

COMMISSION MEETING

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NOTE: Recording did not record after the earlier workshop and minutes are based on notes.

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 Travis Woods, Commissioner Tommy Chastain, Commissioner Wilbur Waters, Police Chief Jeff Johnson, City Manager Tom Ernharth, Fire Chief Gary Wise, Deputy Clerk Brenda Wiggins, and City Attorney Dan Sikes. Commissioner Carol Spooner was absent and Clerk Thompson was in the audience.

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

Deputy Clerk Wiggins stated for the record Commissioner Spooner was absent from the meeting and requested a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Commissioner Chastain made the motion to approve the agenda, second by Commissioner Woods; passed 4-0.

Mayor Nugent entertained a motion to adopt the minutes from Commission Meeting August 16, 2016.

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

Mayor Nugent entertained a motion to adopt the minutes from Commission Budget Workshop August 16, 2016.

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

Carolyn Crews, Bessent Road and Chrissy Thompson, Call Street; both former commissioners addressed the commission in reference to a letter that was taken to Thompson's place of business and a citizen who contacted Ms. Crews; which addressed issues of concern with the city police department and its chief.

The letter describes several incidents of theft such as money missing from the evidence room from 2009 and most recently funds obtained in the arrest of the

NFL football player, fund raiser cash missing, as well as fuel and supplies. There is a commanding officer that the letter associates to but doesn't name. There were never any disciplinary actions taken and no real hard investigations into these accusations. There were accusations that the officers are being paid by a local banking institution to provide security while on city time.

Ms. Crews stated she had done some of her own investigation and cleared up some of the accusations were false.

Ms. Crews and Mrs. Thompson stated the letter was addressed to current and former commissioners. She brought the letter copies to City Hall and placed it in the commissioner's mailboxes and a copy was provided to FDLE.

Mrs. Thompson added even though we are not sitting on the current commission this is still our city and we are very concerned. FDLE will handle any criminal issues but the commission needs to do an administrative investigation.

The city employees are in turmoil and it should have never gotten to this point; and needs to be addressed.

Ms. Crews added she has never seen the city in more turmoil than it is right now and something needs to be done; she is embarrassed.

They are both hoping the commission will get involved and take issue with this and address some of the problems.

Fire Chief Wise had nothing to report

Police Chief Johnson had nothing to report

Mr. Ernharth presented the Burger King site plan for approval.

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

They have intentions of opening December 15, 2016.

He presented a list of vehicles and equipment for surplus.

1991 FORD F-150 #1FTEF14H6MNAT0248

1995 FORD F-250 # 1FTHF25H0TEA00759

1995 INTERNATIONAL BUS 3800 #1HUBBABN1SH684556

1978 INTERNATIONAL DUMP TRUCK #AA175JHA13752

1989 FORD F-700 DUMP TRUCK # 1FDNF70HILAV00529

1999 DODGE V6 MAG # 1BFL26X1Y5614282

1986 DODGE V6 MAG # 1B7FL26XX75682251

1991 S-10 CHEVROLET # 1GCCS142BM8250342

4X8 HOMEMADE TAILER

DIXIE CHOPPER # 3039596

CLASSIC DIXIE CHOPPER # 1012238

SCAG MOD SW 52V-7KA1 WALK BEHIND # CO800001
VARIOUS STIEL, ECHO, CRAFTMAN, AND HUG EQUIPMENT
INTERNATIONAL HARVESTER 10 WHEELER # 1HTAF1953EHA11712

Commissioner Woods made the motion to approve the list of vehicles and equipment for surplus, second by Commissioner Waters; passed 4-0.

Mr. Ernharth presented the 2017 North Central Florida Regional Planning Council Agreement for approval.

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

Mr. Ernharth referenced the July Budget Workshop, we discussed the possibility of hiring a part time engineer in lieu of contracting with an engineering firm and at our meeting last month it was requested that we invite the engineer that I have been speaking with to introduce himself to the commission.
He introduced Dave Bolam of Saltus Engineering, Inc located in Fleming Island.

Mr. Bolam spoke to the commission on what his thirty years of experience could do for us. He would be able to dedicate twenty hours per week to the City and more if needed. However he would only bill for the hours spent on City business. He has 30 years of experience in project management and engineering design in the areas of environmental engineering of domestic and industrial water and wastewater systems; reclaimed water systems; biosolids and solid waste treatment, storage, and disposal facilities; environmental permitting, auditing and compliance investigations. He is experienced in project management from conceptual planning stages through preliminary investigations and report writing, presentations, environmental permitting, final design, bidding and award, and construction phase services. He has worked for the State of Florida Department of Environmental Protection as a senior permitting engineer and also for a 40,000 customer utility authority as the Chief Engineer.

He also serves on the corporate boards of two companies, East Star Industries, Inc. and GNT Investments, Inc. and was a former owner and Vice President of Providence Biofuels, Inc.

Mr. Ernharth stated that within the 2017 City Budget, he did not revise any of the engineering budgets and they reflect the same rates as if Mittauer would continue as our engineer in 2017. Since the engineer will be considered a part time employee for the City we would still have to advertise for the position and provide our current engineer Mittauer Associates with a sixty day notice.

Mr. Bolam added he looks forward to being able to submit his credentials if the commission decides to pursue this type of engineering service.

Mr. Ernharth presented his Bi-Weekly report.

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

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

She presented a request from the district manager of AFLAC to assign the City's account to her. She has been handling all of the employee's enrollments and issues.

Commissioner Chastain made the motion to approve the request, second by Commissioner Waters; Passed 4-0.

Deputy Clerk Wiggins reminded the commission of the dedication for the police vehicles and the 911 communication equipment purchased with the USDA grant funds will be held on September 21, 2106.

Clerk Thompson informed the board he will be working with USDA Rural Development to obtain a Business Grant for the demolition of the Badcock/Parking Project.

He also ask the board to let him know by this Thursday if they wish to attend the Northeast Florida League of Cities dinner meeting.

He presented copies of an article from the Trend Magazine that was provided to him by a citizen relating to the our utility rates.

Attorney Sikes requested an Executive Session to discuss BCR after the next meeting.

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

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Commissioner Chastain made the motion to adjourn, second by Commissioner Woods; 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