

**CITY OF WEWAHITCHKA
BOARD OF CITY COMMISSIONERS
CHARLES WHITEHEAD PUBLIC LIBRARY
314 N 2rd STREET
REGULAR MEETING
February 10, 2022
9:00 AM**

The City Commission met on this date, February 10, 2022 at 9:00 A.M. at the Charles Whitehead Public Library, 314 N. 2rd St, Wewahitchka, Florida. **Mayor Gaskin** called the meeting to order. **Sheriff Harrison** lead a prayer, and everyone said the Pledge of Allegiance.

Attendance

Mayor Gaskin
Commissioner Fisher
Commissioner Paul
Commissioner Cox
Commissioner Pettis

Sheriff

Mike Harrison

City Attorney

Michelle Jordan

City Manager

Michael Gortman

City Clerk

Rachel Jackson

City Finance Director

Brittney Proctor

Public Present

Tom Wynn
Jack Husband
Hunter Baumgardner
Tyler Marsh
Gene Hanlon
Wendy Weitzel

Approval of Agenda - **Commissioner Cox** made a motion to approve the agenda. **Commissioner Paul** seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

Approval of Minutes

Commissioner Cox made a motion to approve minutes for the Regular Commission Meeting – 1/27/22. **Commissioner Fisher** seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

Commissioner Pettis entered the meeting at 9:02 am

Public Recognition

Tom Wynn – Stated he has declared this month City Employees appreciation month in the Wewa News. **Mr. Wynn** thanked the commission and staff for their work.

Agenda

1. **Bid #2021-1221-Lift Station Project** – **Engineer Hunter Baumgardner** presented a breakdown of bids. **Engineer Hunter Baumgardner** stated the low bidder was North Florida Construction @ \$1,263,466.00.

Mayor Gaskin asked about the inflated pricing. **Engineer Jack Husband** discussed reasons for increased contractor pricing, stating that in addition to inflation the market

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for materials is so volatile, most contractors are putting 30% to 40% above because they don't know when jobs will start and when they will get materials.

The budget for the project was discussed, following discussion, SCE, recommended doing lift stations #5 & #11 and going with the low bidder, North Florida Construction.

Commissioner Fisher made a motion to allow the Engineers to negotiate with the low bidder, North Florida Construction, on lift stations #5 and #11, removing #3 and #4 from the contract. **Commissioner Paul** seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Discussion of the ARPA funds followed. Since the bids broke down the lift stations individually, **Engineer Jack Husband** also recommended negotiating with North Florida Construction on separate contracts for #3 and #4. Following discussion, **Commissioner Cox** made a motion to allow the Engineers to negotiate with North Florida Construction on a separate contract for lift stations #3 and #4. **Commissioner Paul** seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

2. **Noise Ordinance – City Attorney Michelle Jordan** discussed the noise ordinance and requested permission to draft the ordinance for the City. Following discussion, the board directed the attorney to draft a noise ordinance.
3. **RFQ #2022-0210 - Comprehensive Plan Update Services – City Clerk Rachel Jackson** presented and discussed the advertisement and RFQ package for updating the Comprehensive Plan. Following discussion **Commissioner Paul** made a motion to approve advertisement of RFQ #2022-0210. **Commissioner Pettis** seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.
4. **Fire Station - City Attorney Michelle Jordan** gave an update regarding the Fire Station and stated that at this point the Fire Station worksite needs to be treated as a crime scene to preserve evidence and advised that there should be no public discussion of the fire station project by the city staff.
5. **COVID-19 – None**

Other Comments

City Manager Michael Gortman presented and discussed a letter received from Gulf County Chairman Sandy Quinn requesting additional funding for another Animal Control officer. Following discussion, the board took no action at this time.

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City Manager Michael Gortman stated the Family Dollar is expanding, they are asking to pave a small strip of land on Taylor Avenue on the right of way and asked if they can pull trucks through it.

Engineer Jack Husband discussed concerns about the damage to the road and waterlines that have been caused and would be further exacerbated by the semi-trucks.

Engineer Husband stated that he would review their plans further and bring recommendations to the board at the next meeting.

Finance Director Brittney Proctor - None

Sheriff Mike Harrison - None

City Attorney Michelle Jordan – Asked if the board wanted to continue holding the additional meeting each month? Following discussion, **Commissioner Fisher** made a motion to cancel the meeting held on the 2nd Thursday of each month. **Commissioner Paul** seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

City Engineer – None

City Clerk Rachel Jackson – Presented and discussed a letter from Terri Norris with the GFWC Wewahitchka Woman's Club regarding a County wide forum to bring awareness of the dangers of human trafficking. The forum will be held at the Wewahitchka Elementary School Cafeteria on February 22, 2022 at 5:30 pm ct.

Mayor/Commissioners' Comments

Commissioner Paul – Stated he has been seeing patch truck in town and that Court Ave. needs patching. **Tom Wynn** also spoke about a pot hole on 4th street that needs repair. The board directed **City Manager Gortman** to see about getting the roads patched.

Commissioner Cox- Requested that the **City Manager** contact code enforcement about getting a current list of properties they are working on for the city.

Commissioner Pettis – None

Commissioner Fisher – Discussed the lights that the state has put in on Lake Grove Rd.


Mayor Gaskin – Asked about agreement for Mr. Swigart. **City Attorney Michelle Jordan** said she hadn't had time yet, but would get it drafted.

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Adjournment

Commissioner Fisher made a motion to adjourn at 9:52 am. **Commissioner Paul** seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

ATTEST:



Rachel Jackson, City Clerk

CITY OF WEWAHITCHKA



Phillip Gaskin, Mayor

