

Tuesday, November 12, 2013

The Sopchoppy City Council met in regular session. In attendance: Mayor Martha Evans, Council members; Lara Edwards, Eddie Evans, Nathan Lewis and Glenn Rudd. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Evans and led in prayer and a salute to the flag.

The minutes from the October meeting were approved in written form on a motion by Nathan Lewis, seconded by Lara Edwards and passed 5/0.

The Clerk addressed the council with the need to fill the council member appointment on the Wakulla County Tourist Development Council. The meeting time for the WCTDC conflicts with the working hours of the members of the City Council and no members are available to serve.

1st Reading by title of Ordinance 2013-04, AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SOPCHOPPY TO AMEND THE OPERATING BUDGET FOR THE GENERAL FUND AND THE WATER FUND OF THE CITY FOR THE 2012-2013 OPERATING YEAR. Second reading and adoption set for special meeting, November 21, 2013 @ 6:30 p.m.

1st Reading by title of Ordinance 2013-05, AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SOPCHOPPY SUBMITTING TO THE ELECTORS OF THE CITY OF SOPCHOPPY A PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE CITY CHARTER PERTAINING TO THE LENGTH AND THE COMMENCEMENT DATE OF THE TERM OF OFFICE FOR EACH MEMBER OF THE CITY COUNCIL; CALLING A SPECIAL ELECTION FOR THAT PURPOSE; AND SPECIFYING AN EFFECTIVE DATE FOR THE AMENDMENT IF IT IS APPROVED BY A MAJORITY OF THE ELECTORATE. Second reading and adoption set for December 9th meeting.

Lara Edwards made the motion to approve Resolution 2013-02 requesting a reduction in application fees for the Consumptive Use Permit from the Northwest Florida Water Management District. Florida Statute 218.075 provides Municipalities with less than 25,000 in population a reduction in permit fees with proof of financial hardship. The City qualifies since the per-capita taxable value is less than the statewide average. The motion was seconded by Glenn Rudd and passed 5/0.

Nathan Lewis made the motion to approve a \$500 donation to Operation Santa, seconded by Lara Edwards and passed. 5/0.

Lara Edwards made a motion to approve a \$100 sponsorship as a Water Station sponsor for the 5k Jingle Bell Run benefitting the Senior Citizens Meals on Wheels program. The motion was seconded by Eddie Evans and passed 5/0.

Glenn Rudd made the motion to dispose of a surplus tank and pump valued under \$5,000 to Kevin Carter. Mr. Carter is to make a \$500 donation to the Sopchoppy Volunteer Fire Department in exchange for the pump and tank. Eddie Evans seconded the motion and it passed on a 5/0 vote.

Lara Edwards made a motion to accept a \$400 offer that has been submitted on the "old ambulance" that was previously offered as surplus. Glenn Rudd seconded the motion and the motion passed 5/0.

Glenn Rudd made a motion which was seconded by Lara Edwards to allow Leonard Tarrt to dispose of all the surplus items which were not picked up from the previous bids or which did not receive a bid. Motion passed 5/0.

Lara Edwards presented the Council with a proposal of \$2,400 for a sign which would be placed in the intersection of 319/375 which would read "welcome to Historic/downtown Sopchoppy". \$800 will be required before design. Commissioner Edwards will check with DOT regarding any permits the state requires before proceeding.

Eddie Evans made the motion that the City of Sopchoppy Bank Account Signature Cards include: Jackie Lawhon, City Clerk; Linda Langston, Deputy City Clerk; Leonard Tartt, Public Works Director; Martha Evans, Mayor; and Lara Edwards, Vice Mayor. Two signatures are required on check transactions. Motion seconded by Nathan Lewis and passed 5/0 by the Council.

Dan Cox reported that he has had correspondence from the IRS regarding the Tax Exempt Status of the Sopchoppy Volunteer Fire Department. He was asked to determine if the SVFD wanted to qualify under C-4 or C-3 status. He was directed to continue in the C-4 status to expedite the procedure.

Attorney Cox reported that Creek Enterprises has forwarded the City's claim against them to their insurance company. Cox also reported that the paperwork on the Hanifin land has been finalized. He further reported that he is still working on getting the last Beasley parcel.

Public Works Director, Leonard Tartt reported that he has submitted most of the paperwork for the Consumptive Use Permit. He also reported that in 2016 work should begin on re-routing 319 where it meets 98 at Wakulla High School. Mr. Tartt also stated that he had been in discussion with TCC to re-iterate to them that they will be responsible for the water infrastructure should the grant they have applied for not be approved.

Council Items:

Glenn Rudd requested that staff take down and move the shelter next to shuffle board court at the Myron B. Hodge Park.

The meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Thursday, November 21, 2013

The City Council met for a special advertised meeting. In attendance were Mayor Martha Evans, Vice-Mayor Lara Edwards and Nathan Lewis.

ORDINANCE 2013-04, AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE OPERATING BUDGET FOR THE GENERAL FUND AND WATER FUND OF THE CITY OF SOPCHOPPY FOR THE 2012-13 OPERATING YEAR.

Lara Edwards made the motion to adopt Ordinance 2013-04, seconded by Nathan Lewis and passed 3/0.

Meeting adjourned.