

July 11, 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, McClendon, Rudd, and Harden.

Mayor Edwards submitted a correction to the June minutes related to the Juneteenth holiday and with the edit Councilman Rudd made a motion to approve the June 13, 2022, minutes, second by Harden, 4/0.

Deputy Clerk Page Evans reported 4th of July gate receipts indicate an estimated 2,800 – 2,900 people attended the annual festival. A more detailed report will be given at the August meeting once the remaining outstanding invoices are paid. Public Works Director Leonard Tartt stated he will work with WCSO to address more deputy presence throughout the day to help with attendees shooting fireworks in the park and river.

Attorney Dan Cox will work with staff to compile a list of Capital Improvement Projects before the August 1 budget workshop and present the final list for adoption at the August 8 council meeting.

Attorney Cox will also present a resolution for adoption at the August meeting to add Juneteenth to the holiday schedule.

Attorney Cox invited Councilmembers to attend a four-hour ethics training August 27, 9:00 a.m., in Sneads, FL. Anyone interested should let him know in advance.

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

Deputy Clerk Evans reminded the Council of the budget workshop Monday, August 1, 6:00 p.m.

In the June meeting, Clerk Schilling sought guidance from the Council regarding families wishing to sponsor a new bench at Depot Park or place a plaque on an existing bench in honor of loved ones. Mrs. Evans reported the cost of a new bench is now \$1,000. Council requested Clerk Schilling contact Cody Solburg with the County and request a copy of the County's bench adoption program and requirements. Instead of purchasing additional benches, Council agreed plaques can be placed on existing ones and once all of the benches are adopted, they will address the issue again.

Public Works Director, Leonard Tartt reported a 14-acre RV park will be connecting to the water system on Hwy 98 across from the Rec Park. Mr. Tartt also stated with County growth the City might need to look at the possibility of placing another well in the Medart area. Baskerville-Donovan has proposed \$27,000 to conduct an updated hydraulic model of the water system. Mr. Tartt recommended waiting to do the analysis for now, Council agreed.

Plant Operator, Seth Green reported Park Manager Victor Spencer has expressed safety concerns with the log cabin located at the city park. Mr. Green presented pictures of the deteriorating cabin to the Council and stated visitors try to access the porch for pictures. Attorney Cox stated the building needs to be secured immediately and not allow anyone to access it. The Council would like the Clerk to contact the Historical Society and offer it to them before deciding what to do with the cabin. Vice Mayor Rudd stated in the interim, the front steps should be removed to deter anyone from accessing the building.

PO Green presented a plan to the Council for maintenance staff to work four 10-hour days, with Friday's off. Mr. Green indicated one maintenance staff member is not interested in working the four-day week,

so he along with whoever is on call that week will work five days and handle the Friday workload. Deputy Clerk Evans along with office staff present at the meeting voiced some concerns from an office standpoint. Vice Mayor Rudd requested an updated plan to address vacation time. PWD Tartt requested office staff immediately voice any issues or concerns with either himself or PO Green. Council agreed to a trial period beginning Monday, July 18, and will readdress the schedule at the September meeting.

Mr. Green presented a final draft of the Cross Connection Control Program to the Council for approval. All changes are to ensure the City is in compliance with DEP regulations. Staff used regulations from DEP and recommendations from FRWA to determine if customers are either low or high risk to the water system. High risk customers will be sent a letter on October 31, each year, requiring their reduced pressure assemblies to be tested by December 31. After January 1, any high-risk customer that has not had their RP tested, will be charged \$50.00 for the City to inspect the device as well as any repairs deemed necessary. Vice Mayor Rudd suggested increasing the inspection cost to \$100.00. Attorney Cox will present a resolution for adoption at the August meeting.

PO Green reported O'Neill Ward passed the Class C Water Plant Operator exam but must complete the required time (1 year) before being awarded the certification.

Councilman McClendon asked about the flow capacity of the system. PWD Tartt stated that is what the hydraulic model is for, however Mr. Tartt is going to see if he can get BDI to reduce the proposed \$27,000 cost. Mr. McClendon reported receiving a complaint regarding the time it took to exit the parking lot after the 4th of July festival and would like to see how the exit process could be streamlined. Mr. McClendon commended staff on the hard work and success of the festival and would like to recognize them in some way.

Mayor Edwards reported PAWS of Wakulla will be performing a spay/neuter, clip and release day of feral cats in Sopchoppy soon and anyone who knows where traps can be set is urged to contact them. Mrs. Edwards also thanked staff for all of their hard work making the 4th of July festival a success.

Vice Mayor Rudd asked about the WCSO boat that was supposed to be in the river at the park on the 4th. Staff reported it was there, but pulled out of the water due to weather.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:48 p.m. Motion by Rudd, second by Edwards.