

November 14, 2022

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

Attorney Dan Cox swore in Lara Edwards and Fred McClendon.

The Council discussed reorganizing; however, a motion was made by Rudd to leave Lara Edwards as Mayor and Glenn Rudd as Vice Mayor, second by McKenzie, 4/0.

Vice Mayor Rudd made a motion to approve the October 10, 2022, minutes changing Resolution 2022-10 to 2022-11, second by McKenzie, 4/0.

Nathan Lewis suggested the campsites at the City Park could be better marked, either by placing railroad ties behind each spot or laying down gravel. Mr. Lewis also suggested rotating Mayor/Vice Mayor positions every one to two years, by seniority. This would give a different perspective of the positions and duties it entails.

Max Campbell questioned closing the alley in the area of Argyle and Municipal along Railroad. Attorney Cox stated the City is not closing anything east of Municipal. Mr. Campbell also asked why Dickson Street wasn't open behind Depot Park all the way to 319. The Council stated it wasn't done for safety concerns.

Public Works Director, Seth Green informed the Council Luke Steinle has received his Class C Water Operator License. Vice Mayor Rudd asked if the 2.5% raise would go into effect and the Council agreed it would.

PWD Green asked if additional employees skipped the distribution license required by their position and obtained the Class C license instead would the Council approve giving the combined raise of 7.5% (5% - distribution, 2.5% - class c). The council approved the 7.5% raise if employees skip the distribution license and obtain the Class C.

The Wakulla County Girls Softball Association, represented by Kyle Barnes and Heath Milligan, thanked the City for the generous platinum donation and presented the Council with a plaque.

The Council held the **1st public hearing for Ordinance 2022-07** - An Ordinance To Amend The Operating Budgets For The General Fund And The Water Fund Of The City Of Sopchoppy For The 2021-22 Operating Year. City Clerk Ashley Schilling stated the water fund was affected by the new water tower, new trucks, and the 25/20 salary transfer. Line items were also reclassified to match James Moore and Company's policy. The general fund was affected by the 25/20 salary transfer and reclassifications as well.

The Council held the **1st public hearing for Ordinance 2022-08** - An Ordinance Of The City Of Sopchoppy, Florida, Amending The City Of Sopchoppy Land Development Code; Establishing Overlay Zones; Proscribing Development Standards For Commercial Development Within The Overlay Zones; Providing For Severability; Repealing All Ordinances In Conflict; And Providing An Effective Date. Attorney Cox read the ordinance by title only and stated it implements the work performed in conjunction with Sand County.

Attorney Cox has been working with Attorney Chuck Green, representing Polliewood, and will be presenting more information to the Council in the future related to the proposed RV park. Attorney Cox is working on a comp plan amendment to incorporate the development.

The financial and adjustment reports were approved by signature of the Council.

PWD Green reported he and BDI are still trying to determine why the new tower at well 3 is not functioning properly. Well 5 is down for repairs and Mr. Green is working with DEP and FRWA to address concerns with the gas plume issue the well had prior to the City acquiring the location. DEP has given the City 18 months to resolve the issue.

The City is looking to drill an additional well next fiscal year and BDI is working on an updated hydraulic model of the water system.

Mayor Edwards reported the mullet and oyster festival was a success and Christmas in Sopchoppy will be held at Depot Park, December 10. Mrs. Edwards also presented the idea of reorganizing the Council after a period of time. The decision was made to let the Council decide to reorganize when they feel it necessary.

Vice Mayor Rudd stated with system repairs and expansion, the City may need to raise water rates. Attorney Cox stated the last adopted ordinance has a built-in CPI adjustment and suggested raising the rates based on the CPI for a certain period of time and then readdressing the increase if needed. The council agreed the CPI should be implemented. The City can also ask FRWA to conduct a rate study.

A few residents complained to Mr. Rudd about dogs at the festivals, however banning them could cause issues with ADA.

Councilman McKenzie reported WCSB Superintendent Pearce is getting quotes for demolition of some of the elements at the old school and Mr. Pearce is also working on the paperwork to transfer the school to the City.

The Council asked Clerk Schilling to get quotes for a commercial inspection of phase 1 and 2 and to get a copy of the monthly/yearly expenses of the property since the school was vacated. Vice Mayor Rudd does not want the property to be a financial burden to the City in the future.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:47 p.m. Motion by McKenzie, second by Rudd.

November 28, 2022

Special Meeting to Adopt Amended Budget for FY 2021-22

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Mayor Edwards with prayer and salute to the flag. In attendance: Edwards, McKenzie, McClendon, Harden, and Rudd.

The Council held the **2nd public hearing and adoption for Ordinance 2022-07** - An Ordinance To Amend The Operating Budgets For The General Fund And The Water Fund Of The City Of Sopchoppy For The 2021-22 Operating Year. City Clerk Ashley Schilling stated the water fund was affected by the new water tower and new trucks. Both the general fund and water fund were affected by the 25/20 salary transfer. Line items were also reclassified and adjusted to match James Moore and Company's policy.

A **motion** to adopt Ordinance 2022-07 was made by Rudd, second by Edwards, 5/0.

The meeting adjourned at 6:07 p.m., motion by Rudd, second by Edwards.