

July 8, 2013
6:30 p.m.

City Attorney Dan Cox, a Notary of the State of Florida, administered the oath of office to: Eddie Evans, Nathan Lewis and Glen Rudd.

The meeting was called to order by Vice-Mayor Martha Evans and opened with prayer and a salute to the flag. In attendance were: Martha Evans, Lara Edwards, Eddie Evans, Nathan Lewis and Glen Rudd. Also in attendance were staff members Jackie Lawhon and Leonard Tardt and City Attorney, Dan Cox.

Eddie Evans made the motion to appoint Martha Evans as Mayor and Lara Edwards Vice-Mayor for the year, seconded by Glen Rudd, passed 5/0 by the Council.

Lara Edwards made the motion to approve the minutes from the June meeting in written form seconded by Nathan Lewis, passed by the council 5/0.

Citizens:

Shirley Hannifin questioned the office closing on July 12th.

Resolution 2013-01: A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF SOPCHOPPY, FLORIDA PERTAINING TO THE SALE OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES WITHIN THE CITY LIMITS BY APPROVING THE SALE OF BEER AND WINE FOR CONSUMPTION ON PREMISES AT THE SOPCHOPPY PIZZA; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE. – Lara Edwards made the motion to approve Resolution 2013-01 with the provision that the Council review the operation within 6 months from date of opening, 2nd by Glen Rudd, passed 4/1 by the Council.

General Business:

Andy Easton; Andy Easton and Associates, City Consultant for the Land Development Code update, presented a draft guideline for a Downtown Development District. He noted to the council that this is a “guideline” to be followed and not mandatory. Mr. Easton requested that the Council and staff study the guidelines, share them with local business and bring back any suggestions or feed-back.

Lara Edwards made the motion that the City proceed with advertising a bid on the replacement of the gym roof, seconded by Eddie Evans, motion passed 5/0.

Attorney Items:

City Attorney Dan Cox spoke to the council regarding two on-going law suits that the City is involved in. He suggested that the City hold a Council-Attorney Session during the regular August 12th meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Attorney Cox informed the Council of several changes to the Sunshine law which took place on July 1, 2013. One change discussed deals with public meetings and allowing the public meaningful input. He suggested that even though the city allows the public time at the meetings and input on any and all items, that we should consider adopting a policy which he will bring to the council at the August meeting.

Another item discussed by the Attorney is the “role” of the commission as the policy making board. He noted that it is up to management staff to ensure that the policy is carried out and to perform the daily operation of the city.

Clerk Items:

The clerk requested that staff be given Friday, July 12 as a holiday in lieu of working on July 4th at the celebration. She noted that in anticipation of council approving the holiday, staff advertised this date on the water bills. Should the council deny this date, then the office would remain open. Lara Edwards made the motion to approve this date, seconded by Glenn Rudd, the motion passed 5/0.

The Council set Monday July 22 as the date for a workshop on the 2013-14 Budget.

The Clerk presented the financial reports and the adjustment report for approval. Lara Edwards made the motion to approve the reports as presented, seconded by Eddie Evans and passed 5/0 by the council.

Water Items:

Leonard Tarrt informed the council that he was contacted by a representative of Stidham and Associates on behalf of the Panacea Water System. Panacea is in the process of locating a new well site and they are looking at a site in the City’s franchise area. He noted his concerns and will report back to the Council as more information comes to him.

Council Items:

Members of the Council thanked the staff for their hard work on the 4th of July Celebration.

Meeting adjourned.

Jackie Lawhon
City Clerk-Administrator