

**CITY OF WEWAHITCHKA
BOARD OF CITY COMMISSIONERS
SENIOR CITIZEN BUILDING
314 N 3rd STREET
REGULAR MEETING
JUNE 1, 2021
6:00 PM**

Attendance

Mayor Phillip Gaskin
Commissioner Charlie Pettis
Commissioner Johnny Paul
Commissioner Brian Cox

Ann Johnson
Tommy Hamm
Richard Thompson
Tyler Marsh
Tom Wynn
Gene Hanlon
Waymon Hanlon
Chuck Johnson
James Rish
Brian Parker

City Manager

Michael Gortman

Superintendent

Chipper Wade

Sheriff

Deputy Sanders

City Clerk

Rachel Jackson

Finance Director

Brittney Proctor

Utility Billing Clerk

Misty Robbins

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 the regular commission meeting minutes for 4/22/2021. **Commissioner Paul** seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

OPEN PUBLIC HEARING – At 6:05 pm **Mayor Gaskin** recessed the regular meeting and opened the public hearing for RV Ordinance 2021-1213L. **City Manager Michael Gortman** read the ordinance by title only. **Mayor Gaskin** asked **City Manager Michael Gortman** to discuss the ordinance. **City Manager Michael Gortman** stated that the ordinance would allow people to store their RV's, but would prevent people from living in RV's on their property. **Mayor Gaskin** if anyone from the public had any comments about the RV ordinance.

Gene Hanlon said that he would like to state for the record that he opposed the ordinance as it is written. **Mr. Hanlon** stated that he felt that it was unfair to the citizens and he inquired as to who would enforce the ordinance. **Mayor Gaskin** stated that the Gulf County code enforcement officer would enforce the ordinance, along with the City Manager and City Superintendent.

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Public Hearing cont'd...**

Ann Johnson stated she also opposed some of the ordinance as well. She stated that she felt that if a person owned a piece of property and kept it well maintained they should be allowed to have an RV hooked up to water and sewer.

Richard Thompson asked if the RV's that are currently here would have to move. **Mayor Gaskin** explained that they would not have to move, they would be grandfathered in.

Commissioner Paul stated that he felt like the ordinance needed to be discussed further when the attorney could be at the meeting.

James Rish asked if storing campers and 5th wheels. **Mayor Gaskin** explained that the ordinance would allow for storage, it would just prevent people from hooking water and sewer services up to RV's in order to live in them permanently.

Following discussion, **Mayor Gaskin** closed the public hearing and re-adjoined the regular meeting.

Public Recognition – **Mayor Gaskin** asked if there was anyone from the public that was not on the regular agenda that had anything to discuss. **Richard Thompson** stated that he was concerned about the water pressure in the Jehu area. **Mayor Gaskin** stated that we have been approved for a grant that will address the issues in the near future.

Agenda

1. Water/Waste Water Asset Management Plans – **City Manager Michael Gortman**, stated that Ron Nalley was unable to attend the meeting, however he will be attending the June 24th meeting to discuss the plans and answer questions about them. **City Manager Gortman** went on to explain that we have to accept the plans by resolution, however we do not have to accept the rate increases as they are written in the plan, the rate increases would be based on an annual evaluation and determined by the discretion of the Commission.

Mayor Gaskin read Resolution No. 2021-1174R by title only:

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF WEWAHITCHKA, FLORIDA, APPROVING THE CITY OF WEWAHITCHKA WATER AND WASTEWATER UTILITY ASSET MANAGEMENT AND FISCAL SUSTAINABILITY PLANS; AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO TAKE ALL ACTIONS NECESSARY TO EFFECTUATE THE INTENT OF THIS RESOLUTION; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Commissioner Cox made a motion to adopt Resolution 2021-1174R. **Commissioner Pettis** seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

2. RV Ordinance – 2021-1213L (Final Reading by Title Only) – **Commissioner Pettis** made a motion to table the RV Ordinance until the next meeting for further discussion when the attorney could be present. **Commissioner Cox** seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

3. COVID-19 – None

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Approval of Bills

- 1. Fisher Building Supply** – Moved to regular bills, due to **Commissioner Fisher's** absence.
- 2. Charlie Pettis Pest Services** – **Commissioner Cox** made a motion to pay Charlie Pettis Pest Services invoice (\$90.00). **Commissioner Paul** seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0, with **Commissioner Pettis** abstaining due to conflict of interest.
- 3. Wewa Outdoors** – **Commissioner Cox** made a motion to pay Wewa Outdoors invoices (\$273.52). **Commissioner Pettis** seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0 with **Commissioner Paul** abstaining due to conflict of interest.
- 4. Cox Transmission** – **Commissioner Pettis** made a motion to pay Cox Transmission invoice (\$541.87) for repairing van # 18. **Commissioner Paul** seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0 with **Commissioner Cox** abstaining due to conflict of interest.
- 5. Regular Bills** – Following review of the bills, **Commissioner Paul** made a motion to approve the regular bills (\$57,643.14), additional bills (Waste Pro \$20,003.19), monthly re-occurring bills (\$47,456.23), and Fisher's Building Supply Invoices (\$700.36). **Commissioner Pettis** seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

Old Business/Open Items

- 1. Fire station/old City Hall** – **City Engineer Tyler Marsh (SCE)** presented the board with a pay request from Winterfell Construction (\$202,229.64) for work performed on the fire station construction project. **City Engineer Tyler Marsh** discussed the pay request and he also stated that **Contractor Tommy Hamm** was present if there were any questions about the project or pay request.

Following discussion and review, **Commissioner Cox** made a motion to approve the pay request. **Commissioner Paul** seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

- 2. Delinquent Utility Bills** – None
- 3. Water Losses** – None
- 4. SEWER INFILTRATION AND INFLOW** – **City Superintendent Chipper Wade** stated that the plant is running well right now, since we haven't had much rain.
- 5. Ray Dickens Fish Fry for the Sr. Citizens (October 2, 2021)** – None
- 6. Lift Station** – **City Engineer Tyler Marsh** stated that on SRF grant the generator plugs have been ordered and Current Solutions will be installing upon arrival.

City Engineer Tyler Marsh discussed the DEO Lift stations, he stated that they have received the geotechnical reports back and are waiting on the elevation survey

- 7. Overtime Report broken down by pay periods** – Discussed Tommy Daniels overtime and schedule. Board decided to leave his schedule as is.

8. **Buckhorn Archway** – **Commissioner Fisher** is working on it

9. **County LDR** – **City Engineer Tyler Marsh** stated that **City Engineer Jack Husband** and **City Manager Michael Gortman** have been working on the LDR and will be working with **City Attorney Michelle Jordan** to get the advertisement ready.

City Manager Michael Gortman stated that **City Engineer Jack Husband** needed to know if the board wanted to include the county animal control ordinance or the city's animal control ordinance in the LDR. The board agreed to include the City's ordinance.

10. **Employee Water/Sewer License Testing** – **City Manager Michael Gortman** stated that **David Paul** is scheduling his water license test and will be going to the Bay County water plant to review. **Blake Gilmore** is working on his sewer license and **Kyle Whitfield** is supposed to order his.

Other Comments

Finance Director Brittney Proctor – discussed the FLAIR report

City Superintendent Chipper Wade – stated that a stump **Lake Alice** needed to be grinded, he received a quote from **James Rouse** for \$250.00, the board directed him to get it taken care of.

City Clerk Rachel Jackson – stated that she spoke to the representative for the utility billing software regarding the annual fee. He confirmed that only one fee would be charged annually. **City Clerk Rachel Jackson** requested the board's approval to purchase the software. **Mayor Gaskin** asked if the software was budgeted, **City Clerk Rachel Jackson** responded that it is budgeted.

Following discussion, **Commissioner Pettis** made a motion to approve purchasing the utility billing system. **Commissioner Paul** seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

City Manager Michael Gortman – stated that he had received estimates for demolishing the octagon house at **Lake Alice Park**. **RB's Tractor Work** \$4,500.00, **E-Z Tree Removal** \$5,200.00, and **H & H Trucking and Tree Service** \$10,000.00. **Mayor Gaskin** asked if it was budgeted. **City Finance Director Brittney Proctor** responded that it was not budgeted, however she believes it would qualify as an improvement and could request reimbursement from the County for it.

Following discussion, **Commissioner Cox** made a motion to approve **RB's Tractor Work** estimate of \$4,500.00 for demolishing the octagon house located at **Lake Alice Park**. The work will be paid for out of parks contingency budget and **Finance Director Brittney Proctor** will request reimbursement from **Gulf County**. **Commissioner Paul** seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

City Manager Michael Gortman discussed the July 4th celebration and asked if the board wanted to have the July 4th festival. Coordination and entertainment were discussed. The board agreed to have the festival on Saturday, July 3rd and the fireworks display on Sunday, July 4th.

Sheriff – None

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Other Comments cont'd...

City Engineer Tyler Marsh – Discussed the FRDAP grant, stated it appears that the work at T.L. James would be over budget, so the board needs to decide if they want to apply for T.L. James or the new playground equipment at Lake Alice Park. After discussion, the board instructed **City Engineer Tyler Marsh** to move forward with the grant application for the playground equipment.

Ann Johnson asked if there had been any further progress on getting a splash pad at the park. **Commissioner Pettis** stated that prior to Hurricane Michael the City had been working with TDC on it, but no further progress had been made following the hurricane. He will speak to Kelly Godwin with TDC and see about moving forward with it.

Mayor/Commissioners' Comments

Commissioner Cox – Asked if there was a policy about the volunteer fire department using fire trucks to fill pools for residents? The board agreed that it can be done as long as the resident pays the bulk rate for the water.

Commissioner Paul – None

Commissioner Pettis – Discussed the repairs that would be needed at the Horse Arena; the cost would be around \$10,000-\$12,000. **Commissioner Pettis** stated that he had spoken to Adrian Glass with the TDC and they are going to try to help with the cost of the repairs. They will be discussing it further with Kelly Godwin.

Mayor Gaskin asked if there were any other comments. **Tom Wynn** stated that he spoke to a land owner about using his property for a Farmers Market on the weekends. The property owner was agreeable, so **Mr. Wynn** asked if that was acceptable to the board and if there were any fees or registrations required. The board stated they supported the Farmer's Market and did not believe there would be any fees required.

Adjournment

Commissioner Pettis made a motion to adjourn at 7:32 p.m. **Commissioner Paul** seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

CITY OF WEWAHITCHKA


Phillip Gaskin, Mayor

ATTEST:


Rachel Jackson, City Clerk

