

## 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, City Clerk Ricky Thompson, Police Chief Jeff Johnson, Fire Chief Tom Rowe, and Attorney Dan Sikes. Commissioner Wilbur Waters was absent due to being out of town.

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

Clerk Thompson administered the oath to City Attorney Dan Sikes.

Mayor Woods entertained a motion to accept the minutes of the City Commission Meeting November 18, 2014.

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

Mayor Woods entertained a motion to accept the minutes of the Special City Commission Meeting November 18, 2014.

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

Mr. Greg Lang and Mr. Tim Norman from Mittauer & Associates were present to discuss obtaining special legislative appropriation that may help fund some infrastructure.

Mr. Land suggest a couple projects from the city's hopper to obtain appropriations for.

1. Wastewater reuse project. This has several phases and has received funding from DEP and Suwannee River Water Management District.
2. Master Plan/Engineering Report Environmental Report and Funding applications for a comprehensive look at the infrastructure.

There are some major concerns facing the city regarding the wastewater treatment plant and the other wastewater collection system and the disposal of the results.

We believe it to be wise to come up with a master plan to understand the problems and seek funding through low interest loans and grants.

There is a lot of up front work to accomplish this. The council will need to select a lead person that will follow through to get the funding.

Mr. Norman asked if there are any other ideas the commission would have we would work on those as well but they felt these suggestion are of the utmost importance.

The master plan will have about a cost of \$175,000; \$100,000 for the master plan and \$75,000 for the funding documents. We are unaware of DOT numbers so we hope to fine tune it in the next week.

In reference to the consent order the city received this will be part of it. The primary thrust of that is the sewer system overflows. DEP wants that corrected so raw sewage isn't flowing in the streets during a major rain storm. They also want a component they want an Operations and Maintenance Performance Report. It is not an extra report this report is done at renewal time; they want the report done early so deficiencies maybe at the plant so they can be addressed and get funding in line to address those.

Mayor Woods entertained a motion to move ahead with this line of funding. Commissioner Spooner made the motion, second by Commissioner Chastain; passed 4-0.

Mayor Woods will be the point of contact.

Mr. Paul Still, Administrator for the Bradford Water Conservation District, 14167 SW 101<sup>st</sup> Avenue Starke.

He was present to request proposals for capital projects for fiscal year 2016 through 2021. The deadline for submission is December 6<sup>th</sup>.

He reviewed a list of the four proposals put together and one included the city for reclaimed water.

The project for the city would be the retention pond at the middle school.

Mr. Lang added Mittauer is providing information to SRWMD for the 5 year capital plan, and this is part of the plan.

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

Commissioner Spooner offered a motion to pay the bills based on the recommendation of the Bond Trustees, second by Commissioner Nugent; passed 4-0.

He presented the information relating to the negotiation for settlement on the Tyson case that was tabled at the last meeting. The deductible has been met with this case and there will be no more expense for the city for this case.

He doesn't feel a motion will be needed.

He provided the minutes relating to the Hendricks Lease.

Mayor Woods mentioned that the month to month change was discussed and motioned on but he doesn't believe a letter went out to Hendricks relating to the change. What can we do to set this up on a month to month and keep them up to date.

Attorney Sikes responded the city cannot make him go to a month to month without doing a novation to the contract. Each side would have to give something up in the negotiations. There are two ways to handle this; with the upcoming intimate domain with DOT part of the property will be lost and Hendricks will not want to pay the amount he is paying now in the agreement. To pay less the contract will need to be amended and then the city can go to month to month. If he would think he would make more money by leaving the lease amount alone with the intimate domain he might not novate the contract. However he has been in material breach of the lease. The lease hold will come up in 2016 and at that time the city doesn't have to renew the lease unless he would want to negotiate a new lease and then making the lease month to month.

Commissioner Spooner questioned that Mr. Hendricks was notified he was in default of the contract and this board placed him on a month to month.

Attorney Sikes stated the city accepted the money and he is now current with the account. At this point the city put its self back in the position of stuck with the five year contract.

With taking the money we have bypassed the eviction notice and he is entitled to stay for the remainder of the contract.

Attorney Sikes recommended basically the lease is in default and if you would want to negotiate we will not be renew if you want to renew fine we are prepared to renew but it will take a new contract.

Mayor Woods asked Clerk Thompson to schedule a meeting with Mr. Hendricks. Mr. Still addressed the commission for a comment on the sod field. He suggested not renewing the lease and looking at what you could do with the site. There maybe other production that can be done such as hay, which could be more productive.

Clerk Thompson is still working on the Orange Street sidewalk as mentioned at the last meeting. He may need to discuss it with the engineers due to the ditch he doesn't believe there would be enough right away.

Commissioner Chastain added the people who own the five acres with the two story house has commented they might donate some land for the area in front of them.

Clerk Thompson added they will continue to look at the situation and figure what can be done.

Mayor Woods referenced the rails that were put up and we need to look at putting additional rails in the area of Orange Street between Pratt Street and State Road 100.

Commissioner Chastain asked if the cost adjustment for the utility bill was in the works for the next billing cycle.

Clerk Thompson responded yes it was agreed on \$103,000 and it should cut the bills in half.

Commissioner Spooner referenced sidewalks in her district; Pine Street, Old Lawtey, and Calvary Street in need of repair and there are some sections that are hazardous for people that walk. On Keller Street leading up to the ball field if that could be paved for people in who are disable and in wheelchairs can get to the ball field.

The easements are being worked on for Crum Street but the last section of Crum Street and Estelle Street still are in need of paving. Also where the sidewalk end at Cooper Street at Mr. Cunningham's shop could it be added to the DOT project list to extend it over to Market Street as well as adding Old Lawtey Road to the DOT list since it is used as a emergency route.

Commissioner Chastain requested a workshop be scheduled with the county to discuss the CRA, tax abatement, and beautification of the retention pond at Pratt Street. He suggested placing the retention pond on the next commission agenda for approval to submit to the county.

Commissioner Nugent asked that some of the sidewalks that have been put in the crew comeback and clean up around them. Colley Road has some very high spots that need to be taken a look at.

He asked for a crossing to be put at the middle school across Orange Street and nothing has been brought back. He asked Clerk Thompson to look into that.

Chief Johnson added no additional lights can be placed in the school zone but the walkways do need painted as well as other markings to make it safer.

Commissioner Chastain asked if the road stripper comes to town they need to redo the strips on Adkins Street by the Catholic Church.

Commissioner Spooner asked for the stripping to be done in district 2 that was missed.

Chief Johnson will have the patrol officer make notes of what needs stripping.

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

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

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

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Ricky Thompson, City Clerk