

A special meeting of the City Commission of the City of Apalachicola was held on Tuesday, December 13, 2016 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 Clerk Deborah Guillotte, Chief of Police Bobby Varnes

Visitors: David Meyer, Joe Taylor, Holden & Tristen Foley, Sarah Martin, Karl Sanford, Elinor Mount-Simmons, Dennis Winterringer, Beth Wright, Dillon Grant, Daniel Roberts, Despina George, George Coon

Special Meeting opened by Mayor Johnson.

### **SPECIAL MEETING**

**a) Conservation Corps of the Forgotten Coast – Affordable Housing** – Joe Taylor distributed Application for Funding/Affordable Housing Ownership Program information. Mr. Taylor reviewed a more in-depth proposal, broke down into Phase 1 - (\$20,000) - Capacity Building; Phase 2 - (\$80,000) – Pilot Project; Phase 3 – Youth build Program; and Phase 4 – how the city chooses to select and settle the built properties to the client. Mr. Taylor outlined how each program works for both them and the City of Apalachicola. Mr. Taylor reviewed a building cost analysis for the program.

Mr. Taylor recommends the City use the partnerships with USDA, Franklin County SHIP program, and Franklin County Land Trust.

Discussion held.

Mayor Johnson commented he had talked with a former student from high school that had taken the trade class in school and they built a house here in town. This student is now one of the top general contractors in town. Mayor Johnson stated this is what kind of training these corps students will get and also possibly become contractors from this experience.

Commissioner Ash commented she likes the concept laid out in the program. Commissioner Ash stated her concern is how the money (\$20,000) will recycle, length of time for recycle and how this is to the advantage of the City. Commissioner Ash voiced her concerns that there is no collateral for the City.

Mr. Taylor stated this would be no different than any other relationships we have had with the City in the past. We promised we would do this project, if we don't meet these deliverables, you can hold us accountable. Mr. Taylor stated anything after Phase I - (\$20,000) is completed, the City would own the land and buildings.

Mayor Johnson stated that we will be getting the money back by investing in the young people for training and them building the project. After this project is complete it will bring revenue into the community and city.

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Mayor Johnson stated this is a great program that is gathering national attention. Mayor Johnson commented this is one of the reasons why he was invited to Washington to brag on this program before the next Corps National Conference.

Motion to approve the Conservation Corps of the Forgotten Coast – Affordable Housing package as outlined and discussed made by Commissioner Elliott, second by Commissioner Cook.

Motion carried: 4 to 1

Voting Aye: Cook, Bartley, Elliott, Mayor Johnson

Voting Nay: Ash

There being no further business meeting adjourned.

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Van W. Johnson, Sr., Mayor

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Deborah Guillotte, City Clerk