

September 16, 2019

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, McKenzie, and McClendon.

Vice-Mayor Lewis made a motion to approve the August 6, 2019 (budget workshop) and August 12, 2019 (Council meeting) minutes as presented by the Clerk, second by McKenzie, 4/0.

Citizen, Larry Sapp, asked for a progress report on the Sopchoppy River bridge improvements. Mayor Edwards and Public Works Director, Leonard Tartt, stated they haven't heard any discussion of reconstruction. Mr. Sapp presented the idea to abandon the 319 bridge, redirect traffic to the Rose Street bridge, the State acquire land from landowners south of the bridges and put a connector thru to Smith Creek Road. This could potentially save the State and County millions of dollars.

Councilman Roddenberry joined the meeting during Mr. Sapp's inquiry.

Mayor Edwards stated the City will reach out to County and DOT staff to see if there are any updates on the bridge. Attorney Dan Cox suggested ideas could possibly be integrated with the canoe launch beautification group wanting to establish a launch at the bridge.

A notice was placed on the August 31 water bills regarding the possible water rate increase discussion to be held at tonight's meeting. The office received very little response/inquiry, and no one attended the meeting. Attorney Cox suggested advertising the public hearings and move forward. The Council agreed.

The Council held the **2nd Public Hearing for Ordinance 2019-02 - AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SOPCHOPPY, FLORIDA, AMENDING THE CITY OF SOPCHOPPY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN BY AMENDING THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS ELEMENT PURSUANT TO THE PROCEDURES OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND COMMUNITY PLANNING ACT, CHAPTER 163, PART II, FLORIDA STATUTES; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.** Clerk Schilling read the ordinance by title. Attorney Cox gave a brief overview, stating the planning aspects for a new tower and construction of a new tank will be moved up in the timeline. A motion was made by Lewis to adopt Ordinance 2019-02, second by Edwards, 5/0.

The Council held the **2nd Public Hearing for Ordinance 2019-04 - 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 2019-2020 OPERATING YEAR.** (Read by title.) Clerk Schilling informed the Council an increase of \$5,500 was made to the Culture and Recreation line item of the General Fund. The music pavilion permit was not approved by the County because of missing railing. The \$5,500 would cover the cost of re-aligning the ramp and install the required rails.

The Council feels the cost is excessive and asked Clerk Schilling, working with Councilman McClendon, to obtain quotes and bring back to the next meeting. Vice-Mayor Lewis suggested approving the budget without the change, get pricing for railing, and do a budget amendment at the end of the fiscal year, if needed. Mayor Edwards and Councilman McKenzie agree. A motion was made by Vice-Mayor Lewis to approve Ordinance 2019-04, without the \$5,500 change to the General Fund Culture and Recreation line item, second by McKenzie, 5/0.

Clerk Schilling presented **Resolution 2019-03** – A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF SOPCHOPPY, FLORIDA, AMENDING THE CITY OF SOPCHOPPY POSITION CLASSIFICATION PLAN TO REFLECT NEW SALARY RANGES AND CLASSIFICATION GRADES AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE. The Position Classification Plan will reflect the Distribution Technician and Administrative Assistant moving to Class C with salary range of \$30,000 - \$48,000; and moving the Sr. Public Works Tech to Class D with salary range of \$35,000 - \$49,000. A motion to approve Resolution 2019-03 was made by Roddenberry, second by McKenzie, 5/0.

Attorney Cox informed the Council he is working on the alcohol and sign ordinances and the comprehensive package.

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

Clerk Schilling presented the Council with two quotes for installing a sound system in the Council Chambers – Wayne Thomas \$5,600 and Inspired Technology \$5,100. A motion was made by Roddenberry to proceed with Inspired Technology, second by McKenzie, 5/0.

Wakulla High School submitted a yearbook ad request. Last year the City paid for a ¼ page ad. A motion was made by Roddenberry to approve a ¼ page ad at a cost of \$180, second by McClendon, 5/0.

Clerk Schilling presented the Council with a water bill adjustment request from Dick Benton. Mr. Benton stated he had house pressure-washed, however data log did not coincide with date Mr. Benton said the work was performed. Since he had an adjustment in May 2019 and in 2013, the Council denied the request.

Clerk Schilling reminded the Council the October meeting date has been moved to the 7th.

Leonard Tartt updated the Council on miscellaneous public works projects; the Council Moore Road line relocation and upgrade was completed ahead of schedule, a flow test was conducted on High Drive for a 29 duplex project, he received notification of a 50 unit structure on 5 acres on Michael Drive, repairs to the bridge on Lawhon Mill Road will require us to shutoff lines on both sides of bridge and relocate them, and a citizen has asked about a dog park at the Myron B Hodge City Park basketball court area.

Councilman McKenzie asked for a highway 319 update. Mr. Tartt met with the engineer and spoke to a construction worker; Leon County is possibly waiting until they must act before doing anything on their side. Phase II (north of Walmart) properties have been acquired, downtown Crawfordville and south have not been funded.

Councilman McClendon asked about paving Lawhon Mill Road; Leonard Tartt stated it will be paved up to Qualify Lane. Also, he inquired as to who manages and funds the developments on Michael Drive. Mr. Tartt informed him they are a privately-run entity and the County earmarks fund for the Sr. Citizen Council.

Councilman Roddenberry will be attending the FLC 2019 Legislative Conference in November. Mr. Roddenberry is on an advisory Council and is looking forward to the conference.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:32 p.m. Motion by Lewis, second by Roddenberry.