

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, Fire Chief Tom Rowe, and Attorney Dan Sikes. Police Chief Jeff Johnson was absent.

Commissioner Waters 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 December 2, 2014.

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

Mayor Woods entertained a motion to accept the minutes of the Special City Commission Meeting November 25, 2014.

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

Mayor Woods Entertained a motion to accept the minutes for the following workshops.

Discuss the City Manager position, October 13, 2014.

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

City Attorney Resumes, October 30, 2014.

Commissioner Spooner made the motion, second by Commissioner Nugent; passed 5-0.

City Attorney Interviews, November 17, 2014.

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

Ms. Ester Kelley, 1117 Keller Street; She was present representing the Concerned Citizens of Bradford County in reference to Martin Luther King Day Event which will begin January 18th and the parade will be held the 19th.

This celebration will include the turning over of the complex from the School System which will open up opportunities for grants as well as our youth. She invited the commission to come and join the celebration.

The parade begins at 10:00 AM.

Clerk Thompson read the following Proclamation for Arbor Day 2015.

WHEREAS, in 1872, J. Sterling Morton Proposed to the Nebraska Board of Agriculture that a special day be set aside for the planting of trees, and

WHEREAS, this holiday, called Arbor Day, was first observed with the planting of more than a million trees in Nebraska, and

WHEREAS, Arbor Day is now observed throughout the nation and the world, and

WHEREAS, trees can reduce the erosion of our precious topsoil by wind and water, cut heating and cooling costs, moderate the temperature, clean the air, produce life-giving oxygen, and provide habitat for wildlife, and

WHEREAS, trees are a renewable resource giving us paper, wood for our homes, fuel for our fires and countless other wood products, and

WHEREAS, trees in our city increases property values, enhance the economic vitality of business areas, and beautify our community, and

WHEREAS, trees, wherever they are planted, are a source of joy and spiritual renewal.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED, BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF STARKE, FLORIDA, THAT **JANUARY 16, 2015, BE**

Arbor Day

In the City of Starke, we urge all citizens to celebrate Arbor Day and to support efforts to protect our trees and woodlands by planting trees to gladden the heart and promote the well-being of this and future generations.

Adopted by the Starke City Commission in regular session at Starke, Florida on this 16th day of December 2014.

ATTEST: _____
Ricky Thompson, City Clerk

By: _____
Travis V. Woods, Mayor
Commissioners: Tommy Chastain
Daniel Nugent
Carolyn B. Spooner
Wilbur L. Waters

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

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 Waters; passed 5-0.

He presented Change order #5 for the 144th Ave Project for approval. It is a deduction of \$2,628.60 in the contract price.

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

Clerk Thompson requested to permit the employees to have Thursday, January 1, 2015 and Friday, January 2, 2015 for the New Year Holiday.

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

Clerk Thompson explained the City Manager interviews were held last evening and he requested the Commission's selection.

Commissioner Spooner offered the motion for Tomas Ernharth, second by Commissioner Waters; passed 5-0.

He requested permission to negotiate a contract with Mr. Ernharth.

Commissioner Waters made the motion to proceed with contract negotiations, second Commissioner Spooner; passed 5-0.

Clerk Thompson presented the renewal of the Recreation Lease Agreement with Bradford Parent Athletic Association, Inc. (BPAA). The request this year is to renew the lease for a period of two years.

Mayor Woods requested that BPAA must notify the City Manager's Office when a repair is needed, and it be added to the lease agreement.

Commissioner Spooner suggested the Thomas Street Park be separated and maintained by Mr. Chandler so the park will be better utilized.

Commissioner Nugent suggested leaving as it is and BPAA can coordinate with whoever would like to use it.

Commissioner Spooner made the motion to renew the lease with BPAA for a period of one year, second Commissioner Chastain

Commissioner Spooner amended her motion to include the leasee notify the city manager office when repairs are needed.

Motion passed 5-0.

Clerk Thompson provided information relating to the beatification of the retention pond with a fountain. He would like to move forward with sending them a letter. He was instructed to obtain a cost and then submit a letter to the county.

The next request was to request the County to share the cost with the City to have fireworks on the 4th of July.

Commissioner Chastain stated he has received a notice in the mail that the residential cost of cable will be increased after the first of the year from \$45.00 to \$66.00.

Clerk Thompson stated the contract is up for renewal in June of 2015 and he will review the contract about increases.

The board requested Clerk Thompson to check with Newberry regarding their cable and place it on the agenda January.

Commissioner Spooner suggested inviting the grant writer at Lake Butler to attend a commission meeting. Also there are some LAP Funds she learned about through North Florida Regional Planning that rural cities can receive.

Clerk Thompson reported with the \$100,000 going into the fuel adjustment he calculated for the month and it went down to \$23.00 per 1000 kilowatt.

This will reflect in the bills received in January.

Mayor Woods suggested for next year putting the savings for the customers on the bill they pay in December.

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

Commissioner Waters made the motion to adjourn the meeting, second by Commissioner Nugent; 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