

A Workshop of the City Commission of the City of Apalachicola was held on Monday, January, 7, 2008 at 5:00 PM in the Apalachicola Community Center, #1 Bay Avenue, Apalachicola, Florida.

Present: Mayor Van Johnson, Commissioner Val Webb, Commissioner Frank Cook, Commissioner Jimmy Elliott, City Administrator Betty Webb, City Clerk Lee Mathes, Grants Manager Cindi Giametta

Visitors: Harrison Higgins, Sally Williamson, Cindy Clark, Leon Bloodworth, Joe Taylor, Anita Grove, Geoffrey Hewell, Dieter Ambos, Beverly Hewitt, Deborah Miller, Caroline Weiler, Curt Blair, Sherman Thomas, Chauncey Ford, April Wynn, Tami Ray-Hutchinson, Mark Browne, Tom Daly, Dixie Partington, David Walker

Workshop opened by Mayor Johnson followed by prayer and pledge.

Mayor Johnson stated the purpose of this workshop was for the City Commission, Planning & Zoning, Board of Adjustment, and interested citizens to discuss the Apalachicola Visioning Project with Harrison Higgins of Florida State Department of Urban and Regional Planning.

Harrison Higgins reviewed qualifications of FSU Planning Department. Mr. Higgins stated that FSU can help the City in obtaining grants and grant writing. FSU does not participate in the competitive bid process, and works on an inner agency agreement. The fee for visioning project is \$50,000.

Discussion held concerning St. Joe Company impact on Apalachicola.

Mayor Johnson stated that jobs need to be generated, but at the same time, he wants to make sure the character of Apalachicola is preserved.

Affordable housing issue discussed.

Beverly Hewitt stated that even if new jobs are created, people have no place to live. Problem will not be solved until the problem of affordable housing is resolved.

Mayor Johnson stated the visioning project is going to have to be a community effort.

Workshop – 1/7/08 – Page 2

Mark Browne stated the City needs to make a commitment to affordable housing.

Leon Bloodworth outlined some issues facing the City.

Affordable housing funding discussed.

There being no further business, workshop adjourned.

Van W. Johnson, Sr., Mayor

Lee H. Mathes, City Clerk