend No. 701 the section of the Personnel Policy entitled “The Pay Plan”, to approve the new salary schedule and for addition of the position of Fire Marshal –

Councilman Greer made a comment he would like for each position being added be individual to its own ordinance [if there is more than one position being added]. Councilman Greer said there may be times when Council agrees only on one position out of multiple positions being added [such as in this request and only the Development Inspector was approved]. Councilman Greer said he also noticed the Captain position is included to place as inactive; however, this has not been discussed and said he would like to discuss prior to action being taken.

Mr. Young said we already had classification for Mechanic, and only added for mobility and advancement in pay and discussion took place. Councilman Greer said there are three different requests in this one ordinance.

Councilman Boone made a comment he would like the captain position to continue active.

Councilman Breedlove asked if the clerk level positions were added in this request and Mr. Young replied yes, we are just approving [advancement] pay scales for positions that already exist. Discussion took place.

Councilman Greer asked why is it necessary the captain position be placed inactive? Chief Austin stepped forward and said the decision to deactivate the captain position is because the position is currently vacant. Councilman Greer asked, “Will the position be filled again?” and Chief Austin replied not this fiscal year.

Councilman Williams asked the department had a Captain until recently, correct? Chief Austin said yes, the position was occupied until recently and discussion took place. Councilman Williams asked who will step in the interim should the Chief decide to leave? Chief Austin said Lieutenant Morris would be in charge in his absence according to the current organizational chart. Discussion took place about keeping the captain position active for the security of the position. Chief Austin said after reviewing the duties of the position; the decision was made to transition the previous captain to patrol. Chief Austin said the responsibilities were not enough for both [Chief and Captain] positions. Councilman Williams said we have four lieutenants and may need to consider having less lieutenants to regain a captain in the future and said he would like to revisit with more discussion.

Councilman Breedlove asked if we could approve this ordinance with exception of removing Captain position? Discussion took place and Mr. Young replied he will revise this ordinance accordingly to reflect changes discussed.

Mayor Price asked for a motion. Councilman Boone made the motion to Table the request until October 4, 2021.

RESULT	REQUEST TABLED FOR REVISIONS
MADE MOTION	COUNCILMAN BOONE
2 ND MOTION	COUNCILMAN GREER
FAVOR	MOTION CARRIED – ALL IN FAVOR

NEW BUSINESS/ACTION ITEMS –

12. Ordinance to amend Police SOP Section P-005 – Patrol Operations –

Mayor Price asked for a motion. Councilman Shearouse made the motion to approve the request by approving ordinance #21-09-064.

RESULT	APPROVED ORDINANCE #21-09-064
MADE MOTION	COUNCILMAN SHEAROUSE
2 ND MOTION	COUNCILMAN TAYLOR
FAVOR	MOTION CARRIED – ALL IN FAVOR

13. Ordinance to amend Police SOP Section A-062 – Patrol Reserve Division –

Chief Austin said we currently do not have a policy in place specific to our reserve officers. This is a new addition to be consistent with policy.

Councilman Greer asked what the annual salary is for a reserve officer. Chief Austin said we only provide their uniforms; they are not city paid employees. Councilman Greer asked what is the benefit for having reserve officers? Chief Austin said this allows the department to have certified officers as back-up without the overhead. The reserve officers are required to maintain the required 12-hour minimum training to maintain their certification which benefits them and the city. We currently have two reserve officers plus Code Enforcement Officer Fornal. Nothing further.

Mayor Price asked for a motion. Councilman Shearouse made a motion to approve the request by approving ordinance #21-09-065.

RESULT	APPROVED ORDINANCE #21-09-065
MADE MOTION	COUNCILMAN SHEAROUSE
2 ND MOTION	COUNCILMAN BREEDLOVE
FAVOR	MOTION CARRIED – ALL IN FAVOR

14. Resolution to accept an agreement for design services for the expansion of the Indian Creek Sewer Plant – Turnipseed Engineers –

Mr. Young said this is an agreement for the work to begin the expansion of the sewer plant located at 1116 Locust Road. The sewer plant was originally designed with the intent of expanding from its original capacity to serve the growth of the city. The current flow is 700,000 gpd on the average now with peak flows over 1.1 MGD with infiltration into the system. The design capacity now is 1.5 MGD.

Mayor Price said this expansion should accommodate up to ten years according to growth. Nothing further.

Mayor Price asked for a motion. Councilman Breedlove made a motion to approve the request by approving resolution #21-09-066.

RESULT	APPROVED RESOLUTION #21-09-066
MADE MOTION	COUNCILMAN BREEDLOVE
2 ND MOTION	COUNCILMAN SHEAROUSE
FAVOR	MOTION CARRIED – ALL IN FAVOR

CITY MANAGER’S COMMENTS –

Mr. Young said we received good news from GMA; the wave of Covid is decreasing. Piedmont Henry hospital announced they are over their capacity; however, they are still lagging with the wave of infections. One of our employees, Shane Hallford, is still out recovering from Covid symptoms, but he is home from the hospital with a few problems still lingering. Mr. Young said he is working on the budget and will have an update coming soon.

Mr. Young said Councilman Williams contacted him regarding relief for hurricane Ida victims and has some information he would like to share. Councilman Williams said someone contacted him from the American Legion Post of McDonough asking if they could use our facilities to store cases of water collected for those in Louisiana. The plan is to collect water until September 15th, and load onto a tractor trailer which will then deliver to Louisiana. Mayor Price made a comment the city could donate water as well.

Mayor Price asked for a motion to approve spending \$500.00 towards cases of water for donation on behalf of the city. Councilman Breedlove made the motion to approve the purchase.

RESULT	APPROVED
MADE MOTION	COUNCILMAN BREEDLOVE
2 ND MOTION	COUNCILMAN SHEAROUSE
FAVOR	MOTION CARRIED – ALL IN FAVOR

MAYOR’S COMMENTS –

Mayor Price asked Attorney Andy Welch to share comments.

Attorney Andy Welch stepped forward and gave an update we attempted purchasing 108 Roberts Road property; however, we were outbid. The property sold for \$26,000 and the city will be reimbursed for any nuisance fees incurred.

Further, the Mayor had asked if the city would still need to hold the general election being the three seats are unopposed. The state law automatically counts the unopposed for your vote; therefore, we do not have to hold the election. We do still have T-SPLOST; however, and campaigning could be an advantage to help encourage everyone to vote for T-SPLOST. Mr. Young said we need to let the elections superintendent know a decision soon to allow them to time to plan accordingly. Attorney Andy Welch said there will be separate machines for the unincorporated and incorporated areas and the incorporated area will have a ballot for the bond resolution for the city.

Councilman Williams said he is still going to campaign to encourage T-SPLOST voting. Attorney Andy Welch said he agrees because this will encourage people to go and vote. Councilman Greer asked if there will be two different machines and Mr. Welch said there will be two different polling places where the votes are tallied. Since our precincts don’t consume the entire city, we have different locations [T-SPLOST for the unincorporated area, and T-SPLOST for the incorporated area]. Mr. Young said the city has four county precincts, which is why we are trying to set up two locations in the city for city voting only. Mr. Welch said we will have more information soon and discussion took place. Mr. Welch said we will tell the election superintendent to set things up the most efficient way for them and the city for this coming election. Nothing further.

Councilman Boone made a comment hurricane Katrina came through Louisiana 16 years ago and now the same area has been devastated by hurricane Ida. He also mentioned the fact that it has been twenty years since 9/11 along with the pullout from Afghanistan. Councilman Boone shared thoughts and concerns for all of those in need. Nothing further.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – NONE

ADJOURNMENT –

Mayor Price asked for a motion to adjourn. Councilman Boone made the motion to adjourn.

RESULT	APPROVED – ADJOURN MEETING
MADE MOTION	COUNCILMAN BOONE
2 ND MOTION	COUNCILMAN WILLIAMS
FAVOR	MOTION CARRIED MEETING ADJOURNED @ 6:57 PM.

Notes taken by:

Misty Spurling, City Clerk