

**City of Locust Grove  
 Council Workshop Meeting Minutes  
 Public Safety Building – 3640 Highway 42 S.  
 Locust Grove, GA 30248  
 Monday, August 17, 2020  
 6:00 PM**

<b>Members Present:</b>	<b>Staff Present:</b>
Robert Price – Mayor	Tim Young – City Manager
Randy Gardner – Councilman	Bert Foster – Assistant City Manager
Willie Taylor – Councilman	Misty Spurling – City Clerk
Rod Shearouse – Councilman	Jennifer Adkins – Assistant City Clerk
Rudy Breedlove - Councilman	Jack Rose – Public Works Director
Carlos Greer – Councilman/Mayor Pro Tem	Daunté Gibbs – Community Development Director
Keith Boone – Councilman	Jesse Patton – Police Chief
	Anna W. Ogg – Main Street Manager
	Andy Welch – City Attorney

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

Invocation given by Assistant City Manager Bert Foster

Councilman Boone led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA** –

Mayor Price asked for a motion to remove public hearing items one (1) and two (2) and Administrative Hearing item three (3). Councilman Greer made the motion to amend the agenda by removing items one, two, and three and postponing until possibly September.

RESULT	APPROVED AS AMENDED
MADE MOTION	COUNCILMAN GREER
2 <sup>ND</sup> MOTION	COUNCILMAN BOONE
VOTE	MOTION CARRIED - ALL IN FAVOR

**PUBLIC COMMENTS** –

Josh and Trish McCullough – Club Drive concerns –

Mr. Josh McCullough: resident at 72 Club Drive, stepped forward to comment. Mr. McCullough said his concern is vehicles speeding on this road. The three speed bumps are worn down and he is asking we replace those that are worn down or add an additional speed bump.

Public Works Director Jack Rose stepped forward and said he can replace all three with new ones. Discussion took place.

Attorney Andy Welch made a comment Council will need to authorize Jack to replace the speed humps being Club Drive is a public road and protects the employee from any liability.

Councilman Greer asked if he sees law enforcement driving through or monitoring that area. Mr. McCullough replied he has called law enforcement a few times, but do not see them patrolling often. Discussion took place.

Mayor asked Council to authorize Mr. Rose to replace the three speed humps and add an additional speed hump if needed. Consensus from Council was all agreement.

Mrs. Trish McCullough stepped forward to make a comment. Mrs. McCullough said the two speed humps opposite of the stop sign are ok; however, an additional speed hump is preferred in front of the women's club. Nothing further.

Mayor Price asked for a motion. Councilman Boone made the motion to authorize Mr. Rose replace the speed humps on Club Drive and add an additional speed hump if needed.

RESULT	APPROVED
MADE MOTION	COUNCILMAN BOONE
2 <sup>ND</sup> MOTION	COUNCILMAN SHEAROUSE
VOTE	MOTION CARRIED - ALL IN FAVOR

**PUBLIC HEARING ITEMS –**

- 1. Request to rezone 21.9 +/- acres located at 162 Indian Creek Road (Parcel ID-129-01046005) in LL 168 of the 2nd district from R-3 to PR-5 –**

Item postponed as part of the Approval of the Agenda

- 2. Request for multiple variances from development standards for property located at 162 Indian Creek Road (Parcel ID-129-01047000 & 129-01046005) in LL 168 of the 2<sup>nd</sup> district.**

Item Postponed as part of Approval of the Agenda

**ADMINISTRATIVE HEARING – REVOCATION/SUSPENSION OF LICENSE –**

- 3. Aloha Massage – Summons to appear before the Locust Grove City Council for violation of Section 5.64.150 (B)(6) –**

Item Postponed as part of Approval of the Agenda.

**NEW BUSINESS/ACTION ITEMS –**

- 4. Resolution to authorize the execution of the Coronavirus relief fund (CRF) terms and conditions agreement and authorize acceptance of grant payments –**

Mr. Young said this is a resolution to accept and spend the money from the Coronavirus relief fund which is divided between various cities and counties. Most of the funds will be absorbed through the Public Safety payroll budget. We are working on loading supporting documents into the portal to account for expenditures and for guarantee of remaining funds. Nothing further.

Mayor Price asked for a motion. Councilman Shearouse made the motion to approve the request by approving ordinance #**20-08-043**

RESULT	APPROVED RESOLUTION #20-08-043
MADE MOTION	COUNCILMAN SHEAROUSE
2 <sup>ND</sup> MOTION	COUNCILMAN BREEDLOVE
VOTE	MOTION CARRIED - ALL IN FAVOR

**CITY OPERATION REPORTS / WORKSHOP DISCUSSION ITEMS**

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

Mrs. Ogg gave an update Sherry Moon, Chair of Main Street, Inc completed online training for DDA. Mrs. Ogg said she completed online training for DCA. The HPC granted a COA for an accessory structure to Shorty’s BBQ and we completed the Certified Local Government report which will give us access to Phase two certification. Main Street, Inc. directors did not meet this month. Downtown is staying busy and looking good. We are working on Christmas ideas and trying to be creative with the challenges of COVID-19. Preparing for Scarecrow village and every Saturday night at 6:30 you can enjoy Bluegrass music in downtown as well. Further, Mrs. Ogg said someone reached out to her and donated a 1911 composite photo to display in City Hall and offered to donate \$100 towards framing the photo. Nothing further.

**PUBLIC SAFETY OPERATIONS – CHIEF JESSE PATTON**

Captain Long gave an update and reviewed the monthly report. Total collections for July 2020 were \$47,015.22. We interviewed Walter Navarro and have offered him the position. We will introduce him at the next meeting. We also have an interview tomorrow who currently works for Henry County Police. The department completed training including incident response and taser. We had a total of 17 CID cases one of which a 29-year old male committed suicide.

Councilman Greer made a comment about the new hire and questioned the hiring decision to Chief Patton. Discussion took place, including a question by Councilman Boone asking what this was about. Councilman Greer asked why his former Chief made the decision to terminate if he spoke highly of this individual. Chief Patton said Chief Richardson was forced to terminate the individual by his City Manager. The hiring panel discussed the situation during the interview with Mr. Navarro. Councilman Greer said he feels like he and Councilman Taylor should have been asked to be on the hiring panel [to have more a diverse panel] for this interview and have the opportunity to ask questions being the current events that are happening around us. Chief Patton said if we discuss any further, we will need to discuss as part of executive session. Attorney Andy Welch replied that would be best. Nothing further.

- **Photo Speed Enforcement Program presentation – HC Schools location –**

Chief Patton led discussion children are the number one priority in safety and with schools opening increase concerns and issues that may arise. Chief Patton said he reached out to Blue Line Solutions to assist with helping come up with a program to help in our area and reviewed several sections in

the pamphlet provided. Henry County currently has five systems in operation, none of which are in the Locust Grove area. With this program we want to educate on school zones and the importance of going the speed limit. Chief Patton said with Councils permission he can move forward to get the process started. After the sign is installed there is a 30-day warning period; after 30 days citations are issued, and revenue is divided; 65% to the City and 35% to the company. Blue Line Solutions will handle all cost including educational material, equipment, etc. The citations issued would be sent through email format to our officers to review and approve before sending to the violator. If approved the citation will be mailed to the violator. Citations issued must be for ten miles above the speed limit and only while school is in session. Kam Reed: with Blue Line Systems is present to answer any questions.

Councilman Gardner asked if Judge Patton agrees with the program and who conducts the administrative hearings for transfer of liability? Chief Patton replied yes, and Judge Patton would conduct the hearing.

Councilman Greer asked the procedure if someone says they did not violate or was not the operator of the vehicle. Mr. Reed said documentation would have to be provided for proof that it was not them because it is a civil penalty versus a criminal penalty. Chief Patton read aloud the State Law.

Further, Chief Patton said the revenue collected is required to be used within the police department. Chief Patton suggested a tag reader for placement on the pole in that zone [attached to the photo sign].

Councilman Shearouse asked what factor(s) were considered in choosing this company versus the company that Henry County uses. Chief Patton replied this program does not pinpoint radar it uses laser; therefore, giving extensive information and not randomly hitting vehicles. Discussion took place. Mr. Reed said there are 146 systems around the state.

Councilman Boone asked Chief Patton if he spoke with Henry County officials about their systems. Chief Patton said he spoke with the Chief and he spoke highly of the systems. Councilman Boone asked who the accuser would be in court and Chief Patton replied the issuing officer [officer who reviews and approves the citation].

Discussion took place on location seeking to install and Chief Patton said on Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard for now near the elementary school and Strong Rock School in the future. Nothing further.

## **PUBLIC WORKS – JACK ROSE**

Public Works Director Jack Rose stepped forward and gave an update public works is continuing with normal daily maintenance and upkeep including leak repairs and grass cutting. Nothing further.

## **ADMINISTRATION – BERT FOSTER**

Assistant City Manager Bert Foster gave an update on the Peeksville Road Extension and discussion on Tanger Park delays. We are working with the utility provider on the additional lane on Highway 42 from Bill Gardner to Peeksville Road. The MMIP commercial project is on hold and we are collecting easements for the signal at Market Place and Highway 42 for utility work. Nothing further.

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

Community Development Director Daunté Gibbs gave an update his department has issued 1,021 permits including 128 new house permits for 2020. We have issued 232 COs [177 residential and 55 commercial permits] and 330 Business Licenses issued for 2020. Mr. Gibbs said building and land disturbance activity is ongoing in various locations and new house construction continues in various subdivisions. Starbucks is approaching completion and gave an update on Project Red. Nothing further.

Councilman Boone made a comment requesting he be notified when zoning signs are put out. Councilman Boone said he does not like being asked about a project that he is not aware of and able to answer questions accordingly. Nothing further.

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

**CITY MANAGER’S COMMENTS –**

Mr. Young gave an update he will have a meeting tomorrow with the City Managers regarding SDS. The County has approved special service district tax rates and will reflect (fire and recreation) on upcoming tax bills. The mobile service orders are operating, and training is scheduled soon so we can start utilizing that program between public works and utilities. We are working on a website update and Mr. Young reviewed the fund balance update and said we are in a good reserve position. Nothing further.

**MAYOR’S COMMENTS- NONE**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION – PERSONNEL**

Mayor Price asked for a motion to enter executive session. Councilman Boone made the motion with second by Councilman Breedlove. All in favor and motion carried. Council entered executive session at 7:04 PM.

Mayor Price asked for a motion to reconvene to regular session from executive session at 7:27 PM. Councilman Greer made the motion with second by Councilman Boone. All in favor and motion carried.

**ADJOURNMENT-**

Councilman Greer made a comment Cake N Shake is giving out lunches on Mondays from 11AM to 2PM to kids in the community. Mrs. Ogg said she shared the information in the newsletter.

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

RESULT	ADOPTED
MADE MOTION	COUNCILMAN GREER
2 <sup>ND</sup> MOTION	COUNCILMAN BOONE
VOTE	MOTION CARRIED - ALL IN-FAVOR MEETING ADJOURNED @ 7:29 PM.

Notes taken by:

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Misty Spurling, City Clerk