

October 11, 2022

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Scott Martin called the regular meeting of the Lawrenceville Town Council to order at 7:00 p.m. on October 11, 2022.

ROLL CALL

Roll was called. Present: Mayor Scott Martin; Council Members Dora Hardy, Robert F. Pecht, III, Nakai Peterson, Alice Talbert, Teya Whitehead and Anne Williams.

Absent: Council Member, H. B. Brockwell, Jr.

Also present: Town Attorney, W. C. Outten, Jr., Town Manager, Everette Gibson, Town Clerk, Wanda Johnson, Special Projects Coordinator Kimberly Martin, Police Chief, John Stith, Alfreda Reynolds, Leonard Rose, and citizens.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Police Chief John Stith led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion by Mrs. Talbert, seconded by Mr. Pecht and carried by all ayes, Town Council voted to approve the minutes of the regular meeting on September 13, 2022, as received, suspend the reading and file.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On motion by Mr. Pecht, seconded by Mrs. Talbert and carried by all ayes, Town Council voted to approve the agenda as presented.

RECOGNITION OF CITIZENS

LEONARD ROSE

Leonard Rose spoke about John Walsh, America's Most Wanted, McGruff the Crime Dog and child safety.

ANNE WILLIAMS

Ms. Williams commented that the Taste of Brunswick was a great place to engage people in the community. She heard comments about the sidewalk in front of the high school and that it should be extended all the way in to town. There have been a lot of great comments about the community garden at 313 High Street. They would like to engage the courts and police department to assist with community service work in the garden. She suggested that it be included on the water bills that council meets on the second Tuesday of the month.

LAWRENCEVILLE EDA

There was no report.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Martin commented there have been several meetings with clients and developers moving along with the repurpose and revitalization of the Peebles building. He met with Mr. Gibson and Mr. Lynch on projects and needs. There are a lot of upcoming events in October, November and December. There have been meetings regarding a prospect for the Southern States building. The Taste of Brunswick was a great day, Mrs. Brown and Mrs. Martin had a Town of Lawrenceville booth. Congratulations to the Pair family on the stew awards. Last Sunday Mr. Martin and Mr. Gibson met with Mrs. Reynolds and a developer on a site visit for future development. Remember to come out and vote in November.

REPORT OF TOWN ATTORNEY

Mr. Outten advised his report will be taken up in a closed session tonight.

REPORT OF THE TREASURER

CONSIDERATION OF ACCOUNTS

Mrs. Johnson reported the bills total \$112,949.96. On a motion by Mr. Pecht, seconded by Mrs. Talbert and carried by all ayes, Town Council voted to pay the bills in the amount of \$112,949.96 and post to the proper accounts.

REPORT OF TOWN MANAGER

PEEBLES AND SOUTHERN STATES PROJECTS

Mr. Gibson advised these buildings will be discussed in the closed session.

MAIN STREET APPLICATION AND RESOLUTION

The application, maps and resolution have been submitted. They are being reviewed and the Town will be notified of the application status.

I85 TANK PROJECT

WGK is the contractor for the I85 project. All permits have been secured. The contractor is waiting for construction materials in order break ground. The chlorinator vault will be done first, then the mixers. We are also waiting for an update from Dominion Power in reference to running power to the Food Lion water tank.

UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS

There are flyers in the packet for upcoming events. Mr. Gibson suggested having a Town of Lawrenceville float in the Christmas parade.

NOVEMBER MEETING – ELECTION HOLIDAY

The regular November council meeting falls on the Election Day holiday. There was discussion concerning moving the meeting to another date. Mr. Outten advised it is Council's choice. On motion by Ms. Hardy, seconded by Mrs. Talbert and carried by all ayes, Town Council voted to reschedule the regular November Town Council meeting to Tuesday, November 15, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. due to the Election Day holiday. Mr. Gibson will handle the proper news notices.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Mr. Pecht reported the financial statement is in the packet. The staff is currently getting things prepared for the audit. County tax forms have been received. Town tax bills will go out mid-November. ARPA funds are included in the general fund account and distort the fund balance. Also, a major water customer is late paying its water bill due to a personnel illness. There are a number of needs for the water and wastewater facilities and departments that will possibly affect the budget.

FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES

The fire department responded to 21 calls in September. Of the 21, 4 were in the town limits and 17 were outside the town limits. Also, 14 were in the LVFD First Due area, with 7 being mutual aid to other agencies. Approximately 120.5 man hours were expended. The LVFD will have its annual Christmas Banquet and Dance on December 3, 2022. The Castaways will perform.

PERSONNEL

Mrs. Talbert reported that the committee met last week and discussed the new maintenance department. Mr. Gibson reported applications are coming in and two interviews are scheduled in the next two days.

POLICE

The police report is in the packet. Chief Stith reported that juvenile services intake is looking at possible juvenile community service and what the supervision requirements will be.

PROPERTY & EQUIPMENT

We continue to work on equipment and truck repairs.

STREETS, LIGHTS & CEMETERY

There was no additional report.

TOWN DEVELOPMENT

There was no additional report.

WATER/WASTEWATER

Mr. Pecht reported that more and more stringent requirements are put on water and wastewater. There is also a great shortage of water and wastewater operators. We continue to work on the new maintenance department to monitor the systems.

HOUSING CODE ENFORCEMENT

Mr. Gibson reported he and Mr. Veliky will be looking at several buildings this Thursday.

PARKS/RECREATION

There was no report.

WELLNESS

Ms. Whitehead shared that this is Breast Cancer Awareness Month. The key is prevention. She shared information on events and programming and goody bags.

FARMER'S MARKET

Ms. Whitehead thanked Chief Stith for his help and assistance with the 2022 market. She said we will go back to the drawing board for the market next year.

LAWRENCEVILLE PLANNING COMMISSION

There was no report.

CORRESPONDENCE/ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Haunted House, Friday, Oct. 28 – Sunday, Oct. 30, 2022, 7:00 – 9:00 PM

Pumpkin Decorating Contest, submit by Friday, Oct. 28, 2022

Spooktacular Halloween Parade & Trunk or Treat, Monday, October 31, 2022, 5:30 PM

Second Annual Deck the Storefronts Contest, enter by Tuesday, November 22, 2022

Second Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony, November 30, 2022, 7:00 PM

Old-Fashioned Hometown Christmas Parade, Friday, December 2, 2022, 7:30 PM

Employee Christmas Luncheon, Wednesday, December 7, 2022, 12:00 PM

CLOSED SESSION-MOTION TO ENTER THE CLOSED MEETING

“Mr. Mayor, I move the Lawrenceville Town Council enter into a closed meeting pursuant to the provisions of Section 2.2-3711 of the Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended for the purpose of discussing contractual matters.” Motion: Mr. Pecht. Second: Ms. Williams. Roll call vote: Mr. Brockwell, absent; Ms. Hardy, aye; Mr. Pecht, aye; Mrs. Talbert, aye; Ms. Whitehead, aye; Ms. Williams, aye.

MOTION TO EXIT A CLOSED MEETING AND RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION

“Mr. Mayor, I move the closed meeting be adjourned and the Lawrenceville Town Council convene again in open session.” The motion was made by Mr. Pecht, seconded by Ms. Hardy and carried by all ayes.

CERTIFICATION

“Be it resolved to the best of my knowledge (i) only public business matters exempted from open meeting requirements, under Section 2.2-3711 of the Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the closed meeting was convened were heard, discussed or considered in the meeting.” Motion: Mr. Pecht. Second: Ms. Hardy. Roll call vote: Mr. Brockwell, absent; Ms. Hardy, aye; Mr. Pecht, aye; Mrs. Talbert, aye; Ms. Whitehead, aye; Ms. Williams, aye.

PEEBLES BUILDING

On motion by Mr. Pecht, seconded by Mrs. Talbert and carried, Town Council voted to accept the recommendation of the LEDA and approve the contract for the sale of the Peebles Building property to JKS Equities, LLC for \$100,000.00. Ms. Williams voted nay.

SOUTHERN STATES BUILDING

On motion by Ms. Hardy, seconded by Mrs. Talbert and carried by all ayes, Town Council voted to approve the 24-month lease agreement between the Town of Lawrenceville and BDX Performance LLC for the previous Southern States Building with all expenses and maintenance paid as presented.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before Council, a motion was made by Mr. Pecht, seconded by Mrs. Talbert and carried by all ayes to adjourn the meeting.

Scott E. Martin, Mayor

Wanda Johnson, Clerk