

## October City Council Work Seccession Police Department Report

Contacts/ CALLS For Service: 187

Suspicious Person Calls:2

Suspicious Car Calls:1

DUI:1 Public Intoxication:1 Domestic:2 Burglary:1 Shoplifting:2 Counterfeit:1

Warrants Taken:2

Trespassed Unsavory Folks from Quitman Housing: 2

Review and Revise Police Procedures and Polices

Spoke to the ex Police Chief at Ray City who advised he was required to be the City Marshall. The city sent him to City Marshall School which took 18 months to complete.

Officer Benefield will be on medical leave until Jan 1. While recovering he will be taking Investigator Classes. Our Part Time Officers are picking up 90% of his Schedule.

Freds will Close 10/31/2019

Excess Property Class is 11/12/19, Sgt. Langley and myself will attend. We will leave in the afternoon of 11/11/2019 and Return 11/12/19.

I had a couple of weeks of vacation that I didn't take last year. The pervious Chief and Mayor were supposed to write a letter to have the vacation time roll over. This did not happen. The current policy is that you lose it if you don't take it. I'm asking if I can have it back not to take all at one time but to spread over the rest of the year.

Speed Breakers on Long Pond Cost: \$1500 for the Plastic (like in the Farmhouse parking lot) \$3500.00 for the Large Asphalt Speed Breakers (like in Stone Creek) Mike Killeen's opinion is that the Asphalt would last longer than the plastic ones.

# City Council Fire Report for November 2019

## **Fire Calls: 3 so far**

2 Medical calls

1 Woods fire (mutual aid with County)

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**Station Needs:** None this month

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**Truck Repairs:** Rescue 1 was brought back still not running recommend sending it to S&S Diesel, Prince Chevrolet currently has no diesel mechanics on staff

Tanker 1 (big Tanker) pump packing is leaking needs to be replaced estimated repair is 3000.00

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**Community Events:** Smoke detectors are available

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**Grants:** GMA grant for maintenance (generator with work light) we are looking for the next available class in Tifton we can attend before December 31st

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**City of Lake Park - Complaint Form**

City of Lake Park, 120 N Essa St, Lake Park, GA 31636  
Phone: 229-559-7470 - Website: [www.cityoflakeparkga.com](http://www.cityoflakeparkga.com)

**Description of Complaint or Concern**

10/29/19

Date of Occurrence

RECEIVED OCT 29 2019

Location of Occurrence

See Attached

Description of Complaint/Concern (use back side of sheet if necessary)

**Contact Information – Optional**

Please complete this section if you would like someone to follow up with you

Name

Address

Phone

Email

Signature of Submitter

Date

**Administrative Section**

Follow Up:

Dear City Council,

I have been informed that my request to have the residents at 900 Broadway remove the invalid signs from their property will not be honored on the grounds that section 9-5.g of the City Zoning Ordinance is unconstitutional and thus unenforceable. This is troubling in that this is yet another section of the Zoning Ordinances for the city that is either too ambiguous or outright unenforceable due to changes that have occurred since the ordinances were first adopted.

Even though some minor revisions have been made since they were first enacted the majority of the Zoning Ordinances for the City are over 30 years old. The Zoning Ordinances need to undergo a comprehensive review so that they can be modernized to existing standards. Such a review should be performed by an independent party that can recommend revisions and eliminations of sections of the ordinances. I believe such a review would provide a reasonable basis for the city to close loopholes, update building requirements to modern building standards, and eliminate sections of the code that are unable to be enforced.

I have made this request previously, and I am making the request again. Will the city please set aside the necessary funds so that a proper review can be made to the Zoning Ordinances for the city? Every time I have made this request the Council at the time either ignores the request outright or provides an excuse about it being too costly to undertake such an endeavor. I challenge this council to set aside the funds, even if on a multi-year basis, to have the Zoning Ordinances reviewed and updated in no more than three years. The time has come for the City to take action on our aging Zoning Ordinances, not just continue to ignore the issues and let them become someone else's problem.

Since section 9-5.g is no longer enforceable that means that the signs in question now must be checked to determine if permitting is required based on sections 9-6 and 9-7 of the Zoning Ordinances. Section 9-7 below defines the conditions under which a sign does not require a permit in order to be erected in the city.

**9-7 No Permit Required.** No permit shall be required for the following signs, but the signs shall otherwise comply with this ordinance or they shall be prohibited signs:

**a. Real Estate, For Sale, Lease, Instructional:**

- 1) For Sale, Lease:** If they advertise developed residential properties, they shall not exceed 16 square feet of copy area. If they advertise undeveloped residential properties they shall not exceed 32 square feet of copy area. If they advertise undeveloped or developed commercial properties they shall not exceed 32 square feet of copy area.
- 2) Instructional:** This sign shall not exceed 12 square feet of copy area and may not exceed 10 feet in height.
- 3) Time Limitation:** All such real estate signs shall be removed within 15 days of the sale or lease of the last property advertised. Two signs per property frontage shall be allowed.
- 4) Entrance, Exit, Instructional:**



a. Such signs shall not exceed 4 square feet for each sign. Signs may be located one foot inside the right-of-way of a public street and contain no advertising thereon.

b. Such signs shall direct traffic into and from and shall not exceed 36 inches in height above the pavement/ground.

**b. Official Flags, Emblems, Public Notice, Regulatory, Traffic Signs, and Similar Devices of Federal, State, and Local Government.**

**c. Identification Signs Indicating Name and Street Number of Owner or Occupant**

1) Such signs shall not exceed two square feet of copy area and not exceed 24 inches in height from the pavement/ground.

2) Such signs are not allowed in areas where otherwise prohibited by the City of Lake Park Zoning Ordinance.

**d. Signs Denoting the Name of the Project Under Construction, the Architect, Engineer or Contractor When Placed Upon Work Under Construction, Alteration, or Removal**

1) Such signs shall not exceed 15 square feet in copy area in residential districts and 100 square feet in other zoning classifications.

2) Such signs shall not exceed 10 feet in height.

3) All such signs shall be removed from the site within 7 days after final completion of the project.

**e. Political Signs**

**f. Civic Event Signs**

After reviewing section 9-7 I can't find any specific wording in any subsection that would cover the type of signs they have erected on their property. This means that in order for the resident to maintain their signs the resident should be required to obtain a permit for each sign as outlined in section 9-6.

**9-6 Permit, Application.**

a. Except as otherwise provided herein, it shall be unlawful for any person to erect, construct, enlarge, move, or convert any sign in the city or cause the same to be done without first obtaining a sign permit from the City Clerk or designated representative. These directives shall not be construed to require any permit for change of copy on any sign, nor for the repainting, cleaning, or other normal maintenance or repair of a sign or sign structure for which a permit has previously been issued, so long as the sign or sign structure is not modified or enlarged in any way.

b. Applications for permits shall be upon forms provided by the City and shall contain such information as may be reasonably required by the city to assure compliance with all appropriate laws and regulations of the City, including, but not limited to the following:

1) Name, address, telephone number of applicant, sign erector, sign owner and property owner.

2) Site plans showing location of structures upon the property on which the sign is to be located and location of the sign in relation to such structures, property lines, and road right-of-way, the zoning of the property.

3) Plans, specifications and structural details showing the type and manner of construction, attachment to buildings or in-ground erection. A single submission may be made for standardized signs.

c. Permit fees and application forms and all supporting documentation shall be filed with the City and Building Inspector at least 16 normal working hours before any permit can be issued.

d. No application for a permit shall be processed and no permit shall be issued until the permit fees herein established are paid. Permit fees shall be established and approved from time to time by the governing authority of the City, by ordinance and a schedule shall be maintained and open for public inspection in the office of the Zoning Administrator or designated official.

e. **Permit Fee:** The following fees shall be payable prior to the issuance of a permit based upon the square footage of total copy size of each permanent sign as follows:

1) 0 - 40 square feet \$10.00

2) 41 - 80 square feet 25.00

3) 81 - 120 square feet 50.00

4) Over 120 square feet .50 per square foot

f. **Portable Signs:** The owner of any portable sign which is to be displayed at any business establishment or lot shall obtain a permit for each portable sign. The permit shall be (\$5.00) per year.

Based on my interpretation of section 9-6 the resident should obtain a permit for each sign at a rate of \$10 per sign as outline in section 9-6.e. I have checked with the City Clerk and no such permit request has been filed or approved for 900 Broadway at the time of this writing.

Now the City has the option to not enforce this section of the code either, but that would be setting a dangerous precedent for the City. Failure to require a permit will essentially negate all of section 9 of the Zoning Ordinances. A permit is required to make sure that the sign meets the proper sizing, placement, and other requirements as outlined by the rest of section 9 of the code. If a permit is no longer required then that gives carte blanche authority for anyone in the city to erect any type of sign of their choosing. Their sign can have any type of size, lighting, sounds, etc. without fear of enforcement from the City. Since section 9-5.g has already been negated as unconstitutional, that already means that signs may have any form of messaging on them, even offensive or disparaging language. It will be up to the offended party to file suit against the home owner directly to have the signs removed.

The City cannot choose to selectively enforce its ordinances on a per case basis. The ordinance either applies to everyone or is applies to no one. If the City chooses to enforce the law for select parties over others then it opens itself to possible litigation on the grounds of discrimination, negligence, or malfeasance.

If the City does not wish to modernize its Zoning Ordinances, and it will not enforce the existing Zoning Ordinances, then why does the City even have Zoning Ordinances in place? If the City does not wish to have Zoning Ordinances that can be enforced then perhaps it should consider repealing its Zoning Ordinances all together in favor of the zoning requirements of its governing authority, in this case Lowndes County.

Thank you for your consideration of my concerns,

Carl Spano

805 Sand Crane Circle





**NO MFG.  
HOMES  
IN R-1**

**ENFORCE  
THE  
ZONING**

**LET  
US  
SPEAK**

**WITHDRAW  
THE  
PERMIT**

**SCHINDLER  
LIED!**



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P.O. Box 430 • Valdosta, Georgia 31603  
E-Mail: info@asaeng.com • www.asaeng.com

## ASA ENGINEERING & SURVEYING, INC.

October 18, 2019

Steve Johnson  
TISHCO Development, Inc.  
314 North Patterson Street  
Valdosta, GA 31601

**RE: Casamonica Drive, Lakeview Gardens  
Lake Park, GA**

Dear Mr. Johnson,

In March of 2016, the City of Lake Park agreed to accept the dedication of the R/W of Casamonica Drive contingent upon its construction meeting the City Paving Specifications. The City Mayor at that time asked that the existing asphalt be cored and sampled at evenly spaced locations along the roadway to determine its composition (paving/base section) and requested a written report with the findings and recommendations. A geotechnical firm (Universal Engineering) was hired to complete this task and submitted their report. The report was reviewed by the mayor, ASA (the Civil Engineer for the project) and LEA (the City Engineer). The geotechnical firm recommended that the street be milled and overlaid with repair to any cracking prior to overlay in order to meet the city's paving specifications. These recommendations were agreed upon by all parties and were subsequently incorporated into the civil construction documents. The civil construction documents were approved by the City/LEA on June 13, 2016. To my knowledge, the project was built to according to the approved construction documents. It was my understanding that the City would have the road inspected to ensure that it met the aforementioned recommendations prior to acceptance of the R/W.

The recent letter to the City by Arrow Engineering lists several areas of concern with recommendations. However, the items numbered 1-5 are not related to the pavement/base section and were either not required at the time or were determined to not be an issue. It is our opinion that what was built was in line with discussions with the City and the City Engineer during that time. Item number 6 on the list is a maintenance issue that should be addressed.

Sincerely,  
  
Michael Wilson  
ASA Engineering & Surveying, LLC

## ARROW ENGINEERING & CONSTRUCTION SERVICES, LLC

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Ms. Tabitha Fowler  
City of Lake Park  
120 North Essa Street  
Lake Park, GA 31636

**RE: Casamonica Drive**

Dear Ms. Fowler,

Below, you will find areas of concern with regards to Casamonica Drive meeting GDOT and AASHTO standards in its current state. The recommendations listed below will be based on GDOT Standards. However, GDOT has adopted the AASHTO Roadside Design Guide for design standards with regards to the shoulder and clear zone.

- 1) Striping – No striping currently on road. Recommend that solid white edge lines and yellow centerline striping be applied, as well as a 24" thermoplastic stop bar at the intersection of Hwy 376.
- 2) Signing – No signing anywhere along the roadway. Recommend that a stop sign (R1-1) be added at the aforementioned stop bar at Hwy 376. Also, a speed limit sign (R2-1) shall be added along the roadway, as well as a No Outlet Sign (W14-2), and Dead-End Sign (W14-1). At the end of the road, a Type III Barricade, red & white (retro-reflective) shall be placed along with two Type IV object marker signs (OM4-1).
- 3) Shoulders – Currently, the unpaved shoulders are approximately 2' to 2-1/2' wide. The GDOT design criteria for rural (open ditch sections) local roadways is an 8 ft wide shoulder overall with a 2' paved shoulder. Lowndes County requires a 4 ft shoulder at the edge of the pavement with a slope of 6%.
- 4) Ditch Foreslope – The current foreslope has a width of 8 ft and an approximate slope of 2:1. AASHTO considers this foreslope to be a "critical slope". AASHTO recommends a slope of 3:1 or flatter for the foreslopes on low volume roads to allow for recovery of vehicles. To correct the critical slope, a barrier should be added, or the ditch should be regraded to allow for a flatter foreslope.
- 5) Ditch Backslope – The current backslope has an approximate width of 9 ft and an approximate slope of 2:1. This is acceptable per GDOT and AASHTO but may require regrading to allow for the foreslope of the ditch to be flatter.
- 6) Drainage Issue – Just past the second entrance to the apartment complex, there appears to be a drainage issue from water flowing off the end of the curb section into the ditch. It appears that water has washed away the shoulder, which has in turn required the installation of rip rap on the foreslope. Cold mix asphalt has also been added on the shoulder at the edge of the pavement where the water has washed the shoulder out and is threatening to undermine the roadway.

Please contact our office with and additional questions or comments.

Sincerely,

Hiram L. Sanders, P.E.  
Arrow Engineering & Construction Services



## Counts

Stop signs - 49

Street signs - 35

Speed signs - 14

~~Children at play - 10~~

Children at play - 10

No parking - 2

Hways - 4

Traffic directions - 2

Speed check by detection devices - 2

No littering - 1

Election poll placing - 2

Railroad crossings - 3

Golf - 1

ORDINANCE NO. 123

**JOINT ORDINANCE**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE LOWNDES COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, AND THE MAYORS AND COUNCILS OF THE CITIES OF VALDOSTA, DASHER, HAHIRA, LAKE PARK, AND REMERTON, GEORGIA, CONTINUING THE GREATER LOWNDES PLANNING COMMISSION, AND ADDING THE CITY OF REMERTON TO ITS MEMBERSHIP**

**WHEREAS**, the Great Lowndes Planning Commission was established by Joint Ordinance of Lowndes County, the City of Valdosta, the City of Dasher, the City of Hahira, and the City of Lake Park, Georgia in 1996; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Remerton has formally petitioned the Greater Lowndes Planning Commission to become a member; and;

**WHEREAS**, the member governments adopting this ordinance desire to perjure a Joint Ordinance continuing the Greater Lowndes Planning Commission.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED** jointly by Lowndes County, the City of Valdosta, the City of Dasher, the City of Hahira, the City of Lake Park, and the City of Remerton, herein referred to as member governments, that:

**Section 1. Continuation of the Greater Lowndes Planning**

**Commission.** The Greater Lowndes Planning Commission, herein referred to as the Commission, shall be continued as herein provided. All actions heretofore made by the Commission as created in 1996 are hereby ratified and confirmed.



Any unfinished business of the Commission as created in 1996 shall be assumed and continued by the Commission as continued by this Joint Ordinance.

**Section 2. Membership.** The Commission shall consist of twelve (12) members, herein referred to as Commission members; four (4) appointed by Lowndes County, four (4) appointed by the City of Valdosta, one (1) appointed by the City of Dasher, one (1) appointed by the City of Hahira, one (1) appointed by the City of Lake Park, and one (1) appointed by the City of Remerton.

**Section 3. Terms.** All Commission members shall be appointed for a term of five years. Any Commission member may be then reappointed to succeed himself or herself. If at the end of any term of any Commission member a successor thereto has not been appointed, the Commission member whose term has expired shall continue to serve as a Commission member until his or her successor is appointed; provided, however, the term of any such successor shall be deemed to begin on the day following the expired term of the Commission member then holding office.

**Section 4. Eligibility.** Each Commission member shall be a resident of Lowndes County at the time of his or her appointment and shall remain a resident of Lowndes County in order to continue serving as a Commission member. It is recommended that appointees to the Commission live within the jurisdictional boundaries of the appointing government. Commission members shall hold no elected office.

**Section 5. Vacancy.** Any vacancy on the Commission shall be filled by the member government that appointed the Commission member whose

resignation or ineligibility resulted in such vacancy. The Commission member so appointed shall serve for the remainder of the unexpired term.

**Section 6. Officers, Meetings, Rules.** The Commission shall elect from its members a Chairman, to serve a term of two calendar years and until a successor is elected, and a Vice-Chairman, to serve a term of two calendar years and until a successor is elected. The Commission shall meet once a month at the call of the Chairman except as otherwise determined by the Commission and at such other times as the Chairman or a majority of Commission members shall determine. The Commission shall adopt rules and procedures for the conduct of its meetings and the transaction of its business and shall cause minutes of its meetings and records of its actions to be kept, which minutes and records shall be public in accordance with Georgia law.

**Section 7. Duties and Responsibilities.** It shall be the function and duty of the Planning Commission, subject to the direction and control of the respective member governments, to make surveys and studies of existing conditions and future developments and to prepare or recommend such plans for community growth and development, as will best promote the public health, safety, morals, convenience, prosperity, general welfare, efficiency and economy of the member governments. In particular, the Planning Commission shall have the power and duty, subject to the control and direction of the member governments, to:

(a) oversee and maintain a local Comprehensive Plan collectively or for each member government, that is in accordance with the State of Georgia



requirements and guidelines and make recommendations on any amendments thereto.

(b) provide each member government advice and recommendations upon proposed amendments to its respective zoning ordinance, subdivision regulations, and other ordinances and regulations as requested by such member government,

(c) provide each member government advice and recommendations on such other matters as requested from time to time by such member government.

**Section 8. Conflicts of Interest.** A Commission member shall have a conflict of interest when he or she:

- (a) has a financial interest directly affected by advice or recommendation under consideration by the Commission,
- (b) has a financial interest in any business entity that has a financial interest directly affected by advice or recommendation under consideration by the Commission, or
- (c) has an immediate family member having any financial interest described in subsection (a) or (b) of this section.

Any Commission member having a conflict of interest shall immediately disclose the nature and extent of such interest to the Commission. The Commission member who has such an interest shall be disqualified from discussing and voting upon and shall not attempt to influence the advice or recommendation of the Commission under consideration which gave rise to the conflict of interest.

**Section 9. Meeting Space.** Lowndes County shall provide the Commission a regular meeting room in which to hold its meetings.

**Section 10. Training.** Each Commission member shall attend at least one training session within one year of appointment, and then at least one training session every two years.

**Section 11. Expenses.** The member governments shall provide funding for expenses incurred by the Commission, which may include the purchase of journals and other publications and plaques or similar mementos provided to Commission members at the end of a final 5-year term as a member of the Commission.

**Section 12. Administrative Assistance.** The Lowndes County Planning Office shall provide administrative assistance to the Commission necessary for the performance of the Commission's duties and responsibilities, including making arrangements for Commission members to attend training seminars, coordinating and overseeing the provision of local training opportunities for Commission members, preparing meeting agenda, taking and preparing minutes of Commission meetings, maintaining and distributing journals and other publications to Commission members, and keeping various records for the Commission.

**Section 13. Repealer.** All ordinances and resolutions, or parts of ordinances or resolutions, in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

**Section 14. Effective Date.** This Joint Ordinance shall become effective upon approval of each of the member governments.



LOWNDES COUNTY, GEORGIA

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
County Commission Chairman

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
County Clerk

CITY OF VALDOSTA, GEORGIA

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor, City of Valdosta

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk of Council

CITY OF DASHER, GEORGIA

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor, City of Dasher

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk

CITY OF HAHIRA, GEORGIA

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor, City of Hahira

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk

CITY OF LAKE PARK, GEORGIA

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor, City of Lake Park

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk

CITY OF REMERTON, GEORGIA

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor, City of Remerton

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk