

October 13, 2025

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

A **motion** to approve the September 8, 2025, minutes was made by McClendon, seconded by Westmark, 3/0.

PWD Seth Green recognized Tommy Barton for being with the city for 10 years and Page Bonds for 26 years. Green also informed the Council that Dorian Allen and Daniel Crowson will begin with the City on November 3, replacing Tommy Barton and Mike Porter, who will both retire in 2026.

Casey Kimbrel, Wakulla Giving Hands requested a waiver of the gym rental fees and early access for December 1-6. City Clerk Schilling presented invoices for electric costs for the last three times WGH has used the gym. WGH stated they will closely monitor the doors to ensure the electric bills aren't as high this time. A **motion** to waive the gym rental fee for December 1-6 was made by Westmark, seconded by McClendon, 3/0.

Rachel Pienta, along with Josie Counce and Caden Gruebel, presented a 4-H sponsorship request to the Council. A motion was made by Mayor Tartt to be a Platinum Sponsor (\$1,000), seconded by Westmark, 3/0.

Councilmember Westmark stated that she, PWD Green, City Maintenance Tech Henderson, and Lynn Artz met at the Depot Park to look at cattle panels and vine placement. Westmark presented a proposal for placement to the Council for consideration. PWD Green stated he has no issue with the panels and most placements, maybe not behind benches, and that the city and wildflower committee need to set rules and standards of what can be done, by whom, and a schedule. A proposal of standards for consideration (see attachment #1) was presented by Westmark. Councilman McClendon, for liability and safety reasons, would like to see through the park, without plant obstruction. The Council set a workshop on Monday, November 3, at 3:00 p.m., to discuss depot park policy and standards. Westmark made a **motion** to approve the proposal regarding the cattle panels and vines, seconded by McClendon, 3/0.

Attorney Dan Cox recommended approval of Short Elliott and Hendrickson, Inc.'s (SEH), Master Agreement for Professional Services. A **motion** to accept the agreement, as presented was made by Tartt, seconded by Westmark, 3/0.

Alan Hart, SEH, stated the firm is already working on a Legislative Budget Request and grants the city can apply for.

Attorney Cox is working with Jana Williams, SEH, to amend the Comp Plan Amendment by preparing the Future Land Use Map as part of the City's proposed EAR Report. Cox recommended contracting with Jana Williams to perform the stated duties, not to exceed \$9,800. A **motion** was made by Westmark to contract with Jana Williams, SEH, to perform the stated duties, not to exceed \$9,800, seconded by Tartt, 3/0.

PWD Green shared there is still interest from the public in the old library building on the SHS property. Attorney Cox recommends conducting a boundary survey of the entire SHS property, including roads and drainage ditches, before deciding how to proceed. Cox also suggested checking with Edwin Brown and Associates on cost to update and recertify the previous survey prepared for the school board.

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

Operation Santa contacted the City regarding adopting a family again for Christmas. A **motion** was made by McClendon to adopt a family with a maximum budget of \$750, seconded by Westmark, 3/0.

Jeff Jones, BDI, presented a proposed contract adjustment for the well 7 improvement project. Changes include reducing the size of the tank to 150,000, reducing the well casing to 16", deleting landscaping and demolition of the existing well and building, and adding a concrete sidewalk and overflow to ground storage tank. City staff will be responsible for the landscaping and removing the existing well and building. The total adjustment will save the City \$146,750.00 (see attachment #2). A **motion** was made by Westmark to move forward with the adjustments, seconded by McClendon, 3/0.

BDI will send out a notice to proceed with the construction. The firm has 45 days to begin and has 290 days for substantial completion.

Green reported that the Senior Citizens Council signed the lease for 100 Municipal Avenue, and the City emptied the building October 3.

Councilmember Westmark and PWD Green will meet at Depot Park and determine where to place the exercise pod donated by the Health Department.

After receiving two quotes to tear down the SHS gym, \$90,000 and \$68,000, PWD Green has looked into turning the space into equipment storage for the City. Two roll-up doors would cost \$20,000, and re-roof of the back half would be \$25,000. Attorney Cox suggested proceeding with turning the building into storage.

As a fundraiser for the SHS property and expenses, Councilmember Westmark suggested a pancake breakfast at the school on December 13. All council present were in favor.

Councilmember McClendon stated Jeff Green proposes he will market the city's historic gymnasium as an event venue, possibly charging \$2,500 and donating \$1,000 to the city from each rental. McClendon said Green will come to a meeting and present his proposal to the council.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:56 p.m. Motion by McClendon, seconded by Westmark, 3/0.