

July 12, 2021

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Vice Mayor Lewis with prayer and salute to the flag. In attendance: Lewis, McClendon, Harden, and McKenzie.

Richard Harden made a motion to approve the June 14, 2021, minutes as presented by the Clerk, second by McClendon, 3/0.

Councilman McKenzie joined the meeting.

Citizen, Jim Gordon, expressed his concerns to the Council regarding the tree line at Dollar General. The blind spots caused by the trees is a major safety issue. The Council instructed staff to contact Somer Pell and see if County will trim or what they will allow done with the trees.

Public Works Director, Leonard Tartt, thanked City staff for their hard work on the July 4th celebration.

Attorney Cox reminded the Council he will be conducting ethics training July 17 in Sneads, FL. DEO did not receive the City's EAR report that Mr. Cox had submitted. Attorney Cox will send another copy this week.

Attorney Cox will submit a Request for Declaratory Statement to the State, regarding Councilmen Lewis and Harden's continued service as City Council Members once they exit FRS. If the request is denied, Cox will then request a variance.

The financial and adjustments reports were approved by signature of the Council.

The Council was reminded of the budget workshop, Monday, July 26, 6:30 p.m.

On behalf of Clerk Schilling, Deputy Clerk Evans requested the August 9th Council meeting be moved to August 16. Council approved the request.

Mr. Tartt reported the new sidewalk at the Park should be complete by the end of the week. Once laid out, the sidewalk in front of the Lawhon house may require a variance. Mr. Tartt also stated Seth Green, the new Plant Operator, should be on board by the end of the year.

Councilman Lewis requested to advertise the closing of the alley that runs Orange/Faith & Sheldon/Gulf. Attorney Cox will prepare the advertisement and the 1st public hearing will be held in August. Mr. Lewis will need to submit a Form 8.

Councilman McKenzie requested intersections throughout the City be cleared of underbrush and overhanging limbs that are causing safety issues.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:12 p.m. Motion by Lewis, second by McKenzie.

July 26, 2021

Budget Workshop

In attendance were Councilmembers McClendon, Edwards, McKenzie, Lewis; and staff members Schilling, Tartt, and Evans

Clerk Schilling presented the Council with suggested General Fund and Water Fund budgets for 2021/2022.

The following changes were made:

General Fund:

Planning – add an additional \$55,000 (\$65,000 total) – for the Sand County/Keith contract (\$30,000), new bath house engineering (\$35,000).

Street Expense – add an additional \$13,000 (\$25,000 total) – allocate the additional funds for sidewalk repair and traffic calming at 4-way intersection's downtown.

Parks & Rec Repairs, Maint. & Supplies – add an additional \$16,000 (\$26,000 total) - \$10,000 for an electric gate at drive thru entrance, and \$6,000 to renovate bathrooms (replace stalls, paint, ventilation).

General Fund Revenue – increase the transfer from water to \$40,000.

Water Fund:

Capital Outlay – Clerk Schilling stated the increase in the line item this year includes \$92,000 remaining for engineering fees associated with new tank, bike trail line relocation, Magnolia Gardens phase 3.

Professional Contractual Services - Leonard Tartt asked to increase Ray Garner an additional \$100/mo (\$860).

Salaries – Councilmembers approved a \$1,700/yr raise.

Connection Fee – With increased prices, the meter set fees no longer cover costs associated with new meter installation. A 5/8" meter now cost approx. \$540 to install, \$800-\$1,000 if road bore is needed. Staff will present ordinance change in August to include increased pricing.

With no further discussion, the workshop adjourned at 8:41.