



CITY OF LAVONIA COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING – MINUTES

SEPTEMBER 3, 2024

5:34 PM

Present: Mayor Courtney Umbehant
Councilman - Eddie Floyd
Councilman - Michael Schulman
Councilman - Jeremy Madden
Councilman - Andrew Murphy

Media: Charlie Eavenson – Franklin County Citizen

Staff: City Manager - Charles Cawthon
Asst. City Manager – Daniel Carson
City Clerk – Angela V. Greer
City Attorney – John Dickerson
Police Chief – Shane Edmisten
DDA – Barbara Busby
Mainstreet - Ashley Rose Dodd

Attendance: Ray Jordan, Greg Icard, Johnny Ralston, and Thad Clayton – ABM, LaNora Andrews, LaDonna Andrews, Olivia Umbehant, Eddie and Helen Bowman, and Thurley Mangrum.

Item 1. Call to Order
Mayor Courtney Umbehant called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.

Item 2. Invocation and Pledge of Alliance to the American flag: led by Councilman Eddie Floyd.

Item 3. Consent Agenda Items & Approval of Minutes:
Motion by Michael Schulman, seconded by Andrew Murphy to approve the Consent Agenda items as follows. Motion carried.

- a) Confirmation of Quorum.
- b) Approval of September Agenda as presented.
- c) Approval of Minutes: August 5, 2024 - Regular Council Meeting, the August 22, 2024 - Work Session, and the August 25, 2024 – Called Meeting as presented.
- d) Approval of the August 2024 Financial Report as presented.

Item 4. ABM – Presentation and Not to Exceed Resolution

Mr. Greg Icard, with ABM Building Solutions, came before the Mayor and Council with an energy savings performance contract for the purpose that would provide upgrades to City of Lavonia facilities. This Contract would not exceed Four Million Three Hundred Twenty-Two Thousand Five Hundred Thirty Dollars and no/100 (\$4,322,530.00), with financing available in form of a Twenty (20) Year Lease.

Motion by Michael Schulman, seconded by Andrew Murphy to sign the resolution and enter into the Guaranteed Energy Savings Performance Contracting Act, the City of Lavonia is authorized to enter contract for the purpose of upgrading the City of Lavonia Facilities. The resolution requires the contract cost not to exceed Four Million Three Hundred Twenty-Two Thousand Five Hundred Thirty Dollars and no/100 (\$4,322,530.00), with financing available in form of a Twenty (20) Year Lease. Motion carried.

Motion by Andrew Murphy, seconded by Jeremy Madden with the staff recommendation, to approve using Bank of America for the financing of this project. Motion carried.

Item 5. Legal: Updated Burning Ordinance:

Motion by Andrew Murphy, seconded by Jeremy Madden to approve an Ordinance to provide for regulations governing the burning of yard debris within the corporate limits of the City of Lavonia, and for other purposes. Motion carried.

Item 6. Mayor's Report:

Mayor Umbehant read a proclamation to proclaim the month of September 2024 – *National Recovery Month*.

Mayor announced that old Ford Theater is not standing in the same capacity as it was. This building has been in a terrible state of disrepair and beyond any type of repair. This will allow more open green space for the Gazebo park there now. Mayor Umbehant took this time to acknowledge the history of the Ford Theater.

KINDNESS INITIATIVE: The month of September's Kindness Initiative is focusing on Elementary School. One of the things happening is that various groups in the city will be greeting the kids as they get off the school bus. He plans for him and the Council to greet the kids as they get off the bus also. There will be more announcements later. He also encouraged the community that the school needs cleaning supplies, coat drives and things like that.

Mayor Umbehant advised the Georgia Downtown Association Conference in Thomasville Georgia was held last week. Ashley Rose Dodd and Barbara Busby were there to represent the City of Lavonia. The City of Lavonia was presented with an award of Excellence for Outstanding Promotional Campaign for the City's Kindness Initiatives.

Item 7. City Manager Report:

It is time to begin work on the FY 2025 budget. If you have priorities that you would like to see represented, please contact us. You are welcome to call anytime, but if you reach out via email, please copy Daniel and vice versa.

We are focusing on working as a team, so if one is unavailable, you should be able to reach the other.

2025 will be challenging. Inflation continues to be high. Therefore, we are paying more for goods, services, and labor. We do not see this improving much next year.

Item 8. Final Comments:

Mayor Umbehant asked for any comments from the Council. There were no comments.

Item 9. Adjourn:

Mayor Umbehant adjourned the meeting at 6:08 P.M.

Upcoming Meetings:

September 24, 2024 – Work Session @ 6:00 P.M.

September 30, 2024 - Planning & Zoning @ 5:30 P.M.

October 7, 2024 – City of Lavonia Regular Council Meeting @ 5:30 PM

Courtney Umbehant, Mayor

Angela V. Greer, City Clerk