



CITY OF LITHONIA
MINUTES–WORK SESSION
Monday, March 20, 2023 @ 5:30 PM

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

The Work Session Meeting was called to order at 6:01 pm. by Mayor Shameka Reynolds.

II. Approval of Agenda

Councilwoman Sheppard motioned to approve the Work Session agenda for March 20, 2023, the motion was seconded by Councilwoman Wynn and approved by a vote of 3-0.

III. Public Comments

Ms. Sharon Inman (Johnson Street), to make council aware publicly two weeks prior her daughter was attacked by a dog in the neighborhood, 911 did not show up and there was a long delay for animal control to respond, Chief DJ followed up. Councilwoman Sheppard asked Ms. Inman if she has a proposed suggestion to better serve, Ms. Inman suggested Lithonia Police have a solution in place for future reference such as fining the owner of the dog. Chief DJ responded that citations are issued by Dekalb Animal Control, when animal control receives calls, they are placed in a queue.

IV. Presentation

a. Kazemde Ajamu (Black Dot Cultural Arts Festival)

Proposing October 21 for the annual Black Dot Cultural Arts Festival, close Main Street from Swift to Johnson Streets from 10:00 am until 8:00 pm, in sponsorship with Arabia Mountain, Renee Miller will assist to obtain entertainment. A proposal was provided to include a sponsorship package, asking the city for sponsorship support to provide a figure by the work session meeting in April. Revonda is delayed at the airport and unable to attend for presentation. Also requesting usage of the courtyard for Juneteenth. Renee Miller piggybacked to emphasize the need to have the level of support identified to obtain quality entertainment.

Councilwoman Inman motioned to approve June 17, 2023, for the use of the courtyard for Juneteenth, and the Black Dot Cultural Arts Festival on Oct 21, 2023, for street closure on Main Street between Swift and Johnson Street from 10am to 8pm, the motion was seconded by Councilwoman Sheppard and approved by a vote of 3-0.

b. Revonda Cosby (Black Dot Cultural Arts Festival)

Alexander (Sasha) Johnson standing in for Revonda announced that flyers were available in the city clerk's office for the capital campaign kickoff for the Bruce Street School Project, and information on the Spring Challenge.

c. Toya Randle (Lithonia Farmers Market)

Asked if Mayor or Council had any additional questions upon review of her proposal. Seeking \$1,000.00 to cover various expenses to get the market started, the market would start last Saturday of July. Councilwoman Sheppard suggested checking with accounting to see if the funds can be allocated, Mayor Reynolds concurred and will check with Keshaa to see what's under community events and provide follow up by Friday. Vendor fees will come through the Clerk's Office.

d. Deron Levels (Food Truck Park)

Reiterated proposal that was presented at the last work session via zoom. Council asked that Deron work on a site plan from an architect. Chief DJ will coordinate with Hari/Lowe Engineers to review the plans, return to Council with LDDA present at the meeting, then meet with LDDA.

V. Action Item

a. 2023 OTC License Approval: Ewell Hardman LLC

Councilwoman Sheppard motioned to approve the 2023 OTC license for Ewell Harman LLC, the motion was seconded by Councilwoman Sheppard and approved by a vote of 3-0.

VI. New Business (NONE)

VII. Old Business (NONE)

VIII. Other Business

a. Police Department Report

Chief DeJarnette finished GIRMA renewals. One of the officers was involved in a traffic accident where someone rear-ended him. Code enforcement issued citations over the weekend to Premiere Lounge and Life N Times Cigar Lounge for being open after hours and serving alcohol, court date 3/28. Meeting with Hari later in the week with reference to the Wiggins Street parking lot.

Councilwoman Inman asked Chief about installing trash cans throughout the city. Traffic on Reagin Street is starting to become an issue. Chief can work with Hari in conjunction with Dekalb to see what can be done.

Mayor Reynolds asked Officer Brooks (code enforcement) to investigate an issue at the library, there are persons who appear to be homeless sleeping under the Gazebo.

b. Mayors Report, Councilmember District Update

Thanked everyone for their patience during her illness treatments. May need to add one more person on the filming board as a liaison for the businesses, Ric Dodd.

Councilwoman Inman mention to revisit the bottleneck issue at Klondike and Main with Hari. Councilwoman Wynn had no updates. Councilwoman Sheppard would like to encourage the community to attend council meetings, distribution of a flyer would be good.

X. Executive Session

Councilwoman Sheppard motioned to go into Executive Session for personnel at 7:36 pm, the motion was seconded by Councilwoman Wynn and approved by a vote of 3-0.

Mayor and Council returned from executive session at 8:04 pm.

Mayor Reynolds announced that no action taken at this time regarding the new city administrator.

XI. Adjournment

Councilwoman Wynn motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 pm, the motion was seconded by Councilwoman Sheppard and approved by a vote of 3-0.