

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 Wilbur Waters, Commissioner Carolyn B. Spooner, Commissioner Tommy Chastain, City Clerk Ricky Thompson, Police Chief Jeff Johnson, City Attorney Dan Sikes, City Manager Tom Ernharth, and Fire Chief Tom Rowe. Commissioner Danny Nugent was absent.

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

Mayor Woods announced Commissioner Nugent was absent and Clerk Thompson has an emergency item to be placed on the agenda.

Clerk Thompson requested to add the emergency purchase under Section 8 Items D, Purchase and install Sewer Lift Pump and Tank.

Mayor Woods entertained a motion to adopt the minutes for Commission Meeting April 21, 2015.

Commissioner Chastain made the motion second by Commissioner Waters; Commissioner Spooner requested the reports the commissioners gave be added from the last meeting be placed in the minutes for the record.

Motion passed 4-0.

Fire Chief Rowe informed the Commission that Showcase Advertising has been working on replacing the sign in front of the station. Mr. Patterson is replacing it and donating the materials, the City will need to pay for the labor.

Police Chief Johnson updated reported Florida Department of Highway Patrol (FHP) is working the fatality on US 301. It has been reported the person ran the red light and all questions would need to be directed to FHP.

He reported the Annual Law Enforcement Memorial will be held in Lake Butler on Thursday, May 7th at the Community Building.

There have been several trailer burglaries in the County. He requested for citizens to be aware of what is going on in their neighborhoods.

Commissioner Spooner asked for the Chief to take a look at the traffic light at US 301 and Market Road, the East to West direction timing.

Mayor Woods requested Pratt Street as well.

Chief Johnson will get with Summerfield.

City Manager Ernharth presented the Beef O'Brady site plan for approval.

Commissioner Waters made the motion to approve, second by Commissioner Spooner;

Commissioner Spooner asked if there were any issues with the water line?

City Manager Ernharth responded no there is not, the only issue was the sign location and sewer connection that we are continuing to work on.

Commissioner Chastain asked if the retention pond requires a fence?

Clerk Thompson responded if it is not a dry retention pond it is required by code.

Motion passed; 4-0.

City Manager Ernharth referenced the depression at Pratt Street and US 301. The water and sewer lines have been ruled out. Friday at 9 am DOT will use ground penetration radar to determine the cause.

The specifications are being worked on for the Badcock property and having the survey done and move forward with the design.

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

Commissioner Chastain made the motion to pay the bills, second by Commissioner Spooner; passed 4-0.

He presented a \$3,500 Emergency Purchase for the police station for testing. Pure Air is the same company used for testing at City Hall.

They had moved a wall and possibly found mold. The room was sealed off with plastic. The results should be back by the end of the week.

Commissioner Spooner made the motion to approve the emergency purchase for the testing, second Commissioner Chastain; passed 4-0.

Clerk Thompson requested to submit RFP, RFQ for the following City Surveyor; Commissioner Spooner made the motion, second by Commissioner Waters; passed 4-0.

HVAC Maintenance; Commissioner Waters made the motion, second by Commissioner Spooner; passed 4-0.

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

Grant Writer; Commissioner Waters made the motion, second by Commissioner Spooner; passed 4-0.

Clerk Thompson requested a motion to approve the emergency purchase for purchase and install sewer life pump and tank not to exceed \$40,000
Commissioner Waters made the motion to approve the emergency purchase, second by Commissioner Chastain; passed 4-0.

Clerk Thompson informed the commission he is working on consolidating the city's debt to save money. TD Bank will put together the snap shot to see if there would be any savings. If there are it will be submitted to all three banks we do business with for RFP.

A discussion was held on lift stations replacement/repairs; Clerk Thompson stated it would roughly cost \$450,000

Mayor Woods added we have been discussing appropriations money with our legislatures to help with the lift stations.

City Manager Ernharth added his thought process is if we refinance the debt and there are savings; lets us the savings to do the work on the lift stations. With discussing this with Wastewater Supervisor Kyle Jerrels and Financial Advisor John Thiemann we felt it was more feasible to improve the lift stations 1 or 2 per year and within 3 to 5 years they would all be updated and repaired. Establishing a plan to do it over a few years, we don't have to borrow any additional funds.

Commissioner Chastain added with purchasing all at the same time we could get a better price plus with the interest rates low.

Manager Ernharth responded if we borrow \$500,000 you will spend \$50,000 to \$60,000 per year for 10 years to repay the loan. Instead of using the savings from debt consolidation to spend we would be using savings within our budget and not spending more money from our budget.

Clerk Thompson added the anticipated funds from FDOT relating to the Truck Route will be used for the wastewater plant upgrade.

The appropriations money will be used for infrastructure and pump stations.

Attorney Sikes reported there were depositions today for the Letory Guion, Jr. case, and it looks to be going to trial.

Commissioner Waters asked the status of his street signs. Manager Ernharth will follow up with the crew tomorrow.

Commissioner Spooner thanked the crews for cleaning the ditches as requested and to keep up the good work.

She also asked for suggested to encourage the citizens to not rake the leaves into the ditches.

Commissioner Chastain asked if there are any plans for a budget workshop?

Manager Ernharth responded he has provided copies of the budget to the departments and items above the 50% mark they are to cut back he does not want to come back with a budget amendment. Some of the issues we cannot help like water leaks but trying to stay within the budget.

Sidewalks and parking striping? Manager Ernharth responded one of our crew leaders was out sick last week but is back now and he will get with him in the morning to see when he can get back on that project. He will get back with the striping company.

Commissioner Chastain remarked the crews made a template and roller and did if their selves.

Commissioner Chastain asked about changing the billing cycle and if anymore has been done with that.

Clerk Thompson responded it has been discussed and we have been working on many other items we just haven't gotten it implemented.

Commissioner Chastain mentioned the lighting for under the water tower. FMPA sets aside funds for each city and can we look at some type of solar lighting.

Clerk Thompson added he was asked by a downtown merchant about having directional signage for the businesses. Mayor Woods suggested discussing this with code enforcement with what is permitted.

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

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

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

Attest: _____
Ricky Thompson, City Clerk