

COMMISSION WORKSHOP

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Mayor Chastain called the interview process for part time engineer to order. Present were Commissioner Danny Nugent, Commissioner Travis Woods, Commissioner Wilbur Waters, City Clerk Ricky Thompson, and City Manager Tom Ernharth.

Mayor Chastain turned the process over to Mr. Ernharth.

Mr. Ernharth explained a RFQ was advertised for a part time engineer. This was discussed during the budget process to assist with the reduction of engineering expenses. We received two candidates for the position. The first candidate is Sam Park from Jacksonville and he will provide information about himself and answer questions.

Mr. Sam Park, 8211 Osteen Street, Jacksonville, Florida 32210; he came from Korea in 1961 as an exchange student to the University of Florida, and since then has been heavily engaged in numerous construction projects for 45 years of background experience.

He is a very heavily experienced person and dedicated to proficient design, management and communication to achieve goals and time limitations. He has experience in road construction as well.

Commissioner Waters asked Mr. Park if he has worked for Jacksonville?

Mr. Parks responded yes for the past 20 years he has worked in Jacksonville. Prior to that he was in a different area of building design.

Commissioner Woods ask if he was chosen for the position it is part time and there would be hours that would need to be set for you to be here. If there would be an emergency on days you were not scheduled to be here, would that create any problems for you to come back to Starke?

Mr. Parks responded he is most happy to work with Mr. Ernharth in whatever scale he has for me. He is willing to come at whatever time he is requested, he would be here to serve the city.

Commissioner Nugent asked what is your background in wastewater management and also background in utilities relating to electric, etc.

Mr. Parks responded wastewater was one of the reasons he was hired in Leesburg. He has designed water and sewer lines. He can coordinate with electric engineers.

Mayor Chastain referenced the DEP Consent Order and ask if he was familiar with consent orders and has he ever worked through one?

Mr. Parks responded yes sir.

Mayor Chastain asked Ms. Mortimer if she had any questions.

Ms. Mortimer ask what type of response time would Mr. Parks have to respond back to the City; the travel time?

Mr. Parks responded he has no problem coming back to the city.

Commissioner Woods ask how long it would take for Mr. Parks to drive from his home to the City?

Mr. Parks responded 30 to 45 minutes.

Mayor Chastain asked if there are any additional questions; hearing none, the decision will be made tonight on what direction we will take and Mr. Ernharth will contact you Monday.

Mr. Parks thanked the commission for the opportunity to come and speak.

Mr. Ernharth introduced Mr. David Bolam.

David Bolam, 212 North Ridge Drive, Fleming Island, Florida. He is a P.E. and has been since 1990 and have worked in Northeast Florida his entire career have worked as a consultant engineer for 12 to 13 years; he has worked for DEP for four years; as the chief engineer for Clay County Utility Authority for 14 years. He lives in Clay County and is excited for the opportunity. He has worked in Starke years ago in the 1980s working with Bessent, Hammack & Ruckman conducting sewer evaluations and work at the Wastewater Plant.

He has a lot of experience with utilities and has some experience with the drainage issues in the city. He has done a lot of work with DEP consent orders so he can jump in on that project right away.

Commissioner Woods ask what kind of time frame you would need to come back to the City?

Mr. Bolam responded this is a new position and a part time position is new for the City. He would closely coordinate with the city manager and try to meet weekly to stay abreast of what is happening. It is a 45 minute drive from Fleming Island to the City.

Commissioner Woods asked how do you feel about the commissioners calling about projects they don't quite understand and would like to get answers?

He would like everything to coordinate through the city manager but has no problem explaining things.

Mayor Chastain suggested an area set for him to be available at City Hall every Monday from 8 to 12 or something like this so if anyone would need to speak with you one on one it could be scheduled at that time.

Commissioner Nugent asked how his schedule would be with attending meetings when needed?

Mr. Bolam responded that Tuesday are good for him.

Mayor Chastain added the reason for trying this part time engineer approach is to assist with the cost of engineering expenses and create a savings to the City but have an engineer for the City.

Mr. Bolam added he doesn't want to come to the city for an hour if no one needs him that would be a charge the city shouldn't have to pay. As we work together he has some ideas on GIS system which he has spoken to Mr. Ernharth about that.

Mayor Chastain ask if he was good at writing grants?

Mr. Boalm responded yes, he got \$8 million for Clay County Utility Authority over the 14 years he worked there. He is also very familiar with Rural Water and they are a big help to small communities.

Mayor Chastain ask for any additional questions and stated it will be Monday before Mr. Ernharth will get in touch with the candidates.

Mayor Chastain closed the Interview Workshop

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

Attest: _____
Ricky Thompson, City Clerk