

A regular meeting of the City Commission of the City of Apalachicola was held on Tuesday December 6, 2011 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 Attorney Pat Floyd, Chief of Police Bobby Varnes, Janelle Paul

Visitors: Anita Grove, Robin Vroegop, George Coon, Mike Standley, Jeff Hewell, Norma Hewell, Tom Daly, Sandi Hengle, Susan Clementson, Carrie Kienzle, Charles Kienzle, David Adlerstein, Joe Taylor, Clarice Powell, Carol Barfield, Ralph Richards

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion to approve November minutes made by Commissioner Ash, second by Commissioner Cook.

Motion carried 5 to 0.

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

Voting Nay: None

APPROVAL OF BILL LIST

Motion to approve October bill list made by Commissioner Ash, second by Commissioner Cook.

Motion carried 5 to 0.

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

Voting Nay: None

PLANNING & ZONING REPORT

Motion to confirm October Planning & Zoning minutes made by Commissioner Ash, second by Commissioner Cook.

Motion carried 5 to 0.

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

Voting Nay: None

CITY ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

Mayor Johnson asked on the status of downtown retail sales.

Anita Grove stated that sales were up approximately 30%.

Mayor Johnson asked about the status of the Library grant.

Susan Clementson stated the Library applied for the LSDA grant, but it wasn't funded.

Ms. Webb stated T. J. Lemieux is recommended to fill the Water & Sewer Department vacancy.

Motion to hire T. J. Lemieux to fill the Water & Sewer Department vacancy made by Commissioner Bartley, second by Commissioner Ash.

Motion carried 5 to 0.

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

Voting Nay: None

Ms. Webb stated that Bernard Simmons has been approved funding through the Work Force program for a period of 5 months. Ms. Webb stated that Mr. Simmons would be working in the Water & Sewer Department.

Motion to approve Bernard Simmons to work in the Water & Sewer Department through the Work Force program made by Commissioner Bartley, second by Commissioner Cook.

Motion carried 5 to 0.

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

Voting Nay: None

Mr. Donovan of Baskerville-Donovan stated the Reuse Project is 90% complete. Mr. Donovan thanked the Commission for their support on the project. Mr. Donovan stated that metering customers for the reuse water would be at a later date.

Commissioner Ash confirmed that Wilbur Bellew is learning the system.

Ms. Webb stated that is correct. The dedication for the project should be mid January.

Ms. Webb stated the Holy Family dedication should be around mid February. Scipio Creek Project is continuing to proceed well. New youth projects are being kicked off.

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

Motion carried 5 to 0.

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

Voting Nay: None

ATTORNEY FLOYD REPORT

No report given.

OTHER VISITORS & COMMENTS

* Susan Clementson stated the Library had applied for a grant that would allow books to be checked on the computer or book requests can be made and delivered in conjunction with Meals on Wheels recipient.

* Jeff Hewell asked about status of Lafayette Park project.

Ms. Webb stated bid proposals are going to be put out soon.

* Ralph Richards asked about status of Scipio Creek Project. Mr. Richards addressed concerns he had at Scipio Creek.

* Anita Grove submitted calendars to the Commission.

MAYOR & COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS

* Mayor Johnson requests that speed bumps be installed on 23rd Avenue between 12th Street and Timothy Simmons Street area.

Motion to install speed bumps on 23rd Avenue between 12th Street and Timothy Simmons Street area made by Commissioner Elliott, second by Commissioner Bartley.

Motion carried 5 to 0.

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

Voting Nay: None

* Mayor Johnson stated he previously submitted a proposal to streamline boards and committee appointments and would like for this item to be discussed.

Attorney Floyd read resolution submitted by Susan Clementson regarding appointment of Library Board. Attorney Floyd stated the Revolving Loan Committee requires specific individuals to be appointed on the board. Board members have to represent different business types and such.

Mayor Johnson stated he would like for everyone to review the proposal and be prepared to discuss it at the January meeting.

There being no further business, meeting adjourned.

Van W. Johnson, Sr., Mayor

Lee H. Mathes, City Clerk