

June 8, 2015

The Sopchoppy City Council held its regular June meeting. In attendance were: Mayor, Martha Evans, Councilman, Nathan Lewis and Councilman Becton Roddenberry. The meeting was opened with prayer and flag salute.

The minutes from the previous meeting were approved in written form as presented by the Clerk. Lewis/Roddenberry, approved 3/0.

Citizens to be heard:

Lorne Whaley, Wakulla County Sheriff's Department requested City monetary support of the Wakulla County Sheriff's Dept. Annual Golf Tournament. Funds raised from the tournament are used to support underprivileged children at Christmas, Children's fishing tournaments, project graduation and domestic violence abused citizens. **Becton Roddenberry made the motion that the City sponsor a hole at the tournament for \$200.00, seconded by Nathan Lewis, the motion passed 3/0.**

Nelson Martin, Sopchoppy Depot Committee Member requested the City approve the purchase of an 11.5' antique depot bench. The bench was used in a depot in St. Augustine in the 1880's. **Nathan Lewis made the motion to approve the purchase of the bench from the Depot Committee Funds, seconded by Becton Roddenberry, passed 3/0.** Mr. Martin reported that the Committee is currently working on a new exhibit. The Harms family donated the remains of the Argus printing press which was a Sopchoppy newspaper in 1909. One copy of the paper along with some of the printing stamps have been donated. A Tallahassee business owner that restores old printing presses has agreed to help restore the press as an exhibit and print cards from the stamps for the committee to sell. Another exhibit that is in the works is a telegraph machine. The committee intends to install a telegraph replica with a reader that can be used by children. Other exhibits under consideration are on tupelo honey production and a diorama of Sopchoppy in the 1920's. Volunteers are needed to help keep the depot open.

Development of Transition Plan for Clerk's Position – Commissioner Nathan Lewis stated that with the retirement of the Clerk in May 2016 that the City needs to develop a plan to include a time line for advertisement of the position, a determination of all the responsibilities, the hiring base, etc. He encouraged the Council members to come back to the next meeting with thoughts and ideas for further plan development.

Sopchoppy Depot Park- In the absence of Councilwoman Edwards, who chairs the Park Committee, the Clerk reported that the Committee had met and reviewed the two concepts for the Sopchoppy Depot Park. The Committee recommended the concept that included more open space in front of the stage/pavilion and a center entrance. Echo Gates, Genesis Group, will make the recommended changes and present them at the July meeting.

The Financial and Adjustment Reports were approved as presented.

The Council set 7/28/2015 as the date for the Budget Workshop which will be held at city hall at 6:30 p.m.

No further business, the meeting adjourned.