

CITY OF LAGRANGE, GEORGIA  
REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL

July 10, 2018

Present: Mayor Jim Thornton; Council Members Jim Arrington, Nathan Gaskin, Willie Edmondson, Tom Gore, LeGree McCamey, and Mark Mitchell

Also Present: Assistant City Manager Teresa Taylor; City Attorney Jeff Todd; Director of Community Development Alton West; Senior Planner Leigh Threadgill; Communications Manager Katie Van Schoor

Absent: City Manager Meg Kelsey

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Thornton, the invocation was given by Reverend Cade Farris of First Baptist Church and Mayor Thornton led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

On a motion by Mr. McCamey seconded by Mr. Mitchell, Council unanimously approved the minutes of the regular Council meeting held on June 26, 2018.

A public hearing was held to receive comments on a request to rezone 102 Fort Drive from R-3, Multi-Family Residential to C-3, General Commercial. No comments were received and the Council heard a first reading of the following ordinance:

AN ORDINANCE

AN ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAGRANGE TO AMEND THE CODE OF THE CITY; TO AMEND THE ZONING MAP AND ORDINANCES OF THE CITY SO AS TO RECLASSIFY WITH CERTAIN CONDITIONS THE USE ZONE OF REAL ESTATE LOCATED ON FORT DRIVE AND OWNED BY MICHAEL DENNIS MURPHY; TO REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; TO FIX AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

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A public hearing was held to receive comments on a sign variance for B. Turners at 504 Lafayette Parkway. No comments were received. On a motion by Mr. McCamey seconded by Mr. Edmondson, Council unanimously approved the sign variance to allow an additional wall sign.

Ms. Threadgill presented a request to rezone 504 Greenville Street from C-1, Neighborhood Commercial to C-3 General Commercial. While the use of a pawn shop is permitted in C-1, the applicant desires a changing sign which is not allowed in C-1. The Board of Planning and Zoning recommended approval with conditions. On a motion by Mr. Edmondson seconded by Mr. McCamey, council unanimously voted to call for a public hearing on August 14, 2018.

Ms. Taylor presented copies of the June financial statements and payment of bills over \$2,000 for Council's information.

On a motion by Mr. Edmondson seconded by Mr. McCamey, Council unanimously voted to adopt the following ordinance:

AN ORDINANCE

AN ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAGRANGE TO AMEND THE CHARTER OF THE CITY; TO AMEND THE CHARTER SO AS TO CREATE AND DESIGNATE THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE OFFICE OF CITY CLERK; TO REPEAL CONFLICTING PROVISIONS; TO FIX AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAGRANGE, GEORGIA, HEREBY  
ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

**SECTION 1:**

That Section 2.14 of the Charter of the City of LaGrange be amended by deleting said section, in its entirety, and inserting in lieu thereof a new Section 2.14 to read as follows:

**“Sec. 2.14. – Oath of Office.**

Each newly elected or appointed mayor or council member, before entering upon the duties of his or her office, shall take and subscribe before the city clerk or before some judicial officer, or mayor, the following oath:

‘I do solemnly swear that I will well and truly perform the duties of mayor (or council member, as the case may be) of the City of LaGrange, to the best of my skill and ability, and as to me shall seem to the best interest and welfare of the city, without fear, favor or affection; so help me God.’”

**SECTION 2:**

That subsection (b) of Section 2.40 of the Charter of the City of LaGrange be amended by deleting said subsection, in its entirety, and inserting in lieu thereof a new subsection 2.40(b) to read as follows:

(b) *Procedure.* Except as otherwise provided by this charter, each ordinance shall be introduced and read at a regular meeting of the mayor and council. The ordinance shall not be adopted until the next regular meeting of the mayor and council following the meeting of its initial introduction, but said ordinance may be amended, corrected or revised prior to adoption. Upon introduction of any ordinance, the city clerk shall distribute a copy to the mayor and to each council member, and to the city manager, and shall file a reasonable number of copies in the office of the city clerk, and at such other public places as the council may designate.

**SECTION 3:**

That Section 2.42 of the Charter of the City of LaGrange be amended by deleting said section, in its entirety, and inserting in lieu thereof a new Section 2.42 to read as follows:

**“Sec. 2.42. – Codes of technical regulations.**

The mayor and council may adopt any standard code of technical regulations by references thereto in an adopting ordinance. The procedure and requirements governing such adopting ordinance shall be as prescribed for ordinances generally except that:

- (1) The requirements of section 2.40(b) for distribution and filing of copies of the ordinance shall be construed to include copies of the code of technical regulations, as well as the adopting ordinance; and
- (2) A copy of each adopted code of technical regulations, as well as the adopting ordinance, shall be authenticated and recorded by the city clerk pursuant to section 2.43.

Copies of any adopted code of technical regulations shall be made available by the city clerk for distribution or for purchase at a reasonable price.”

**SECTION 4:**

That subsection (a) of Section 2.43 of the Charter of the City of LaGrange be amended by deleting said subsection, in its entirety, and inserting in lieu thereof a new subsection 2.43(a) to read as follows:

“(a) The city clerk shall authenticate by his or her signature, and record in full a properly indexed book kept for the purpose, all ordinances adopted by the mayor and council.”

**SECTION 5:**

That Section 3.40 of the Charter of the City of LaGrange be amended by deleting said section, in its entirety, inserting in lieu thereof a new Section 3.40 to read as follows:

**“Sec. 3.40. – Assistant City Manager.**

The city manager shall appoint an officer who shall perform the duties of assistant city manager as may be required by law or as the city manager may direct.”

**SECTION 6:**

That Charter of the City of LaGrange be amended by inserting therein a new Section 3.42, to be entitled “City Clerk” and to read as follows:

**“Sec. 3.42. – City clerk.**

The city manager shall appoint an officer who shall perform the duties of city clerk and who shall keep a journal of the proceedings of the city council and maintain in a safe place all records and documents pertaining to the affairs of the city. The city clerk shall be the custodian of the records of the city, and shall perform such other duties as may be required by law or as the city manager may direct.”

**SECTION 7:**

That Section 4.33 of the Charter of the City of LaGrange be amended by deleting said subsection, in its entirety, and inserting in lieu thereof a new Section 4.33 to read as follows:

**“Sec. 4.33. - Submission of budget to mayor and council.**

On or before a date fixed by the mayor and council but not later than sixty (60) days prior to the beginning of each fiscal year, the city manager shall submit to the mayor and council a proposed budget for the ensuing fiscal year. The budget shall be accompanied by a message from the city manager containing a statement of the general fiscal policies of the city, the important features of the budget, explanations of major changes recommended for the next fiscal year, a general summary of the budget and such other comments and information as he may deem pertinent. A sufficient number of copies of the city manager's message shall be reproduced to furnish a copy to any person desiring one, and a copy of the budget in full shall be filed with the council and furnished to the mayor and each council member. A summary of the budget shall be published in one (1) or more daily

newspapers of general circulation within the City of LaGrange. The operating budget and the capital improvements budget hereinafter provided for, the budget message and all supporting schedules shall be filed in the office of the city clerk and shall be open to public inspection.

**SECTION 8:**

That Section 4.40 of the Charter of the City of LaGrange be amended by deleting said section, in its entirety, inserting in lieu thereof a new Section 4.40 to read as follows:

**“Sec. 4.40. – Contracting procedures.**

The mayor and council shall prescribe by ordinance such rules and regulations as may be necessary to govern the authorization and execution of contracts which shall bind the City of LaGrange. All contracts, and all ordinances or resolutions making contracts or authorizing the same, shall be drawn by the city attorney or shall be submitted to him before authorization by the mayor and council. Except where otherwise provided by law or by ordinance of the council, all contracts of the city shall be signed by the mayor or mayor pro tem or by some person designated by the mayor and council, and shall be authenticated by the city manager, assistant city manager, city clerk or such other person as may be designated by the mayor and council.”

**SECTION 9:**

All provisions of the Charter of the City of LaGrange in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

**SECTION 10:**

This Charter amendment, after adoption by the Council and upon approval by the Mayor, shall become effective upon a copy of same being filed with the Secretary of State of the State of Georgia and the Clerk of the Superior Court of Troup County, Georgia, all in accordance with O.C.G.A. § 36-35-5.

INTRODUCED AND FIRST READING \_\_\_\_\_ June 26, 2018

SECOND READING AND ADOPTED \_\_\_\_\_ July 10, 2018

SUBMITTED TO MAYOR AND APPROVED \_\_\_\_\_ July 10, 2018

BY: /s/ James C. Thornton, Mayor

ATTEST: /s/ Teresa Taylor, Assistant City Manager

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On a motion by Mr. McCamey seconded by Mr. Gore, Council unanimously voted to adopt the following ordinance:

**AN ORDINANCE**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAGRANGE TO AMEND THE CODE OF THE CITY; TO AMEND THE CITY CODE SO AS TO DESIGNATE CERTAIN RESPONSIBILITIES TO THE OFFICE OF CITY

CLERK; TO REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; TO FIX AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAGRANGE, GEORGIA, HEREBY ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

**SECTION 1:**

That Section 5-5-9 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of LaGrange be amended by deleting said section, in its entirety, inserting in lieu thereof a new Section 5-5-9 to read as follows:

**“Sec. 5-5-9. - City attorney's examination of records.**

The city attorney shall examine the minute and ordinance books kept by the city clerk and shall advise the city clerk as to the form in which such books are to be kept.”

**SECTION 2:**

That Section 5-12-3 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of LaGrange be amended by deleting said section, in its entirety, inserting in lieu thereof a new Section 5-12-3 to read as follows:

**“Sec. 5-12-3. - Competitive bidding contracts, acceptance by mayor and council.**

Contracts for which competitive bidding is required by the laws of the State of Georgia as the same may now or hereafter exist and which require the acceptance by the mayor and council of the low or appropriate bid therefor must be executed by the mayor or mayor pro tem or by some other person designated by the mayor and council and shall be authenticated by the city clerk.”

**SECTION 3:**

All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with the provisions of this ordinance shall be and the same are hereby repealed.

**SECTION 4:**

This ordinance, after adoption by the Council and upon approval by the Mayor, shall become effective immediately.

INTRODUCED AND FIRST READING \_\_\_\_\_ June 26, 2018 \_\_\_\_\_

SECOND READING AND ADOPTED \_\_\_\_\_ July 10, 2018 \_\_\_\_\_

SUBMITTED TO MAYOR AND APPROVED \_\_\_\_\_ July 10, 2018 \_\_\_\_\_

BY: /s/ James C. Thornton, Mayor

ATTEST: /s/ Teresa Taylor, Assistant City Manager

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In good news closing comments, Ms. Van Schoor announced the success of the “Leaving LaGrange Better Than We Found It” litter pick-up event held on Saturday, July 7, 2018. About 30 employees and residents participated in picking up trash along West Point Lake on Country Club Drive. The next litter pick up event will be on Saturday, August 4, 2018 7 a.m. to 9 a.m. right in front of City Hall, 200 Ridley Ave.

There was no other business and the meeting was adjourned by Mayor Thornton.

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Mayor

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Assistant City Manager