

City Commission Meeting
August 21, 2018
6:30 pm

Commissioner Waters offered a prayer and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Mortimer called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

This was the second regular meeting of the month. Members present included Mayor Mortimer, Commissioner Chastain, Commissioner Nugent, Commissioner Waters and Commissioner Woods. Also present were City Manager Bob Milner, City Attorney Dan Sikes and Police Major Barry Warren. City Clerk Ricky Thompson was absent because of medical reasons.

Mayor Mortimer asked if there were any additions or changes to the agenda. Mr. Milner asked to add a proclamation honoring David Hurst, a proclamation honoring Laurie Mullins and a Firefighters' boot drive to raise money for the Muscular Dystrophy Association. Mayor Mortimer asked to make the Firefighters' boot drive Item E under the City Manager Report. Mayor Mortimer asked to make the proclamations Items C and D under the City Attorney Report. Mayor Mortimer entertained a motion to approve the revised agenda. Commissioner Nugent made a motion. It was seconded by Commissioner Woods. The motion passed 5-0.

Mayor Mortimer asked the commissioners if there was anything they wanted removed from the consent agenda. Commissioner Chastain asked to move Item C Come Together Day to Item F under the City Manager Report. The remaining items on the consent agenda consisted of the Minutes from the August 7, 2018 Budget Workshop and the Minutes from the August 7, 2018 Commission Meeting. Mayor Mortimer entertained a motion to approve the revised consent agenda. Commissioner Chastain made a motion. It was seconded by Commissioner Nugent. The motion passed 5-0.

Mayor Mortimer asked if there were any emergency items. There were none.

Mayor Mortimer read the statement for citizen requests "The City of Starke welcomes you to this meeting. This time is set aside for our citizens and general public to address the city commission. This is not a question or answer time. It is not a political forum, nor is it a time for personal accusations or derogatory remarks to or about city personnel. If you would like to address the commission please complete a form, come to the podium when you are called, speak into the microphone and state your name and address for the record. Please also limit your comments to not more than 3 minutes. Your participation is welcomed." Christopher Brown of 17366 NW SR 16, Starke, FL addressed the commission. He is the co-owner of Winners II Internet Cafe in Starke. He has addressed several security issues with Winners II Internet Cafe including security cameras and lighting. All employees work in teams of 2 so no one is ever by themselves. Mr. Brown is renting a lot to provide additional parking. Mr. Brown addressed the impact of the business on the community. Winners II Internet Cafe provides 3 meals 3 times a week to anyone who comes to the business. They also provided 2 \$2,000 scholarships for the Bradford High School Class of 2019. Mr. Brown has invited the commissioners in the past to come see his establishment and he invited them again. Mr. Brown thanked the commissioners

for their time. Sandra Helton addressed the commission regarding Winners II Internet Cafe. Ms. Helton is a co-owner of Winners II Internet Cafe. She uses the opportunity to minister to people. She said crime rate decreased in Palatka and St. Augustine once Internet Cafes were allowed to operate. Once they were shut down the crime rate increased. Ms. Helton opened Internet Cafes to create jobs. Ms. Helton said they will comply with all regulations. Eddie Manns addressed the commission regarding Winners II Internet Cafe. He works security for the Internet Café. He checks patrons in and out making sure they have no weapons. Mr. Manns walks patrons to their vehicles. Mr. Manns invited the commissioners to come to Winners II Internet Cafe to see for themselves the way they operate and the security and lighting. Dean Fuller addressed the commission regarding Winners II Internet Cafe. He is one of the co-owners. He said Winners II Internet Cafe is a place for comfort and relaxation for older people who don't have anywhere to go. Mr. Fuller said Winners II Internet Cafe is a respectful place. They do not allow cussing. It allows younger people to get off the streets. Mr. Fuller said Winners II Internet Cafe abides by all laws. Robert Kirkland of 9204 NW 148th Trail, Lake Butler, FL addressed the commission regarding Winners II Internet Cafe. He also works security. He is a Staff Sergeant with the Florida Army National Guard, a retired Correctional Officer Lieutenant and a retired Deputy from Columbia County. He worked closing down Internet Cafes in Columbia County so he is aware of the incidents that can occur. His wife comes to Winners II Internet Cafe. They have been together to the other Internet Café in Starke and he refuses to let her go back. Mr. Kirkland does not allow any weapons or drugs in the Internet Café. If anyone comes to Winners II Internet Café under the influence of alcohol or drugs they are refused entry. He said 85 percent of their patrons are elderly and have nowhere else to go. Mr. Kirkland escorts patrons to their vehicles. He does not allow anyone entry who is under 18 years of age. Walter Henderson of 415 North Orange Street, Starke, FL addressed the commission regarding Winners II Internet Cafe. His wife is a patron of the facility. Mr. Henderson appreciates the security and feels good with his wife being there. He said the place is clean and well kept.

Michael Heeder of 932 Wilson Road, Starke, FL addressed the commission regarding an unsafe area of Alligator Creek on Wilson Road. He spoke to Ms. Anderson regarding the hazard and within 48 hours a new berm had been built. He appreciates the fast response the city provided to repair the hazardous area. He thanked the commissioners.

Mayor Mortimer asked for the City Clerk Report from Deputy Clerk Lisa Terry. Commissioner Waters met with the Bond Trustees and made a motion to pay the bills. Commissioner Chastain seconded it. The motion passed 5-0.

Mayor Mortimer asked for the City Manager Report. Mr. Milner recognized Kyle Jerrels as the Florida Rural Water Association Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator of the Year. The City of Starke also received an award for 30 years of continuous membership in the Florida Rural Water Association. Mr. Milner asked Mr. Jerrels to come forward. Mr. Milner said more than 100 Wastewater Treatment Plant Operators were nominated for the honor and Mr. Jerrels was selected as the winner. Mayor Mortimer congratulated Mr. Jerrels. Mr. Milner said most plants the size of ours have 6 to 10 operators and Mr. Jerrels manages our plant with just 4 operators. Mr. Jerrels Introduced his wife Teresa, his son Ethan, his mother-in-law Brenda and his nephew Connor. Mr. Milner congratulated Mr. Jerrels. Mayor Mortimer thanked Mr. Jerrels. Mr. Jerrels

said a committee of 2 members from the Florida Rural Water Association and 4 members from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection met and decided to give him this award because our plant requires an operator because so many of the functions are manual. Mr. Jerrels thanked the commissioners for approving the ongoing updates that are being made to the plant. He believes they will be beneficial to the citizens and the future growth of the city. Mr. Jerrels enjoys the challenges he faces on a daily basis. Mayor Mortimer thanked Mrs. Jerrels for the long hours Mr. Jerrels works.

Mr. Milner addressed the month to month contract with Dynamic Corporate Solutions at 20 hours per month for \$2,000 per month. Mr. Milner said over the last year Dynamic Corporate Solutions has assisted with performance evaluations, supervisor training and position descriptions. Dynamic Corporate Solutions will provide a staff member on site here at city hall for the 20 hours per month. Mayor Mortimer asked if the commissioners had any comments. Commissioner Chastain asked if Mr. Milner had gotten 3 bids for the service. Mr. Milner said he had not. He is asking the commissioners to waive the bid process because Dynamic Corporate Solutions has been working with the city for the last year. Attorney Sikes said the commission would have to vote to waive the bid process then vote to approve the contract. Commissioner Chastain said the packet contains a bill not a contract. Mr. Milner asked to table the item so the commissioners can be provided a copy of the contract. Commissioner Woods asked to be provided with the reasons why Mr. Milner is asking the commissioners to waive the bid process. Commissioner Chastain said he has served as a commissioner for 12 years and no one has ever asked to waive the bid process. He said the bid process is a part of city government.

Mr. Milner addressed the proposed policy for rental of city parks and related facilities. Mr. Milner is proposing a \$200 rental fee for the square with a \$50 refundable cleaning deposit. He is proposing a \$75 rental fee for the Edwards Road pavilions with a \$25 refundable cleaning deposit. Mr. Milner is proposing a \$150 rental fee for the Thomas Street Park building with a \$25 refundable cleaning deposit and a \$25 refundable key deposit. Rentals will be reserved for the first person paying all fees for a particular location for a specific date. All rentals must be approved through the City Manager's office. A \$1,000,000 liability insurance policy is required for rental of the square. Commissioner Waters would like the cleaning deposit to be \$100 or \$150. Commissioner Nugent wants the electric costs addressed. Commissioner Woods asked if the \$1,000,000 liability insurance policy is required. Mr. Milner said it is for use of the square. Commissioner Woods asked about liability insurance for use of smaller parks. Mr. Milner said it is not required unless the buildings are being used, there are more than 50 people at the event or a bounce house is being used. Commissioner Waters asked if the Edwards Road Park would be rented out during ball season. Mr. Milner said the Bradford Parents Athletic Association is drawing up a new contract. If they have not reserved the park then it would be rented out if requested even during ball season. Commissioner Woods expressed concern over not requiring liability insurance for the Thomas Street Park. Mr. Milner asked how much the commissioners want to charge for the cleaning deposit. Commissioner Waters suggested \$100 because they can increase it in the future. Mayor Mortimer entertained a motion to approve the policy with the increased cleaning deposit. Commissioner Waters made a motion. It was seconded by Commissioner Chastain. Commissioner Nugent asked Mr. Milner to look into charging for electricity. The motion passed 5-0.

Mr. Milner addressed setting dates for workshops to finalize the employee handbook, discuss the wastewater treatment plant and the Florida Municipal Power Association's proposal for outsourcing services. Commissioner Chastain said we need to select 2 dates in September to see if the Bradford County Commissioners are available to meet to discuss dispatch services and fire services. Mr. Milner will ask the Bradford County Commissioners if they can meet with the City Commissioners on September 13, 2018 at 6:00 pm or September 18, 2018 at 6:00 pm. The commissioners agreed to meet on October 9, 2018 at 5:30 pm to finalize the employee handbook. Mr. Milner will make sure the commissioners have an updated copy of the employee handbook. The commissioners agreed to meet on October 23, 2018 at 5:30 pm to discuss the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Mayor Mortimer asked if the Florida Municipal Power Association could come before one of the commission meetings. Mr. Milner said they could. The commissioners agreed to meet on September 11, 2018 at 5:30 pm to discuss the Florida Municipal Power Association proposal for outsourcing of services.

Mr. Milner addressed the Firefighter's Local 3120 boot drive for the Muscular Dystrophy Association on September 1, 2018 from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm at the intersection of State Road 100 and US Highway 301. Commissioner Woods made a motion to approve the boot drive. It was seconded by Commissioner Nugent. The motion passed 5-0.

Mr. Milner addressed the road closure for Come Together Day. Mayor Mortimer asked Alicia McMillian to come forward as the President of the Concerned Citizens of Bradford County. Mrs. McMillian asked for the road closure on August 31, 2018 from 8:00 pm to 12:00 am and September 1, 2018 from 10:00 am to 8:00 pm. Commissioner Chastain asked about the request to use private security. Mrs. McMillian said she has spoken to Chief Jeff Johnson and Sheriff Gordon Smith and they will only be there to close the roads. Mayor Mortimer entertained a motion to approve to road closure. Commissioner Nugent made a motion. Commissioner Chastain seconded it. The motion passed 5-0.

Mayor Mortimer asked for the Police Chief Report. Major Barry Warren said everything is just fine.

Mayor Mortimer asked for the attorney's report. Attorney Sikes met with Chief Johnson and Sheriff Smith and is proposing 2 different ordinances. Attorney Sikes said Chief Johnson and Sheriff Smith believe we should move forward with the Land Development Plan. Attorney Sikes said the first ordinance addresses safety concerns with adult amusement centers. It requires an armed security guard during operating hours. He read the title of Ordinance 2018-38 to modify the code of ordinances placing restrictions on adult amusement centers. Attorney Sikes said section 14-2 needs to be removed so law enforcement officers can patrol the centers. Commissioner Waters asked about them dispensing cash. Attorney Sikes said they cannot legally dispense cash. Mayor Mortimer said both adult amusement centers are believed to be giving away cash. Mr. Milner asked if the centers in Starke can be open on Sundays. Attorney Sikes said they cannot. The commissioners asked Attorney Sikes to revise the ordinance to clearly state that adult amusement centers cannot be open on Sundays. Attorney Sikes will revise the ordinance and bring it back before the commission. Attorney Sikes read the title of ordinance 2018-39 to modify the code of ordinances to delete adult arcade amusement centers. Mayor Mortimer entertained a motion to approve publication of Ordinance 2018-39.

Commissioner Waters made a motion. It was seconded by Commissioner Chastain. The motion passed 5-0.

Attorney Sikes read the proclamation declaring August 23, 2018 "David Hurse Day". Mayor Mortimer entertained a motion to adopt the proclamation. Commissioner Waters made a motion. It was seconded by Commissioner Nugent. The motion passed 5-0.

Attorney Sikes read the proclamation declaring August 23, 2018 "Laurie Mullins Day". Mayor Mortimer entertained a motion to adopt the proclamation. Commissioner Woods made a motion. It was seconded by Commissioner Chastain. The motion passed 5-0.

Commissioner Waters had nothing further.

Commissioner Woods asked the commissioners and citizens to contact State Representatives asking them to protect Home Rule. He would also like the commission to adopt a resolution protecting Home Rule.

Commissioner Chastain asked Utility Director Chuck Oliver to come up with a 10-year plan by November or December. Mr. Milner said Mr. Oliver will come up with a 10-year plan by December. Commissioner Chastain asked if we have a contract with Gainesville Regional Utilities. Mr. Milner is working on it. Commissioner Chastain asked that it be on the agenda for the next meeting to be voted on.

Commissioner Nugent said the proclamations need to be signed by all the commissioners so it needs to be ready soon. Mayor Mortimer asked if all the commissioners could come by and sign the proclamations by Thursday. The commissioners agreed.

Mayor Mortimer emphasized the importance of protecting Home Rule. There are some legislators who are trying to do away with Home Rule. Mayor Mortimer said that Home Rule allows cities to govern themselves accordingly. Mayor Mortimer encouraged the commissioners and citizens to send support for Home Rule to State Legislators. There was a Home Rule Rally at the Florida League of Cities Conference and Commissioner Woods did a great job representing the City of Starke as the President of the Northeast Florida League of Cities.

Mayor Mortimer encouraged the commissioners to do a performance evaluation for Mr. Milner. Mayor Mortimer asked Mr. Milner when the commissioners will receive his bi-weekly report. Mr. Milner said he would provide it to them next week.

Mr. Milner asked Mr. Oliver to give the commissioners an update on the substation rebuild. Mr. Oliver said all breakers must be functionally tested. There will be a mock test tomorrow with staff members, engineers and operators. Mr. Oliver said considering the age of the equipment the risk is great. There is a possibility that when they exercise the equipment they will lose power to part of the city that is why they are doing a mock exercise. Mr. Oliver said they need to test the relays and amp meters. Mayor Mortimer asked how long the mock test will take. Mr. Oliver said 2 hours for the mock test and 2 days to do the work. Commissioner Chastain asked if the radio station and Bradford County Sheriff's Office will be notified in advance. Mr. Milner

said not before the mock test but they will be notified before the work is started. Commissioner Woods asked how long the power could be out. Mr. Oliver said there is no way to know. Commissioner Nugent asked that nursing homes be notified in advance of the testing times so they can be prepared. Commissioner Chastain suggested doing the testing at night time when there is less load. Mr. Oliver said they have discussed that.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:22 pm.