



120 North Essa Street, Lake Park, Georgia 31636  
City Hall 229-559-7470  
Fax 229-559-7499

City of Lake Park Regular Meeting  
June 5, 2018  
7:30 PM

## Agenda

Public Hearing –Ordinance 118 Tom’s Pond Boating-second reading

Minutes May 1 Regular Meeting, and May 21 Call Meeting

Financial – May

Citizens’ Concerns

Ordinance 118 Tom’s Pond Boating – Vote

Department Reports

Lawrence Street Closure between Railroad and Thomas – Engineer Report

Ordinance 114 Amendment / Tom's Pond Veterans Memorial Committee

Staging Area for debris update

Lawrence Street/Railroad Ave Drainage – Engineering Bids

Citizens’ Concerns

Admin/Executive Reports – Cemetery Website, BOZA Committee Members

*\*Individuals with disabilities who require certain accommodations in order to allow them to observe and/or participate in this meeting, or who have questions regarding the accessibility of the meeting or the facilities are required to contact the ADA Coordinator at 229-559-7470 promptly to allow the city to make reasonable accommodations for those persons.*



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## Minutes

Mayor Schindler began by calling the Public Hearing to order. He advised that Council would be hearing the second reading of Ordinance 118 - Tom's Pond Boating. Schindler asked if there was anyone who would like to speak in favor or in opposition of Ordinance 118.

Thomas Lamar Green, 208 Main Street Lake Park GA 31636, spoke in opposition of the ordinance. He said that the citizens didn't want this and that no one had been notified about this ordinance. He went on to state that his mother owned property around the pond and that he had lived here and fished that pond for over 50 years. He explained that it wasn't the people using boats on the pond but the people from all over coming here, fishing and taking the small fish out instead of releasing them. Green went on to say if we had the game warden to come down and regulate the pond like they are supposed to, there wouldn't be an issue.

Griffins, 401 W Thomas Ave Lake Park, GA 31636, came forward and stated that she agreed with Mr. Green she was in opposition of the ordinance. She also questioned what ever happened with the drainage ditch that was supposed to be done beside their property as stated by former Mayor Futch.

James Council, Tom's Pond Rd Lake Park, GA 31636, came forward to also speak in opposition to Ordinance 118. Council stated he believed that there were other methods that should be taken by the Mayor and Council before passing this ordinance. He said in response to the illegal activity of dumping into the pond should be addressed and handled by law enforcement. He went on to say that he was contacted by Mayor Sandlin who asked him to express his opposition to the ordinance as well. Council further stated that the property owners surrounding the pond should be allowed to use small boats and that passing this ordinance would curtail their rights.

\*For more detailed statements, you can request a copy of the audio recording of this meeting.

Being no one further to speak in favor or in opposition, Mayor Schindler closed the public hearing at 7:46.

Mayor Schindler asked for Council to review the minutes from May 1 Regular Meeting, and May 21 Call Meeting. Member Carter made a motion to accept the minutes as presented, Member Barr second, all in favor motion passed.

Mayor asked for Council to review the financials of May 2018. Member Barr asked Clerk about the credit card fee account code, temporary salaries paid for the month of May and the Clerk's Education and Training expenses for the month of May. Clerk stated that she would run a detailed report of those expense lines and have for their review at the next meeting. Member Barr made a motion to accept the financials with the stipulation that the expenses were verified as mentioned, Member Carter second, all in favor, motion passed.

#### Citizens' Concerns

Heather and Dawn, Southern Occasions, 1509A W Marion Ave Lake Park, GA 31636, came forward to propose volunteering to collaborate and combine the Christmas activities into one all day festival. Mayor and Council were excited about the proposal and asked for them to come back during their next work session so that they may discuss the details in more depth.

Julie Schindler, 328 Back Forty Lake Park, GA 31636, came forward to announce the Lake Park's 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Creative Impact Art Show winners from May 5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> 2018. Schindler explained that the theme of the art show was "What Does Your Gate Look Like and that there were two contest categories, Junior and Senior Divisions. She announced the junior division winners and they were as follows; 3<sup>rd</sup> place was Libby Smirthwaite, 2<sup>nd</sup> place was Tiffany Rutland, and 1<sup>st</sup> place and \$50.00 cash prize winner was Jacob Rutland. The senior division winners were as follows; 3<sup>rd</sup> place was a tie between David Dean and Jan Hampton, 2<sup>nd</sup> place was Millie Adams, and 1<sup>st</sup> place and \$100 cash prize winner was Cathy Herring.

Mayor called for the vote on Ordinance 118 Tom's Pond Boating. Member Barr made a motion to approve Ordinance 118, and Member Taylor second the motion. Member Sauls stated that she wanted Council to listen to the citizens, they don't want this. She further stated that she didn't see why the property owners couldn't put a small boat in the pond, without a motor, only paddle boats. Sauls went on to say there is nowhere to put a boat in on the pond so the property owners should be able to put a small boat in the pond from their own property. Member Taylor stated that he understood what Sauls was asking but that his position was that we have to get a hold on this situation so that we can regulate it. As it stands right now, there is no regulation on the pond, so anyone could put any size boat or Jet Ski or whatever in the pond. Clerk Fowler asked Mayor to speak, she stated that as a citizen, she would love the opportunity to put a paddle boat in the pond to go fishing; however she also understands the city's liability issues and the uncertainty that is left without this ordinance. To reiterate Member Sauls, there is no boat ramp or dock; therefore there is no way to put in a boat in an emergency/rescue situation if someone on the pond was to have an accident while they were boating. And on top of that, the city doesn't own any emergency boating equipment, making an emergency rescue impossible. When question called, Ordinance 118 failed.

Mayor asked if there were any changes to the already submitted department reports.

Jeff Patterson, Maintenance Supervisor, came forward to explain a busted water line that had occurred this morning on Pine Circle. He explained that Georgia Power was going to reset a pole and that a GA 811 Dig locate had been submitted. He stated that he and Tabatha had pulled up the GIS map of the water lines and got the measurements so that he could mark the line accordingly. Even with additional compensation in the measurement, the water line was still hit causing the water line break. The GIS mapping is not accurate and there are still a lot of water lines, meters, and valves throughout the city that are unknown. Mayor and Council agreed that we should look into getting a bid on getting a line locator to come in and see if they can find and mark or map it out.

Member Taylor asked for an update on the Ocean Pond road repair, Council discussed the use of SPLOS VII funds or LMIG funds for repair, they asked Patterson to gather more bids on the repair.

Member Barr asked Fire Chief for an update on the compressor repair. Chief Brown stated that the parts had been delivered and that they should have it repaired soon. He also asked about status of the light bar, Brown stated that the light bar was in working condition. Member Taylor asked about the pump testing and the possibility of decreasing the ISO rating. Chief Brown explained plans that the fire departments are working on which includes Pre Fire Plans and inspections. Member Taylor expressed his support and stated he would like for Council to entertain a possible compensation for the extra time that it will take to get these inspections and processes completed before the next ISO grading.

Police Chief Breletic came forward with a bid for a barcode scanning system for his officers. The system would enable the officers to scan the back of driver's license and get a quicker history of the driver, therein making it easier for the officer to maintain visual on the vehicle, driver, and/or passengers which in turn makes for a safer work environment. Breletic went on to report that he had funds in the public safety portion of the SPLOST VII that he would like for Council to approve for this purchase. Member Taylor made a motion to approve the purchase of the barcode scanner to improve the police equipment using SPLOST VII, public safety-law enforcement, funds, Member Carter second, all in favor motion passed.

Member Taylor stated that before moving on, he would like to make motion to go into Executive session. After quick discussion, Member Taylor retracted his motion.

Mayor called for agenda item of Lawrence Street Closure between Railroad and Thomas. Council reviewed the Engineer report submitted by Arrow Engineering and Construction Services, LLC. No action taken at this time.

Mayor called for review of Ordinance 114, he read the existing Ordinance aloud. No action taken at this time, item to be put on the agenda for the June 26 Call Meeting.

Mayor stated that at this time there were no updates to report regarding the staging area for debris. Item to be put on the agenda for the June 26 Call Meeting

Mayor called for review of Lawrence Street/Railroad Ave Drainage engineering bids. At the previous meeting, Council reviewed an engineering bid submitted by Lovell Engineers. Council reviewed an additional engineer report submitted by Arrow Engineering and Construction Services, LLC. Member Carter asked that Council to once again hold off any action until after the Historical Society has completed their scope of work to the area in question. No action taken at this time.

#### Citizens' Concerns

Julie Wilbers, 360 Back Forty Drive Lake Park, GA 31636, addressed Council about taking on the role of Emergency Management Liaison. Her information that she gave to Council was gathered from her recent Emergency Management training that she attended in Valdosta. That information included hurricane season dates of June 1 – November 30, social media posts reporting damaged areas should include #LowndesEMA so that they can track the damage accordingly, and an additional website to follow updates about severe weather can be found at [www.weather.gov/tae](http://www.weather.gov/tae). Wilbers also pointed out that at this time, she

could see 2 major needs for the City of Lake Park emergency readiness. The first would be a generator, and the second would be a backhoe. In order for the city to be prepared for an emergency and to qualify for federal disaster funding, these two items are a major need.

Richard Sell, 1013 Egret Way Lake Park, GA 31636, suggested to Council that a possible solution to the Tom's Pond boating would be to gather all the surrounding property owners and explain the importance of the pond to the city and perhaps come up with a yearly fee and with that fee the property owner receives a card that they must have on their person if they are boating in the pond. Sell further stated that he had dealt with a similar situation in the past.

Mayor called for Admin/Executive Reports discussion to include Cemetery Website, and BOZA Committee Members.

Clerk asked if she could present a few items to Council, Mayor agreed. Fowler asked for Council's guidance on a request for repair to property damage that had been reported in the past but nothing was documented as to how it was handled. Mayor and Council agreed, based on findings from previous Council, which the city had no liability for the damage caused and approved a notice to be sent to property owner acknowledging that.

Fowler went on to report that during a recent Safety Meeting of Department heads, they would like to ask for approval to run a test of the emergency weather alert siren. Chief Brown explained that city representatives would be stationed throughout the city at the time of the test to verify the strength of the siren and the distance covered. Also all citizens would be notified by phone and/or by mail prior to the testing so that no one panics.

Fowler also asked for Council to consider replacing one or more of the Board of Zoning Appeals members. She stated that there have been several instances where meetings have been set and notices mailed and there has been no quorum and therefore no meeting or business could take place. Just recently a meeting was set for a variance request and thankfully one member called to say he would not be able to make the meeting so therefore the meeting was cancelled before everyone showed up. However the postponed meeting that was set the following week did not have a quorum so therefore another meeting could not take place, even after each member had been contacted by phone. Fowler expressed that it was not only unprofessional but also embarrassing to have to explain to a citizen that we cannot hear their request because we didn't have enough members to show up or even call so that the meeting could be postponed again.

Member Taylor expressed a statement of confusion regarding the work session and, called meeting. He stated that the objective in having multiple meetings was to shorten the time spent during their Regular Meeting held each month.

Mayor and Council set the work session date as Tuesday June 26, 2018 at noon.

Being no further business, Member Taylor made a motion to adjourn at 10:01 PM, second by Member Barr, all in favor, motion passed.

Read & approved Janatha Fowler Date 7-3-18