

Minutes of the
REGULAR MEETING
of the
City Council of Lookout Mountain, Georgia
November 19, 2015

PRESIDING: Sandy Gothard, Mayor

PRESENT: Council Members David Bennett, Taylor Watson, Beth Soloff, and Jim Sabourin; City Attorney Bill Pickering; City Manager Brad Haven; Chief of Police Todd Gann.

ABSENT: Council Member Caroline Williams, City Clerk Cindy Roberts

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Sandy Gothard called the regular meeting of the City Council to order at 5:30 p.m. at City Hall, 1214 Lula Lake Road, Lookout Mountain, Georgia. Council Member Taylor Watson opened the meeting with a prayer.

MUNICIPAL PLANNING COMMISSION – CONSOLIDATION OF ORDINANCES 25 AND 37, NEW DIGITAL ZONING MAP: Mr. Jimmy Campbell appeared before the Council on behalf of the Municipal Planning Commission. Mr. Campbell advised the Council that City Attorney Bill Pickering had prepared consolidated versions of the City's Zoning Ordinance (Ordinance No. 25) and Subdivision Ordinance (Ordinance No. 37), incorporating all amendments to both ordinances to date. The Planning Commission has recommended that the City Council proceed with the adoption of both consolidated ordinances. A public hearing before the Planning Commission will be required, and Mr. Campbell asked that the Council move forward with this process. Council Member Taylor Watson made a motion that the Council authorize the City's Municipal Planning Commission to advertise and conduct a public hearing on the consolidated Zoning Ordinance and Subdivision Ordinance. The public hearing will be conducted in accordance with the procedures set forth in the City's Zoning Procedures and Standards Ordinance (Ordinance No. 289). The motion was seconded by Council Member Jim Sabourin and passed unanimously.

Mr. Campbell also presented a new Zoning Map which had been prepared with the assistance of the Northwest Georgia Regional Commission. Mr. Campbell noted one correction which would be needed to the map. Mr. Campbell stated that the Planning Commission would review the map again to be sure it was completely accurate and would make any additional revisions which might be needed so that the map could be ready for the City Council's December meeting.

MONTHLY CITY MANAGER'S REPORT: City Manager Brad Haven presented the monthly City Manager's, stormwater and sewer report. The written report is on file. Some highlights include:

1. The new Hydromatric S4TX pump for the City's pump station was received today.
2. Fewer sewer repair calls were received last month than at any time in the past.

3. Mr. Haven will be meeting next week with the City's stormwater consultant, Catherine Fox, to begin work on next year's state-required stormwater report and to discuss potential stormwater issues regarding a proposed residential development near Lula Lake Road.

4. Mr. Haven has been working with Dwight Montague and Merrell McGinness to establish a mountain-wide social network called Nextdoor. The network is now up and running and will provide a means of sharing information with residents of the community.

VICE MAYOR'S REPORT: Vice Mayor David Bennett advised the Council that the City's annual Christmas Parade would take place on Monday, November 30, at 4:30 p.m. The parade will be followed by the City's first ever Christmas tree lighting.

Mr. Bennett commended the City's Fire Department volunteers for their assistance in handling of a serious automobile accident which recently occurred at the intersection of Red Riding Hood Trail and Lula Lake Road.

MAYOR'S REPORT: Mayor Gothard advised the Council that discussions had begun with Covenant College and Brow Wood regarding a long-term sewer service relationship. The Council will be kept informed as discussions progress.

LULA LAKE ROAD PROPERTY – EXECUTIVE SESSION: Mayor Gothard recognized Council Member David Bennett and asked that he provide an update on the status of the City's efforts to sell its property located at 1827 Lula Lake Road. Mr. Bennett advised that the City's real estate agent had recommended that the City lower the suggested asking price for the property. Council Member Jim Sabourin made a motion that the Council go into Executive Session to discuss this matter which involves the authorization of negotiations to sell real property owned by the City. The motion was seconded by Council Member David Bennett and passed unanimously.

The Council then met in Executive Session for the purpose stated. No action was taken during the Executive Session. Minutes of the Executive Session have been recorded in accordance with O.C.G.A. § 50-14-1(e)(2)(C) but, in accordance with that code section, are not available to the public.

COUNCIL MEETING REOPENED: Mayor Gothard reopened the City Council meeting after the Executive Session was concluded. Council Member Taylor Watson made a motion that the City instruct its real estate agent to lower the suggested asking price for the City's property on Lula Lake Road to \$138,000 and to authorize the Mayor and Vice Mayor to negotiate with prospective purchasers further if an offer of less than that amount is made. Mr. Pickering has advised the Council that, under state law, any sale of the property must be made pursuant to an advertisement for and receipt of bids. Prospective purchasers will be so advised and will be asked to submit bids in accordance with the advertisement. Council Member Watson's motion was seconded by Council Member Beth Soloff and passed unanimously.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

William H. Pickering
City Attorney and Acting Clerk