

**City of Locust Grove
 Council Workshop Meeting Minutes
 Public Safety Building – 3640 Highway 42
 Locust Grove, GA 30248
 Tuesday, January 22, 2019
 6:00 PM**

Members Present:	Staff Present:
Robert Price – Mayor	Tim Young – City Manager
Randy Gardner – Councilman	Misty Spurling – City Clerk
Willie Taylor – Councilman	Jennifer Adkins – Assistant City Clerk
Carlos Greer – Councilman	Anna W. Ogg – Main Street Manager
Otis Hammock – Councilman	Jack Rose – Public Works Director
Vernon Ashe – Councilman	Jesse Patton – Police Chief
Keith Boone – Councilman	Priya Patel – SWWW Attorney
	Staff Not Present:
	Andy Welch – City Attorney

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

Invocation given by City Manager Tim Young

Councilman Hammock led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA –

Mayor Price asked for a motion. Councilman Hammock made the motion to approve the January 22, 2019 meeting agenda.

RESULT	APPROVED
MADE MOTION	COUNCILMAN HAMMOCK
2 ND MOTION	COUNCILMAN TAYLOR
VOTE	MOTION CARRIED - ALL IN FAVOR

PUBLIC COMMENTS –

- **Introduction of new Locust Grove Police Officers: Bianca Buchanan and Dwayne Parkin** –

Chief Jesse Patton stepped forward and first introduced new police officer Bianca Buchanan. Chief Patton said Mrs. Buchanan graduated from the police academy in December and is now a certified police officer. Chief Patton continued to introduce new police officer Dwayne Parkin. Chief Patton said the department is happy to have both officers in Locust Grove. Mayor Price and Council welcomed each officer to the City of Locust Grove.

Mayor Price opened for Public Comments on items not listed under public hearing.

Mrs. Melissa Simmons stepped forward to make a comment. Mrs. Simmons said she is here tonight in support of The Marked Society tattoo shop. Mrs. Simmons said she always likes to support small businesses and said this business will be a great asset to the community. Mrs. Simmons said she has known the owner for years and his current shop is very clean and professional. She added that she's taken her granddaughter there. Nothing further.

Mr. Cody Simmons stepped forward to comment in support of The Marked Society tattoo shop. Mr. Simmons said all his tattoos were done at this shop, and the owner and staff are very professional and clean. Mr. Simmons said it is very important to support small businesses and said he will continue to support. Nothing further.

Mr. Cory Lamb stepped forward to comment in support of The Marked Society tattoo shop. Mr. Lamb said he manages the local Sprint store, and he is here tonight for support of their business. Nothing further.

Mr. Brian Allen stepped forward to make a comment in support of The Marked Society tattoo shop. Mr. Allen said he is a local business owner at All Wrapped Up at Park 42, and he supports small businesses. Mr. Allen said he thinks this shop will be a benefit to Locust Grove and hopes Council will welcome their business.

Mrs. Christy Smith stepped forward to make a comment in support of The Marked Society tattoo shop. Mrs. Smith said the shop is clean and the staff is very friendly and professional. Nothing further.

PUBLIC HEARING ITEMS –

1. Ordinance to amend Title 17, Chapter 17.04, Section 7.04.134(d) – *Section 3-7-153 – C-2: general commercial district adopted as amended (Conditional Use) in the City of Locust Grove Code of Ordinances –*

City Manager Tim Young led discussion this is an amendment which provide for zoning regulations; “Section 3-7-153 – C-2 general commercial district adopted as amended by inserting subparagraph item (11) in Paragraph (d) of Section 17.04.134. Mr. Young reviewed the provisions from (11) paragraphs a-d.

Councilman Greer asked how the hours of operation are decided and Mr. Young replied the hours are based on normal hours for any retail store; however, extended the hours on Friday and Saturdays. Councilman Greer asked Mr. Andy Cagle; owner of The Marked Society, if the hours specified in the ordinance coordinate with his business hours. Mr. Cagle replied yes, and discussion took place.

Mayor Price said this is a public hearing and opened for public comments. No further questions or comments and Mayor Price closed public hearing.

2. Ordinance to amend Title 17, Chapter 17.04, Section 17.04.135 (d) – *Section 3-7-154 – C-3: heavy commercial district adopted as amended (Conditional Use) in the City of Locust Grove Code of Ordinances –*

City Manager Tim Young led discussion this is the parallel ordinance revision to C-2 (general commercial) for allowing a tattoo/body art studio in that district under certain conditions, with the

only exception being there are only 4 subparagraph items in the C-3 Ordinance. Mr. Young asked for questions from Council and no comments or questions.

Mayor Price said this is a public hearing and opened for public comments. No further questions or comments and Mayor Price closed the public hearing.

NEW BUSINESS/ACTION ITEMS –

3. Resolution to appoint members to the Locust Grove Events Committee for 2019

Mayor Price asked for a motion. Councilman Greer made the motion to approve the request by approving resolution #19-01-014.

RESULT	APPROVED RESOLUTION #19-01-014
MADE MOTION	COUNCILMAN GREER
2 ND MOTION	COUNCILMAN ASHE
VOTE	MOTION CARRIED - ALL IN FAVOR

4. Resolution to accept an application from Clarence R. and Carol C. McQueen for annexation of 9.97 acres located at 340 Colvin Drive – Community Development Director Bert Foster led discussion this is to accept an application for annexation only. Councilman Greer asked if the applicant is present tonight to answer questions. Mr. Young replied the applicant is not present tonight. Councilman Greer asked if the applicant was aware this was an action item for tonight. Mayor Price replied yes. Nothing further.

Mayor Price asked for a motion. Councilman Gardner made the motion to approve the request by approving resolution #19-01-015.

RESULT	APPROVED RESOLUTION #19-01-015
MADE MOTION	COUNCILMAN GARDNER
2 ND MOTION	COUNCILMAN HAMMOCK
VOTE	MOTION CARRIED – FOUR IN FAVOR (GARDNER, HAMMOCK, TAYLOR, ASHE) AND TWO OPPOSED (GREER, BOONE)

Councilman Greer asked to make note he is opposed because the applicant is not present to answer his questions. Nothing further.

CITY OPERATION REPORTS / WORKSHOP DISCUSSION ITEMS

MAIN STREET OPERATIONS –ANNA W. OGG

Main Street Director Anna Ogg led discussion Main Street Inc is working on a new strategy to get new event sponsors and we have started planning the Peach Stand Road Race for March 25, 2019. Mrs. Pat Singley resigned from the events committee. DDA held a 2019 planning workshop with Main Street, Inc. and HPC this month. Mrs. Ogg said we successfully completed the 2019 work plan and annual assessment for DCA, and we expect to be fully accredited for 2019. HPC had no COAs for the month of January, and

we are in the process of updating our HPDO survey. Further, Mrs. Ogg said the Events Committee is planning Locust Grove Day as well as an alternative for the yard sale. We have started on the logo development project and hoping to see designs from id8 soon. We have continued interest in the Rural Zone area and distributing print material for tax credits.

Councilman Gardner asked Mrs. Ogg how many branding interviews have been done and Mrs. Ogg replied we didn't have a good response from downtown because it was around lunch; however, we received a great response from the Wal-Mart interview location. Nothing further.

PUBLIC SAFETY OPERATIONS– JESSE PATTON

- **Ordinance to amend Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) for the addition of Bailiffs** – Chief Patton stepped forward for discussion on Section P-056 – Holding Cell Security. Chief Patton read the revisions and discussion took place. Councilman Gardner asked why there would be a need for uncuffing [section C]. Chief Patton replied it creates more of a safety issue for our officers; however, mainly for Court purposes and use of restroom.

Chief Patton continued with discussion for the amendment to Section P-055 – Courtroom Security to recruit bailiffs to work during court time as well as other meetings as needed. Councilman Greer asked if we have enough officers to cover this position if needed. Chief Patton replied no, currently using two certified officers. Councilman Greer asked how often court is held per month and Chief Patton replied five times per month. Councilman Boone asked if two bailiffs will be enough to eliminate overtime and Chief Patton replied yes. Nothing further.

Chief Patton continued with reviewing the monthly report and collections for December 2018. Total collections for December 2018 were \$47,330.50 and collections for the year was \$692,274.88. Chief Patton said he helped with fruit basked deliveries as well as hosting the annual police department cookout. Chief Patton attended the funeral for the Henry County police officer who was shot in the line of duty. Further, Chief Patton said there is only one position open in the department and said we have a potential candidate who is currently attending Piedmont College Police Academy. We will extend an offer to Mr. Tyler Wilkerson upon successful graduation from the academy. Nothing further and Chief Patton referred to Captain Matthew Long for discussion on body cameras.

- **Acquisition of upgraded Body Worn Cameras with storage**

Captain Matthew Long stepped forward to the podium. Captain Long led discussion he has reviewed several proposals and found that most are providing a cloud-based server where videos are stored online. The company; Axon, offers a no-fault warranty as opposed to competitors and customer service exceeds others as well. Councilman Greer asked how many companies were contacted and if there was a significant price difference. Captain Long replied he reviewed four different vendors and two of the four were overpriced and offered less in their package. Discussion took place on video storage and Captain Long verified it will be stored on cloud and not City data. Councilman Boone asked how old the current body cameras are and what the cost was for each and Captain Long replied about five years old. Chief Patton said the cost was \$495.00 each. Discussion took place on docking stations, quantity for order, and payment plan. Nothing further.

PUBLIC WORKS – JACK ROSE –

Public Works Director Jack Rose gave an update long term employee Mikey Bruce resigned and this Thursday will be his last day. Mr. Rose said his department is continuing with upgrades to MXUs and meters. Further, normal repairs for water leaks, new building construction, and sewer collection is ongoing.

We have some stormwater projects in various locations along with normal maintenance upkeep and repairs. Nothing further.

ADMINISTRATION – TIM YOUNG

- **Tattoo/Body Art/Body Piercing draft ordinance** – City Manager Tim Young stepped forward and said this is a continuation from past meetings for amendment. Discussion took place on the maximum number of licenses by population with an initial license to be issued until the population reaches 10,000 and then one for each additional 7,500. Councilman Greer made a comment he thought we agreed to 7,500 initially. Mr. Young replied we started with 10,000 to coincide with the 2020 Census. Discussion took place and Councilman Boone asked if we are using the estimate from the Census. Mr. Young said the last estimate we received was 6,715 and asked for suggestions if the proposed number [10,000] is not feasible. Councilman Hammock asked if we are approving this for one new business only, and not a specific business and Mr. Young replied that is correct. Attorney Priya Patel made a comment we will review and finalize and further questions can be addressed to Tim. Nothing further.
- **Ordinance to establish job positions in Community Development (Planner) and Public Safety (Bailiffs) –**

City Manager Tim Young led discussion this is for various City Departments: Administration (Assistant City Manager), Community Development (Development Inspector), and Public Safety (Bailiff) along with revised job classification and pay scale. Discussion took place.

Councilman Greer asked if the Bailiff position is part time and Mr. Young replied yes and discussion took place. Councilman Greer asked Mr. Young to give reasons why an Assistant City Manager is needed. Mr. Young replied growth is the main reason and a need for assistance in getting other projects completed that he does not have time to complete during a normal work day/week. Discussion took place on surrounding cities having an Assistant City Manager and currently Stockbridge is the only City in Henry County that does.

Councilman Boone asked when the Assistant City Manager position was created. Mr. Young replied it was added several months ago; however, just adding that position for future needs, we only advertised for Bailiff and Development Inspector for current needs. Councilman Boone said he thinks further discussion is needed on that position. Mayor Price said we are adding to the Pay Plan for discussion; however, only moving forward on the other two positions discussed.

Councilman Hammock made a comment he is in favor of the Assistant City Manager position so that important projects are not delayed. Nothing further.

- **Fourth Quarter Budget amendments for Fiscal Year 2018**

City Manager Tim Young said this is a draft set of adjustments for the fourth quarter of Fiscal Year 2018. Mr. Young said revenues are above expenditures and discussion took place on revenues and the decrease in General Fund balance. We are processing invoices that carry over from December and on schedule for closing out Fiscal Year 2018 in March. Nothing further.

- **Complete Count Committee – 2020 Census –**

City Manager Tim Young led discussion this is to establish a complete count committee. In 2000, the participation rate was 81%; however, this fell to 76% in the 2010 Census. Mr. Young said lack of accurate count can cost a jurisdiction thousands of dollars; therefore, accuracy is very important. The County did not approve due to issues with funding; however, we have recommended distribution through LOST funding. Suggestions are needed to name and appoint two persons for the committee and will bring back in February with more information. Nothing further.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT OPERATIONS - BERT FOSTER –

Community Development Director Bert Foster gave an update 2,258 permits were issued in 2018 including 380 new single-family house permits and 370 COs. Mr. Foster said building and land disturbance activity is ongoing and construction is scheduled to begin at Derringtonstone Manor along with continued construction in all subdivisions. Further, the plans are in for review for the recycling project at Walker Crossing. Nothing further.

- **Commercial Vehicle Parking Regulations** – Community Development Director Bert Foster continued with discussion regarding an amendment to the ‘Definitions’ section of the Zoning Ordinance and tying to the vehicle classification system that is attached to the draft ordinance. Mr. Foster said we had a discussion in November 2017 and last discussed in April 2018 and now tonight to hopefully get a better understanding on how to address commercial vehicles. Discussion took place on current weight restrictions and allowing a three-hour limit for tractor trailer parking. Councilman Greer asked about the three-hour limit and said he still has concerns; yet we need to find a compromise that can accommodate this type of parking.

Mayor Price made a comment there are between seven to ten tractor trailer trucks parked at Wal-Mart every day; however, per Captain Long, Wal-Mart management has not complained.

Councilman Greer asked what we are wanting to accomplish with the truck parking. Discussion took place on growth and increase in truck traffic in the future and creating a solution.

Councilman Hammock said if the trucks are utilizing parking at a commercial business and the business has no complaints, then parking should be allowed.

Councilman Boone said the Police Department and Code Enforcement should enforce when applicable. Discussion took place on bringing back for action at the next meeting. Mr. Young said we will have to advertise and bring back in March. Nothing further and discussion closed.

ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD (ARB) –

5. **Resolution to approve the architectural plans for the La Quinta Inn and Suites, located at 4660 Bill Gardner Parkway, between I-75 SB on ramp and Bandy Parkway** – Community Development Director Bert Foster led discussion the applicant, Nick Patel, submitted renderings for review. Discussion took place and Mr. Foster said this is for review tonight and will act at the next regular meeting in February. Mr. Foster asked if anyone had questions and no questions or comments. Discussion closed.

CITY MANAGER’S COMMENTS –

City Manager Tim Young said he and the City Attorney are working with the appraiser on the property acquisition that has been in discussion and we will have a final letter and ordinance to proceed soon. Mr.

Young said we are finalizing plans for the Bill Gardner Parkway project. Also, February 8, 2019 will be the street renaming for a portion of Peeksville Road to J.W. Lemon. Nothing further.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS- NONE

EXECUTIVE SESSION – NONE

ADJOURNMENT-

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

RESULT	ADOPTED
MADE MOTION	COUNCILMAN TAYLOR
2 ND MOTION	COUNCILMAN HAMMOCK
VOTE	MOTION CARRIED - ALL IN FAVOR MEETING ADJOURNED @ 8:10 PM.

Notes taken by:

Misty Spurling, City Clerk