



MINUTES

CITY COUNCIL MEETING - REGULAR SESSION

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 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, City Attorney Jon Holloway, Police Chief Johnny Whitaker, Chief Plant Operator Matt Perry, Fire Chief Travis Cook, Deputy Clerk Tracy Walker, and Executive Assistant Sierra Smith.

A. Invocation

City Clerk Callahan gave invocation.

B. Pledge of Allegiance

City Clerk Callahan led the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. APPROVE AGENDA

Motion made to approve the 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. 02/05/2024 Regular Session Minutes

Motion made to approve 02-05-24 minutes by Council Member Sellers, Seconded by Council Member Crews.

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 Sellers, Seconded by Council Member Carroll.

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/or 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 questioned the following:

Land Use Classifications, Mayor Cook's residential address being in a commercial zone, and the fire department purchasing a \$7500 UTV.

VI. PLANNING & ENGINEERING

No updates.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

A. Ordinance Number 439 - Second Reading and Adoption Water and Sewer Utility Rates

Motion made to approve final reading and adoption of Water & Sewer Rates Ordinance 439 by roll call vote by Council Member Dixon, Seconded by Council Member Sellers.

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

B. B&B Management Solutions Grant Updates

Dr. Emily McCann, B & B Management Solutions, told the Council Members that she has been able to work with Executive Assistant Smith on the USDA grant and will be submitting it probably by the end of the week. The request for funding is \$498,000 with a zero cost share for the City.

Dr. McCann stated that with FDOT there is a MSCOP grant for street paving. The Council put in an application for Weeks Street to be repaved and B & B Management Solutions would be happy to pursue that again if the Council would like to.

Dr. McCann said there is also a CDBG Block Grant, with no match, that the City might want to look at.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Planning & Zoning Board

Motion made to approve forming a Planning and Zoning Board for the Comp Plan 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. State Lobbying Contract

Motion made to deny approval of City Clerk signing of State Lobbying Contract 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

C. Rec Center Admin Contract

Motion made to approve City Clerk signing of Rec Center Administration Contract with Liberty Partners, to be paid out of grant, 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

D. Resolution 2024-10 USDA Grant

Motion made to approve Resolution 2024-10, contingent on Attorney Holloway's review, by roll call vote 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

E. Resolution 24-15 City Election 2024

Motion made to approve Resolution 24-15 City Election 2024 by roll call vote 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

F. Eureka Square Usage April 5th, 2024

Executive Assistant Smith told the Council Members that Matt Tate, with the Holmes District School Board, wanted to use Eureka Square on April 5, 2024 for a political rally, and will sign the City Facilities Use agreement.

Motion made to approve use of Eureka Square 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

G. Bonifay Fire Department Emergency Reporting System

Fire Chief Travis Cook advised the Council that it is necessary for the Fire Department to upgrade their Emergency Reporting System software at a cost of \$3,422.75.

Motion made to approve system upgrade 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

H. Records Management System- Chief Whitaker

Chief Whitaker advised the Council that he had gotten quotes for a Records Management System for the City Police Department and hardware for the Police Vehicles and shared the needs and costs with the Council.

Motion made to approve Records Management System for Police Department from Crimestar in the amount of \$21,900 and hardware for the vehicles from Modern Tech in the amount of \$12,528 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

I. Bonifay Police Department Vacancy Hire

Chief Whitaker recommended hiring Ricky Thompson as Deputy Chief. He also recommended hiring Bo Smith and Ander Sullivan as patrol officers for the Bonifay Police Department and requested Council approval.

Motion made to approve hiring recommendations 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

IX. COUNCIL / DEPARTMENT SUPERVISORS / CITY ATTORNEY DISCUSSION

Items not listed on Formal Agenda.

A. Personnel Updates

Executive Assistant Smith told the Council Members that Public Works Director Trey Barbee was out and was awaiting the arrival of their baby boy.

B. Department Updates

Executive Assistant Smith stated that the second phase of our clean drinking water project was funded for 2.6 million dollars.

C. Employee Spotlight

City Clerk Callahan spotlighted Chris Johnson, the Assistant Public Works Director, for stepping up and doing a very good job with Public Works Director Barbee being on leave..

X. ADJOURN

Motion made for meeting to adjourn 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

Mayor Cook declared the meeting adjourned at 6:52 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.