

March 9, 2020

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

Councilman Roddenberry made a motion to approve the February 10, 2020 minutes as presented by the Clerk, second by McClendon, 5/0.

City Clerk, Ashley Schilling, presented Councilman Roddenberry with a Certificate of Completion for attending IEMO IV.

Jerry Holt, Big Bend Scenic Highway, presented the Council with a rendering of the informational panel that will be erected at the Depot. Some of the pictures on the panel do not reflect Sopchoppy and since the sign will be on City property, the Council asked if they could be replaced with things that represent the town. Mr. Holt stated the panels have been written and graphics approved, however he will provide Mayor Edwards with the name of someone to speak too regarding the Councils thoughts and suggestions.

City Clerk Ashley Schilling was contacted by FWC regarding the 2019 Boat Ramp Grant. The City was not originally awarded the grant, however, FWC stated if the City is still willing to allocate \$25,804.73, extend the ramp, add sidewalk, and remove concrete, then FWC will award the grant. Dredging will be included in the 2020 application for 2021 design. Mayor Edwards would like to address the large boulder out in the middle. Leonard Tartt will ask the County if they will bring a large excavator and remove the boulder. A motion to accept the 2019 grant was made by McKenzie, second by Lewis, 5/0.

Clerk Schilling presented **Resolution 2020-01** to the Council for adoption - A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF AN APPLICATION FOR THE FLORIDA BOATING IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM FOR BOATING ACCESS FACILITIES TO THE FLORIDA FISH AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION COMMISSION FOR THE 2020 FUNDING CYCLE. (Dredging around the boat ramp.) A motion to adopt Resolution 2020-01 was made by Roddenberry, second by McKenzie, 5/0.

Clerk Schilling presented **Resolution 2020-02** to the Council for adoption - A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS OF THE CITY OF SOPCHOPPY, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO APPLY FOR FDOT FUNDING THROUGH THE “MUNICIPAL SMALL COUNTY OUTREACH PROGRAM (M-SCOP)”, FOR RESURFACING PARK AVENUE. (From Dickson Street to Park entrance) A motion to adopt Resolution 2020-02 was made by Lewis, second by McKenzie, 5/0.

Clerk Schilling presented **Resolution 2020-03** to the Council for adoption - A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF SOPCHOPPY, FLORIDA, EXPRESSING ITS SUPPORT THAT THE DESIGNATION OF RURAL AREA OF OPPORTUNITY (RAO), CONTINUE TO APPLY TO THE NORTHWEST FLORIDA REGION INCORPORATING THE AREA WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OF THE COUNTIES OF CALHOUN, FRANKLIN, GADSDEN, GULF, HOLMES, JACKSON, LIBERTY, WAKULLA AND WASHINGTON, THE AREA WITHIN THE CITY LIMITS OF FREEPORT AND WALTON COUNTY NORTH OF THE CHOCTAWHATCHEE BAY AND THE INTRACOASTAL WATERWAY; AND THE CONTINUATION OF ALL REGIONAL RURAL DEVELOPMENT GRANT FUNDING FOR THE NORTHWEST FLORIDA BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, INCORPORATED, D/B/A OPPORTUNITY FLORIDA, THROUGH FUNDS APPROPRIATED BY THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE AND ADMINISTERED THROUGH

FLORIDA'S DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY, AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE NO LATER THAN JULY 8, 2020. The Council would like to be pro-active in letting the public know of the potential funding. A motion to adopt Resolution 2020-03 was made by Lewis, second by Roddenberry, 5/0.

Wakulla County requested a Letter of Support to attach to the County's Florida Boating Improvement Grant. A motion to submit a letter was made by McKenzie, second by Roddenberry, 5/0.

Attorney Dan Cox is working on the Land Use suggestions discussed at the workshop held in February and will send an email to the Council prior to the next meeting.

Mayor Edwards suggested \$250.00 to reserve Depot Park for festivals and events and possibly charge \$15.00 per vendor to increase revenue for the Park fund. The City needs to have a clear directive on who/what to charge for the Depot Park.

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

Mrs. Schilling was asked if the City would like to be included in the Wild About Wakulla publication again this year. The Council would like to update the Myron B. Hodge City Park picture and run the same ad this year.

Mrs. Schilling was also asked if the City would like to sponsor the WCSO golf tournament again. A motion was made by Vice Mayor Lewis to sponsor a hole (\$200.00), second by Roddenberry, 5/0.

Leonard Tartt, Public Works Director, reported the nitrate/nitrite sampling was complete. Sampling for lead and copper and disinfection by-products are also required this year.

Mr. Tartt received a quote from Godfrey Builders to install vinyl on the ceiling of the large pavilion at the City Park at a cost of \$5,628.00. He also received a quote from Atlantic Equipment to mount removable hand rails on the pavilion - \$4,419.00. Mr. Tartt is awaiting quotes on fans and lighting.

Employee, Tom Barton, assessed the walking path along the riverbank and stated it would be approximately \$500.00 to replace the timbers, not including rebar. Council would also like to replace the gravel on the path and pressure wash the sidewalks.

Vice-Mayor Lewis would like to get prices for fire rings. The Council would like to receive more quotes for the vinyl and railing, get a total price to replace the timbers and rock on the walkway, and ask Florida DOC inmates to begin cleaning the trail.

Resident, Percy Wood, spoke on the land use planning. Mr. Wood presented the Council with a dry erase map outlining the districts. The map can be updated as changes are made. Mr. Wood would like for the landing zone at Sopchoppy School shown on the map as well.

Councilman McClendon stated the sidewalk and concrete are the same color at the large pavilion at the City Park which could cause someone to step off the stage, hurting themselves. Mayor Edwards suggested painting a stripe on the edge of the stage.

Councilman Roddenberry asked when Rose Street resurfacing would begin. The County is still waiting on the Army Corp of Engineers and once done the City will readdress the brick stamping at the intersections.

Mayor Edwards reminded everyone if employees come to work with flu like symptoms, they should be sent home and not return until fever breaks.

Mrs. Edwards asked the Clerk to contact WCSO regarding closing Rose Street for the Worm Gruntin' Festival. Mrs. Edwards would also like to get a price to have a survey done in front of the Lawhon house and see if there is enough right of way for a sidewalk.

Representative Shoaf spoke to the Mayor regarding a booth at the Worm Gruntin' Festival. There is no more room for vendors and asked if it was possible to use a couple of spaces in City Hall's parking lot. Council approved the request.

The Welcome to Sopchoppy sign is on David Roddenberry's personal property. Mr. Roddenberry would like the sign taken down. Clerk Schilling stated the City pays the permit fee for the sign and would have to work with FDOT to relocate it. If the City decides to purchase the commercial property at the corner of Rose and Bernard, perhaps the sign could be placed there. The City is waiting to hear from the owner regarding the appraised price. Mr. Tartt suggested having a restricted appraisal done. The Council would like to move forward with Mr. Tartt's suggestion.

Councilman McKenzie needs to step down as the City's representative on the TDC and asked if another Councilmember would be interested. No other member is available at this time. Mr. McKenzie will email his resignation to Thomas with TDC.

Vice-Mayor Lewis requested the City look at repairing the portion of Faith Avenue where sewer lines were installed. The builder is waiting until other homes are built and will pay for the repair. Mr. Lewis would like to have the sidewalk in front of 83 Rose Street repaired. Leonard Tartt will contact Mike Turner.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:07 p.m. Motion by Lewis, second by Roddenberry.