

November 14, 2024

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

A motion to approve the September 9, 25, and October 17, 2024, minutes was made by Edwards, second by Harden, 4/0.

At this time, the newly elected Councilmembers, i.e., Leonard Tartt, Nathan Lewis, and Mary Katherine Westmark, were sworn in by Attorney Dan Cox. Attorney Cox went over the sunshine law, reporting gifts, ethics class, and a form 1 must be filed within 30 days of taking office.

Councilmember Lewis nominated Leonard Tartt for Mayor, and Councilmember Westmark nominated Lara Edwards. After discussion, a **motion** was made by Lewis to elect Leonard Tartt as Mayor, seconded by McClendon, 5/0. A **motion** to elect Lara Edwards as Vice Mayor was made by Leonard Tartt, seconded by Westmark, 5/0.

Casey Kimbrell with Wakulla Giving Hands requested the gym rental fee waived for December 7 and have use of the facility for the week leading up to it. A **motion** was made by Lewis to allow Wakulla Giving Hands use of the gym December 2-7 at no charge, seconded by Westmark, 5/0.

Wakulla County 4-H, represented by Caden Gruebel, Jennifer Masters, and Josie Counce, presented a sponsorship request to the Council. A **motion** was made by Edwards to award a Platinum Clover Level for \$1,000, seconded by McClendon, 5/0.

Trevor Burch, Dewberry, updated the Council on the County sewer expansion for Wildwood Drive and Trice Lane. The water lines will not require relocation in Wildwood. The project has been advertised for summer 2025 construction while school is out. The projected cost to the City to upgrade the main to 8" and 12" is \$545,000, engineering \$5,560, and CEI 5,800. A **motion** was made by Vice Mayor Edwards to move forward with the engineering for Wildwood at a cost of \$5,560, seconded by Lewis, 5/0.

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

City Clerk Ashley Schilling stated the City was contacted again this year by Operation Stanta regarding adopting a family. A **motion** was made by Edwards to spend up to \$700 on Operation Santa, second by Westmark, 5/0.

Public Works Director Seth Green reported the MLK 12" main extension should be complete by Thanksgiving or shortly thereafter.

PWD Green would like to move forward with hiring the Maintenance Technician in the City. Clerk Schilling and Green will amend the current position description and send to the Council for review before the December meeting.

The current park manager, Victor Spencer, is taking outside employment but will continue his duties at the Park. Mr. Spencer was given approval but instructed the park duties must be top priority.

Mayor Tarrt asked, if possible, all Councilmembers have their agenda items to the City Clerk prior to the meeting so they can be included in the meeting packets.

Councilmember McClendon asked if the speed limits can be lowered on side streets.

Mayor Tarrt stated festival parking along the 319 curve by the Express Lane needs to be addressed before someone gets hurt.

Clerk Schilling asked for clarification on which festival vendors Discover Sopchoppy is to pay the City for. The Council stated the committee is to pay the City \$10.00 per vendor, no matter where the vendor is located.

Councilmember Lewis would like to discuss City Park improvements and camping facilities with PWD Green.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:02 p.m. Motion by Edwards, second by Lewis, 4/0.