

A public hearing and regular meeting of the City Commission of the City of Apalachicola was held on Tuesday, July 5, 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, City Attorney Pat Floyd, Chief of Police Bobby Varnes

Visitors: Geoffrey Hewell, Joe Taylor, Liz Kelsey, Mike Standley, Caty Greene, Willoughby Marshall, George Coon, David Adlerstein, Clarice Powell, Jim Waddell, Susan Clementson, Anita Grove, Jamie Atkins

Public hearing opened by Mayor Johnson followed by prayer and pledge.

PUBLIC HEARING – ORDINANCE NO. 2011-03 – O/R DISTRICT

Attorney Floyd read Ordinance No. 2011-03 by title as follows:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NUMBER 91-7 PROVIDING FOR THE ADDITION OF MUSEUM AS A SPECIAL EXCEPTION USE WITHIN THE O/R DISTRICT, AMENDING LANGUAGE REGULATING ACCESSORY USE AND SPECIAL EXCEPTIONS AND FOR THE REPEAL OF ALL ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HEREWITH AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

David Adlerstein asked for clarification and purpose of ordinance.

George Coon asked why a variance would not serve purpose.

Attorney Floyd stated museums are not allowed as a special exception under the current ordinance.

No further comments, public hearing closed.

REGULAR MEETING

ADOPTION DECISION – ORDINANCE NO. 2011-03 – O/R DISTRICT

Attorney Floyd read Ordinance No. 2011-03 by title as follows:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NUMBER 91-7 PROVIDING FOR THE ADDITION OF MUSEUM AS A SPECIAL EXCEPTION USE WITHIN THE O/R DISTRICT, AMENDING LANGUAGE REGULATING ACCESSORY USE AND SPECIAL EXCEPTIONS AND OR THE REPEAL OF ALL ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HEREWITH AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

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Motion to adopt Ordinance No. 2011-03 made by Commissioner Ash, second by Commissioner Cook.

Motion carried 4 to 0.

Voting Aye: Ash, Bartley, Cook, Mayor Johnson

Voting Nay: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion to approve June minutes made by Commissioner Ash, second by Commissioner Bartley.

Motion carried 4 to 0.

Voting Aye: Bartley, Cook, Ash, Mayor Johnson

Voting Nay: None

TRAFFIC SAFETY TEAM REPORT

No report given.

FRANKLIN'S PROMISE REPORT

Joe Taylor submitted written report.

HISTORIC APALACHICOLA, INC. REPORT

Jamie Atkins submitted written report.

LIBRARY REPORT

Caty Greene submitted written report.

PLANNING & ZONING REPORT

Geoffrey Hewell gave verbal report.

Commissioner Ash asked how the architectural fees were being accepted by the public.

Ms. Webb the only complaints are by the ones who have to pay the fee.

Motion to confirm May Planning & Zoning minutes made by Commissioner Cook, second by Commissioner Bartley.

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Motion carried 4 to 0.

Voting Aye: Cook, Ash, Bartley, Mayor Johnson

Voting Nay: None

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

No report given.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

* Motion to advertise for project administrator, contractor administrator and inspector for the CDBG Commercial Revitalization project made by Commissioner Ash, second by Commissioner Bartley.

Motion carried 4 to 0.

Voting Aye: Ash, Bartley, Cook, Mayor Johnson

Voting Nay: None

* Motion to submit Project Impact grant application made by Commissioner Cook, second by Commissioner Bartley.

Motion carried 4 to 0.

Voting Aye: Bartley, Cook, Ash, Mayor Johnson

Voting Nay: None

* Ms. Webb stated reward letter was received today from Visit Florida for \$5,000 to go towards the Museum Trail

Commissioner Ash asked the status of the signage.

George Coon stated he is working on the signs, and is just about ready to go before Planning & Zoning for approval.

Commissioner Ash stated she thought the Community Garden sign was already constructed.

Ms. Webb stated the Work Camp has to supply the materials list, but Community Garden has requested a bigger sign so Mr. Coon has to redesign the sign.

* Ms. Webb stated that BP has allocated to TDC \$27,500 to assist with local activities and events to draw tourist to the area. A coalition of organizations has been developed. Organizations are Chamber of Commerce, HCA, Historic Apalachicola, Inc., Franklin's Promise, and H'Cola along with the City of Apalachicola. First meeting has been scheduled. TDC requests the City be the lead to get group of organizations together.

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Commission authorized Ms. Webb to proceed.

* Ms. Webb stated that Planning & Zoning made a motion at June meeting to support annexation of FCT property.

Motion to authorize Ms. Webb to start process for annexation of the reuse purchased properties, using Hwy 98 as the connection corridor allowing property owners adjacent to voluntarily be annexed if they wish made by Bartley, second by Commissioner Cook.

Motion carried 4 to 0.

Voting Aye: Cook, Ash, Bartley, Mayor Johnson

Voting Nay: None

* Ms. Webb updated Commission on Scipio Creek project.

* Ms. Webb updated Commission on Holy Family project.

Commissioner Bartley asked Mr. Waddell about the boat maintenance facility building at Scipio Creek.

Mr. Waddell stated the building size has been reduced.

Scipio Creek project discussed.

Mr. Waddell stated that CRA would like to have a meeting with Planning & Zoning to discuss project, and hold some public hearings.

Mayor Johnson stated the improvements to Scipio Creek will increase the traffic flow on 7th Street to Scipio Creek. Traffic should stay on Market Street.

* Motion to appoint Uta Hardy to Board of Adjustment made by Commissioner Bartley, second by Commissioner Cook.

Motion carried 4 to 0.

Voting Aye: Ash, Bartley, Cook, Mayor Johnson

Voting Nay: None

* Ms. Webb presented report on status of Revolving Loan. Ms. Webb stated that Jerry Hall requested the information at last meeting, but is not present tonight. Ms. Webb will hand deliver a copy of report to Mr. Hall tomorrow.

Commissioner Ash what is the default procedure.

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Ms. Webb stated the Revolving Loan Committee has addressed Love Center and Caroline's Diner. Caroline's Diner is no longer in operation, and the Committee has requested some documents from the Love Center. The Committee will be meeting again next Thursday to discuss these loans. Ms. Webb stated the City has never had anyone default until now, so there is no procedure in place at this point. The Committee is trying to work with the ones in default.

* Ms. Webb stated she has been working with Willoughby Marshall on Lafayette Park. Ms. Webb stated after she meets with Mr. Marshall she will give report back to the Commission.

* Ms. Webb stated that Project Impact will be putting on the play Crossing Jordan on July 21st at the high school cafeteria, and July 22nd at the Chapman auditorium.

* Geoffrey Hewell asked if there was scheduled maintenance for the welcome signs at each end of town.

Ms. Webb stated the signs are in need of repair, and will try to address this with the TDC signage funding.

* Motion to authorize payment for Attorney Floyd's invoice for May and June made by Commissioner Ash, second by Commissioner Cook.

Motion carried 4 to 0.

Voting Aye: Bartley, Cook, Ash, Mayor Johnson

Voting Nay: None

* Commissioner Ash stated the City needs to review all the contracts with the different organizations.

Ms. Webb stated Franklin Promise, Harbor House, and Raney House all need to be reviewed. All contracts should be uniform.

Commissioner Ash stated the City needs to look at the contracts as far as the facility maintenance. Each place needs to prepare a budget so the City will know what it takes to maintain these buildings.

ATTORNEY FLOYD REPORT

Attorney Floyd updated Commission on ACOE litigation.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE REPORT

Anita Grove submitted written report to Commission.

OTHER VISITORS AND COMMENTS

Joe Taylor thanked the City for all their support for the successful July 4th celebration.

There being no further business, meeting adjourned.

Van W. Johnson, Sr., Mayor

Lee H. Mathes, City Clerk