

COMMISSION MEETING

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

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

Deputy Clerk Wiggins stated for the record Commissioner Waters and Clerk Thompson are absent from the meeting. She requested the following changes to the agenda.

Add topic 6A Ordinance for adoption; item 1 and 2. Add item E under the topic 11 Call for election and approve inspectors.

She requested a motion to approve the changes.

Commissioner Spooner made the motion to amend the agenda as requested, second by Commissioner Woods; passed 4-0.

Mayor Nugent entertained a motion to adopt the minutes from Commission Meeting August 2, 2016.

Commissioner Woods made the motion, second by Commissioner Chastain; passed 4-0.

Mayor Nugent ask for the presentation of the proclamation to be read and approved for Miss Florida Courtney Sexton.

WHEREAS, September 1992 Miss Florida Leanza Cornett was crowned Miss America 1993, and

Whereas on April 1, 1993 was not a fool's day for Tim and Sherry Sexton, another beautiful baby girl Courtney came into their lives joining her two sisters Brittany and Shannon, and

WHEREAS, all little girls dress up and dream of becoming a princess, and helping people; at age nine Courtney started volunteering in her community, and

WHEREAS, in 2003 for Halloween she dressed up as Miss America, and

WHEREAS, in 2005 she competed and was crowned Junior Miss Bradford-Union Strawberry Princess, and

WHEREAS, she knew this was something she was very interested in and began her platform "Get Up, Get Moving and Volunteer" and

WHEREAS, in 2007 she was Miss First Coast's Outstanding Teen and was one of the Top Ten at Miss Florida's Outstanding Teen competition, and

WHEREAS in 2008 she was Miss St. Augustine's Outstanding Teen and Miss Florida's Outstanding Teen, and

WHEREAS, in 2011 was Miss Bradford-Union Strawberry Queen, and

WHEREAS, in 2015 was Miss Daytona Beach and 3rd runner up to Miss Florida 2015, and was in the Top 10 at the National Sweetheart Pageant in Hoopston, Illinois, and

WHEREAS, in 2016 crowned Miss Orlando and Miss Florida, and

WHEREAS, Courtney is heading to Atlantic City to compete for the title of Miss America on September 11th, and

Now Therefore, Be It Proclaimed the City Commission of the City of Starke hereby publicly declares Sunday, September 11th as

"Get Up, Get Moving, and Volunteer" Day

in honor of our hometown girl Courtney Sexton who will be representing the Great State of Florida in the Miss America Pageant.

Adopted by the Starke City Commissioners in regular session at Starke, Florida on the 16th day of August 2016.

ATTEST: _____
Ricky Thompson, City Clerk

By: _____
Daniel Nugent, Mayor

Commissioners: Tommy Chastain
Carolyn Spooner
Wilbur Waters
Travis V. Woods

Commissioner Spooner made the motion, second by Commissioner Woods; passed 4-0.

Mayor Nugent requested approval for a boot drive from the Bradford Middle School Cheerleaders.

Commissioner Woods made the motion to approve, second by Commissioner Chastain; passed 4-0.

Attorney Sikes read the following two ordinances by title for approval.

ORDINANCE 2016 – 0730

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF STARKE, FLORIDA, ADOPTING THE 2017-2021 FIVE-YEAR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM ANNUAL UPDATE; PROVIDING FOR LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR EXCLUSION FROM CODIFICATION; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Commissioner Spooner made the motion to accept the second and final reading, second by Commissioner Chastain; passed 4-0.

ORDINANCE NUMBER 2016- 0729

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF STARKE, FLORIDA AMENDING ARTICLE V, DIVISIONS 1 THROUGH 5 OF THE STARKE CITY CODE OF ORDINANCES; PROVIDING FOR THE IMPOSITION OF A MORATORIUM ON THE ASSESSMENT AND COLLECTION OF IMPACT FEES; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING DIRECTION TO STAFF; PROVIDING FOR THE REPEAL OF ALL ORDINANCES INCONSISTENT WITH THIS ARTICLE; PROVIDING DIRECTIONS TO THE CODIFIER; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Commissioner Woods made the motion to accept the second and final reading, second by Commissioner Spooner; passed 4-0.

Under citizen participation Gordon Smith, 105 Valley Road; addressed the commission to discuss the bypass which it is a bypass. He is in favor of an

alternative truck route. Something has been set into motion and he has taken a look at it and noticing the map and plans. Whoever drew up these plans; the City of Starke is getting the shaft.

After this bypass is put place our city will not be the same. When you look at the map they will be directing all traffic to the bypass. Anyone that travels that road will have to make a conscientious decision to go to a traffic light and make a left turn on a two lane road to drive into a four lane road that comes into the City. This money is federal funds and he is asking for the commission as well as the citizen of Starke to get involved. Write letter to support an alternate truck route but not a bypass.

Commissioner Spooner ask for DOT to be invited to come and discuss this. One of the big things that is going to happen that will impact our community is the train traffic will double trains in the next five to ten years. The traffic we have now and without a rural exit for the trucks to come in it will double. The State of Florida's goal is to move goods as quickly as possible. We need some methodology so our town does not come to a grid lock but at the same time we want some of the traffic to come through the town to support the businesses.

Mr. Ernharth asked if the commission would like for him to address a letter to DOT referencing the issues that Mr. Smith mentioned.

Mary Johnson added that when they were doing the work at the Deerfoot Village intersection the contractor had told them that they have done many of these projects before and in ten years the city will be a ghost town.

Mr. Smith added that he agrees with Commissioner Spooner but if you want to keep the flow of traffic moving you don't put traffic lights in.

Ms. McMillian added in a workshop that DOT came they stated they are going to force the traffic to use the bypass and would have to make a conscientious decision to stay on Highway 301.

Chief Tom Rowe reported that he received the turndown letter for the grant for the fire truck, but does not have anything to do with the USDA Grant.

He also informed the board that this is his last meeting; his last day of work is the 31st of this month.

Commissioner Spooner thanked Chief Rowe for his years of service and knows he has left a great group behind.

Police Chief Johnson presented a list of surplus vehicles for approval. Commissioner Spooner made the motion to approve the list, second by Commissioner Chastain; passed 4-0.

He also request approval to use \$4,618 of the Fine and Forfeiture Funds to purchase three new lap tops.

Commissioner Chastain made the motion to approve the expense, second by Commissioner Spooner; passed 4-0.

Commissioner Spooner requested the chief look into body cameras for the officers. Chief Johnson responded he is looking into car cameras but does not have the kind of funds to purchase body cameras.

Mr. Ernharth ask to schedule a workshop to discuss the new Personnel Manual. The workshop was scheduled for September 27th at 5:30 PM.

He went over a couple of items from his bi-monthly report; Edwards bottomland project, Suwannee Water Management is close to submitting to FEMA and there will be a \$100 application fee the city will be responsible for.

The Mobile Lite right away permit application that was originally scheduled for tonight's agenda contacted him and ask to table the item. They are doing some re-engineering.

The Orange Street sidewalk project has been taken care of.

Last Thursday there was a pressure lose at the water tank causing a boil water notice. After the diagnostics it seems to have come from the phone lines which didn't set off the alarm.

Commissioner Woods referenced the sidewalk on Pratt Street are the inmates going to be able to repair it by going a little deeper so it won't happen again.

Mr. Ernharth responded yes, RD has it on the list.

Commissioner Chastain ask if the negotiations have started with Mr. Hosendorf, for the spray field.

Mr. Ernharth has placed phone calls to schedule a meeting to talk.

Commissioner Chastain ask if there was any grace period at the beginning before rent will start being paid due to the investment of setting up the equipment.

Deputy Clerk Wiggins reported the Bond Trustees met along with Commissioner Chastain and recommended the bills be paid.

Commissioner Chastain made the motion to pay the bills, second by Commissioner Woods; passed 4-0.

She presented a request for approval to increase the top end of the salary for the Finance Director Senior Accountant position. It was originally set at \$68,000 Clerk Thompson would like to increase it to \$75,000 for flexibility to provide increases.

Mayor Nugent ask the beginning salary for the position.

Mr. Ernharth responded Clerk Thompson wants to start the position at \$68,000; the applicate is a CPA.

Deputy Clerk Wiggins provided copies of applicant's transcripts.

Mayor Nugent asked how it was advertised?

Deputy Clerk Wiggins responded the position was advertised a couple of times and we only received one applicate; plus the advertisement doesn't include the salary. The salary would be negotiated by on the qualifications; with the applicate being a CPA he was offered the high end of the salary.

Commissioner Chastain made the motion to approve the increase in the salary range to \$75,000, second by Commissioner Woods;

Commissioner Spooner asked if the salary was negotiated at \$68,000 why is the need to increase the salary?

Deputy Clerk Wiggins responded for any advancement to the pay with cola increases.

Commissioner Spooner added with setting maximums for a salary doesn't mean you can't get paid beyond that amount.

Ms. McMillian added with the current personnel policy we have it doesn't address anything like that and that is why we need a professional HR person to fix all the things that are wrong.

Mayor Nugent called for a motion and second on the floor; motion passed 4-0.

Deputy Clerk Wiggins also presented four job descriptions that fall under the City Clerk that need to be approved.

The Cashier position; Billing Clerk, Assistant Billing Clerk; Deputy Clerk/Executive Assistant.

Commissioner Spooner made the motion to adopt all four of the job descriptions, second by Commissioner Chastain;

Commissioner Woods ask there is a Deputy Clerk/Executive Assistance.

Deputy Clerk Wiggins responded that my position.

Commissioner Woods ask why do you need an assistant?

Deputy Clerk Wiggins responded that is one position. Clerk Thompson combined the two positions into one.

The motion passed 4-0.

She informed the board that the dedication date for the USDA Grant has been changed to Wednesday, September 21st at 10:30 AM.

On August 25th is the closing of the grant for the police cars.

Deputy Clerk Wiggins reported with all the internet interruptions she had contact information if anyone would like it. Also she contacted the public market manager via email to request she attend the meeting tonight or provide a statement. Clerk Thompson and I also spoke with Mr. Osteen who is the plant supervisor. He explained the outages have been caused by the construction of the gas pipeline being done in Clay County. The contractor keeps cutting the fiber lines.

Centurylink leases fiber lines from AT&T and if anyone wishes to submit any type of a claim they could submit to CenturyLink who in return would have to send to AT&T then they would send to contractor.

They also informed us that DOT has placed someone on scene of the construction to oversee the contractor. We were also told there could be additional interruptions.

Mayor Nugent ask if there was an alternative internet provider.

She explained the internet is routed through Green Cove from Jacksonville but they are looking into rerouting it the other side and to afford the construction area. Since Mr. Thompson and I have spoken with Mr. Redrupp who handles our IT and the only other internet provider in this area is ComCast or Satellite. We can't rely on satellite with bad weather.

Sheriff Smith recommended using a wireless routing system such as a hot spot through Verizon.

Deputy Clerk Wiggins added with using hotspots with confidential information leaves a higher risk.

Deputy Clerk Wiggins presented the proclamation for the election to approve the inspectors.

ELECTION

I, Daniel Nugent, Mayor-Commissioner of the City of Starke, Florida, by virtue of the authority vested in me by law, do hereby call for a Special General Election to be held at the City Hall in the aforesaid city of qualified voters on Tuesday, September 13, 2016, A.D., from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. for the purpose of voting on the following:

1. CITY COMMISSIONER – DISTRICT 2

INSPECTORS for the special general election are as follows:

MARY LETT
TONY MANGOL
EUGENIA WHITEHEAD

CLERK: CHARLENE FRANCES

POLL DEPUTY & INSPECTOR: CHASE HARDY

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I hereby subscribe my name and cause the Seal of the City to be fixed hereunto on this 16th day of August 2016, A.D.

ATTEST: _____ BY: _____
Ricky Thompson, City Clerk Daniel Nugent, Mayor

(CITY SEAL)

Commissioner Spooner made the motion to approve the election proclamation, second by Commissioner Woods; passed 4-0.

We received a request to assign the Aflac insurance to the district manager who is handling the accounts.

Attorney Sikes recommended placing the item on the next agenda for approval.

Commissioner Spooner ask for additional patrol due to the recent violence trouble.

Mayor Nugent ask if anything additional needed to be discussed. Hearing none he requested a motion to adjourn

Commissioner Chastain made the motion to adjourn, second by Commissioner Spooner; passed 4-0.

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

Attest: _____
Ricky Thompson, City Clerk