

Minutes of the
REGULAR MEETING
of the
CITY COUNCIL
LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN, GEORGIA

February 10, 2022
6:00 p.m.

PRESIDING: Mayor David Bennett

PRESENT: Council Members Taylor Watson, Kevin Leckenby, Caroline Williams, and Tony Towns; City Attorney Bill Pickering; City Manager Kenny Lee; and Chief Todd Gann.

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor David Bennett called the Regular Meeting of the City Council to order at 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, February 10, 2022, at the City Hall, 1214 Lula Lake Road, Lookout Mountain, Georgia 30750.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Council Member Kevin Leckenby made a motion to approve the minutes of the Council's Regular Meeting of December 9, 2021. The motion was seconded by Council Member Taylor Watson and passed unanimously.

SECOND READING OF ORDINANCE 337 (CREATION OF OFFICE RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT): City Attorney Bill Pickering presented Ordinance No. 337, an ordinance to amend the City of Lookout Mountain, Georgia's Zoning Ordinance, to create an additional zoning district to be designated as the Office Residential District, to delineate uses of property permitted in the district, to establish regulations for buildings, structures and property located in the district, and for other purposes. Council Member Kevin Leckenby made a motion to approve and adopt Ordinance No. 337 on Second Reading. The motion was seconded by Council Member Taylor Watson and passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF TSPLOST INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT: Mayor Bennett reminded the Council that TSPLOST is a 1¢ sales tax which provides funding for local governments in Walker County for transportation-related projects. Walker County and the municipalities in the county are in the process of renegotiating the percentage allocations of TSPLOST funds. Some adjustments in the allocations will be needed to permit one municipality to receive its population-based allocation. It is estimated that Lookout Mountain will receive \$1,125,000 in TSPLOST revenues which is an increase of \$407,500. Council Member Kevin Leckenby made a motion to approve the TSPLOST Intergovernmental Agreement subject to Walker County's approval of the percentage allocations at its upcoming meeting. The motion was seconded by Council Member Taylor Watson and passed unanimously.

LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN COMPREHENSIVE PLAN: City Manager Kenny Lee and City Attorney Bill Pickering provided a status update on the City's proposed Comprehensive Plan. After extensive work by the Municipal Planning Commission and the Comprehensive Plan

Committee, the draft plan has been submitted to the Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA) for approval. Following approval by DCA, the plan will be sent to the City of Lookout Mountain for formal adoption. Mr. Pickering advised that no action by the City was needed at today's meeting. Council Member Kevin Leckenby expressed concern about carcinogens from caves addressed in the proposed plan. Mr. Lee stated that he would request a revision to address this issue.

RESOLUTION FOR EXTENSION OF SERVICE DELIVERY STRATEGY

AGREEMENTS: City Attorney Bill Pickering presented a resolution to authorize an extension of existing Service Delivery Strategy agreements with Walker County and its municipalities. A copy of the Service Delivery Strategy Resolution is filed with these minutes. Council Member Tony Towns made a motion to approve the Service Delivery Strategy Resolution as presented. The motion was seconded by Council Member Taylor Watson and passed unanimously.

SIMS PROPERTY/LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN CONSERVANCY: City Attorney Bill Pickering provided an update on the proposed purchase and development of the Sims property by the Lookout Mountain Conservancy. This matter was discussed during the Council's November 2021 meeting. Mr. Pickering has discussed this matter with the Conservancy's attorney, Bobby Dann, who has advised that the Conservancy hopes to complete the purchase in approximately 30 days.

APPLICATION FOR PRIVILEGE LICENSE FOR JACK FELTY: Resident Jack Felty appeared before the Council to request approval of his application for a business license to engage in sales of automotive equipment. Mr. Felty is essentially a manufacturers' representative who conducts business by computer and phone and by visiting his customers' locations. No inventory will be kept in Mr. Felty's home; no customers will frequent the home; and there will be no outwardly visible business activity. Council Member Taylor Watson made a motion to approve Mr. Felty's application for a privilege license. The motion was seconded by Council Member Tony Towns and passed unanimously.

PLANNING COMMISSION UPDATE – ARCH WILLINGHAM: Council Member Arch Willingham was absent. City Manager Kenny Lee reported that at its last meeting, the Planning Commission voted on approval of the new Comprehensive Plan.

FIRE AND POLICE UPDATE – TAYLOR WATSON: Council Member Taylor Watson reported that the Fairyland School 3rd through 5th graders came to the new City Hall to say the Pledge of Allegiance and raise the first flag. The 5th graders rode the fire truck over. Fun was had by all. Ms. Watson read the monthly fire and police report. Chief Todd Gann reported that the new police vehicle is in the process of being built.

FAIRYLAND SCHOOL UPDATE – CAROLINE WILLIAMS: Council Member Caroline Williams reported that the school is no longer doing close contact quarantining, but daily COVID cases are reported by email. The Fairyland community art show will be held on March 1 at the Methodist Church. Ms. Williams reported that Walker County Schools is giving every elementary school \$100,000 from TSPLOST to update their playgrounds. Night Out for

Lookout will be held on February 26, and Ms. Williams encouraged the community to come support this event for the Lookout Mountain School.

STORM WATER COMMITTEE – TONY TOWNS: Council Member Tony Towns reported that the Committee would be meeting next Tuesday.

PUBLIC WORKS – KEVIN LECKENBY: Council Member Kevin Leckenby thanked the crew that helped keep the City going in the midst of the move to the new City Hall and the Fire and Police Departments that helped all while dealing with quarantine issues. This was a monumental accomplishment. Mr. Leckenby reported that Public Works is currently caught up on leaves, so now they can concentrate on brush. The gas project is about to have a big push and then will be scaled back again. Due to brush growing season, culverts will become a focus. Some seasonal equipment will be put into storage after repairs are made. Dumpster day will be March 5. Residents may check the City website or call City Hall with any other questions.

CITY MANAGER – KENNY LEE: City Manager Kenny Lee advised the Council that the City sent an email out announcing all activities and gatherings taking place, as well as the closing of Ochs by GDOT next Thursday and Friday to repair guard rails. On February 21st and 22nd they will begin paving. Mr. Lee reported that SEC deployed a rapid response team of 32 members to facilitate the gas line repairs and that will address gas hook ups. An email will be sent to residents who are impacted.

TRAILS UPDATE – KENNY LEE: City Manager Kenny Lee reported that the RFP for trails was sent out last week with ten responses coming back. One group from Asheville is very interested.

MAYOR'S REPORT: Mayor Bennett reiterated that having the Fairyland School students come for the flag raising ceremony was a blast. The Mayor stated that there is great excitement about residents calling and wanting to use the new City Hall, and this is being encouraged. Mayor Bennett shared there was a huge group effort to deal with brush and leaves and sodding the area in front of the City Hall, and this saved the City money. Council Member Tony Towns asked about having alcohol on city property since the City Hall is a great space that could be used for social and other events. City Attorney Bill Pickering stated there were no City Ordinances that would prevent this, but he will look into it on the State level.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Cindy Roberts
City Clerk