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City of Lake Park
Regular Council Meeting Minutes
October 06, 2026
6:00 pm

Members present were Mayor Jena Sandlin, Council Member Busby Courson, Council Member Zach Fletcher, Council Member Arthur Keckley, and Council Member Blake McMillan

Staff Present: City Clerk Lisa Johnson, Deputy Clerk Laura Levesque, Police Chief Artavious Verdell, Volunteer Fire Member Stacy Zimmerman, and Interim Maintenance Supervisor Jeff Patterson.

Others Present: City Attorney Drew Parrish-Bennett

Mayor Jena Sandlin called the meeting to order.

Mayor Jena Sandlin gave the invocation.

Mayor Jena Sandlin led the pledge.

Mayor Jena Sandlin requested a review of the meeting minutes for the September1, 2026, Regular Meeting minutes. Council Member Blake McMillan moved to accept the minutes of the September 1, 2026, Regular Meeting. Council Member Arthur Keckley seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously, 4-0.

Mayor Jena Sandlin opened the forum for questions from the community. There were no Citizen's Concerns addressed.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS/DEPARTMENT HEADS:

Fire Department: Volunteer Stacy Zimmerman

- Presented the activity report for September.

Police Department: Chief Art Verdell

- Presented the activity report for September
- Chief Verdell recognized the activities by the officers in the recent amount of drug related arrests. In conjunction with the increase in drug related activity, the police department would like to include drug testing equipment kits.

- Chief Verdell is requesting consideration of the addition of a 3-way stop on Sheavette Road and Broadway due to the increased traffic due to the new school patterns. The city council has agreed to continue the process to determine if this is necessary and advisable.
- Jacqueline Aldridge requested the city to put up signs to assist with the car rider pickup line for elementary school. Chief Verdell stated he understood the request, but it was a state road, so all signage must go through the Department of Transportation.

Maintenance/Public Works Department: Interim Maintenance Supervisor Jeff Patterson

- Presented the activity report for September.
- Presented the quote to contract out the work for the water leak located on Cotton Avenue.

Council Member Zach Fletcher made a motion to allow Killeen Construction to investigate the leak on Cotton Avenue for the quoted $3000.00. Council Member Arthur Keckley seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously, 4-0.

Discussed the possibility of putting letters on the Civic Center. The city council requested pricing of a free-standing sign similar to the park signs.

Administration: City Clerk Lisa Johnson

- Presented the Administration report for September.
    - There are remaining committee vacancies. The Citizens' Advisory Committee (1) and the Board of Zoning and Appeals (2).
    - The Ethics Board will need to be re-appointed in January. The City Council has received an application for consideration from Ms. Karen Kelley.

Financial Reports: City Clerk Lisa Johnson

- Presented the Financial Report for August.

Council Member Zach Fletcher made a motion to accept and approve the Financial Reports as presented. Council Member Blake McMillan seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously, 4-0.

Unfinished Business

- The city employee job descriptions have been submitted to council for approval.

Council Member Zach Fletcher made a motion to approve the City Employee Job Descriptions as presented. Council Member Blake McMillan seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously, 4-0.

- Lake Park Waterworks Operations Policy was presented. No additional actions taken at this time.

New Business

- Mr. Bill Powell from the Georgia Rural Water Association presented the updated water rate study.
- Resolution for the adoption of the Hazard Mitigation Plan was presented and read.

Council Member Blake McMillan made a motion to approve the resolution for the adoption of the Hazard Mitigation Plan. Council Member Arthur Keckley seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously, 4-0.

- Presentation of the Grand Oak Village Homeowner's Association application to dissolve the Association to the city council.

Council Member Blake McMillan made a motion to begin the evaluation of the application and the potential impact on the City of Lake Park along with projected costs. Council Member Arthur Keckley seconded the motion. Motion carried, 3-0. Council Member Zach Fletcher recused himself from the application, the discussion and the subsequent vote.

- Christmas Event status and updates were presented, inclusive of a Georgia Power grant received in the amount of $2500.00 to assist with municipal decorations. Information requested for any special requests by the city council. None were received, and the allocated budget was confirmed.
- Presentation of the quotations received for the clean up of debris on King Circle.

Council Member Zach Fletcher made a motion for the Public Works department to complete the project after receipt of the discussed liability waiver for the disposition of the debris materials. Council Member Busby Courson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously, 4-0.

Council Member Zach Fletcher made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss Minutes of the previous Executive Session and Personnel. Council Member Busby Courson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, 4-0. Council entered Executive Session at 7:34 pm.

Council Member Arthur Keckley made a motion to re-enter the regular session. Council Member Busby Courson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, 4-0. Council reconvened Regular Session at 8:22 pm.

Council Member Zach Fletcher made a motion to amend the Charter by altering the future election cycles to restructured terms to be staggered. Council Member Arthur Keckley seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously, 4-0

Council Member Blake McMillan made a motion to remove the stop signs on Teresa and 4-H Club Road and to have a new independent study to evaluate the necessity of the stop signs to balance the flow of traffic with the interest of public safety. Council Member Zach Fletcher seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously, 4-0

Council Member Blake McMillan moved to adjourn the meeting. Council Member Busby Courson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, 4-0. Meeting adjourned at 8:29 p.m.

The next regular meeting will be held on November 3, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.

Jena Sandlin, Mayor

11-3-26
Date

Lisa Johnson, City Clerk

November 3, 2026
Date

Seal