

A regular meeting of the City Commission of the City of Apalachicola was held on Tuesday, February 5, 2013 at 6:00 PM at the Apalachicola Community Center, #1 Bay Avenue, Apalachicola, Florida.

Present: Mayor Van Johnson, Commissioner Jimmy Elliott, Commissioner Brenda Ash, Commissioner Mitchell Bartley, Commissioner Frank Cook, City Administrator Betty Webb, City Clerk Lee Mathes, Chief of Police Bobby Varnes, City Attorney Pat Floyd

Visitors: Wilbur Bellew, Robin Vroegrop, Anita Grove, Liz Kelsey, Ashley Teat, Mike Standley, Paulette Moss, Joe Taylor, David Adlerstein, Jim Bachrach

Regular meeting opened by Mayor Johnson followed by prayer and pledge.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion to approve January minutes made by Commissioner Cook, second by Commissioner Bartley.

Motion carried 5 to 0.

Voting Aye: Elliott, Ash, Bartley, Cook, Mayor Johnson

Voting Nay: None

APPROVAL OF BILL LIST

Motion to approve December bill list made by Commissioner Cook, second by Commissioner Elliott.

Motion carried 5 to 0.

Voting Aye: Ash, Bartley, Cook, Elliott, Mayor Johnson

Voting Nay: None

PLANNING & ZONING REPORT

Motion to confirm November Planning & Zoning minutes made by Commissioner Elliott, second by Commissioner Cook.

Motion carried 5 to 0.

Voting Aye: Bartley, Cook, Elliott, Ash, Mayor Johnson

Voting Nay: None

Commissioner Ash asked status of Family Dollar Store issue.

Attorney Floyd stated a meeting has been set for February 12th to discuss matter with Family Dollar representatives.

Ms. Webb stated that Planning & Zoning decision is pending on special exception request from Family Dollar which process has not been started at this time. Ms. Webb stated that Family Dollar representatives were in attendance at the November Planning & Zoning meeting when they were told they would need to go through the special exception process.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

* Bids for Scipio Creek Haul-Out Facility are as follows:

Culpepper Construction	\$349,000.00
D&L Contracting	\$571,404.79
EMO	\$514,198.00
H.G. Harders & Son	\$581,342.00
North Florida Construction	\$522,691.00
Poloronis Construction	\$329,000.00

Ms. Webb stated that Poloronis Construction was low bidder but was still \$99,000 over budget. Ms. Webb outlined prospects for additional funding for project. Ms. Webb stated authorization is needed to award bid to Poloronis Construction and authorize Mayor or Administrator to sign agreement with DACS for additional \$200,000 funding.

Commissioner Ash asked completion date of project.

Mike Standley stated June 30th is deadline date.

Motion to award bid to Poloronis Construction for \$329,000 for Scipio Creek Haul-Out Facility and authorize Mayor or Administrator to sign DACS agreement for project funding made by Commissioner Elliott, second by Commissioner Bartley.

Discussion held concerning project.

Motion carried 5 to 0.

Voting Aye: Cook, Elliott, Ash, Bartley, Mayor Johnson

Voting Nay: None

* Ms. Webb stated the City of Apalachicola has been designated as a Tree City USA for 2012.

* Ms. Webb presented Attorney Floyd's invoice for payment.

Commissioner Ash asked if any BP expenses were on the invoice.

Attorney Floyd stated there was a BP related expense that was initiated some time ago. Attorney Floyd updated Commission on BP status.

Motion to authorize payment for Attorney Floyd's invoice made by Commissioner Ash, second by Commissioner Bartley.

Motion carried 5 to 0.

Voting Aye: Elliott, Ash, Bartley, Cook, Mayor Johnson

Voting Nay: None

ATTORNEY FLOYD REPORT

* Attorney Floyd updated Commission on complaint regarding Scipio Creek Project.

Ms. Webb outlined the details regarding the complaint.

* Attorney Floyd updated Commission on Noise Ordinance revisions, Shelling Program, and RESTORE ACT.

OTHER VISITORS & COMMENTS

* Joe Taylor, Forgotten Coast Cultural Coalition President, presented the Commission with a \$5,000 donation from the Plein Air 2012 event proceeds for the History, Culture & Arts Board. The Forgotten Coast Coalition is encouraging the donation be used as "seed" funding to contract a grant writing firm to develop additional resources. The Forgotten Coast Coalition has contracted with Serendipity Solutions.

Mayor Johnson asked what the City's function in this matter is.

Mr. Taylor stated the History, Culture, & Arts Board would be a partner for this grant writing event. Mr. Taylor stated the only obligation from the City would be to accept the donation and allow HCA to meet with the grant writer.

Ms. Webb stated Plein Air is trying to do something for the City. This is a training opportunity so agencies can learn how to write grants and become self-sufficient.

Discussion held.

Motion to accept \$5,000 donation and authorize HCA to work with City for grant writing class made by Commissioner Cook, second by Commissioner Bartley.

Motion carried 5 to 0.

Voting Aye: Ash, Bartley, Cook, Elliott, Mayor Johnson

Voting Nay: None

MAYOR & COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS

* Commissioner Bartley stated he has received complaints about customers not receiving utility bills this month.

Ms. Mathes stated she called the Post Office, and was informed that there were problems with the Tallahassee Post Office. Utility bills were sent to Tallahassee to be sorted, but not all were returned.

* Commissioner Ash stated because the City has agreed to accommodate the Work Force with the Shelling Program payroll, it would save time and paper if payroll was direct deposit. For those employees who have no account, Centennial Bank offers debit cards.

Motion to move forward to implement direct deposit program made by Commissioner Cook.

Ms. Webb stated she would like to be given the opportunity to address the employees first, and then bring matter back before the Commission.

Motion second by Commissioner Ash.

Motion carried 5 to 0.

Voting Aye: Bartley, Cook, Elliott, Ash, Mayor Johnson

Voting Nay: None

There being no further business, meeting adjourned.

Van W. Johnson, Sr., Mayor

Lee H. Mathes, City Clerk

