

**City of Locust Grove  
 Council Workshop Meeting Minutes  
 Via Teleconference Call/Zoom Meeting  
 View on Facebook Live at City of Locust Grove-City Hall  
 Monday, April 20, 2020  
 6:00 PM**

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| <b>Members Present via Teleconference:</b> | <b>Staff Present via Teleconference:</b>      |
| Robert Price – Mayor                       | Tim Young – City Manager                      |
| Randy Gardner – Councilman                 | Bert Foster – Assistant City Manager          |
| Willie Taylor – Councilman                 | Misty Spurling – City Clerk                   |
| Keith Boone – Councilman                   | Jennifer Adkins – Assistant City Clerk        |
| Rod Shearouse – Councilman                 | Daunté Gibbs – Community Development Director |
| Rudy Breedlove - Councilman                | Anna W. Ogg – Main Street Manager             |
| Carlos Greer – Councilman                  | Jesse Patton – Police Chief                   |
|  | Andy Welch - Attorney                         |
|  |   |
|  | <b>Staff Not Present via Teleconference:</b>  |
|  | Jack Rose – Public Works Director             |

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

Invocation given by City Manager Tim Young

Councilman Greer led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA** –

Mayor Price asked for a motion. Councilman Taylor made the motion to approve the April 20, 2020 meeting agenda.

|                        |                               |
|------------------------|-------------------------------|
| RESULT                 | APPROVED                      |
| MADE MOTION            | COUNCILMAN TAYLOR             |
| 2 <sup>ND</sup> MOTION | COUNCILMAN GREER              |
| VOTE                   | MOTION CARRIED - ALL IN FAVOR |

**PUBLIC COMMENTS** – NONE

**PUBLIC HEARING ITEMS** – NONE

**ACTION ITEMS** – NONE

**NEW BUSINESS/ACTION ITEMS** –

**CITY OPERATION REPORTS / WORKSHOP DISCUSSION ITEMS**

## **MAIN STREET OPERATIONS –ANNA W. OGG**

Main Street Director Anna Ogg said the downtown businesses are adapting well during the COVID-19 stay at home order with some restaurants offering curbside pickup. Main Street, Inc. is replacing the old PVC banner frame with a more attractive upgrade. The Facebook gift card give away using #stillstronginthegroove was a success and all City board and Commission meetings have been cancelled in April and looking to do virtual meetings in May. Nothing further.

## **PUBLIC SAFETY OPERATIONS–CHIEF PATTON**

Chief Patton gave an update and reviewed the monthly report. Total collections for March 2020 were \$52,518.00. Chief Patton said his department is working with Don Ash (911 Director) with furnishing supplies and having meetings with him as well for updates. We are working with the Mayor in coordination with McDonough and Hampton on taskforce to ensure grocery stores are following DPH (Department of Health via Georgia Chief's Association and Georgia Municipal Association) guidelines in place. Nothing further.

Councilman Greer thanked Chief Patton and his staff for overseeing a project from last week. Nothing further.

## **PUBLIC WORKS – JACK ROSE –NONE**

## **ADMINISTRATION – BERT FOSTER**

Assistant City Manager Bert Foster gave an update the City Attorney is working on additional paperwork for the Peeksville Road extension and Tanger Park bids have been reviewed. The GDOT project in front of City Hall is scheduled for completion in 2023 and the Bill Gardner project surveying is complete. Discussion took place on the potential need for additional easements at Bill Gardner near Waffle House and Dunkin Donuts and Mr. Foster gave updates on the interceptor sewer line projects. Nothing further.

## **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT OPERATIONS – DAUNTÉ GIBBS**

Community Development Director Daunté Gibbs gave an update his department has issued 482 permits including 63 new house permits for 2020. We have issued 118 COs [97 residential and 21 commercial permits] and 248 Business Licenses issued for 2020. Mr. Gibbs said land disturbance activity is ongoing in several subdivisions and continued construction at Starbucks. Nothing further.

- **Guidance for handling zoning and other public hearing related items – (DISCUSSION ONLY)**

Mr. Gibbs said this a discussion for the staying of zoning related public hearing matters and next steps. Discussion took place on the Open Meetings Act and GA Zoning Procedures Law as related to virtual zoning related public hearings. Mr. Gibbs is requesting the zoning conditions case (case# MC-20-03-01) originally scheduled and advertised for April 20, 2020 needs to be rescheduled for a later date.

Attorney Andy Welch said we have a local ordinance in place until April 30, 2020 and an executive order still in effect that says we should be sheltering in place [at home] until April 30, 2020. Our ordinance and the Governors ordinance both contemplate a stay at home order and the update from the Governor today does specify public entities should maintain shelter at home. The Open

Meetings Act allows us to meet in emergency settings; however, we can not conduct zoning meetings virtually in order to comply with the open meetings act. Attorney Andy Welch said the earliest possible would be the May 2020 workshop meeting; however, we still will not know until the expiration of the order in place and until further notice from the Governor. Attorney Andy Welch said we may even be looking at the June workshop meeting which will allow time for advertising as well. If we are still practicing social distancing at that point, we will regulate people entering and exiting the court room and arranging seating accordingly. Discussion took place on future meetings and nothing further.

Mayor Price asked Attorney Andy Welch if he thought the workshop meeting in May would be too early for rescheduling and Attorney Andy Welch replied yes, we need to make sure of the willingness of Council and Staff to be in attendance as well as work on the matters of organizing the meeting area for Social Distancing measures. Nothing further.

Mayor asked for questions from Council.

All Council made comments agreeing with Attorney Andy Welch on the suggested date of rescheduling for the June workshop meeting.

Attorney Andy Welch said since Council agrees; we will reschedule for the June 15, 2020 workshop meeting and schedule for action at the July workshop meeting. If the social distancing is still in place, we will handle accordingly. Nothing further.

## **ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD (ARB) – NONE**

### **CITY MANAGER'S COMMENTS –**

- **1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Budget Amendment update –**

City Manager Tim Young gave an update this is a review of the first quarter of FY 2020 and determining the impacts of the COVID-19 will have on the annualized economic health of the city. The projected impact is expected of 27% of most revenues and the city's combined reserve for General Fund and Enterprise operations are approximately \$11 million, or approximately 100% of our current budget. Discussion took place about Stimulus 3.5 [HR 6467] for Coronavirus relief for units of Government of 500,000 or less which would allow the City a refund of approximately \$1 million dollars. Nothing further.

- **COVID-19 Re-Entry Plan –**

Mr. Young continued with review of a draft plan of action for possible ways to get our city back towards normal operations given the COVID-19 Emergency Declaration. Discussion took place on the reopening of businesses and continuing social distancing. Mr. Young said we will continue to monitor since the Governor made an announcement earlier today of reopening gradually. We will know more on the guidance of the reopening's tomorrow. Nothing further.

Councilman Greer made a comment to Council asking each member to carefully consider what is going on in Henry County related to the virus. Councilman Greer said Henry County is 8<sup>th</sup> in the state for cases and number one in the district. Councilman Greer said although he is concerned about the economy and the impact of the virus, we need to consider all aspects before approving a Re-Entry plan. Nothing further.

**MAYOR’S COMMENTS-**

Mayor Price had no comments.

**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 <sup>ND</sup> MOTION | COUNCILMAN GARDNER  |
| VOTE                   | MOTION CARRIED - ALL IN-FAVOR<br>MEETING ADJOURNED @ 6:43 PM. |

Notes taken by:

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Misty Spurling, City Clerk

*This meeting streamed live on the City of Locust Grove – City Hall Facebook page.*