

**City of Locust Grove
Council Meeting Minutes
Public Safety Building – Courtroom Chamber
3640 Highway 42 S. – Locust Grove, GA 30248
Monday, May 1, 2023
6:00 PM**

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| 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 |
| Keith Boone – Councilman/Pro Tem | Jennifer Adkins – Assistant City Clerk |
| Vincent Williams – Councilman | Daunté Gibbs – Community Development Director |
| Rod Shearouse – Councilman | Jack Rose – Public Works Director |
| Rudy Breedlove – Councilman | Derrick Austin - Police Chief |
| | Andy Welch – Attorney |
| | Staff not present: |
| | Colleen Cook – Main Street Director |

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

Invocation given by City Manager Tim Young.

Councilman Williams led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA –

Mayor Price asked for a motion. Councilman Greer made the motion to approve the agenda.

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| RESULT | APPROVED |
| MADE MOTION | COUNCILMAN GREER |
| 2 ND MOTION | COUNCILMAN BOONE |
| VOTE | MOTION CARRIED - ALL IN FAVOR |

PUBLIC COMMENTS – NONE

PUBLIC HEARING ITEMS – NONE

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES –

1. APRIL 3, 2023- REGULAR MEETING MINUTES –

Mayor Price asked for a motion. Councilman Greer made the motion to approve the April 3, 2023, regular meeting minutes.

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| RESULT | APPROVED APRIL 3, 2023, REGULAR MEETING MINUTES |
| MADE MOTION | COUNCILMAN GREER |
| 2 ND MOTION | COUNCILMAN BOONE |
| FAVOR | MOTION CARRIED – ALL IN FAVOR |

2. APRIL 3, 2023- EXECUTIVE SESSION MEETING MINUTES –

Mayor Price asked for a motion. Councilman Williams made the motion to approve the April 3, 2023, executive session meeting minutes.

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| RESULT | APPROVED APRIL 3, 2023, EXECUTIVE SESSION MEETING MINUTES |
| MADE MOTION | COUNCILMAN WILLIAMS |
| 2 ND MOTION | COUNCILMAN GREER |
| FAVOR | MOTION CARRIED – ALL IN FAVOR |

3. APRIL 17, 2023- WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES –

Mayor Price asked for a motion. Councilman Taylor made the motion to approve the April 17, 2023, workshop meeting minutes.

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| RESULT | APPROVED APRIL 17, 2023, WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES |
| MADE MOTION | COUNCILMAN TAYLOR |
| 2 ND MOTION | COUNCILMAN WILLIAMS |
| FAVOR | MOTION CARRIED – ALL IN FAVOR |

4. APRIL 17, 2023- EXECUTIVE SESSION MEETING MINUTES –

Mayor Price asked for a motion. Councilman Breedlove made the motion to approve the April 17, 2023, executive session meeting minutes.

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| RESULT | APPROVED APRIL 17, 2023, EXECUTIVE SESSION MEETING MINUTES |
| MADE MOTION | COUNCILMAN BREEDLOVE |
| 2 ND MOTION | COUNCILMAN WILLIAMS |
| FAVOR | MOTION CARRIED – ALL IN FAVOR |

ACCEPTANCE OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT – NONE – FY 2022 final adjustments pending from audit.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS/ACTION ITEMS –

5. Ordinance for adoption of a new zoning map incorporating map amendments, areas annexed into the city August 1, 2016, and new zoning districts (Tabled from April 3, 2023) –

Mayor Price asked for a motion. Councilman Breedlove made the motion to approve the request by approving ordinance # **23-05-038**.

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| RESULT | APPROVED ORDINANCE #23-05-038 |
| MADE MOTION | COUNCILMAN BREEDLOVE |
| 2 ND MOTION | COUNCILMAN SHEAROUSE |
| FAVOR | MOTION CARRIED – ALL IN FAVOR |

6. Ordinance to amend the city’s Future Land Use Map designation from Office and Medium Density Residential to Community Commercial for multiple tracts located on highway 42 and Tanger Boulevard –

Mayor Price asked for a motion. Councilman Breedlove made the motion to approve the request by approving ordinance #23-05-039.

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| RESULT | APPROVED ORDINANCE #23-05-039 |
| MADE MOTION | COUNCILMAN BREEDLOVE |
| 2 ND MOTION | COUNCILMAN SHEAROUSE |
| FAVOR | MOTION CARRIED – ALL IN FAVOR |

7. Ordinance for rezoning from OI (office/institutional), RM (residential multi-family) and PD (planned development) to C-2 (general commercial) for 29.62 +/- acres (Parcel IDs: #129-01004000, 129-01002000, 129-01003000, and 130-01002006) in LL 166 of the 2nd district on Highway 42 and Tanger Boulevard –

Daunté stepped forward to comment. Daunté said the conditions were amended to include Councilman Greer’s request at the last meeting for the applicant to coordinate deeded right-of-way for future widening of Hwy 42. Daunté said staff recommends approval with conditions and read aloud conditions one through five.

Councilman Breedlove said he wants to amend staff conditions to add one additional condition number six (read aloud): *The owner shall coordinate with the City of Locust Grove the installation of an 8’ multi-use path linking the development to the city’s Trail Network that will extend to Barnes Station.*

Mayor Price asked for a motion. Councilman Breedlove made the motion to approve the request by approving ordinance #23-05-040 as amended.

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| RESULT | APPROVED ORDINANCE #23-05-040 AS AMENDED |
| MADE MOTION | COUNCILMAN BREEDLOVE |
| 2 ND MOTION | COUNCILMAN GREER |
| FAVOR | MOTION CARRIED – ALL IN FAVOR |

8. Ordinance to approve a variance request to allow for a master sign plan located on the west side of the intersection of Tanger Boulevard and Highway 42 (Parcel IDs: – #129-01004000, 129-01002000, 129-01003000, and 130-01002006) -

Mayor Price asked for a motion. Councilman Shearouse made the motion to approve the request by approving ordinance # 23-05--041.

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| RESULT | APPROVED ORDINANCE #23-05-041 |
| MADE MOTION | COUNCILMAN SHEAROUSE |
| 2 ND MOTION | COUNCILMAN BOONE |
| FAVOR | MOTION CARRIED – ALL IN FAVOR |

9. Ordinance to approve a Conditional Use request to allow gravel-surfaced truck/tractor-trailer parking on Bethlehem Road west of Highway 42 (Parcel IDs: 111-01013015, 111-0103016, and 111-0103020) –

Daunté Gibbs said this request was previously discussed as part of a public hearing and the council made suggestions for additional conditions to be added. Daunté said staff recommends approval with conditions and read aloud conditions one through six as follows:

1. *The applicant shall submit a photometric plan to the Community Development Director for review prior to the issuance of any land disturbance or building permit. All parking areas and entry/exit gates will be adequately lit.*
2. *All entry/exit points to the truck parking area shall be secured with fencing, gates, and/or security.*
3. *In addition to required buffering, the applicant shall install opaque privacy fencing eight (8) feet in height around the perimeter of the parking lot.*
4. *The applicant shall coordinate with the LGPD for the installation of flock cameras.*
5. *The gravel surface shall always be kept in a neat and orderly condition and is subject to an annual inspection from the City Code Enforcement Officer.*
6. *No tractor-trailer or any other vehicle shall be occupied overnight.*

Councilman Boone said there was previous discussion about the road coming through the property and discussion took place. Daunté said there will not be any liability with the city in respect to the property owner. Councilman Williams asked if the owner of the property is present tonight. Mayor Price said no. Boone made a motion to postpone the item. Andy said if postponed, the council must set a date for revisiting. If the council tables the request, the council can bring it back up at any time (in a reasonable period of time due to posting requirements).

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

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| RESULT | TABLED |
| MADE MOTION | COUNCILMAN BOONE |
| 2 ND MOTION | COUNCILMAN SHEAROUSE |
| FAVOR | MOTION CARRIED –FIVE IN FAVOR (TAYLOR, BOONE, WILLIAMS, SHEAROUSE, BREEDLOVE) AND ONE OPPOSED (GREER) |

Andy said with the request being tabled, it can be brought back at any time; however, a decision would have to be made (without lingering on) because it is a zoning matter, and a public hearing was held.

Councilman Greer said he thinks the request should be postponed for a definite date. Discussion took place with no substitute or additional motion.

10. Ordinance to approve the final plat for Bridle Creek Phase 2A subdivision located on Highway 42 in Parcel #147-01009016 –

Mayor Price asked for a motion. Councilman Greer made the motion to approve the request by approving ordinance # 23-05--042.

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| RESULT | APPROVED ORDINANCE #23-05-042 |
| MADE MOTION | COUNCILMAN GREER |
| 2 ND MOTION | COUNCILMAN WILLIAMS |
| FAVOR | MOTION CARRIED – ALL IN FAVOR |

11. Ordinance to approve the final plat for Collinswood Phase II (LG Griffin Pod D) located on Kirkland Dr. in Parcel #130-01002012 –

Mayor Price asked for a motion. Councilman Shearouse made the motion to approve the request by approving ordinance # 23-05--043.

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| RESULT | APPROVED ORDINANCE #23-05-043 |
| MADE MOTION | COUNCILMAN SHEAROUSE |
| 2 ND MOTION | COUNCILMAN GREER |
| FAVOR | MOTION CARRIED – ALL IN FAVOR |

12. Ordinance to approve a final plat for Cedar Ridge (Pod D Phase I) located on Tanger Blvd, (Parcel ID #130-01005000) –

Mayor Price asked for a motion. Councilman Shearouse made the motion to approve the request by approving ordinance # 23-05--044.

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| RESULT | APPROVED ORDINANCE #23-05-044 |
| MADE MOTION | COUNCILMAN SHEAROUSE |
| 2 ND MOTION | COUNCILMAN WILLIAMS |
| FAVOR | MOTION CARRIED – ALL IN FAVOR |

13. Resolution approving the architectural plans submitted for The Shops at Indian Creek –

Mayor Price asked for a motion. Councilman Shearouse made the motion to approve the request by approving resolution # 23-05--045.

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| RESULT | APPROVED RESOLUTION #23-05-045 |
| MADE MOTION | COUNCILMAN SHEAROUSE |
| 2 ND MOTION | COUNCILMAN BREEDLOVE |
| FAVOR | MOTION CARRIED – ALL IN FAVOR |

14. Resolution approving the architectural plans submitted for the remodel of an existing structure located at 4971 Bill Gardner Parkway –

Mayor Price asked for a motion. Councilman Williams made the motion to approve the request by approving resolution # 23-05--046.

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| RESULT | APPROVED RESOLUTION #23-05-046 |
| MADE MOTION | COUNCILMAN WILLIAMS |
| 2 ND MOTION | COUNCILMAN TAYLOR |
| FAVOR | MOTION CARRIED – ALL IN FAVOR |

NEW BUSINESS/ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS –

15. Ordinance to amend Section 2.04.010 of Title 2, Chapter 4 of the City of Locust Grove Code of Ordinances which provides for compensation -

Tim Young stepped forward and said this is a request previously discussed for staff to look at the compensation for the change in the Mayor and Council salaries. Tim reviewed the increases [Council increase to \$1,000 per month, and Mayor increase to \$1,200 per month]. Andy said the ordinance says this will be effective immediately; however, need to amend the ordinance to be effective January 1, 2024.

Councilman Williams said the mayor’s salary should be \$1,500 per month (\$18,000 annually). Andy said the council needs to make a motion to amend.

Mayor Price asked for a motion. Councilman Breedlove made the motion to amend to change the mayor’s salary to \$18,000 annually and amend to change effective date to January 1, 2024, thus approving the request by approving ordinance #23-05-047.

Councilman Shearouse made a comment for those members who have been here long term deserve the increase; however, Shearouse said he does not agree with the increase for those of recent tenure. Greer said he is recusing himself from voting. Andy asked Greer if there is a basis for his recusal and Greer said no.

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| RESULT | APPROVED ORDINANCE #23-05-047 |
| MADE MOTION | COUNCILMAN BREEDLOVE |
| 2 ND MOTION | COUNCILMAN WILLIAMS |
| FAVOR | MOTION CARRIED – FOUR IN FAVOR (TAYLOR, BOONE, BREEDLOVE, WILLIAMS) ONE RECUSED (GREER) AND ONE OPPOSED (SHEAROUSE) |

CITY MANAGER’S COMMENTS –

Mr. Young gave an update staff is working on FEMA submittals and finalizing the audit with the accountants in preparation for the auditors’ final steps. Tim said he will have information soon on the CID for the area of public improvements. Nothing further.

COUNCIL COMMENTS –

Councilman Greer asked Jack about the status of the replacement of the signs on Tanger, turning off Highway 42. Greer said he mentioned it at the last council meeting. Jack said he will check on it, but it may be GDOT responsibility.

MAYOR’S COMMENTS – NONE

EXECUTIVE SESSION – PERSONNEL & LITIGATION

Motion to go into executive session to discuss pending and/or threatened litigation and personnel matters by Councilman Breedlove and seconded by Councilman Williams. Motion Carried All in favor 6:31 PM.

At 8:09 PM, motion to come back into regular session made by Councilman Shearouse and seconded by Councilman Breedlove.

REGULAR SESSION RECONVENED –

Mayor Price said he has an item for discussion that he forgot to bring up in his comments. Mayor said there is a need for paving the main drive in the cemetery down to where it meets at Frances Ward Drive. There are funds in the cemetery account to cover the costs and Tim has the information for review. Tim reviewed

two quotes: Onsite Paving for \$15,515 and Stockbridge Paving for \$13,200. Tim said this will be the main section from Claude Gray down to Frances Ward. We will also replace the chains with permanent gates.

Greer asked if we need to include the other areas in the cemetery for repair and Mayor Price said we don't have enough funds to do additional repairs/paving right now.

Motion to add item for paving the cemetery street to the agenda by Councilman Boone and seconded by Councilman Williams.

ADD ITEM –

16. Cemetery – Paving of street section (from Claude Gray to Frances Ward)

Mayor Price asked for a motion. Councilman Boone made the motion to approve the request by approving the proposal from Stockbridge Paving in the amount of \$13,200.

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| RESULT | APPROVED FOR STOCKBRIDGE PAVING |
| MADE MOTION | COUNCILMAN BOONE |
| 2 ND MOTION | COUNCILMAN GREER |
| FAVOR | MOTION CARRIED – ALL IN FAVOR |

ADJOURNMENT –

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

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| RESULT | APPROVED – ADJOURN MEETING |
| MADE MOTION | COUNCILMAN BOONE |
| 2 ND MOTION | COUNCILMAN BREEDLOVE |
| FAVOR | MOTION CARRIED MEETING ADJOURNED @ 8:18 PM. |

Notes taken by:

Misty Spurling
City Clerk