

Monday, July 7, 2014

The City Council of the City of Sopchoppy met for the regular July meeting. In attendance were Vice Mayor Lara Edwards, Councilpersons Eddie Evans and Nathan Lewis also in attendance, staff members: Jackie Lawhon, Leonard Tartt, Page Evans and City Attorney, Dan Cox. The meeting was opened by Vice-Mayor Lara Edwards and led in prayer and a salute to the flag by Nathan Lewis.

The minutes from the previous meeting were approved on a motion by Nathan Lewis, seconded by Eddie Evans, passed 3/0.

2<sup>nd</sup> Public hearing on Ordinance 2014-05 -

The Council opened the 2nd public hearing on Ordinance 2014-05, AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL AMENDING THE CITY OF SOPCHOPPY CODE OF ORDINANCES TO REPEAL CHAPTER 107; TO ADOPT A NEW CHAPTER 107 "FLOODS"; TO ADOPT FLOOD HAZARD MAPS, TO DESIGNATE A FLOODPLAIN ADMINISTRATOR, TO ADOPT PROCEDURES AND CRITERIA FOR DEVELOPMENT IN FLOOD HAZARD AREAS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES; TO ADOPT LOCAL ADMINISTRATIVE AMENDMENTS TO THE FLORIDA BUILDING CODE; PROVIDING FOR APPLICABILITY; REPEALER; SEVERABILITY; AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE. Dan Cox discussed with the Council the significance of the changes involved in the Ordinance. With no public input, the public meeting closed.

Eddie Evans made the motion to adopt ordinance 2014-05, seconded by Nathan Lewis, the motion passed, 3/0.

Staff informed the Council that the initial cost estimate for the relocation of 319 is \$324,000.

The Council determined that they would make a decision on the purchase of an automatic reading system at the August meeting.

Dan Cox reported to the Council that he researched the ownership of city alleys and that on the maps for the original town of Sopchoppy, lots do not extend into the alleys which are dedicated for public use. Alley's within the City of Sopchoppy provide easement of conveyance but not ownership.

Dan Cox reported that he has spoken the owner of the property which would provide access to 319 from the planned downtown park and the owner is asking \$40,000 for the 3 small commercial lots. The City Council determined that the lots were not needed by the City.

Leonard Tartt reported that he has met with representatives of the Panacea Area Water System (PAWS) regarding a possible inter-connect. An email from PAWS states that the estimated cost for inter-connecting is \$601,000 and they have received a \$350,000 grant from Northwest Florida Water Management District. PAWS will apply for an additional 60/40 grant thru Farmers Home Administration. The email further stated that they have evaluated their need and pursued funding for a transmission line including the inter-connect to the City of Sopchoppy. The transmission line will run from Bottoms Road to the point of inter-connect near the Medart School on Highway 98. Panacea Area Water System estimated the cost to Sopchoppy at \$90,205. City Attorney Dan Cox stated that he would research the rules on public funds helping a private non-profit organization. Councilman Eddie Evans stated that we would need to negotiate several items including the amount of water needed, the time period involved, how much PAWS will pay for water, the city's cost for the project and the return.

Nathan Lewis made the motion to approve the financial reports and the adjustment reports for the month, seconded by Eddie Evans, and passed 3/0.

Council Items:

Councilman Nathan Lewis questioned the current process for code enforcement within the City. Several properties were discussed which need action taken. Dan Cox volunteered to look into the city privately contracting code enforcement.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned on a motion by Eddie Evans, seconded by Nathan Lewis