

City Commission Meeting
November 6, 2018
6:30 pm

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

Mayor Nugent called the meeting to order at 6:32 pm.

This was the first regular meeting of the month. Members present included Mayor Daniel W. Nugent, Commissioner Tommy Chastain, Commissioner Janice D. Mortimer, Commissioner Shannon Smith and Commissioner Wilbur Waters. Also present were Police Chief Jeff Johnson, City Manager Bob Milner, City Attorney Dan Sikes and Deputy City Clerk Lisa Terry. City Clerk Ricky Thompson was absent due to medical reasons.

Mayor Nugent asked if there were any additions or changes to the agenda. Attorney Sikes asked to add potential litigation against WCA to Item 8.C. Commissioner Mortimer made a motion to add potential litigation to Item 8.C. It was seconded by Commissioner Chastain. The motion passed 5-0.

Mayor Nugent asked the commissioners if there was anything they wanted removed from the consent agenda. There was not. The items on the consent agenda consisted of the October 9, 2018 Employee Handbook Workshop Minutes, the October 16, 2018 Commission Meeting Minutes and the October 23, 2018 Wastewater Treatment Plant Workshop Minutes. Mayor Nugent entertained a motion to approve the consent agenda. Commissioner Mortimer made a motion to approve the consent agenda. It was seconded by Commissioner Smith. The motion passed 5-0.

Mayor Nugent asked if there were any emergency items. There were none. Commissioner Waters asked about the manhole repair at Powell Street. Mr. Milner said it will be an emergency item on the November 20, 2018 Commission Meeting. Commissioner Chastain said he didn't think we were having a meeting on November 20, 2018 because of the Thanksgiving Holiday. Commissioner Mortimer agreed.

Mayor Nugent 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." There was no citizen participation.

Mayor Nugent asked for the City Clerk Report. Ms. Terry said one of the bond trustees questioned the \$4,457.73 purchase of ammo. Chief Johnson said that is ammo for the entire year. Ms. Terry said one of the bond trustees questioned the pants purchased from Purple Gator for Warehouse Manager David Clement. Mr. Milner said it is a once a year purchase.

Commissioner Mortimer asked why this was brought before the Commission. Ms. Terry said because one of the bond trustees asked her to bring the purchases to the commissioner's attention. Commissioner Waters met with the Bond Trustees and made a motion to pay the bills. Commissioner Mortimer seconded it. The motion passed 5-0.

Mayor Nugent presented the Certificate of Completion from Florida League of Cities to Commissioner Mortimer.

Ms. Terry addressed the WCA fiber optic incident. She said one of the WCA trucks tore down the fiber optic pole across from Bradford High School taking high speed internet out for the entire city. Mr. Milner had it repaired at a cost of \$2,400.00. Mr. Thompson sent an email to Skip McCall with WCA along with the invoice requesting they pay it. Mr. Milner said WCA's risk management said the pole was too low. He explained that the pole has been that low for years and there has never been an issue. Mr. Milner said he and Mr. Thompson will meet with WCA to discuss the issue. Attorney Sikes said they should move forward with discussions but be prepared to threaten litigation if WCA refuses to pay the invoice.

Ms. Terry addressed the performance bonuses. She said the bonuses are in the budget. Commissioner Mortimer made a motion. It was seconded by Commissioner Smith. Commissioner Mortimer asked why it needed to be voted on if it is part of the budget that has been approved. Commissioner Chastain said they never came to an agreement on the bonus amount. Commissioner Smith asked what the criteria is for an employee to get the bonus. Ms. Terry said the employee has to have worked for the city for at least a year and received a performance appraisal with an average rating of 3.5 or higher. Attorney Sikes said one of the commissioners needs to make a motion for the amount of the bonus. Commissioner Mortimer made a motion for \$500.00 bonuses. It was seconded by Commissioner Waters. The motion passed 5-0.

Ms. Terry addressed Resolution No. 2019-04. Attorney Sikes read the title to the resolution. Commissioner Chastain made a motion to adopt the resolution. It was seconded by Commissioner Waters. The motion passed 5-0.

Ms. Terry addressed Resolution No. 2019-05. Attorney Sikes read the title to the resolution. Commissioner Waters made a motion to adopt the resolution. It was seconded by Commissioner Chastain. The motion passed 5-0.

Mayor Nugent asked for the City Manager Report. Mr. Milner asked Fire Chief Gary Wise to introduce newly hired Firefighter Jarrod Bacon. Chief Wise said Mr. Bacon is a certified firefighter who grew up in Bradford County.

Mr. Milner confirmed the meeting with Canopy Communications on December 4, 2018 at 5:30 pm. Commissioner Chastain asked what could be expected from the meeting. Mr. Milner said Canopy Communications will be proposing a way for the city to make money providing high speed internet to residents. Mayor Nugent asked if the commissioners could be provided documentation prior to the meeting.

Mr. Milner addressed the Department of Transportation alternative grant. Mr. Milner said this would be for sidewalks and other nonroad related items. He said the grant application is due in January. Mr. Milner asked the commissioners to notify him of areas in their districts that could benefit from the grant.

Mr. Milner addressed Change Order No. 7 for J & H Waterstop Utilities. He introduced Kellen Lindsey with Mittauer and Associates. Mr. Lindsey said the job is essentially closed and they will still be provided hard drives with documentation of the project. Commissioner Waters made a motion to pay the change order upon receipt of the hard drives. It was seconded by Commission Mortimer. The motion passed 5-0.

Mr. Milner confirmed the Executive Session to discuss a collective bargaining agreement with Local Firefighter's Union 3120 on November 13, 2018 at 5:30 pm.

Mr. Milner addressed the purchase of a front-end loader. Commissioner Waters made a motion to approve the Caterpillar as the low state bid. It was seconded by Commissioner Chastain. Commissioner Chastain asked about waiting until later in the fiscal year to make the purchase. Mr. Milner said he met with Finance Director John-Paul Ledford and the money is in the budget to cover the expense. Commissioner Smith asked if the tractor will meet the city's needs for years to come. He also asked about a warranty. Mr. Milner said it will meet the city's needs and they are buying the extended warranty. The motion passed 5-0.

Mr. Milner addressed the purchase of breakers for the substation upgrade. Commissioner Waters said this should have been done years ago. Commissioner Smith asked if the breakers were newer than the current ones. Mr. Milner said the old breakers are oil breakers and the new ones are vacuum breakers. Commissioner Chastain made a motion to approve the purchase of the breakers. It was seconded by Commissioner Smith. The motion passed 5-0.

Mr. Milner suggested moving to Item 9.I. Mr. Milner addressed the discussion of pension contribution levels to reward employees with longer length of employment. Commissioner Chastain said it will have to go before the pension board first.

Mr. Milner addressed the discussion of items to be included on the next joint city and county meeting. Commissioner Chastain asked what the hourly rate for the fire truck is. Chief Wise said approximately \$250.00 per hour. Commissioner Chastain asked that the overtime rate be used. Chief Wise said he will look into it. Commissioner Chastain wants to have a discussion of annexation on the agenda. Commissioner Smith asked if the contract for dispatch services has been updated. Attorney Sikes said he has not received one but he will call the county attorney. Mayor Nugent asked if there is access to the utilities at the south end of the city. Mr. Milner said we will have to run additional lines for the Holiday Inn that will be built.

Mr. Milner addressed the selection of the City Attorney and Magistrate. Mr. Milner said the committee met on October 23, 2018. The committee unanimously chose Laura Gapsky as the magistrate. Mayor Nugent called for a 5-minute break. Mayor Nugent asked if the commissioners wanted to interview the attorneys. Commissioner Waters made a motion to interview the top 4 attorneys chosen by the committee. It was seconded by Commissioner

Chastain. The motion passed 3-2. Commissioner Mortimer and Commissioner Smith opposed the motion. Commissioner Smith made a motion to bring Attorney Gapsky in for negotiations as the city magistrate. It was seconded by Commissioner Mortimer. The motion passed 5-0. Mayor Nugent asked when they wanted to interview the 4 attorneys recommended by the committee and for how long. Commissioner Waters said 15 minutes should be long enough. Attorney Sikes suggested asking the attorney's as a professional courtesy to sit in the lobby during the other attorney's interview. Mr. Milner suggested a workshop on December 18, 2018 at 5:30 pm to interview the attorneys. The commissioners agreed to the workshop and to each come up with 2 questions for the attorneys.

Mr. Milner suggested holding an executive session on November 13, 2018 to discuss the Firefighter's. The commissioners agreed.

Mayor Nugent asked for the Police Chief Report. Chief Johnson had nothing further.

Mayor Nugent asked for the Attorney's Report. Attorney Sikes had nothing further.

Commissioner Waters had nothing further.

Commissioner Chastain asked about Christmas lights. Mr. Milner said he is working on a plan and will let each commissioner know what the plan is. Commissioner Chastain asked to add garbage service to a temporary electric service so the trash gets picked up. Commissioner Chastain asked about the rate stabilization fund. He said we need to set a rate for the 2018-2019 Fiscal Year.

Commissioner Smith wants a review of the Crown Castle contract. Mr. Milner said the city has been in a contract for a number of years and Crown Castle wants to buy the property. Mayor Nugent said it should be expiring soon. Commissioner Smith wants to charge more for the new contract.

Commissioner Mortimer asked for a list of bond trustees and the length of their terms. Ms. Terry said she will provide her with a list tomorrow.

Mayor Nugent had nothing further.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:20 pm.