

**CITY OF WEWAHITCHKA
BOARD OF CITY COMMISSIONERS
SENIOR CITIZEN BUILDING
314 N 3rd STREET
REGULAR MEETING
JUNE 24, 2021
6:00 PM**

Attendance

Mayor Phillip Gaskin

Commissioner Johnny Paul

Commissioner Ralph Fisher

Ron Nalley (Florida Rural Water)

Tunnie Miller

Ann Johnson

Gene Hanlon

Chuck Johnson

Tom Wynn

Hunter Baumgardner (SCE)

Jack Husband (SCE)

Charlene Wimberly

Richard Thompson

Jerry Pridgeon

Penny McLemore

Charles Mayhann

City Manager

Michael Gortman

Sheriff

Mike Harrison

City Attorney

Michelle Jordan

City Clerk

Rachel Jackson

Finance Director

Brittney Proctor

Utility Billing Clerk

Misty Robbins

Approval of Agenda – **Commissioner Paul** made a motion to approve the agenda. **Commissioner Fisher** seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Approval of Minutes – **Commissioner Paul** made a motion to approve the Regular Commission Meeting for 6/1/2021. **Commissioner Fisher** seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Public Recognition – **Charlene Wimberly**, 910 Canning Dr. asked a question regarding the impact fees charged. **Ms. Wimberly** stated that she believes that it is not legal for the City to charge a bore fee, and would like a refund for the fee she paid. **City Attorney Michelle Jordan** explained that there are different rules that apply to municipalities, however she will research it and let the City Manager know.

Tunnie Miller, 110 Rhodes Dr. stated that she wanted to thank Michael Gortman, the county, and the ladies at City Hall for helping to get a washout fixed, that she has been trying to get fixed since before Hurricane Michael. She also noted that she has had a request in since 2006 to get her road re-paved.

Ms. Miller also asked if the City would consider abandoning the alleyway near her road and allow the residents to take over maintaining it. **Mayor Gaskin** asked if there is a lot of traffic in the area. **Ms. Miller** stated it depends on the day. No decision was made regarding abandoning the alleyway.

Ann Johnson asked since there are a lot of new people attending meetings, could we get name plaques for the Commissioners? **Commissioner Fisher** explained that when we get a permanent meeting area we will get name plaques.

REGULAR MEETING

June 24, 2021 @ 6:00 pm

Page 2

Public Recognition cont'd...

Gene Hanlon requested permission to address the board without interruption until he was done speaking. **Mayor Gaskin** stated he could proceed. **Mr. Hanlon** stated there were a few remarks at the last meeting that he wanted to address:

1. The remark concerning the Florida Sunshine Law, **Mr. Hanlon** stated that he served 6 years on the board and he was well aware of that law.

2. **Mr. Hanlon** then commented on the remark about the City Attorney's absence due to illness at the last meeting.

3. **Mr. Hanlon** stated that he still opposes RV ordinance 2021-1213L, as it is written. The main reason that he opposes it, is that he sees every state, county, and city in the United States slowly infringing on the rights and pursuit of happiness and liberties of the common people, such as himself. **Mr. Hanlon** stated, I can only speak for myself, it is up to this board to make any decision that they want and I will respect any decision that they make. In closing **Mr. Hanlon** stated that he would like to remind the board that they were voted into office by the citizens of this City.

Mayor Gaskin, thanked **Mr. Hanlon** for his comments and asked if there were any other comments.

Penny McLemore asked what the City is going to do about the people that are living in campers and are not paying for utility services. **Mayor Gaskin** explained that those types of situations are what we are trying to take care of with the RV ordinance that **Mr. Hanlon** was speaking about.

Agenda

1. Water/Waste Water Asset Management Plans – Ron Nalley with Florida Rural Water Association introduced himself and passed water and waste water asset management plan summaries out to the public and explained that he and his team came in and have been working with the City staff over the last 6 months to assess the assets of the City's water and sewer systems. Once all of the assets are recorded and evaluated, a management plan is then developed to help the City manage those assets. The plans are also tied to future federal funding for the City. **Mr. Nalley** then gave an in depth discussion of each plan. **Commissioner Fisher** thanked **Mr. Nalley** for coming back and going over the plans again.

2. RV Ordinance 2021-1213L – Commissioner Fisher stated that he read over it, but did not see where anything had been grandfathered in. **City Attorney Michelle Jordan** said normally it is not included it is generally understood that it will not be enforced against people who have already established that use of their property, but she can write it in. After further discussion, the board tabled the vote on the ordinance and decided to discuss it further at a workshop to be held on July 8, 2021 @ 3:00 pm ct.

3. Adopt Resolution 2021-1175R – Gulf County Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan – City Clerk Rachel Jackson explained that the Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan is updated every 5 years and we need to adopt the updated plan in order to stay in compliance and meet requirements for funding in the event of a disaster. **Commissioner Fisher** made a motion to adopt the resolution. **Commissioner Paul** seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

4. COVID-19 – No new discussion

Approval of Bills

1. **Fisher Building Supply** – Special meeting will have to be held, no quorum to approve
2. **Charlie Pettis Pest Services** – Moved to regular bills
3. **Wewa Outdoors** – Special meeting will have to be held, no quorum to approve
4. **Regular Bills** – After review and discussion of the regular bills (\$41,434.96), monthly re-occurring bills (\$51,116.24), additional bills (\$30,469.12), and Charlie Pettis Pest Services (\$90.00), **Commissioner Fisher** made a motion to approve payment of the bills. **Commissioner Paul** seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Old Business/Open Items

1. **Fire station/old City Hall** – **Mayor Gaskin** asked who was keeping up with weather days. **Jack Husband** stated that SCE is keeping up with them. They are up to 8 days so far, moving substantial completion date to 9/12/2021.
2. **Delinquent Utility Bills** – None
3. **Water Losses** – None
4. **SEWER INFILTRATION AND INFLOW** – Staff will be doing smoke tests around College Park area
5. **Ray Dickens Fish Fry for the Sr. Citizens (October 2, 2021)** – None
6. **Lift Stations** – **City Engineer Hunter Baumgardner** stated that survey field work has been completed
7. **Overtime Report broken down by pay periods** – None
8. **Buckhorn Archway** – None
9. **County LDR** – **City Engineer Jack Husband** stated that he has everything completed and will get with the City Attorney for advertisement.
10. **Employee Water/Sewer License Testing** – None

Other Comments

City Manager Michael Gortman – None

City Attorney Michelle Jordan – None

City Clerk Rachel Jackson – None

Finance Director Brittney Proctor – Stated that the FLAIR report was included for the board to review.

Finance Director Brittney Proctor also stated the audit would be completed tomorrow, so the auditor will be at the next meeting to present it to the board.

Finance Director Brittney Proctor also reminded everyone that the dates for regular commission meetings have been moved to the last Thursday of each month, the next meeting will be held July 29, 2021.

Sheriff – None

City Engineer – **City Engineer Jack Husband** stated that he is working on an after the fact permit for a pump he should be finished with it tomorrow and will get it to DEP.

Engineer Husband then discussed grants that they have been working on and stated that they will probably require some additional meetings between now and September to get applications submitted on time. After further discussion of the Hazard Mitigation grant, American Rescue Plan and DEO grants, the board decided to add the grants to the workshop to be held on July 8, 2021.

City Engineer Hunter Baumgardner stated that the estimate for the survey of Lake Alice Park came back for the FRDAP grant application at \$3,600. He requested the board's approval to move forward with the survey. Following discussion, **Commissioner Fisher** made a motion to approve having the survey done. **Commissioner Paul** seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Additionally, **City Engineer Hunter Baumgardner** requested approval to order the title work for Lake Alice Park. **Commissioner Fisher** made a motion to approve having the title work done. **Commissioner Paul** seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Mayor/Commissioners' Comments

Commissioner Paul – Asked what could be done to help with the water pressure issues on Jehu Road, after discussion, the board instructed **City Manager Michael Gortman** to check the lines and see if the issue can be fixed.

Commissioner Fisher – None

Mayor Gaskin – None

Adjournment


Commissioner Fisher made a motion to adjourn at 7:46 p.m. **Commissioner Paul** seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

CITY OF WEWAHITCHKA



Brian Cox, Commissioner

ATTEST:



Rachel Jackson, City Clerk

