

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

August 9, 2016

Present: Mayor Pro Tem Norma Tucker; Council Members Willie Edmondson, Tom Gore, LeGree McCamey, Mark Mitchell and Nick Woodson

Absent: Mayor Thornton

Also Present: City Manager Meg Kelsey; City Attorney Jeff Todd; Director of Community Development Alton West

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Pro Tem Tucker, the invocation was given by Reverend Tracey Deavers, First Baptist Church on the Square and Mayor Pro Tem Tucker led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

On a motion by Mr. McCamey seconded by Mr. Woodson, Council approved the minutes of the regular Council meeting held on July 26, 2016.

A public hearing was held to receive comments on restricting parking on the east side of S. Dawson Street from Hines Street to Ware Street. Dr. Robert Tucker appeared before the Council and discussed safety and traffic concerns during peak usage of Calumet Park. A petition was presented from property owners on S. Dawson in favor of the request to restrict parking. On a motion by Mr. McCamey seconded by Mr. Woodson, Council voted unanimously to instruct staff to prepare an ordinance to no park the east side of S. Dawson Street from Hines Street to Ware Street.

Mr. Carl Von Epps presented a brief update on the Racial Reconciliation effort. Several participants in the program appeared before the Council and discussed their own personal experiences from attending training classes. No action was taken.

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

On a motion by Mr. Woodson seconded by Mr. Edmondson, Council voted unanimously to authorize the Mayor and City Manager to execute a Substitution Escrow Agent, Assignment of Master Repurchase Agreement and Assignment of Reimbursement and Indemnity Agreement for the 1998 GMA Lease Program. Copies of the documents are on file in the City Manager's office.

On a motion by Mr. Woodson seconded by Mr. Edmondson, Council voted unanimously to authorize the Mayor and City Manager to execute a First Amendment to the 1998A GMA Master Lease and Option Agreement. A copy of the document is on file in the City Manager's office.

On a motion by Mr. Edmondson seconded by Mr. Gore, Council voted unanimously to adopt the following resolution authorizing the Exercise of Powers under the Urban Redevelopment Law:

**RESOLUTION OF NECESSITY PREREQUISITE TO EXERCISE OF POWERS
UNDER URBAN REDEVELOPMENT LAW**

WHEREAS, Chapter 61 of Title 36 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, entitled the "Urban Redevelopment Law," as amended (the "Urban Redevelopment Law"), requires the City of LaGrange, Georgia (the "City"), as a condition to the exercise of any of the powers conferred upon the City by the Urban Redevelopment Law, to adopt a resolution finding that one or more "pockets of blight" (as defined in the Urban Redevelopment Law) exist in the City and that the rehabilitation, conservation, or redevelopment, or a combination thereof, of such area or areas is necessary in the interest of the public health, safety, morals, or welfare of the residents of the City; and

WHEREAS, after careful study and investigation, the City desires to exercise the powers conferred upon the City by the Urban Redevelopment Law;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the City of LaGrange, Georgia that there is hereby found, determined, and declared that one or more “pockets of blight” (as defined in the Urban Redevelopment Law) exist in the City and that the rehabilitation, conservation, or redevelopment, or a combination thereof, of such area or areas is necessary in the interest of the public health, safety, morals, or welfare of the residents of the City.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any and all resolutions in conflict with this resolution be and the same are hereby repealed.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution shall be effective immediately upon its adoption by the Mayor and Council of the City, and from and after such adoption the City may exercise any of the powers conferred upon it by the Urban Redevelopment Law.

PASSED, ADOPTED, SIGNED, APPROVED, and EFFECTIVE this 9th day of August 2016.

CITY OF LAGRANGE, GEORGIA

By: _____
Mayor

(SEAL)

Attest:

Deputy City Manager – Administration
and Finance

On a motion by Mr. Woodson seconded by Mr. Edmondson, Council voted unanimously to authorize the Mayor and City Manager to execute an Intergovernmental Agreement regarding Conveyance of Downtown Properties and Development of Downtown Hotel. A copy of the document is on file in the City Manager’s office.

On a motion by Mr. Edmondson seconded by Mr. Gore, Council voted unanimously to adopt the following resolution authorizing the sale of real property:

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING
SALE OF REAL PROPERTY

WHEREAS, through agreement dated January 3, 2000, the City of LaGrange leases certain real property to the State of Georgia, acting by and through the Georgia Department of Human Resources, said property located at 1220 Hogansville Road in LaGrange, Georgia (hereafter sometimes “Property”);

WHEREAS, the State of Georgia has requested confirmation that the City of LaGrange has the right to accept an offer to sell the Property, which has been titled in the name of the LaGrange Development Authority during the lease term, prior to officials of the state entering negotiations to potentially acquire the Property from the City;

WHEREAS, by terms of the Lease Purchase Agreement between LaGrange Development Authority and the City of LaGrange, Georgia, said Property is required to be transferred to the City of LaGrange upon the occurrence of certain conditions, which Authority and City concur have occurred;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the City of LaGrange, Georgia, and it is so ordained by the authority thereof, that the City Manager is authorized to enter into negotiations with the State of Georgia for sale of the Property, the City having title thereto.

SO ORDAINED this 9th day of August, 2016.

CITY OF LAGRANGE, GEORGIA

(SEAL)

BY: _____
JAMES C. THORNTON
Mayor

ATTEST: _____
MARGARET B. KELSEY
City Manager

In closing comments, Ms. Kelsey shared a face book post where a police officer had his meal paid for by a local waitress. The waitress wrote a very sweet note thanking him for his service and dedication to the community. The officer commented “the last few days have shown me how much the LaGrange community cares for our police officers. I’m proud to serve the City of LaGrange.” Ms. Kelsey noted that there were over 3000 face book likes and 75 posted comments.

There was no other business and the meeting was adjourned by Mayor Pro Tem Tucker.

Mayor

City Manager