

**City of Locust Grove  
Council Meeting Minutes  
Public Safety Building – Courtroom Chamber  
3640 Highway 42 S. – Locust Grove, GA 30248  
Tuesday, January 2, 2024  
6:00 PM**

| <b>Members Present:</b>          | <b>Staff Present:</b>                         |
|----------------------------------|---|
| Robert Price – Mayor             | Tim Young – City Manager                      |
| Keith Boone – Councilman/Pro Tem | Bert Foster – Assistant City Manager          |
| Carlos Greer – Councilman        | Misty Spurling – City Clerk                   |
| Willie Taylor – Councilman       | Daunté Gibbs – Community Development Director |
| Vincent Williams – Councilman    | Jack Rose – Public Works Director             |
| Rod Shearouse – Councilman       | Derrick Austin - Police Chief                 |
| Rudy Breedlove – Councilman      | Andy Welch – Attorney                         |

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

**ADMINISTRATION OF OATH –**

Judge Patten administered oath to Mayor Price, Councilman Shearouse, Councilman Breedlove, and Councilman Greer.

Invocation given by City Manager Tim Young

Councilman Greer led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA –**

Mayor Price asked for a motion. Councilman Williams made the motion to approve the agenda.

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

**PUBLIC COMMENTS –**

**PUBLIC HEARING ITEMS –**

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES –**

**1. DECEMBER 4, 2023- REGULAR MEETING MINUTES –**

Mayor Price asked for a motion. Councilman Shearouse made the motion to approve the December 4, 2023, regular meeting minutes.

|                        |  |
|------------------------|--|
| RESULT                 | APPROVED DECEMBER 4, 2023, REGULAR MEETING MINUTES |
| MADE MOTION            | COUNCILMAN WILLIAMS                                |
| 2 <sup>ND</sup> MOTION | COUNCILMAN GREER                                   |
| FAVOR                  | MOTION CARRIED – ALL IN FAVOR                      |

**2. DECEMBER 4, 2023- EXECUTIVE SESSION MEETING MINUTES –**

Mayor Price asked for a motion. Councilman Williams made the motion to approve the December 4, 2023, executive session meeting minutes.

|                        |  |
|------------------------|--|
| RESULT                 | APPROVED DECEMBER 4, 2023, EXECUTIVE SESSION MEETING MINUTES |
| MADE MOTION            | COUNCILMAN WILLIAMS  |
| 2 <sup>ND</sup> MOTION | COUNCILMAN SHEAROUSE   |
| FAVOR                  | MOTION CARRIED – ALL IN FAVOR                                |

**3. DECEMBER 18, 2023 - WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES –**

Mayor Price asked for a motion. Councilman Williams made the motion to approve the December 18, 2023, workshop meeting minutes.

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|------------------------|--|
| RESULT                 | APPROVED DECEMBER 18, 2023, WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES |
| MADE MOTION            | COUNCILMAN WILLIAMS                                  |
| 2 <sup>ND</sup> MOTION | COUNCILMAN SHEAROUSE                                 |
| FAVOR                  | MOTION CARRIED – ALL IN FAVOR                        |

**4. DECEMBER 18, 2023- EXECUTIVE SESSION MEETING MINUTES –**

Mayor Price asked for a motion. Councilman Taylor made the motion to approve the December 18, 2023, executive session meeting minutes.

|                        |   |
|------------------------|---|
| RESULT                 | APPROVED DECEMBER 18, 2023, EXECUTIVE SESSION MEETING MINUTES |
| MADE MOTION            | COUNCILMAN TAYLOR   |
| 2 <sup>ND</sup> MOTION | COUNCILMAN GREER  |
| FAVOR                  | MOTION CARRIED – ALL IN FAVOR                                 |

**ACCEPTANCE OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT –**

**5. NOVEMBER 2023 FINANCIAL STATEMENT**

Mayor Price asked for a motion. Councilman Williams made the motion to approve the November 2023 financial statement.

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|------------------------|--|
| RESULT                 | APPROVED NOVEMBER 2023 FINANCIAL STATEMENT |
| MADE MOTION            | COUNCILMAN WILLIAMS                        |
| 2 <sup>ND</sup> MOTION | COUNCILMAN SHEAROUSE                       |
| FAVOR                  | MOTION CARRIED – ALL IN FAVOR              |

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS/ACTION ITEMS –**

**6. Ordinance to amend Section 701 “The Pay Plan” (Job Classification and Compensation Study (Motion Required) –**

Mayor Price asked for a motion. Councilman Shearouse made the motion to approve the request [Option 1] by approving ordinance **#24-01-001.**

|                        |  |
|------------------------|--|
| RESULT                 | APPROVED ORDINANCE #24-01-001  |
| MADE MOTION            | COUNCILMAN SHEAROUSE   |
| 2 <sup>ND</sup> MOTION | COUNCILMAN TAYLOR  |
| FAVOR                  | MOTION CARRIED – FOUR IN FAVOR (SHEAROUSE, TAYLOR, WILLIAMS, BOONE) AND TWO OPPOSED (BREEDLOVE, GREER) |

**7. Resolution to reappoint Jeff Mills to the Downtown Development Authority (DDA) -**

Mayor Price asked for a motion. Councilman Taylor made the motion to approve the request by approving resolution **#24-01-002.**

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|------------------------|--------------------------------|
| RESULT                 | APPROVED RESOLUTION #24-01-002 |
| MADE MOTION            | COUNCILMAN TAYLOR              |
| 2 <sup>ND</sup> MOTION | COUNCILMAN WILLIAMS            |
| FAVOR                  | MOTION CARRIED – ALL IN FAVOR  |

**8. Resolution to reappoint Marianne Morfoot to the Historic Preservation Commission (HPC)-**

Mayor Price asked for a motion. Councilman Breedlove made the motion to approve the request resolution **# 24-01-003.**

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|------------------------|--|
| RESULT                 | APPROVED RESOLUTION # 24-01-003  |
| MADE MOTION            | COUNCILMAN BREEDLOVE   |
| 2 <sup>ND</sup> MOTION | COUNCILMAN BOONE   |
| FAVOR                  | MOTION CARRIED – FIVE IN FAVOR (GREER, TAYLOR, BOONE, BREEDLOVE, WILLIAMS) AND ONE ABSTAINED (SHEAROUSE) |

**9. Resolution to reappoint Rachel Devitt to the Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) -**

Mayor Price asked for a motion. Councilman Williams made the motion to approve the request by approving resolution **#24-01-004.**

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|------------------------|--|
| RESULT                 | APPROVED RESOLUTION #24-01-004   |
| MADE MOTION            | COUNCILMAN WILLIAMS  |
| 2 <sup>ND</sup> MOTION | COUNCILMAN BOONE   |
| FAVOR                  | MOTION CARRIED – FIVE IN FAVOR (GREER, TAYLOR, BOONE, BREEDLOVE, WILLIAMS) AND ONE ABSTAINED (SHEAROUSE) |

**10. Resolution to reappoint Betty Shearouse to the Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) -**

Mayor Price asked for a motion. Councilman Breedlove made the motion to approve the request by approving resolution **#24-01-005.**

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|------------------------|--|
| RESULT                 | APPROVED RESOLUTION #24-01-005   |
| MADE MOTION            | COUNCILMAN BREEDLOVE   |
| 2 <sup>ND</sup> MOTION | COUNCILMAN BOONE   |
| FAVOR                  | MOTION CARRIED – FIVE IN FAVOR (GREER, TAYLOR, BOONE, BREEDLOVE, WILLIAMS) AND ONE ABSTAINED (SHEAROUSE) |

**11. Resolution to reappoint Jeff Mills to the Historic Preservation Commission (HPC)–**

Mayor Price asked for a motion. Councilman Greer made the motion to approve the request by approving resolution #24-01-006.

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| RESULT                 | APPROVED RESOLUTION #24-01-006   |
| MADE MOTION            | COUNCILMAN WILLIAMS  |
| 2 <sup>ND</sup> MOTION | COUNCILMAN BOONE   |
| FAVOR                  | MOTION CARRIED – FIVE IN FAVOR (GREER, TAYLOR, BOONE, BREEDLOVE, WILLIAMS) AND ONE ABSTAINED (SHEAROUSE) |

**NEW BUSINESS/ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS –**

**12. Ordinance for appointment of offices of the City of Locust Grove for 2024 -**

Mayor Price asked for a motion. Councilman Boone made the motion to approve the request by approving ordinance # 24-01-007.

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|------------------------|-------------------------------|
| RESULT                 | APPROVED ORDINANCE #24-01-007 |
| MADE MOTION            | COUNCILMAN BOONE              |
| 2 <sup>ND</sup> MOTION | COUNCILMAN GREER              |
| FAVOR                  | MOTION CARRIED – ALL IN FAVOR |

**13. Resolution for annexation of certain tracts for 2024 -**

City Attorney Andy Welch stepped forward to comment. Andy reviewed the boundaries as outlined on the overhead screen. Andy said there are portions that are in Butts County and Henry County that are considered a “gap”. This will be a two-part annexation (one Bill, but two parts).

Mayor Price asked for a motion. Councilman Greer made the motion to approve the request by approving resolution # 24-01-008.

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|------------------------|--|
| RESULT                 | APPROVED RESOLUTION #24-01-008   |
| MADE MOTION            | COUNCILMAN GREER   |
| 2 <sup>ND</sup> MOTION | COUNCILMAN SHEAROUSE   |
| FAVOR                  | MOTION CARRIED – FIVE IN FAVOR (GREER, TAYLOR, WILLIAMS, SHEAROUSE, BREEDLOVE) AND ONE OPPOSED (BOONE) |

**CITY MANAGER’S COMMENTS –**

Tim said Happy New Year and congratulations to the Mayor and Council for this election term. Tim gave an update about the Bill Gardner Parkway and I-75 signal changeover. We are in the next phase of the ERP 10 migration and will begin preparation for the 2023 audit in the next weeks. We did the final walkthrough with the contractor for the City Hall renovations, and we are accepting applications for the Veteran’s Memorial bricks. Bert said he will forward a revised copy of the brick application to the council.

**COUNCIL COMMENTS –**

Councilman Williams asked about the “No U-turn” signs at the signal near I-75 south. Discussion took place about the placement of additional signage by the contractor, and Tim said we have seen an increase in “rearend” accidents and less on other accidents.

Councilman Greer made a comment regarding the “pay plan”. Greer said he is not opposed to approving pay increases for our employees. The idea was to increase the entry level positions (first) and over time review other positions and increase accordingly.

Councilman Breedlove made a comment about a flashing blue light (strobe light) in the Texaco/Pawn Shop and asked if a code violation. Staff made note of this to check.

Greer asked if we are considering adding another Code Enforcement Officer. Mr. Gibbs said currently, Brian is managing all the calls as expected. Daunté said we have assessed the need and recommends holding off on hiring an additional officer for now. Greer said he is noticing trash increase at local businesses. Daunté said he will send the council a copy of Brian’s daily route.

**MAYOR’S COMMENTS – NONE**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION – PROPERTY ACQUISITION AND LITIGATION**

Motion to go into executive session to discuss potential litigation and property acquisition matters by Councilman Greer and seconded by Councilman Shearouse. Motion Carried All in favor 6:32 PM.

At 6:59 PM, motion to come back into regular session made by Councilman Shearouse and seconded by Councilman Williams.

**ADJOURNMENT –**

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

|                        |   |
|------------------------|---|
| RESULT                 | APPROVED – ADJOURN MEETING                  |
| MADE MOTION            | COUNCILMAN GREER                            |
| 2 <sup>ND</sup> MOTION | COUNCILMAN SHEAROUSE                        |
| FAVOR                  | MOTION CARRIED MEETING ADJOURNED @ 7:00 PM. |

Notes taken by:

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Misty Spurling  
City Clerk