



**COUNCIL MEETING  
4040 SOUTH BERKELEY LAKE ROAD  
BERKELEY LAKE, GEORGIA 30096  
FULL MINUTES  
SEPTEMBER 19, 2024**

**ATTENDANCE**

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Mayor: Lois Salter

Council Members: Scott Lee, Chip McDaniel and Rebecca Spitler

City Officials: Leigh Threadgill - City Administrator, Dick Carothers – City Attorney, Rob Hiller – City Marshal

Members of the Public: 4

Members of the Press: 0

**CALL TO ORDER**

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Salter called the meeting to order at 8:00 PM. A quorum of council members was in attendance.

**AGENDA**

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Salter solicited motions regarding the agenda.

**Lee made a motion to amend the agenda to include work session minutes from the August 22, 2024 work session. Spitler seconded the motion. All council members were in favor and the motion passed.**

**PUBLIC HEARING**

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- a) **O-24-253, Amendment to Sections 78-300 and 78-301 – GC-A underlying zoning standards**

Salter solicited comments from those in attendance. There were no comments.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

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Salter noted the following as items on the consent agenda and solicited a motion:

- a) Minutes of August 22, 2024, Council Meeting
- b) Financial Statements of July 2024 – Unaudited

c) Minutes of August 22, 2024, Council Work Session

**Spitler made a motion to approve all items on the consent agenda. McDaniel seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.**

## **OLD BUSINESS**

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- a) **O-24-253, Amendment to Sections 78-300 and 78-301 – GC-A underlying zoning standards**

Threadgill: The ordinance before you tonight amends Sections 78-300 and 78-301 to clarify the underlying zoning standards that apply to properties within the Gwinnett County – Annexed (GC-A) zoning district. The Planning & Zoning Commission reviewed the amendment at their August 13<sup>th</sup> meeting and recommended approval. It was first read by you on August 22<sup>nd</sup> and is now up for second read and adoption.

**McDaniel made a motion to place O-24-253, an ordinance to amend Sections 78-300 and 78-301 to clarify the underlying zoning regulations applicable in the GC-A district, on second read and adopt the measure. Spitler seconded the motion. All remaining council members were in favor and the motion passed.**

## **NEW BUSINESS**

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- a) **Public Works – ARPA 2023 Stormwater Project Change Order #1**

Threadgill: There are a couple of areas that were identified during the course of this year's stormwater project that are in need of repair in addition to the areas that were included in the original bid. Those locations are 3792 Frederica Road and 82 Lakeshore Drive. Additionally, one of the pipes on Frederica Lane slated for repair was originally thought to be 48 inches in diameter but was determined in the field to be 60 inches. These three changes in total add \$199,875 to the original project cost of \$715,614.65 for a total of \$915,489.65. However, the city engineer estimates that there will be approximately \$120,000 in savings in the original contract so that the net increase to the contract price should be approximately \$79,000. Staff requests that you authorize the mayor to sign the change order for the additional scope of work.

**Spitler made a motion to authorize the mayor to sign ARPA 2023 Stormwater Project Change Order #1. Lee seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.**

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

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Susan Hanson, 3755 N Berkeley Lake Rd., discussed the overpopulation of deer and the greenspace and how they are related. The deer have been a problem for a number of years. It has been discussed, it is emotional, and it is hard problem. A healthy forest has trees, lower shrubs and a herbaceous layer on the ground. In the city's greenspace, we have the trees, but the lower shrubs and herbaceous layer have been eaten by the deer. We have trees, but no new trees can grow. Something should be done even though it's controversial. Hanson noted

that she was at a native plant garden in Delaware last year. In talking to the people there, she asked about what they do about deer, and they responded they have an annual hunt every year. At a master gardener meeting this year, a professor from the University of Georgia was in attendance and said the best way to cull deer is with bow and arrow. She is suggesting that we do that here. Hanson says that she has a book for reference that she would be happy to share.

Sue Swanson, 845 Lakeshore Dr., is a big animal advocate, however she would shoot every deer on her property. She says she completely lost what used to be woods. There is nothing below five feet living on her property because of the deer. It isn't just because they eat everything five or six feet up, but also they rub trees when they shed their antlers. It's not just young things that are being killed, it's all things. When they rub their antlers on trees, they remove the bark and ultimately kill the trees, regardless of age. There is nothing left for other animals to eat. Also, deer carry ticks. And there's a lot of feces. There are many reasons to consider doing something. She offered her property as a good test case for any type of culling that anyone wants to do. The ecosystem in her yard and adjoining greenspace has been changed by the deer. It isn't there for other animals or other plants. She has tried planting deer resistant plants, and those have been eaten.

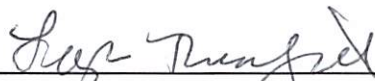
#### **ADJOURNMENT**

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**There being no further business to discuss, Spitler moved to adjourn. McDaniel seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.**

Salter adjourned the meeting at 8:10 PM.

Submitted by:

  
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Leigh Threadgill, City Clerk

