



**CITY OF LITHONIA
MINUTES—ORGANIZATIONAL CITY COUNCIL VIRTUAL MEETING
Monday, January 3, 2022 @ 5:00 PM**

I. Opening of Meeting by Mayor

The Organizational City Council Virtual Meeting was called to order at 5:20 pm by Mayor Shameka S. Reynolds.

II. Opening Prayer – Dr. Marvin Crawford, Saint Paul A.M.E. Church

Dr. Marvin Crawford, Saint Paul A.M.E. Church provided the opening prayer.

III. Pledge of Allegiance

The pledge of allegiance was recited in unison.

IV. Administration of Oath of Office – Honorable Tunde Akinyele, Chief Judge Lithonia Municipal Court

The Oath of Office was administered by the Honorable Tunde Akinyele, Chief Judge, Lithonia Municipal Court to Council Member Elect Amelia Inman, Council Member Elect Diane Howard, and Council Member Elect Yolanda Sheppard

V. Presentation of City Council – Roll Call

Mayor Shameka S. Reynolds presented City Council to the public and the official Roll Call was made. All Councilmembers were present except for Councilman Honore.

VI. Approval of Agenda

Councilwoman Inman motioned to approve the Organizational City Council Meeting Agenda to include the following changes: Approval of Agenda under Section VI. and the Adoption of Council Meeting Minutes under Section VII., the motion was seconded by Councilwoman Howard and approved by a vote of 4-0.

VII. Adoption of Council Meeting Minutes (Virtual)

a. November 15, 2021, Work Session (5:30 pm)

Councilwoman Howard motioned to approve the November 15, 2021, Work Session Meeting Minutes; the motion was seconded by Councilwoman Wynn and approved by a vote of 4-0.

b. December 1, 2021, Special Called: Filming Approval for HBO and Filming Approval for Starz (10:00 am)

Councilwoman Inman motioned to approve the December 1, 2021, Special Called Filming Approval for HBO and Filming Approval for Starz Meeting Minutes; the motion was seconded by Councilwoman Wynn and approved by a vote of 4-0.

c. December 6, 2021, City Council (5:30 pm)

Councilwoman Wynn motioned to approve the December 6, 2021, City Council Meeting Minutes; the motion was seconded by Councilwoman Howard and approved by a vote of 4-0.

d. December 8, 2021, Public Hearing for Special Exception Use at 6926 Main Street that would allow for a Restaurant and Hookah Lounge Serving Alcohol

Councilwoman Howard motioned to approve the December 8, 2021, Public Hearing for Special Exception Use at 6926 Main Street that would allow for a Restaurant and Hookah Lounge Serving Alcohol Meeting Minutes; the motion was seconded by Councilwoman Sheppard and

approved by a vote of 3-0. Councilwoman Inman abstained.

e. December 16, 2021, Special Called Meeting For Employee Christmas Bonus (10:00 am)

Councilwoman Inman motioned to approve the December 16, 2021, Special Called for Employee Christmas Bonus Meeting Minutes; the motion was seconded by Councilwoman Wynn and approved by a vote of 4-0.

VIII. Public Comments Response

Mayor Reynolds stated that Administrator Sands had a family emergency and will provide a response to Council at a later date.

IX. Action Item

a. Election of Mayor Pro Tempore

Councilwoman Howard motioned to nominate Councilman Honore as Mayor Pro Tempore; the motion was seconded by Councilwoman Wynn and approved by a vote of 3-0. Councilwoman Inman abstained.

X. Old Business

a. Masonic Lodge Repairs

Councilwoman Howard stated the electricity was turned on, the HVAC work is continuing to be working on, and the building looked lovely during the holiday. Mayor Reynolds acknowledged appreciation to Public Works and Councilwoman Howard for the renovations that have been completed thus far.

b. Advisory Committee Job Description

Councilwoman Howard acknowledged the job description was discussed at the prior meeting, further confirming no approval was needed going forward. Mayor Reynolds then confirmed that Councilwoman Howard would chair the committee.

XI. Other Business

a. City Administrator Report

Mayor Reynolds will forward the report to council.

b. Police Department Report

Chief Pollard acknowledged the COPS grant was received and will allow for personnel improvements with enhancement of visibility and enforcement to include 3 officers per shift. The grant was approved for hiring 8 officers, increasing patrol and the criminal investigation division. The total amount was \$1.103 ML; \$827k in funding from the federal government, and remaining amount will be handled by the city. Six people have been identified for the eight open positions thus far. Furthermore, Chief Pollard acknowledged 10-15 officers that were present in the room. Looking forward to moving forward. Councilwoman Sheppard asked for clarification that there would be 3 officers per shift, Chief Pollard acknowledged, yes.

c. Mayors Report

Mayor Reynolds expressed a Happy New Year to everyone, grateful for newly elected council, existing councilmembers, citizens, Police Department, and Public Works department.

d. Councilmember Comments

Each Council Member provided comment to show public appreciation.

XII. Adjournment

Councilwoman Howard motioned to adjourn the meeting, the motion was seconded by Councilwoman Sheppard; the motion was approved by a vote 4-0, and the meeting was adjourned at 5:47 PM.