

**TUESDAY, MAY 24, 2022  
CITY COMMISSION MEETING – 5:30 P.M.**

**Present:** Jesse Nelson, Mayor  
Brandon Aldridge, Commissioner  
Pat Perno, Commissioner  
Jamie Warrick, Commissioner  
Judy Tinder, Commissioner  
Vickie Gainer, City Manager  
Police Chief Ricky Ramie, Sergeant at Arms  
Kevin Obos, City Legal Counsel

**Item #1. Call to order.**

Mayor Nelson called the meeting to order at 5:31 P.M.

**Item # 2. Invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance.**

By Pastor Terry Tatum, Associate Pastor at Lynn Haven United Methodist Church.

**Item # 3. Public Commentary.**

Jodi Moore - Amhurst Street - appreciated the aesthetics workshop. Really wants the corridors to look more attractive. Also, advised she has been a member of Lynn Haven Garden Club for many years, and the last couple of times there were meetings they were “booted out” of the Garden Club. They have their meetings the second Tuesday every month as part of the arrangement with the City. Could the City make sure that it is booked into the calendar on a recurring basis going forward. She mentioned a couple of festivals that didn’t take place due to Hurricane Michael and then Covid. She mentioned specifically the Hermit Crab festival and the Jazz Festival and feels if they are not going to be held anymore, then perhaps they can be voted to be stopped, seeing as they were voted in to begin with. Although, she would love the Jazz festival to continue.

Mr. Walker - 1106 Michigan Ave - Regarding the charter review meetings, our forefathers were against City Manager run City management. The City, Committee, and everyone knows it should be a Commission managed government. Not the City managed government that was created by Mr. Finch. It is no reflection on who is sitting in the seat now, but it is an opportunity to change it back. The Charter needs to be re-written completely and not reflect things from 1950. City Managed government has not worked for us.

Ms. McElroy - Tallahassee and Port St Joe - speaking of ancient history, and things that should change, she attended the ladies’ Republicans’ luncheon in Bay County last week. She asked Griff Griffiths, the candidate for state representative, if he will be attending something that is for all men and been going on for 40 years, like the White Western men’s’ dinner on the 26<sup>th</sup> at 5.30. She thinks it is time due to the corruption that has been discussed, also due to the officials who are invited to those meetings as well as who is sponsoring those meetings, that if you are a politician or elected office, she would like them to think twice about going. Men’s only clubs that are mostly Caucasian men should be a thing of the past. 400 men going up and strapping on a feed bag in this day and age, she doesn’t think is a good idea. She said that Commissioner Griffith said he is going to rethink his decision to go. Jim Slonina got his secretary to call a number of politicians and he is still associated somewhat with Panhandle. She cautioned the Commission that if they have been invited to rethink if they should attend, as it just doesn’t look good.

Ryan Scray - lots of attacks on humanity lately. We tend to forget that we are just humans that have our roles in the community. Can’t speak for anybody else, but if he comes to say anything that they disagree with we respect each other. He said he gives more to the community than he has

taken so far. He asked if there are enough other people doing that - how much are people actually giving to the community? He gets it we all pay taxes, and you all have things to take care of. But how many volunteer in the community? It is time to set an example for our youth in terms of volunteers in the community. Sometimes we just need to pause, remember we're all just people and we all need to give more than we take.

**Item # 4. Mayor's Report.**

Mayor thanked Commissioners for authorizing the Mayor's Youth Council through resolution. The students are excited. Sharon Sheffield was their first speaker. Afterwards they sat in the Commissioner's seats, and they had some suggestions on the ordinance and some of the things we had all discussed about the leash law and the chipping of animals. Students need volunteer hours in order to get scholarships. Thank you all for that as it was a good first experience for them. Thanked the first sponsor for the sponsoring of the lunch - there were no leftovers.

The Mayor said he had a chance to attend a monthly meeting with the Economic Development Director and the City Manager to discuss how we can continue to develop our business community. Mr. Janke has some great ideas on our Economic Development plan. The Mayor thanked the City Manager and Mr. Janke for allowing him to be part of that.

A couple of weeks ago Chief Delonjay, City Manager Gainer, and the Mayor went to receive a grant from our CFP Jimmy Patronis for first responders. The Fire Chief came forward and thanked the Commissioners for approving their ability to apply for that grant. Mayor explained the grant would be to allow the Fire Fighters to take care of their health in and through retirement, as firemen tend to suffer a higher rate of cancer later in life.

**Item # 5. Commissioners' Reports.**

Commissioner Aldridge - coming up on Memorial Day so just encourages all to get outside and have some fun with their families. Remember what Memorial Day is about and the sacrifices that have been made. Stay safe.

Commissioner Perno - thanked all for being here and our Department Heads for their work on the budget. What they're doing at a 1% increase is astounding taking into account the inflation issues at the moment. Kudos to them. Thanked Commissioner Aldridge for his comments about Memorial Day and spoke about the wreath laying ceremonies normally held on the day at various cemeteries. Thanked all of our high school grads this past week. Witnessed the State championships where Bozeman participated. They also played against Homes County Bonifay, in Fort Myers. Proud of our area having two teams in the baseball state champs. Thank you all.

Commissioner Warrick - had the pleasure of touring the animal control facility and has a new perspective of what goes on over there. Ramona is very well connected with veterinarians in the area. She gets crazy donations, and he is not sure how she does it. Courtney Turner just competed in the Canine Biathlon. He will not be going to the White Western club meeting as he doesn't feel it is the right thing to do.

Commissioner Tinder - been a busy couple of weeks. Cemetery records used to be kept on index cards, and now we have an online color-coded cemetery record system. Regarding 913 Colorado and meeting with the Gillespie's, Commissioner Tinder asked the Mayor to please remember to include her. Splash pad maintenance - asked the City Manager is there a possibility of having the maintenance days alternated rather than having them closed at the same time? City Manager said that for cost purposes we have to get them both maintained at the same time because we won't have the manpower to monitor the splashpad and clean at the same time. It also affects the bathing load because the ONE that is kept open will become above that load. Commissioner Tinder said she understood the situation better. Commissioner Tinder also mentioned a lady who lives across from the Tax Collectors office called and for years she has had student drivers taking their tests

right in front of her house. Commissioner Tinder thanked the City manager for having the trash picked up on 6<sup>th</sup> street. Commissioner Tinder asked that the City Manager look into what the issue was with the Lynn Haven Garden Club meetings. City Manager said we would look into what was going on with the Garden Club bookings. Mayor responded to Commissioner Tinder's query regarding the Gillespie's, advising that the team have only just met to go over the plans before they can actually go over the details of the plans with the residents.

**Item # 6. City Manager's Report.**

- A. Warrant list update - Commissioner Warrick - The one for Gulf Power Company is that FPL - Director answered yes.  
Commissioner Tinder - Smiley's Lawn Care - what was that for? Director said it was for 1101 W19<sup>th</sup> Street clean up. Attorney said it was for a nuisance abatement lien cleanup for which there will be a resolution at the next meeting.  
Commissioner Tinder - the \$648,715 - what building is that? Director advised it is the sports complex.

City Manager said that Tabletalk is this Thursday at the Garden Club. July 4<sup>th</sup> we are still taking applications for vendors. Wants to let everyone know that we try to visit every single construction going on in the City and she can confirm the people are working so hard to complete the projects and most of them are on track. The City Manager is still busy having her town hall meetings with staff.

**Item # 7. City Attorney's Report.**

Nothing to report at this time.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**Item #8. Minutes dd 05/10/22 - Regular meeting minutes.**

**Item #9. Approval to allow occupancy of an RV at 806 New York Ave. for 6 months, while awaiting insurance settlement, and the repair their home.**

Motion by Commissioner Warrick: To approve all items on the Consent Agenda.

Second to the Motion Commissioner Aldridge

On Vote:

Warrick	aye
Aldridge	aye
Tinder	aye
Perno	aye
Nelson	aye

Motion passed: 5-0

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Item #10. Final Reading Ordinance 1136 amending the City's Code of Ordinances regarding animals.**

City Manager read the Ordinance by title only.

Attorney explained they have updated the leashing at events since the first reading and in 10-110 making registration voluntary unless a dog is impounded. Also, modification about not redeeming your impounded dog unless you register it.

Motion by Commissioner Aldridge: To approve Ordinance 1136 Amending the City's Code of Ordinances regarding animals.

Second to the Motion Commissioner Perno

On Vote:

Aldridge	aye
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Perno	aye
Tinder	aye
Warrick	aye
Nelson	aye

Motion passed: 5-0

**Item #11. Discussion and possible approval of Resolution #2022-05-380 amending the FY 2021-2022 Mid-year Budget.**

Finance Director explained the item.

Mayor clarified that what she is really asking them to approve today is the 1% the \$622k? Director confirmed yes.

Motion by Commissioner Warrick: To approve Resolution #2022-05-38 Amending the FY2021-2022 Mid-year Budget, with the caveat that a voluntary workshop be held to go over line items individually.

Second to the Motion Commissioner Tinder

Attorney asked the City Manager to read the Resolution by title only.

City Manager read the resolution by title only.

Commissioner Aldridge said he felt it was unnecessary to do a workshop to review it and personally feels it can be done in one-on-one meetings with the City Manager and the finance staff. He went on to say that extensive workshops were already had for the original budget.

Commissioner Aldridge said he understands what he is looking at and doesn't need to discuss it any further and said if others want to meet with staff to discuss then they should, but he doesn't need to meet officially to drill down through each line item again for the 1% increase, because they have had in-depth workshops about this already. Commissioner Warrick said he would want a workshop even if there was a decrease in the budget. It could be informative for the Commission.

Mayor - in addition to going through original budget line by line we also have the warrant list where you ask questions every week. So, we actually give a bi-weekly update on the budget before the checks are sent out. At those times he asks to see invoices if there are questions in his mind. So instead of waiting for one moment in the year to do a workshop we should be doing that through the year. The Mayor said he feels those are the times if anyone has more in-depth questions about the warrant list, they can start drilling down further to learn more, and ask additional questions.

Commissioner Warrick said those were good points, but there is a lot involved in salaries, and it may drive a lot more questions, and we may then learn more.

Commissioner Tinder - Kiki did a great job, but for example the last item we are going to vote on is a \$365K Vehicle on the 2023 budget and then when it comes back to the Commission at the time, she will be told she already approved it - that concerns her.

Commissioner Perno - can't we push through this at a Friday pre-meeting? Making it optional, that way you would have the interested parties there.

Mr. Walker - 1106 Michigan Avenue - said to the Commission that going through the budget line-by-line item is part of their job, it is what they are paid for. What they are getting now is no transparency, and that really can hurt, for example this last time when some were fired, and they found 5 discrepancies in the budget. This is what it is about - review line-by-line.

On Vote:

Warrick	aye
Tinder	aye

Aldridge	aye
Perno	aye
Nelson	aye

Motion passed: 5-0

**Item #12. Discussion and possible approval for the City Manager to sign a letter of intent for the purchase of new side loader garbage truck from Sansom Equipment, pending the approval of the FY 23 Budget.**

The Public Works Director explained the item.

Mayor - Commissioner Tinder expressed a concern about the economy. Does this lock us into a price even if it doesn't lock us into a purchase agreement? Director confirmed yes. Mayor asked if this doesn't lock us into a purchase then? Director said correct. Commissioner Tinder asked if they had bid this out? Directors said yes. City Manger - we are trying to be proactive to ensure we are not caught with one less truck to deal with sanitation. You do not want to be behind a phone when that happens.

Commissioner Warrick - so at budget time we can say no and then you don't have to buy the truck - correct? Director said correct.

Mr. Scray - is there a penalty if we back out? Director said not.

Member of Public asked what will be done with the old trucks? Director advised we auction them off and we would guess to get about \$60k back on that. Undecided about the side-loader.

Motion by Commissioner Aldridge: To approve the City Manager to sign a letter of intent for the purchase of new side loader garbage truck from Sansom Equipment.

Second to the Motion Commissioner Warrick

On Vote:


Aldridge	aye
Warrick	aye
Tinder	aye
Perno	aye
Nelson	aye

Motion passed: 5-0

**Item #13. Adjourn.**

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 6:31 pm.

APPROVED THIS 14<sup>th</sup> DAY OF June 2022.

  
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Jesse Nelson, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
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Vickie Gainer, City Manager