

A regular meeting of the City Commission of the City of Apalachicola was held on Tuesday, August 2, 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 Clerk Lee Mathes, City Attorney Pat Floyd, Chief of Police Bobby Varnes

Visitors: Jim Waddell, George Coon, Mike Standley, Marjorie Solomon, Liz Kelsey, Geoffrey Hewell, Joe Taylor, Anita Grove, Willoughby Marshall, Clarice Powell, George Watkins, David Adlerstein, Sandy Hiegle, Susan Clementson, Tom Gray, Sandra Furbee, Uta Hardy, Jaime Long

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

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

* Kathy Jansen withdrew request.

* Marjorie Solomon expressed concern about shrubbery that is growing onto City right of way. There are intersections where visibility is impossible because of the trees and shrubbery that is planted on the right of way. Ms. Solomon stated it needs to be stressed to the homeowners to keep the shrubbery and trees trimmed back to avoid visibility problems at intersections.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion to approve July minutes made by Commissioner Ash, 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 June 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

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE REPORT

Anita Grove submitted written report.

TRAFFIC SAFETY TEAM REPORT

Jim Waddell gave verbal report. Mr. Waddell asked if the Traffic Safety Team needed to address the intersections that Ms. Solomon was referring to.

Mayor Johnson stated this is a shrubbery issue and DOT has right of way guidelines. Mayor Johnson asked Mr. Waddell to look into the DOT guidelines.

FRANKLIN'S PROMISE REPORT

Joe Taylor submitted written report.

HISTORIC APALACHICOLA, INC, REPORT

Joe Taylor submitted written report.

LIBRARY REPORT

Susan Clementson submitted written report.

PLANNING & ZONING REPORT

Geoffrey Hewell gave verbal report from July meeting.

Discussion held concerning utility sheds being installed without permits obtained.

Mr. Hewell discussed plans for Community Garden.

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

Motion carried 5 to 0.

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

Voting Nay: None

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

George Watkins gave verbal report.

Discussion held concerning people using Fire/Police Station parking lot for fundraisers. Mr. Watkins stated he was not sure if the City would be held liable if someone got hurt.

Motion to forbid access for the use of the police/fire station parking lot for fundraisers with exception of the police and fire department for safety and liability reasons made by Commissioner Ash, second by Commissioner Cook.

Motion carried 4 to 1.

Motion carried: Ash, Bartley, Cook, Mayor Johnson

Motion carried: Elliott

Commissioner Elliott stated he opposed because there are a lot of non-governmental entities that benefit our community.

Commissioner stated the open area in front of ABC School would be a good place for organizations to hold fundraisers. The liability is just too great for the City especially if someone has an accident.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

Ms. Webb updated Commission on Board of Adjustment meeting and yard trash collection procedure.

Ms. Webb commended Project Impact for production of Crossing Jordan.

Ms. Webb stated she is working towards Apalachicola becoming a Tree City USA.

Ms. Webb stated the assistant fire fighters grant is coming up. Would like permission to apply for grant when application time comes up.

Motion to authorize Ms. Webb to apply for assistant fire fighters grant made by Commissioner Cook, second by Commissioner Bartley.

Motion carried 5 to 0.

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

Voting Nay: None

Ms. Webb stated there is a FWC boater's improvement grant available. This grant is a true transient recreational mooring grant where boats can't dock more than 10 days. The Sineath property is the only property that qualifies for this grant.

Motion to authorize Ms. Webb to apply for FWC transient recreational mooring grant for Sineath property made by Commissioner Bartley, second by Commissioner Cook.

Commissioner Ash asked if this was a reimbursable grant.

Ms. Webb stated she was not sure at this point.

Commissioner Elliott stated the mouth of Battery Park Marina needs dredging.

Ms. Webb stated that is state owned property. She will check on the options available.

Motion carried 5 to 0.

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

Voting Nay: None

Ms. Webb stated that new monies have been appropriated for Clean Water Act.

Mike Standley stated this is new, and he is not sure of all the rules yet. Mr. Standley stated he envisioned that funds could be used to continue reuse project.

Jim Waddell stated monies for the Clean Water Act will filter through DEP.

Ms. Webb asked if the Commission wanted to Baskerville-Donovan to ask monies for storm water and reuse.

Motion to authorize Jim Waddell to take storm water and Baskerville-Donovan to take reuse in applying for funds through the Clean Water Act made by Commissioner Bartley, second by Commissioner Cook.

Motion carried 5 to 0.

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

Voting Nay: None

ATTORNEY FLOYD REPORT

Attorney Floyd updated Commission on ACOE litigation.

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

Motion carried 5 to 0.

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

Voting Nay: None

OTHER VISITORS AND COMMENTS

* Geoffrey Hewell asked about the CVS alleyway.

Ms. Webb stated that CVS is on the Planning & Zoning agenda for Monday.

Mr. Hewell stated that CVS can’t build across the alleyway unless the City abandons the alleyway.

MAYOR AND COMMISSIONER’S COMMENTS

* Commissioner Ash asked Mr. Waddell the status on permitting for Scipio Creek Project.

Mr. Waddell updated Commission on project.

Motion to advertise for construction manager for Scipio Creek Project made by Commissioner Ash, second by Commissioner Cook.

Motion carried 5 to 0.

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

Voting Nay: None

There being no further business, meeting adjourned.

Van W. Johnson, Sr., Mayor

Lee H. Mathes, City Clerk

