

TUESDAY, JULY 26, 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
Chief 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 Chaplain Tim Krisko, Assistant Pastor of Macedonian Missionary Baptist Church.

Item #3. Public Commentary.

Mr. McElroy of Port St Joe – May 7th, 2021, Michael Gordon was arrested. About May 10th, 2021, Michael Gordon advised he was no longer the building inspector and to remove his name, and to use Mr. Pitts as the new building inspector. Yet on page 27 of this agenda, the City has Michael Gordon's stamp as part of Item 10. She said she has confirmed with Michael Gordon that he was not aware of this project. She said it appears that Michael Gordon's stamp has been used in February 2022, after his arrest. She handed the attorney a packet of photos so he could look at them and advise the Commission.

Mr. Walker 1106 Michigan Ave – He said we had a pre-meeting where staff said they would take a look at the comprehensive plan next year with experts and that it would be costly. He said that the Charter Review Committee did not hire any outside experts, they were people assigned by the Board. He said he recalled that one of the Charter Review Committee members barely ever attended and that left the Board at a deficit. He said that the comprehensive plan review will require a panel of experts and yet the Charter Review Committee did not require or use experts. He said it was his opinion that the residents did not attend the Charter Review Committee because the deck of the board was stacked.

Item #4. Mayor's Report.

The Mayor updated on some of his activities on behalf of the City over the past few weeks. He had spoken with a few State Representatives on a number of matters and assured that the commitment from Griff Griffiths was still valid, thus ensuring we can still have that open line of communication with him if he does become our State representative in the next elections.

The Youth Council did not convene due to conflicting schedules with schools.

He met with Dr. Irvin Clark, Ben Janke, the City Manager and Dr. Deborah from Florida State University to talk about some economic initiatives we are envisioning for the city today and hope to kick something off in January in relation to opportunities for our small businesses, ensuring no conflict with Bay County Chamber of Commerce.

He said he had the pleasure of attending the Luau with the Seniors on Friday and had a lot of fun.

He had pizza and ice cream with the city and city staff on Friday afternoon and enjoyed it very much.

Item # 5. Commissioners' Reports.

Commissioner Aldridge – Luau function with the seniors looked like a fun event. Commissioner Warrick and he attended the Revitalization workshop last week and they both listened to what the residents had said and agrees with Mr. Walker that there needs to be more resident interaction with the city's planning. Mayor thanked City Manager and staff for coordinating this workshop.

Commissioner Perno – Received several phone calls when the city's automated system went live. He was online with the Florida Avenue workshop and said it was good to see some of the business owners attending the meeting too. He has been working with Daryl Boudreau with the Northwest Florida water management and identified a project in Lynn Haven that may come to fruition – he has sent information about this to the City Manager and Bobby Baker. He thinks this may alleviate some of our stormwater issues. Today is the 65th anniversary of the Arc of The Bay – happy 65th anniversary.

Commissioner Warrick – Thanked the city employees and first responders. Florida Ave workshop went well but wished there were more residents there.

Commissioner Tinder – Attended the Florida Ave online and feels very strongly she won't have a lot of input on it because it is a conflict for her. She attended the meeting with house representatives Brian Clowdus and Griff Griffiths, and it was very interesting. A resident called who lives North of Bailey Bridge to the right of HW 77 where they are experiencing some frightening things in that neighborhood where people are knocking on their doors in the middle of the night with rude and drug behavior. She wondered if the city could have someone on foot or on a golf cart to try to manage this. She said to the Mayor that she had met with Brian Clowdus and he is vowing to bend over backwards for Lynn Haven and the community. The Mayor said he usually meets with anyone who would request to meet with him, and Brian Clowdus has not reached out to him. The Mayor asked Chief Ramie to address Commissioner Tinder's resident issue at Bailey Bridge. Chief Ramie asked Commissioner Tinder to please give the resident Chief Ramie's number so she can call him directly next time.

Item # 6. City Manager's Report.

A. Warrant list update – There were no questions.

City Manager explained the move of the Commission meetings to the Lynn Haven Garden Club during those dates while voting takes place (Aug 6th to Aug 24th).

Tyler Notify – the City is enrolling people in zones and would like to give kudos to Stephanie and her staff. She encouraged residents to update their information so the city can ensure they get on that list.

Spring Ball opening day is on September 17th. City Manager advised that last year we had 267 and we are already at 297 with a goal of 350 kids registered. She hopes to see everyone there on opening day.

August will be the circulation of our first resident city-wide newsletter. It will be online as well, so she encouraged all to let customer services have their email addresses.

Basketball – registration. We ask youth and parents to please sign up.

Revitalization workshop went really well with a lot of great ideas showing the city is moving in the right direction. She thanked all attendees for coming out to be a part of it.

Item # 7. City Attorney's Report.

City Attorney had nothing to report and there were no questions.

CONSENT AGENDA

Item #8. Minutes dd 07/12/22 - Regular meeting minutes.

Item #9. Approval of Residential Incentive Program application for the development

located at 1106 Arkansas Avenue contingent upon completion.

Item #10. Approval of Residential Incentive Program application for the development located at 1110 Arkansas Avenue contingent upon completion.

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

Second to the Motion Commissioner Perno

On Vote:

Aldridge	aye
Perno	aye
Warrick	aye
Tinder	aye
Nelson	aye

Motion passed: 5-0

NEW BUSINESS

Item #11. Discussion and possible approval to set the proposed millage rate and budget hearing dates for the purposes of submission of the Certificate of Taxable Value to the Property Appraiser’s Office pursuant to the TRIM Act.

The Finance Director explained the item and the process. Confirmed the budget meeting will be scheduled around the County and the School District so ours will be on Wednesday September 14th at 5.30 with a workshop starting at 3.30pm on that day. The second meeting is on September 27th at 5.30pm with the workshop at 4.30pm that night.

Commissioner Warrick clarified that it means that the millage rate cannot go any higher than 4.1 but it can go lower? Finance Director confirmed yes.

Commissioner Tinder stated that she would like staff to ensure that the workshop is set for a long enough time for residents to have enough time to provide input. Finance Director explained the normal process and timing and that citizens can speak to her anytime they want, and they don’t have to wait for the workshop. Commissioner Tinder said thanks and we must remember they are called public workshops for a reason.

Motion by Commissioner Warrick: To approve proposed millage rate and budget hearing dates for the purposes of submission of the Certificate of Taxable Value to the Property Appraiser’s Office pursuant to the TRIM Act.

Second to the Motion Commissioner Perno

Mrs. Walker – Michigan Avenue – believes we need to have a lengthy public workshop in August before the September meetings.

On Vote:

Warrick	aye
Perno	aye
Aldridge	aye
Tinder	aye
Nelson	aye

Motion passed: 5-0

Item #12. Discussion and possible approval of City Employee Health Benefits Package Annual Renewal with Abentras.

The HR Director explained the item and the process.

HR Director introduced the President and Owner of Abentras, Mr. Owen Wingate. Mr. Wingate presented the budget negotiated between the City and Abentras, as submitted with the agenda

Motion by Commissioner Aldridge: To approve the City Employee Health Benefits

Package Annual Renewal with Abentras.

Second to the Motion

Commissioner Perno

Mayor confirmed if the medical cost is \$1.10 per employee, and Mr. Wingate said that the \$1.10 increase is per employee for the medical increase, which is the employer’s cost amounting to 5.8% increase to the City. The Mayor confirmed if the \$71 is the overall increase for the life insurance portion we are paying as the City and Mr. Wingate confirmed correct.

Commissioner Tinder asked if Abentras are from Jacksonville and asked how long they had been contracted with the City. Mr. Wingate said yes, and they have been here about 6 years. Commissioner Tinder wanted to clarify that they are the same company that Michael White had appointed. He said they had responded to a request for proposal at that time and had gone through the competitive bid process.

On Vote:

Aldridge	aye
Perno	aye
Warrick	aye
Tinder	aye
Nelson	aye

Motion passed: 5-0

Item #13. Discussion and possible approval to award a Development Order for Jake’s Landing; Highway 389; Parcel #:11573-008-000.

The Planning Coordinator explained the item.

The attorney checked if anyone had any ex-parte communication due to this being a Public Hearing and the Commission all confirmed they had none.

Motion by Commissioner Aldridge: To approve awarding a Development Order for Jake’s Landing; Highway 389; Parcel #:11573-008-000.

Second to the Motion

Commissioner Tinder

Mr. Scray of Missouri Ave – concerned about traffic issues in the area and wants to stress the risk and vulnerability in that area. We need to put more pressure on the State to put more controls in the area. Mayor advised that road is a County Road.

Bobby Baker confirmed after speaking with the County he can confirm they are going to have them put a left turn lane in the south bound lane into the development.

Attorney reminded them the Planning Board had approved the item contingent upon those things so if the commission approves then it will be contingent upon the Planning Board requirements.

Commissioner Warrick explained the reason why he is voting the way he is. The requirements are for two places of egress unless they are unable to meet the minimum requirements. They have shown they cannot meet the minimum requirements, so the City’s hands are tied legally. This is one of the things he is going to be strongly recommending changing this in the comprehensive plan. He hates that he has to vote yes on this and wanted the public to understand this.

On Vote:

Aldridge	aye
Tinder	aye
Warrick	aye
Perno	aye
Nelson	aye

Motion passed: 5-0

Item #14. Discussion and possible approval to award a preliminary Plat Approval for Jake’s Landing; Highway 389; Parcel #: 11537-008-000.

The Planning Coordinator explained the item.

Motion by Commissioner Perno: To approve awarding a preliminary Plat Approval for Jake's Landing; Highway 389; Parcel #: 11537-008-000.

Second to the Motion Commissioner Aldridge

On Vote:

Perno aye
Aldridge aye
Warrick aye
Tinder aye
Nelson aye

Motion passed: 5-0

Item #15. Discussion and possible approval of Resolution # 2022-07-382 clarifying the Code of Ordinance's Appendix A Fee Schedule concerning water rates by meter size.

The City Manager read the Resolution by title only.

The City Attorney explained the item and that it is just clarifying previously vague language.

Motion by Commissioner Warrick: To approve Resolution # 2022-07-382 clarifying the Code of Ordinance's Appendix A Fee Schedule concerning water rates by meter size.

Second to the Motion Commissioner Perno

On Vote:

Warrick aye
Perno aye
Aldridge aye
Tinder aye
Nelson aye

Motion passed: 5-0

Item #16. Discussion and possible approval of Resolution # 2022-07-384 Relating to the initial assessment resolution to collect nuisance abatement liens on tax bills.

The City Manager read the item by title only.

The City Attorney explained the item. This is our first step. The City spent money cleaning and demolishing the properties. None of those liens have been paid and so we have the option to place this on the tax bill, contact the owners and then published in the News Herald and come back on September 14th to do the final adoption if they are not paid by then.

Mayor confirmed the process around the issue and the attorney explained if not paid by the end of March 2023 an investor can pick up the certificate and we will get the money from the tax collector.

Motion by Commissioner Warrick: To approve Resolution # 2022-07-384 Relating to the initial assessment resolution to collect nuisance abatement liens on tax bills.

Second to the Motion Commissioner Perno

On Vote:

Warrick aye
Perno aye
Aldridge aye
Tinder aye
Nelson aye

Motion passed: 5-0

Item #17. Discussion and possible approval of the task order for the proposed Construction Engineering Inspection Services of the Rails to Trails Multi Use Path to Dewberry Engineers Inc. in the amount of \$163,200.

The Economic Director explained the item.

Mayor Nelson confirmed if this is being covered by grant funding? Mr. Janke confirmed yes, it is a refundable grant.

Motion by Commissioner Warrick: To approve the task order for the proposed Construction Engineering Inspection Services of the Rails to Trails Multi Use Path to Dewberry Engineers Inc. in the amount of \$163,200.

Second to the Motion Commissioner Perno

On Vote:

Warrick	aye
Perno	aye
Aldridge	aye
Tinder	aye
Nelson	aye

Motion passed: 5-0

Item #18. Adjourn.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 6:24 P.M.

APPROVED THIS 9th DAY OF August 2022.



Jesse Nelson, Mayor

ATTEST:



Vickie Gainer, City Manager

prepared by
Cicelia J. Holliday