

City of Lula
Council Meeting
City Hall / 7:00 P.M.
Monday, February 21, 2022

Present: Mayor Joe Thomas
Mayor Pro Tem Matt Hamby
Council Members Lamb Griffin
Gene Bramlett
Denise Shockley

Also Present:

City Manager Dennis Bergin
City Clerk Tangee Puckett
City Attorney Joseph Homans

Opening / Welcome Mayor
Invocation was given and the pledge was recited.

Citizen Comments –

Roy Hall – 5152 Mtn View Pkwy. – in opposition to item number 8 – S & S Septic Hauling Request. Has a petition with over 100 signatures, not proper place to put the location. The bug trucks will damage the roads, concerned for the animals and children's safety, this opens the door to other companies.

Associate Real Estate Broker – when you have a facility like this, it decreases the value in your home.

Mordecai Wilson spoke about brighter futures and looking ahead. Mayor and council keep moving forward. He thanked the city manager and the city attorney. Find adversity and help others without wanting anything in return, treat everyone fair and with respect.

Jim Grier – Echoed Mordecai's thoughts. Thanked the mayor and council for reviewing somethings that have been challenging. Noted they were not going to know everything. Glad they were attending the newly elected official training and thanked them for attending the LOST meeting.

Public Hearing

Variance Request –
5277 & 5281 Old Cornelia Hwy – Setbacks – Front, Rear and Side

Attorney Homans called the public hearing to order. The applicant would like to reduce the setbacks at 5277 Old Cornelia Hwy, front from 100 feet to 50 feet, on the northside reduce from 25 feet to 9 feet and the southside from 25 feet to 15 feet. 5281 Old Cornelia Hwy front from 100 feet to 50 feet, northside from 25 feet to 16 feet and southside from 25 feet to 15 feet.

The applicant was present and noted they would like to construct 2 single family homes. There is an old commercial building that was purchased a year ago. They would like to demolish the building and remove the underground storage tanks. They will use the existing septic tank and this has been approved by environmental health.

Betty Jarrard lives next to the property concerned with erosion control and the houses being put near her fence.

Favor –

Craig Smith – 5708 Toombs St – one work with the engineer in the past, good deal to make this happen.

Felton Wood – demolishing the building and removing the underground storage will good for this property.

The public hearing was closed.

Minutes from January 18th Regular Voting Council Session – a motion to approve the January 18th minutes from the Regular Voting Council Session was made by Matt Hamby and seconded by Garnett Smith, discussion, the motion carried unanimously.

Yard of the Month - Mayor Thomas announced the YOTM recipients for the month of January.

Recipients are:

District 1 – Veneda Clanton; District 2 – April & Michael Koostra; District 3 – Kenneth Griffin

District 4 – Preston Langston; and District 5 – Kirk Adams

Finance – City Manager gave an update on the Cities current finances and noted the city was in the beginning of their fiscal year but the bank balances remain consistent.

Prisoner Vehicle Replacement/Status

Not successful in finding a replacement at this time.

Audio Video Council Chambers/Exterior and Interior Renovations, Committee Recommendation

The cost would be around \$44,000 and the finance committee recommended moving forward with the renovations.

Truck Plow \$5,200 ETA/ Sept/ Committee Recommendation

The finance committee denied the purchase.

Municipal Judge Agreement

A motion to approve the municipal judge agreement was made by Garnett Smith and seconded by Denis Shockley, discussion, the motion was carried unanimously.

Waste Sewer Current Conditions

Waste water treatment plant the belt press needs to be replaced.

Census/ 2020 – Data Concern – Council District Mapping Proposal/RDC/\$500

Concern with the census numbers being off. Need to identify how many households are being recognized as residential. Every 10 years we do a redistricting map. Will keep you updated on the numbers.

Consideration for Eminent Domain by Resolution –

6013 Athens St., 5961 Carter Alley, 5965 Carter Alley, 5912 Cobb St. Lula Ga - to serve public purpose

A motion was made to approve the eminent domain was made by Gene Bramlett and seconded by Garnett Smith, discussion, the motion carried unanimously.

Consideration of Eminent Domain by Resolution –

5912 Maiden Lane, 5924 Maiden Lane, 5930 Maiden Lane, Lula GA – to serve public purpose

A motion was made to approve the eminent domain was made by Garnett Smith and seconded by Matt Hamby, discussion, the motion carried unanimously.

S & S Septic Hauling Request (Hall and Banks County residential haulers for the city to receive septic for treatment/consideration 4 options)

A motion was made to deny this request by Garnett Smith and seconded by Matt Hamby, discussion, the motion was carried unanimously.

Craig Brome, Request/Consideration for De-annexation

A motion was made to move forward with the process for de-annexation was made by Garnett Smith and seconded by Gene Bramlett, discussion, the motion carried unanimously.

Tim Williams Agenda Request/ Abandonment of ROW

Tim Williams noted he would like to enclose the front porch located at 6043 Main Street to remodel the house. A motion to deny the request was made by Gene Bramlett and seconded by Garnett Smith, Matt Hamby opposed their vote. 3 yes – 1 no, motion carried.

Planning Commission Recommendations

Variance Request/ 5277 & 5281 Old Cornelia / Setbacks to planning commission/Recommendation to approve (see conditions)

Planning Commission approved with conditions – side setbacks, erosion control, dumpster used. A motion was made by Matt Hamby to approve with planning commission conditions and seconded by Denise Shockley, discussion, motion carried unanimously.

FYI Public Hearing – Proposed Annexation and Rezoning by Cook Communities/ 6492 7th St./ Lewallen 30.27 Acres from Ag to PRD Planned Residential Development, 90 Proposed lots

To be heard on March 1st by the Planning Commission

Proposed Ordinance Adoption – Urban Camping and Homeless Issues/ Establish dates for public hearings if item is to go forward.

A motion was made by Matt Hamby to move forward and seconded by Gene Bramlett, discussion, motion carried unanimously.

Meals on Wheels – March Ride Along/ Volunteer (Tuesdays)

Deliver Meals to Lula residents, they have been doing this for years. City Manager will go on the 1st, Teresa Heath will go on the 8th and Matt Hamby on the 29th. Still need volunteers for the other Tuesdays.

Code Enforcement/Committee Comments – Doug Forrester requesting for Body Cam

The committee recommendation would be to deny the request. A motion was made by Gene Bramlett and seconded by Garnett Smith. Opposition if denying was made by Matt Hamby and seconded by Denise Shockley. Recommended budgeting for next year. 3 yes and 2 no, motion carried.

Reminder – Lula Ladies will not meet in February, hope to see everyone in March

Reminder of the opportunity to donate to the “Carl Manger Memorial Caboose Remodeling Fund” \$3,000 has been raise so far? We are seeing a lot of progress on the renovations already so be a part of this unique opportunity and preserve history.

The signal is in bad shape – recommended painting and welding it back together and putting back up. The cost is about \$4,000. A motion was made by Garnett Smith and seconded by Matt Hamby, discussion, the motion was carried unanimously.

Lula Belton Historical Society meets the fourth Monday of the Month at the Depot at 7pm, all are invited.

Reminder to Council LOST Training March 7th from 9am to 4pm at Cornelia Community House (for those registered)

Citizen Comments

Mordecai Wilson – Spoke about family and looking towards the future.

Eric Stewart 6217 Main St – Where can we find more information about future public hearings

Felton Woods – Keep Lula moving forward. Warm weather coming consider the baseball fields, bathrooms and parks

Council Comments

Garnett Smith – thanked everyone for coming and showing support

Gene Bramlett seconded Garnett's comments

Denise Shockley thanked everyone for coming

Matt Hamby time is moving fast, don't miss the opportunity to spend time with family

Joe Thomas communication is the key. Trying to get everyone email so we can better communicate. Trying to find an easier way, if you have suggestions, please let me know.

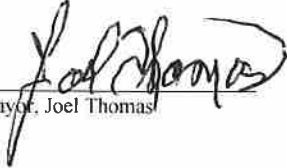
Executive Session – Matt Hamby made a motion to go into executive session and seconded by Gene Bramlett, motion carried unanimously.

Motion made by Garnett Smith to come out of executive session and seconded by Denise Shockley, motion carried unanimously.

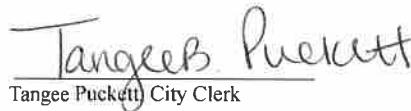
A motion to adjourn was made by Matt Hamby and seconded by Gene Bramlett. The meeting was adjourned.

Minutes from February 21, 2022

Approved March 21, 2022



Mayor, Joel Thomas



Tangee Puckett, City Clerk