

November 13, 2017

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

The minutes from the previous meeting were approved as presented by the Clerk. Motion by Roddenberry, second by Rudd, passed 4/0.

Resident Tammy Corley was present requesting a variance to allow an additional mobile home to be placed on her property located at 6 McKenzie Place. Her daughter was displaced by Hurricane Irma and will be moving to the area. Attorney Dan Cox will research the property and zoning and have an answer before the end of the week as to whether or not a variance is needed.

With the resignation of Councilmember Fred Nichols in September, the City advertised the vacancy, asking interested citizens to submit a letter of interest. Two citizens, Fred McClendon and Roger McKenzie submitted letters. Clerk Schilling presented the letters to the Council and each citizen was given an opportunity to address the Council as to why they are interested and tell something about themselves.

At this time, Councilmember Rudd addressed the Council, and gave Clerk Schilling a letter of resignation effective the end of the meeting. Rudd asked Attorney Cox if the Council could appoint both men to the vacant seats and Roddenberry asked if it could be done without advertising for Rudd's vacancy. Mr. Cox indicated that both men could be appointed to the two seats without advertising again.

After discussion, it was agreed Fred McClendon will fill the remainder of Fred Nichols' term, expiring November 2018. Roger McKenzie will fill the remainder of Glenn Rudd's term, expiring November 2020. Both candidates will be sworn in at the December 2017 regular Council meeting.

The City advertised a RFP for the CDBG Grant Administration and Grant Engineering Services for the Stormwater Grant. Two firms submitted bids for the Administration; Andy Easton and Associates and Capital Engineering. One firm submitted a bid for Engineering; Baskerville-Donovan. Clerk Schilling presented the bids to the Council and a motion was made by Roddenberry, second by Rudd to award the Grant Administration to Andy Easton and Associates and the Engineering to Baskerville-Donovan, passed 4/0.

Cox also reported to the Council he is still working on the water rate study. Baskerville-Donovan recommends a slightly graduated block rate. Attorney Cox will get more information for the Council on this recommendation. The Council asked Clerk Schilling to request BDI update the current master plan to incorporate into the rate study. They also asked Leonard Tartt to give a projected cost of relocating water lines associated with the Hwy 319 widening project. The City can still apply for forgiveness from the State for costs associated with relocating the lines, however the State will only forgive the costs of the existing water main size, and if the City wishes to upgrade the size of the main, the City would be required to pay the difference.

Councilmember Lewis expressed concern with raising water rates. The County will be affected by the new rates and could potentially raise taxes to off-set the new rates, thus residents could be hit by higher water rates and taxes.

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

With the resignation of Councilmember Nichols, and Nichols being the City's representative on the Wakulla County Tourist Development Council (TDC), a new representative needs to be appointed to the Board. After a brief discussion, Councilman Roddenberry volunteered to represent the City on the TDC. Clerk Schilling will contact them and TDC will discuss Roddenberry's appointment and notify the Clerk if approved.

Robin Drummond, Director of Wakulla County Library, would like to install a free mini library at the City Park. Councilmembers Roddenberry and Rudd proposed installing it at Depot Park instead. The Council asked Clerk Schilling to respond to Ms. Drummond with this idea and also request that the structure incorporate the design of the Depot.

The City was contacted in regards to adopting an Operation Santa family and also was asked by Eden Springs to make a monetary donation to assist in purchasing a small Christmas gift for each permanent resident. A motion was made by Roddenberry to spend \$400.00 on Operation Santa and donate \$300.00 to Eden Springs, second by Rudd, passed 4/0.

As requested by the Council, Clerk Schilling researched and presented pricing for voice recording equipment for recording of all Council meetings and workshops. Prices range from \$200.00 for a simple recorder up to \$6,000.00 for more complex equipment. Mayor Edwards feels meetings need to be recorded for transparency purposes and recommends starting with the least expensive avenue. Mr. Roddenberry voiced a need for the same reasons. Mr. Lewis feels it is unnecessary at this time. Mr. Rudd spoke against the need for the equipment, stating there hasn't been an issue until recently. A motion was made by Roddenberry to audio record meetings, second by Edwards, motion failed 2/2 (Edwards/Roddenberry in favor, Lewis/Rudd opposed).

Public Works Director, Leonard Tartt, spoke regarding purchasing a mini excavator. The equipment would be extremely useful in small spaces within the water system due to surrounding infrastructure. Presently, the public works department utilizes a full size backhoe. John Deere loaned an excavator to test and quoted a price of \$43,000.00. Mr. Tartt was asked to come back to the December meeting with more options/pricing.

Mr. Tartt also reported the Casora Project is nearing completion. There is one more hydrant to install and capping a line by WMS and the project should be completed.

Councilman Roddenberry asked for a status on the new billing software. Clerk Schilling reported the City is still configuring data with MuniLink, the on-line payment feature has been set up, and we hope to go live by the first of the year. Roddenberry also wants to go on record that he is disappointed the recording motion failed.

Mayor Edwards reported meeting with Rick Ott and receiving ideas for the music pavilion at Depot Park and hopefully lighting should be in place within the next couple of months.

Councilman Lewis stated he was approached with the idea of a climbing feature at Depot Park that could possibly replicate a train.

Councilmember Rudd stated for the most part he has enjoyed serving on the Council but it is time to move on.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m. Motion by Roddenberry, second by Rudd.