

COMMISSION MEETING

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Mayor Woods announced that if anyone in attendance wishes to speak regarding a motion he asked for them to stand or raise their hand and he will acknowledge them for their comment.

Mayor Woods called the meeting to order. Present were Commissioner Carolyn B. Spooner, Commissioner Tommy Chastain, Commissioner Danny Nugent, Commissioner Wilbur Waters, City Clerk Ricky Thompson, Police Chief Jeff Johnson, City Manager Tom Ernharth, Fire Chief Tom Rowe, and Attorney Dan Sikes.

Commissioner Chastain gave the invocation and led the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Mayor Woods entertained a motion to accept the minutes of the City Commission Meeting February 3, 2015.

Commissioner Chastain made the motion, second by Commissioner Waters; Motion passed 5-0.

Walgreen's Relay for Life Team requested a boot drive Saturday, March 28, 2015 from 10 AM to 2 PM.

Commissioner Nugent made the motion to approve the boot drive, second by Commissioner Spooner; passed 5-0.

Mr. Andy Easton presented a grant writer proposal for approval.

Commissioner Waters made the motion to approve the proposal, second by Commissioner Chastain; passed 5-0.

Fire Chief Rowe informed the commission the department is working on a Safer Grant that the federal government would permit the hiring of firefighters for two to three years. He is hoping to bring the information to the next meeting for the board's decision.

Commissioner Waters asked if this would hire a certified firefighter?

Chief Rowe responded yes, and would help with overtime filling the open slot.

This grant does not require keeping the employee after the allotted time so there would be no cost to the city. We could just reapply for the grant.

Police Chief Johnson updated the commission on the civil forfeiture hearing and there could be a decision as soon as Friday.

Mayor Woods announced and welcomed City Manager Tom Ernharth.

Clerk Thompson reported the Bond Trustees met along with Commissioner Nugent and recommended the bills be paid.

Commissioner Nugent offered a motion to pay the bills based on the recommendation of the Bond Trustees, second by Commissioner Spooner; passed 5-0.

Clerk Thompson presented an agreement for a new telephone system. This is State of Florida bid and includes Police, Fire, Purchasing, City Hall, and Wastewater Plant; everyone will be linked together. This was put into the budget.

Commissioner Chastain made the motion to authorize the agreement, second by Commissioner Nugent; passed 5-0.

Florida League of Cities Legislative Action Day, March 17 and March 18; he will need to know who is going by Friday to reserve any hotel accommodations. It was decided to go for one day.

The March 17th meeting was moved to March 24th

Clerk Thompson requested a motion for approval for the planning money for appropriations that was declared an emergency at the last meeting.

Commissioner Spooner made the motion to approve for the planning money for appropriations, second by Commissioner Chastain; passed 5-0.

Clerk Thompson requested workshop dates for the joint workshop with the County Commission.

Thursday, March 5th and Thursday, March 12th will be submitted to the county.

Clerk Thompson requested the appointment of City Manager Tom Ernharth for the FMPA Board of Directors and Executive Board and to appoint an alternate.

Mayor Woods suggested having Clerk Thompson as the alternate.

City Manager Ernharth will be the appointee and Clerk Thompson will be the alternate.

Clerk Thompson provided some pictures of McMahan Street, Grand Street, and Weldon Street. Several complaints have been telephoned in regarding McMahan Street. He has spoken to the county and it will be at least five years before they can get paved. How would the Commission like to proceed?

Clerk Thompson asked the Commission for names to fill the vacant seat on the Planning and Zoning Board. If there are no suggestions he will need to advertise.

Attorney Sikes presented the final draft for the Utility Services Extensions Ordinance and requested permission to advertise.

Commissioner Chastain made the motion to proceed with advertising, second by Commissioner Nugent;

Commissioner Spooner asked for the explanation of the benefit for the change.

Attorney Sikes he was requested to redraft the ordinance based on the wording of the voluntary annexation language. Motion passed 5-0.

Mayor Woods asked if the Commission would like a letter drafted to FMPA in regards to support of the sister cities; Vero Beach and Green Cove have wrote letters to the errors. The consensus of the board was to write a letter.

Clerk Thompson added FMPA will be submitting a response letter to the Auditor General by Friday and as soon as it is released he will distribute.

Commissioner Spooner asked for the Grant Writer to look at grants for water retention. Safety rails at Cooper Street and Old Lawtey Road.

Workshop was scheduled for March 3rd to bring everyone up to date on the audit finding list.

Mayor Woods asked if anything additional needed to come before the board. Hearing none, he called for a motion to adjourn.

Commissioner Nugent made the motion to adjourn the meeting, second by Commissioner Chastain; passed 5-0.

Travis V. Woods, Mayor
Commissioner Tommy Chastain
Commissioner Daniel Nugent
Commissioner Carolyn B. Spooner
Commissioner Wilbur L. Waters

Attest: _____
Ricky Thompson, City Clerk