

A workshop and special meeting of the City Commission of the City of Apalachicola was held on Tuesday, March 15, 2011 at 6:00 PM at the Apalachicola Community Center, #1 Bay Avenue, Apalachicola, Florida.

Present: Mayor Van Johnson, 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: Joe Taylor, Liz Kelsey, Robin Webb, Paul Roberts, Jeff Adams, Leonard Martin

Workshop opened by Mayor Johnson.

WORKSHOP – DISCUSSION OF PRESENTATION OF WASTE TO FUEL PROPOSAL

Advanced Sustainable Living, Inc. gave presentation on converting solid waste into synthetic diesel fuel.

Commission asked questions regarding the waste to fuel process and length of plant construction.

ASI representative explained partnership agreement stating ASI would want the City to purchase all the diesel fuel produced with ASI in turn selling the fuel and giving portion of revenue back to the City.

Attorney Floyd stated the Commission would feel more comfortable if ASI could give the City a guarantee that all the diesel fuel would be sold. Attorney Floyd stated he would like to see a copy of an existing contract, and also copies of contracts of companies that would be buying the diesel fuel.

Financial side of proposal and contracts discussed.

Commission needs more information before any decision can be made at this time.

ASI will provide information requested.

Workshop closed and special meeting opened.

SPECIAL MEETING

FINALIZE CONTRACT PETER BROWN CONSTRUCTION FOR HOLY FAMILY PROJECT

Attorney Floyd gave background discussions and correspondence that relates to this contract. Attorney Floyd reviewed changes and modifications made to contract. Attorney Floyd stated the City is ready to have contract signed but can't seem to get Peter Brown's attorney moving forward.

Commissioner Ash asked if the City needs to find another contract manager. Commissioner Ash stated time is of the essence and the City needs a final contract so things can move forward.

Ms. Webb asked if the City could insert the changes, authorize the Mayor to initial the changes, and then forward the contract to Peter Brown to move quicker.

Attorney Floyd stated the Commission could go ahead and approve contract with changes and authorize the Mayor to sign.

Motion to approve Peter Brown contract with changes as outlined by Attorney Floyd and authorize Mayor Johnson to sign made by Commissioner Ash, second by Commissioner Cook.

Motion carried 4 to 0.

Voting Aye: Ash, Bartley, Cook, Mayor Johnson

Voting Nay: None

Ms. Webb stated the next step would be is for her and Commissioner Ash to meet with Peter Brown next week to discuss maximum price and other issues.

Motion to authorize Ms. Webb and Commissioner Ash to meet with Peter Brown to discuss various issues so project can begin to move forward made by Commissioner Bartley, second by Commissioner Cook.

Motion carried 4 to 0.

Voting Aye: Bartley, Cook, Ash, Mayor Johnson

Voting Nay: None

LAFAYETTE PARK REHABILITATION PROJECT

Ms. Webb stated that she, Willoughby Marshall, and Wilbur Bellew met in the park to discuss priority items that are needed. Ms. Webb stated that lighting and landscaping are the two major concerns for the park. Mr. Marshall recommends lighting and/or border.

Commissioner Ash stated the lighting is very important and maybe the City could come up with some type of alternate border until further funding becomes available.

Ms. Webb stated because the park is used for weddings, she recommends proceeding with lighting and landscaping.

Motion to use funding for Lafayette Park on lighting and landscaping and if any funds are left over, then start on border made by Commissioner Cook, second by Commissioner Bartley.

Motion carried 4 to 0.

Voting Aye: Cook, Ash, Bartley, Mayor Johnson

Voting Nay: None

OTHER BUSINESS

* Mayor Johnson stated it looks like the State is going to close the Bay City Work Camp. Mayor Johnson would like Ms. Webb to write letter on behalf of the Commission opposing the closure.

Commission agreed.

* Commissioner Bartley stated he has been approached by contractors regarding the stucco work recently done on the Police/Fire Station. Contractors were not given the opportunity to bid on project.

Chief Varnes stated that was done by inmate labor.

Mayor Johnson stated if contractors want to help with in-kind labor, the City would be most grateful.

* Joe Taylor outlined programs offered by Apalachee Center. Mr. Taylor stated that Gigi Rolfes would be attending the Community Pride meeting on March 24th to give presentation.

* Chief Varnes updated Commission on burglary and arrest made for Scipio Creek Marina break in.

There being no further business, meeting adjourned.

Van W. Johnson, Sr., Mayor

Lee H. Mathes, City Clerk