

August 12, 2013

The City Council met for the August meeting. In attendance were Mayor Martha Evans and Council members: Eddie Evans, Lara Edwards, Nathan Lewis and Glenn Rudd. The meeting was opened with prayer by Councilman Evans and a salute to the flag.

The minutes from the July meeting were approved as presented on a motion by Lara Edwards, seconded by Glenn Rudd with all members voting in favor.

Citizens to be heard:

Wallace Hanifin questioned the council regarding the new members voting on the approval of the June minutes.

1st Public Hearing on Ordinance 2013-02, adopting the Budget for the City of Sopchoppy 2013-14: Lara Edwards told the council that she would like to see more funds designated for repairs at the Myron B. Hodge City Park, to begin work on the downtown park and for downtown projects. She would like to see funds brought forward from the prior year as a budget line item. After a lengthy discussion no changes were made. The public hearing was closed.

The clerk reported that Greg Kelly has completed the specifications for re-roofing the gym and is in the process of contacting roofers in the Tallahassee and Wakulla County area to get quotes for the project. Eddie Evans made the motion to give the Mayor the authority to approve and accept the low quote once all the quotes have been received, for re-roofing the gym and to authorize the work to begin. Lara Edwards seconded the motion and the motion passed with all members voting in favor.

Lara Edwards made the motion to approve the financial and adjustment reports as presented, the motion was seconded by Glenn Rudd with all members voting in favor.

Eddie Evans made the motion to approve the purchase of a 2014 Ford F-250 Super Cab at the state contract price of 23,366.00 from Bartow Ford, Lara Edwards seconded the motion and it passed with all members voting in favor.

7:36 p.m. the City recessed to go into an advertised closed meeting Attorney-Client session. Attending were: Commissioners: Martha Evans, Eddie Evans, Lara Edwards, Nathan Lewis, Glenn Rudd; City Administrator, Jackie Lawhon; City Attorney Dan Cox and a court reporter. The purpose of this meeting was to discuss on-going mediation involving the City. This session closed at 7:43 p.m. on a motion by Eddie Evans, seconded by Glenn Rudd and passed 5/0 by the council.

7:43 p.m. the City returned to the regular meeting of the Council.

Eddie Evans made a motion to approve a settlement offer with the Hanifin's of \$40,000, the motion was seconded by Glenn Rudd with all members of the council voting in favor of the motion.

The Council discussed the need of conceptual drawing for the downtown park and the downtown streets. The council directed the Clerk to contact a couple of firms that have offered these services to the city and ask them to proceed with a product.

Rick Ott and Nelle McCall spoke to the Council about the acoustical problems in the Gym. Sound echoes off the walls which makes the gym too loud to use if music is involved. More people could use the gym if we could control the sound. They suggested that acoustic baffles and/or drapes could help. They offered to help research and come up with ways for the city to solve this problem if the city is serious about finding a solution.

Council Items:

Lara Edwards brought up concerns with overgrowth on Rose Street and will contact the county regarding getting the arm mower in the city.

Lara Edwards presented information on a "Welcome to Historical Sopchoppy" sign to be placed in the intersection of Rose Street and Highway 319. She has spoken with a DOT representative about right of way, located underground services in the area and is working on the logistics of placing the sign. The sign would be made of a composite material and approximate cost is \$2,500. She will report back at the next council meeting.

Martha Evans brought to the Council the lack of proper care in the Park and requested that the attendant be put on notification that the council must see improvement over the next month.

Nathan Lewis reported that during the last rain event, the large culvert at Orange and Gulf lost the pipes that were placed within the culvert to prevent large debris from passing thru.

Nathan Lewis reported that the Jesus River Fest date has been set for March 8, 2014.

Motion to adjourn 9:00 p.m.