

December 8, 2025

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

A **motion** to approve the November 10, 2025, minutes was made by Edwards, seconded by McClendon, 4/0.

Alan Hart, SEH, presented a \$500 donation to help with the Christmas festival expenses.

The Wakulla High School Band had a conflict and was unable to present their sponsorship request. They will attend a later meeting.

City Clerk Ashley Schilling presented a letter of support for signature related to Wakulla County's Transportation Alternatives Grant Program Application. A **motion** to sign and submit the letter was made by Edwards, seconded by Lewis, 4/0.

Clerk Schilling presented **Resolution 2025-05** for consideration and adoption - A Resolution Of City Of Sopchoppy, Florida, Relating To The State Revolving Fund Loan Program; Making Findings; Authorizing The Loan Application; Authorizing The Loan Agreement; Establishing Pledged Revenues; Designating Authorized Representatives; Providing Assurances; Providing For Conflicts, Severability, And Effective Date. The resolution was read by title only by Mayor Leonard Tartt. Alan Hart explained the resolution is required for SRF funding and it was approved by DEP and SEH to fit the City of Sopchoppy's terms. It also authorizes Clerk Schilling and Mayor Tartt to manage all documents. A **motion** to adopt was made by Edwards, seconded by McClendon, 4/0.

Attorney Dan Cox presented **Ordinance 2026-01 for 1<sup>st</sup> Public Hearing** – An Ordinance Of The City Council Of The City Of Sopchoppy, Florida. Establishing Connection And Capacity Fees, Fire Hydrant And Fire Suppression Requirements, Data Log Policies, And Road Bore Responsibilities; Providing For Definitions, Severability, And An Effective Date. The ordinance was explained in detail by Cox. Public Works Director Seth Green stated a meter relocation fee needs to be added. A **motion** was made by Edwards to proceed with advertising the 2<sup>nd</sup> public hearing and adoption to be held at the January 2026 meeting, seconded by McClendon, 4/0.

Attorney Cox presented for **Ordinance 2026-02 for 1<sup>st</sup> Public Hearing** – An Ordinance Of The City Of Sopchoppy Amending Section 14-1, City Of Sopchoppy Code Of Ordinances, Charges For Facilities For Myron B. Hodge Park, To Include An Annual Pass For The Use Of The Boat Ramp, To Codify Existing Charges For Other Recreational Facilities, Providing For Severability And Providing An Effective Date. The Council was provided with copies of three draft fee schedules that were prepared by Caroline Smith with ARPC. Councilman Lewis stated he leans towards version 3 but change the historic gym rental to \$500 and lower the rental fee of the half/whole day SHS classrooms. Both Edwards and Lewis think the Opry and WCT should be handled separately from the fee schedule. CC Schilling stated WCT is utilizing an entire wing of the school for props and misc. items. Also, the Council needs to consider the fee for the historic gym as it relates to weddings versus all other types of events (showers, reunions, birthday parties, etc.). The Council was asked to present any changes at the January meeting. A **motion** was made by Mayor Tartt to proceed with advertising the 2<sup>nd</sup> public hearing and adoption to be held at the January 2026 meeting, seconded by Lewis, 4/0.

PWD Green stated he and the owners of Eden Springs have reached an agreement for the well site lease. Eden Springs will lease to the city for the cost of the water/sewer bills; the city will pay a lump sum yearly and the facility will continue to pay monthly utility bills. Language needs to be added regarding no longer paying yearly fee in case the city abandons the well. The Council agreed with the terms and instructed Green to proceed.

Attorney Cox presented the FLUM maps to the Council that were prepared by Jana Williams. Cox recommended paying the invoice before the end of the year as the maps are 90% complete. Cox also instructed staff and Council to review the maps and submit any changes needed. A **motion** to process the remaining balance owed to SEH was made by Edwards, seconded by McClendon, 4/0.

Cox also reported he is still working on the engineering agreement for the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> ranked firms.

The financials and adjustments were approved by signature of the Council.

CC Schilling presented a Red Cross Facility Use Agreement to the Council. Red Cross currently has an agreement to use the historic gym as a disaster relief center. The Council decided to continue the agreement and ask Red Cross if there is an interest in any other facilities located on the SHS property.

Wakulla 4-H is holding a Clover Gala at Wakulla Springs on January 29 and the City has four tickets available.

The City's Christmas dinner will be held December 18, 6:30 p.m., at Angelo's.

Alan Hart, SEH, reported the city received \$35 million of the requested \$43 million in SRF funds with 100% forgiveness. The funds will allow the city to rehab wells 3 and 4, install a new well and facility at SHS, and upgrade lines on 319 to 12". Hart also reported a Legislative Budget Request was turned in and he is working with Liberty Partners to move it through the channels. Hart also stated planning funds can be spent to work on a footprint of the well site on the SHS property.

PWD Green reported on several projects; well 7 should be ready to pump in March and then construction of the plant will begin; most of the vines at Depot Park have been moved, the potential arbor donation may have been withdrawn, the blessing box will be moved to the right side of the Annex instead of the left.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m. Motion by McClendon, seconded by Edwards, 4/0.