



MINUTES

CITY COUNCIL MEETING - REGULAR SESSION

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2024 at 6:00 PM

Midtown Plaza, 401 McLaughlin Ave., Bonifay, FL 32425

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Larry Cook called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

PRESENT

Mayor Larry Cook
Council Member James Sellers
Council Member Shelley Carroll
Council Member Rick Crews
Council Member Eddie Dixon

Also present

City Clerk Rickey Callahan, Deputy Clerk Tracy Walker, Executive Assistance Sierra Smith, Director of Public Works Aaron Taylor, Chief Plant Operator Matt Perry, Chief of Police Johnny Whitaker, and Fire Chief Travis Cook

City Attorney Jon Holloway was present by phone.

A. Invocation

Council Member Eddie Dixon gave invocation.

B. Pledge of Allegiance

Council Member Eddie Dixon led the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. APPROVE AGENDA

Motion made to approve agenda by Council Member Crews, Seconded by Council Member Sellers.

Voting Yea: Mayor Cook, Council Member Sellers, Council Member Carroll, Council Member Crews, Council Member Dixon

III. APPROVE MINUTES

A. August 19th, 2024 Regular Session

Motion made to approve the minutes of August 19, 2024 by Council Member Dixon, Seconded by Council Member Carroll.

Voting Yea: Mayor Cook, Council Member Sellers, Council Member Carroll, Council Member Crews, Council Member Dixon

B. September 3rd, 2024 Regular Session

Motion made to approve the minutes of September 3, 2024 by Council Member Carroll, Seconded by Council Member Sellers.

Voting Yea: Mayor Cook, Council Member Sellers, Council Member Carroll, Council Member Crews, Council Member Dixon

C. September 5th, 2024 Special Session

Motion made to approve the minutes of September 5, 2024 by Council Member Crews, Seconded by Council Member Carroll.

Voting Yea: Mayor Cook, Council Member Sellers, Council Member Carroll, Council Member Crews, Council Member Dixon

IV. APPROVE ACCOUNTS PAYABLE / TRANSFERS / FINANCIAL SHEETS TO REVIEW

Motion made to approve Accounts Payable, Transfers, and Financial Sheets by Council Member Carroll, Seconded by Council Member Sellers.

Voting Yea: Mayor Cook, Council Member Sellers, Council Member Carroll, Council Member Crews, Council Member Dixon

V. VISITORS – PUBLIC ADDRESSING THE COUNCIL

NON- AGENDA AUDIENCE

Effective October 1, 2013, Florida Statute 286.0114 mandates that “members of the public shall be given a reasonable opportunity to be heard on a proposition before a Board or Commission.” Each individual shall have three (3) minutes to speak on the proposition before the Board. **THIS IS NOT A QUESTION-AND-ANSWER SESSION.** It is NOT a political forum, nor is it a time for personal accusations and derogatory remarks to/about City personnel. Those who wish to speak are

reminded to observe proper decorum, and to avoid the use of profane or vulgar language. If you would like to address the City Council please come to the podium, state your name and address for the record

Richard Willsey informed the council about his personal opinions on the budget and Ad Valorem being held in September, claiming it is “last minute”.

VI. PLANNING & ENGINEERING

A. City Planner John Feeney - Conditional Use Permit

City Planner John Feeney brought a Conditional Use Permit before the Council for approval. It is for an accessory structure at 1479 Griffith Circle. It will be a pole barn converted for residential use. The permit was approved by the Planning and Zoning Board on August 22, 2024.

Motion made to approve Conditional Use Permit by Council Member Crews, Seconded by Council Member Carroll.

Voting Yea: Mayor Cook, Council Member Sellers, Council Member Carroll, Council Member Crews, Council Member Dixon

VII. OLD BUSINESS

A. FINAL 2024-2025 FY AD VALOREM MILLAGE RATE AND BUDGET PUBLIC HEARINGS AND ADOPTION: SEPTEMBER 24, 2024 AT 5:01 PM

Deputy Clerk Tracy Walker explained that postponement of the final hearing and adoption of the 2024-2025 Ad Valorem and Budget were due to some issues in advertisement, and the State was shut down due to Covid, so she could not get any answers.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Action by Council for Approval of Resolution 2024-27 FDOT Utility Work by Highway Contractor SR 10 (US 90) at FDOT Expense

(Raise 6 manholes at \$3,250.00 per manhole for a total of \$19,500.00 at FDOT expense.)

City Clerk Callahan stated that Resolution 2024-37 allows raising 6 manholes for a total of \$19,500, at FDOT expense, on Highway 90 from east of Banfill Avenue to east of Hubbard Street.

City Clerk read Resolution 2024-37.

WHEREAS, the State of Florida Department of Transportation, hereinafter referred to as the FDOT, proposes to construct or reconstruct a transportation facility identified above, hereinafter referred to as the Project; and

WHEREAS, in order for the FDOT to proceed with the Project, it is necessary for the City of Bonifay, hereinafter referred to as the UAO, to execute and deliver to the FDOT the agreement identified as Utility Work by Highway Contractor Agreement (At FDOT Expense), hereinafter referred to as the agreement;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE UAO:

That Larry Cook, Mayor, be hereby authorized and directed to execute and deliver the Agreement to the FDOT.

Motion made to approve Resolution 2024-37 by roll call vote by Council Member Crews, Seconded by Council Member Sellers.

Voting Yea: Mayor Cook, Council Member Sellers, Council Member Carroll, Council Member Crews, Council Member Dixon

B. Resolution No. 2024-38 FDOT Utility Work by Highway Contract on SR 79 at FDOT Expense

Raise 12 manholes at \$3,250.00 per manhole and 2 valve boxes at \$3,250.00 per valve box for a total of \$45,500.00 at FDOT Expense

City Clerk Callahan stated Resolution 2024-38 allows raising 12 manholes and 2 valve boxes for a total of \$45,500, at FDOT expense, from Highway 90 to north of County Road 177 on Highway 79.

City Clerk read Resolution 2024-38.

WHEREAS, the State of Florida Department of Transportation, hereinafter referred to as the FDOT, proposes to construct or reconstruct a transportation facility identified above, hereinafter referred to as the Project; and

WHEREAS, in order for the FDOT to proceed with the Project, it is necessary for the City of Bonifay, hereinafter referred to as the UAO, to execute and deliver to the FDOT the agreement identified as Utility Work by Highway Contractor Agreement (At FDOT Expense), hereinafter referred to as the agreement;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE UAO:

That Larry Cook, Mayor, be hereby authorized and directed to execute and deliver the Agreement to the FDOT.

Motion made to approve Resolution 2024-38 by roll call vote by Council Member Carroll, Seconded by Council Member Crews.

Voting Yea: Mayor Cook, Council Member Sellers, Council Member Carroll, Council Member Crews, Council Member Dixon

IX. COUNCIL / DEPARTMENT SUPERVISORS / CITY ATTORNEY DISCUSSION

Items not listed on Formal Agenda.

A. Council Updates

B. Department Updates:

Public Works - Streets/Water: New Hire - Colby Merritt

Director of Public Works Aaron Taylor told the Council Members about requested new hire Colby Merritt; he has his CDL, certified to watch State inmates, has taken the water license class, and is a dependable guy.

Motion made to approve hiring Colby Merritt by Council Member Crews, Seconded by Council Member Dixon.

Voting Yea: Mayor Cook, Council Member Sellers, Council Member Carroll, Council Member Crews, Council Member Dixon

City Clerk Callahan told the Council Members that P & P was putting in the air conditioning at City Hall today; Steve and his crew will be working every afternoon and nights.

Executive Assistant Sierra Smith told the Council Members about the fund raiser for the Shirah family on Friday. It will be steak sandwiches, chips and desert for \$10 a plate.

C. Employee Spotlight

Mayor Cook thanked City Clerk Callahan for saving the City \$65,000 by contacting FDOT.

X. ADJOURN

Motion made for meeting to adjourn by Council Member Crews, Seconded by Council Member Dixon.

Voting Yea: Mayor Cook, Council Member Sellers, Council Member Carroll, Council Member Crews, Council Member Dixon

Mayor Cook declared the meeting adjourned at 6:15 pm.

Persons with disabilities needing special accommodations to participate in this proceeding should contact City Hall at (850) 547-4238, at least five days prior to the proceedings.