

November 5, 2018

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

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

City Clerk, Ashley Schilling presented a Councilman Fred McClendon a Certificate of Completion for attending Basic IEMO Training.

Councilman McKenzie joined the meeting at this time.

Ms. Swim, a Tallahassee resident and National Forest site host, was displaced by Hurricane Michael. Ms. Swim requested permission to stay at the City Park, possibly for a reduced rate. A motion was made by Vice-Mayor Lewis to waive the park fees for hurricane evacuees for up to two weeks, second by McKenzie, 5/0.

Shawn Culbertson, Manna Mission, attended the meeting again this month and spoke regarding his current lease at 110 Municipal Avenue. Mr. Culbertson would like to the option to extend the lease or purchase the property for a reasonable price.

Brandon Strickland, resident, leads a Bible study at the Mission and would love to see it continue.

Claxton Vause, resident, spoke of an elderly gentleman who started attending the Mission, receiving food and services, and ultimately began helping and serving others.

Clerk Schilling presented an appraisal on the property, conducted by Bluewater Realty Group. It was recommended a sale price of \$33,000.

Vice-Mayor Lewis and Councilman McKenzie are in favor of extending the lease 5-10 years, with right of first refusal at the end of the term, or sell it for a reasonable fee, taking into consideration Mr. Culbertson's investment in the property.

Mayor Edwards said if sold, the property would need to be advertised.

Attorney Cox stated a rental/sale agreement would need to address the outside restroom issue with Sopchoppy Pizza, the wording of RFP would need to create the best overall mission/goal of use of the property, and sealed bids would be required with economic/social benefits stated therein. Mr. Cox will include an auto renewal in the lease, unless either party chooses to terminate.

Councilmember McClendon said the Mission has all but paid for the building in advance with repairs, renovations, upkeep, insurance, taxes, etc.

A motion was made by McKenzie to renew the lease between the City and Manna Community Mission, Inc. for \$1.00 a year, with auto renewal, with right to terminate, first right of refusal if City wants to sell and the Mission provide maintenance records to City, second by Lewis, 5/0.

Attorney Cox will draft the lease prior to the expiration of the current one in February 2019 and provide copies to the Council and Manna Mission.

The Clerk presented an Interlocal Agreement between Wakulla County and the City of Sopchoppy for emergency debris monitoring and removal following federally declared disasters and emergencies. A motion was made by Roddenberry to approve the Interlocal Agreement, second by Lewis, 5/0.

Attorney Cox presented the following policy revision, for consideration, related to family and/or dependent/spouse health insurance coverage. - *The City of Sopchoppy makes Health ~~and Life~~ insurance available for every full-time employee after thirty (30) days of employment. The City shall make family and/or ~~dependant~~dependent coverage available to the covered employee at the cost of such coverage. ~~Such~~If the dependent spouse does not have access to coverage through other sources the City shall pay _____% of the premium for dependent coverage. The employee share of the cost of coverage shall be paid by the employee through payroll deduction. If an eligible employee elects to obtain coverage from other sources the City shall provide a \$300.00 stipend to the employee in lieu of insurance coverage.*

Roddenberry made a motion the City pay 50% of family and/or dependent coverage, retroactive to October 1, 2018, and to reimburse any affected employee the October cost, second by McKenzie, 5/0.

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

Clerk Schilling addressed the sewer billing contract with the County. The City has picked up an additional 147 sewer billing accounts in Magnolia Gardens, with more to come. The County is connecting new customers and raises sewer rates yearly, creating more revenue. The Council would like for staff to work with Mr. Cox and present an hourly fee associated with billing sewer for the County. Once this is completed, the City will reschedule a meeting with County staff to address billing and cost.

Clerk Schilling reminded the Council of the Business Excellence of the Year Award and dinner. Councilmembers McClendon and Lewis will attend.

The last several years, the City has adopted a family at Christmas through Operation Santa. A motion was made by Roddenberry to adopt a family, spending up to \$500.00, second by McKenzie, 5/0.

Wakulla High Robotics Team will be competing at the state level this year. As they rely solely on sponsorships, Roddenberry made a motion to approve a \$200.00 donation, second by McClendon, 5/0.

The annual Christmas dinner will be held at Angelo's, December 13, at 6:30 p.m.

Leonard Tartt, Public Works Director, reported the water system was not compromised during Hurricane Michael, and members of the staff and Council pulled together immediately afterwards to clear streets that could be accessed.

Councilmember McClendon stated he enjoyed the IEMO class. The City's revenue is comparable to a city of 5,000 residents.

Councilmember Roddenberry reported the Downtown Beautification and Revitalization Committee met with Richard Fetchick, ARPC, and was given a toolkit with visions/ideas. Four members were present. A \$1,500.00 Walk American Grant will be applied for.

Mayor Edwards reported there were approximately 30 volunteers and 300 plants planted at the first Depot Park community planting. Pine straw, mulch and the remainder of the flowers will be planted Saturday, November 9.

Mrs. Edwards would also like Council to be able to access the City Hall Commission Chamber for after hour meetings and weekends. Staff will have the door keyed and give interested Councilmembers their unique entry code.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m. Motion by Lewis, second by McKenzie.