

February 8, 2016

The City Council met in regular session. In Attendance: Lara Edwards, Becton Roddenberry, Nathan Lewis. In the absence of Mayor Evans, Vice Mayor, Lara Edwards opened the meeting with the pledge and a prayer was offered by Councilman Lewis.

Announcements: Leonard Tartt announced that he would be attending the annual Focus on Change session at Gulf State College on February 23, 2016.

The minutes were presented in written form and approved on a motion by Becton Roddenberry, seconded by Nathan Lewis and passed 3/0.

The Council reviewed proposed changes to the Ordinance 2002-01, regulating connection fees, set-up fees and return check charges. The Council discussed adding a consumer price index increase to be written into the new ordinance for review every 5 years. The council scheduled the first reading of the Ordinance in March and 2nd reading and adoption in April.

Council member Glenn Rudd returned from a volunteer fire department call and joined the meeting at this time.

Leonard Tartt informed the Council that he has been in contact with Welch Land Clearing on the stabilization of Depot Park. Tommy Welch is working with Roddenberry Surveying to get a grade plan and once this has been done, will give the City a price for grading the park, stabilizing the road, and proceeding with park plans.

The Clerk presented the Council with the bids for the Highway 61 relocation project. The bid opening was held February 3. The City received the following bids:

Peavey and Son Construction	\$104,990.00
Dowdy Plumbing	\$138,052.00
North Florida Asphalt	\$152,995.00
Sandco, Inc	\$209,924.00
M or Tallahassee	\$215,000.00
Allen's Excavation	\$267,753.50

Based on the submittal of the lowest, responsive Base Bid, Peavey and Sons was awarded the bid on approval of the Council. Lewis/Rudd, passed 4/0.

The Council voted to be a Premium Sponsor (\$300) for the 2016 Sopchoppy Worm Gruntin 5K race. Lewis/Roddenberry, 4/0.

The Clerk introduced Resolution 2016-01 to the Council. A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SOPCHOPPY, FLORIDA, RELATING TO REQUESTING REDUCED PERMIT APPLICATION FEES PURSUANT TO SECTION 218.075, F.S.; FROM THE STATE OF FLORIDA AND ANY AGENCY COVERED UNDER THE STATUTE; PROVIDING FOR INTENT; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE. Adopted by the Council. Rudd/Lewis, 4/0.

Reorganization dates were discussed and it was decided by the Council to re-organize at the November meeting after an election held on even years.

Leonard Tartt reported on the following projects:

Gym Windows – the windows in the kitchen and restroom area of the Gym have been replaced by Tom Barton along with inmate help.

Piping within the well houses is currently being re-painted.

WHS Bike Trail – the portion of the Capital to the Sea Bike trail that is located on Highway 98 from Hortor Road to Wakulla High School is being located.

Crawfordville Sidewalks – a sidewalk is being installed from McDonalds to the Senior Citizen Center which involves moving valves and lowering lines.

Plans for widening 319 from Flatwoods Bridge, south of Crawfordville, north to Bloxham, have been revived and will require locating and moving lines.

Sewer lines are being installed in Magnolia Gardens, resulting in locating and moving lines and valves.

The Panacea interconnect is still in the planning stages

Casora Drive – NFWWMD is preparing the contracts which will result in installing 6” water main and 13 new fire hydrants.

Tartt also reported that he will be meeting with County Manager David Edwards regarding the sewer billing and either working out the logistics if the county takes over the billing or the details for the city to remain the billing agent for county sewer customers which are on the City of Sopchoppy water system.

The Clerk presented the financial reports and the adjustment report for January which were approved by the council.

The Clerk informed the Council that she was copied a letter from DOT District Secretary, James Barfield, written to Wakulla County Commission Chairman, Ralph Thomas, stating that a new project will be needed to determine right-of-way needs for the most appropriate design to safely connect the trail at Clermont Avenue to the Depot and that a full environmental review will be necessary. He was encouraging Wakulla County, the City of Sopchoppy and CRTPA to coordinate the effort.

The Council discussed the applications for the City Clerk/Administrator position. The City was in receipt of 122 applications. The Clerk and the City Attorney met and narrowed the list of candidates to 12, one of which indicated that they would not re-locate which narrowed the list to 11. The council members were previously provided the resumes and applications of these candidates. Each Councilman listed the names of the candidates that they would like to interview, they were as follows:

Roddenberry: Treva McKenzie, Ashley Schilling, Nanette Watts, Rodney Smith, Audrey Gregory

Edwards: Treva McKenzie, Ashley Schilling, Audrey Gregory, Nanette Watts, Rodney Smith

Rudd: Ashley Schilling, Don Hart

Lewis: indicated he was not ready to give his list

The council voted to continue this meeting until Tuesday, the 16th to give Councilmember Lewis ample time to prepare his list.

The Council set February 27 as the date to hold interviews. Interviews will be scheduled beginning at 8:00 a.m. on this date. Feb 29 was set as a date to hold second interviews beginning at 6:30 p.m.

Ashley Schilling, the daughter of Mayor Martha Evans, is applying for the Clerk's position. As a result, Attorney Dan Cox contacted the Commission on Ethics regarding this situation and was informed that the Mayor cannot be a part of any discussion or action regarding the hiring or promoting of her daughter. She must resign as Mayor if the Council considers Ms. Schilling for the position before she is hired.

Dan Cox informed the Council that he will be attending a public records class in March to recertify him to teach the council the 4 hour required class in April. He asked the Council to fix an April date at the next meeting.

No Council Items were presented.

Motion to recess, continue and reconvene the meeting on Tuesday, February 16 at 6:30 p.m.
Roddenberry/Lewis 4/0.