

September 9, 2024

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

A motion to approve the August 12, 2024, minutes was made by McKenzie, second by McClendon, 3/0.

John Alex Edwards and Jordan Roddenberry presented a WHS NJROTC Sponsorship request to the Council. A motion was made by Vice Mayor McKenzie to award a \$1,000 sponsorship, second by Mayor Rudd, 3/0.

Jeff Jones, BDI, provided an update on the Phase 1 system improvements. BDI will be advertising for bids for the 12" main installation and working on the design of the building and ground storage tank.

Trevor Burch, Dewberry, updated the Council on the County sewer expansion for Wildwood Drive and Trice Lane. Larger water lines are needed in these areas and if the waterline interferes with the sewer expansion, the County is willing to include some funding in the County grant request, reducing the overall cost to the City. If the City agrees to move ahead with the upgrades, the savings could potentially be significant. Mr. Burch will contact the state regarding cost forgiveness and present a more accurate analysis to the City at the October meeting.

The **1st public hearing** was held for **Ordinance 2024-04** - An Ordinance To Adopt The Operating Budgets For The General Fund Of The City Of Sopchoppy And The Water Fund Of The City Of Sopchoppy. To Provide A Reasonable Anticipated Revenue And Expenditure Schedule For The 2024-2025 Operating Year. The Ordinance was read by title only by City Clerk Ashley Schilling.

Given the information provided by Dewberry, the two projects could potentially cost \$1.4 million, or with assistance, \$760,000. Instead of funding the Phase 1 system improvements from three different areas indicated in the new budget, the Council agreed to borrow the \$3 million for Phase 1 and use available City funds to pay the Wildwood Drive and Trice Lane upgrades.

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

Following a discussion regarding current comp/overtime on the books, employees will be paid for the hours, except for Public Works Director Seth Green. A **motion** was made by McKenzie to pay Mr. Green for the 163.75 comp hours earned while working under the previous PWD, second by Rudd, 3/0. The hours will be paid at the hourly rate prior to becoming PWD.

Moving forward, the Council reiterated staff will not receive comp/overtime for weekend well checks.

A **motion** was made by Mayor Rudd to allow PWD Green to rollover 240 comp hours this year, second by McKenzie, 3/0.

Clerk Schilling requested a special meeting September 25, at 9:00 a.m. for the sole purpose of holding the 2nd public hearing and adoption of the 2024-2025 budgets.

With funds allocated in the 24/25 budget for a new vehicle for the Clerk, PWD Green stated he has investigated using the 2016 Explorer as the meter reading vehicle (approx. \$1,100 to equip). No decision was made.

Mayor Rudd would like to address the appearance of the Depot and Depot Park at the October meeting.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:14 p.m. Motion by McKenzie, second by Rudd, 3/0.

September 25, 2024

Special Meeting
Adoption of 24/25 Water and General Budgets

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Lara Edwards. In attendance: Edwards, McClendon and Harden.

The Council held the **2nd public hearing and adoption** for **Ordinance 2024-04** - An Ordinance To Adopt The Operating Budgets For The General Fund Of The City Of Sopchoppy And The Water Fund Of The City Of Sopchoppy. To Provide A Reasonable Anticipated Revenue And Expenditure Schedule For The 2024-2025 Operating Year. The Ordinance was read by title only by City Clerk Ashley Schilling.

A **motion** to adopt Ordinance 2024-04 as presented was made by Edwards, second by Harden, 3/0.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:02 a.m. Motion by Edwards, second by Harden, 3/0.