

July 15, 2024

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

A motion to approve the June 10, 2024, minutes was made by McKenzie, second by McClendon, 4/0.

Councilmember Edwards joined the meeting at this time.

Bobbery Rosier, with Macedonia Helping Hand Ministry invited the Council and City to be a part of a community outreach day, July 20, and asked the Mayor or a designee to give a welcome speech to attendees.

Nancy Paul and Winky Rice with Discover Sopchoppy requested approval to place a kiosk with information about Sopchoppy on the Mom's site. They will gather information to present to the Council and asked if the Council has ideas or recommendations that they forward it to them. Councilmember Edwards stated she has always envisioned the property to be a trailhead with a kiosk.

Wakulla Girls Softball Association represented by Kyle Barnes and Dallas Lively, submitted a sponsorship request to the Council. A **motion** to award a double Platinum sponsorship (total of \$1,200) was made by Edwards, second by McKenzie, 5/0.

Michael and Holly Pelletier, Cherokee Drive, would like to connect to the water system and asked for a waiver of the capacity fee. They stated they called and were told the connection fee of \$1,975 several times over the last year, as recent as April 1, however, did not come in to pay before the \$7,200 capacity fee was adopted. Following a lengthy discussion, a **motion** was made by Edwards to allow the Pelletier's to connect to the water system at the cost of \$1,975 and waive the capacity fee, second by Harden, 5/0. Attorney Cox will have the Hardship Waiver for approval at the August meeting and the Pelletier's must complete the form once it's approved and available.

Attorney Cox would like to stay at the City Park for a couple of weeks and requested approval to only pay for the nights he stays and be able to leave his camper parked the days he isn't there. The Council approved his request.

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

City Clerk Ashley Schilling reported the city park house floors are buckling due to constant moisture under the foundation. Alpha Foundation suggested an Aqua Stop Air System (dehumidifier/encapsulation of foundation) at a cost of \$19,803.01. The Council suggested looking for other solutions before deciding the best route to take.

The Council set a budget workshop for August 14, 5:00 p.m.

Public Works Director Seth Green informed the Council the Access Management Plan (AMP) is in progress.

Staff will also be removing the stone border around the city park playground and repurposing them somewhere within the park.

In keeping the Council updated with progress, Jeff Jones, BDI, presented an updated system layout of the phase 1 water system improvements.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:54 p.m. Motion by McKenzie, second by Rudd, 5/0.

July 22, 2024
Special Called Meeting
205 Cherokee Drive – Meter/Capacity Fee

The meeting was called to order at 5:45 p.m. by Mayor Glenn Rudd with prayer. In attendance: Rudd, McKenzie, McClendon, Harden, and Edwards.

The special meeting was called by Attorney Dan Cox.

Attorney Cox stated he emailed a copy of the meeting notice to Michael and Holly Pelletier in hopes they would be present to address some concerns, however they did not attend the special meeting.

At the July 15, Council meeting, the Pelletier requested a waiver of the \$7,200 capacity fee. They stated they had called several times over the last year and were told the connection fee was \$1,975, however they did not come in and pay the installation fee before the capacity fee was adopted. They implied that access to City water was critical to their ability to occupy the property and that they had taken some time to save the \$1975 fee they had been quoted.

After the regular Council meeting, the Town Clerk and Attorney Cox investigated the property further and found no one lives at 205 Cherokee Drive. Further research revealed the Petitioners live and homestead on Easy Street and not at the address they requested the waiver for.

Given this information, Attorney Cox suggested a motion to rescind the previous motion for approval of \$1,975 and waiving the \$7,200 capacity fee with a hearing on the issue to be held at the August meeting..

A motion was made by Councilmember Edwards to hold a hearing at the August regular meeting to consider whether to rescind the decision made at the July 15 meeting, seconded by Harden, 5/0.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:03 p.m. Motion by McKenzie, second by Rudd, 5/0.