

**CITY OF WEWAHITCHKA  
BOARD OF CITY COMMISSIONERS  
Senior/Community Building  
REGULAR MEETING  
APRIL 24, 2025  
6:00 PM**

The City Commission met on this date April 24, 2025 at 6:00 P.M. at the Wewahitchka Senior/Community Building, 314 N. 3rd St, Wewahitchka, Florida. **Mayor Gaskin** called the meeting to order, asked **Sheriff Harrison** to lead a prayer, and everyone said the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Attendance**

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

**Public**

Ann Johnson  
Spike McLemore

**City Manager**

Michael Gortman

**City Attorney**

Michelle Jordan (VIA VIDEO CONF)

**City Clerk**

Rachel Jackson

**City Superintendent**

Chipper Wade

**City Parks & Rec Director**

David Paul

**City Finance Director**

Brittney Proctor (VIA VIDEO CONF)

**City Finance Clerk**

Misty Robbins

**City Engineer-SCE**

Hunter Baumgardner

Jack Husband

**Sheriff's Office**

Mike Harrison

**Approval of Agenda**

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

**Approval of Minutes**

After review, **Commissioner Paul** made a motion to approve 3.27.25 Regular Meeting minutes. **Commissioner Pettis** seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

**Public Recognition**

**Ann Johnson** – Gave an update on the activities planned for the Sesquicentennial festival to be held on June 7, 2025. She stated everything is coming along really good. There are about 19-20 vendors, have added a car show, will be displaying historical



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**Public Recognition cont'd...**

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artifacts at the library, there is a community quilt project, the ambulance and sheriff office will be there, a fire truck will be there, the pan care bus will also be giving free eye exams, there will be lots of free items for kids, and Native American dancing, drums, and teaching about the purpose of herbs historically.

**Mrs. Johnson** would like to see if one of the board members could be there to unveil a plaque commemorating the anniversary. She also discussed the boat cleat restoration and about having a plaque made for that as well.

### **Agenda**

- 1. Fracking** – **Mayor Gaskin** provided an update about the River Keepers kill the drill campaign about the fracking between Dead Lakes and the Apalachicola River. He stated that they have been very successful and has passed the Florida House and is now going to the Senate.
- 2. Fireworks Quote** – **City Manager Michael Gortman** stated we received our quote from the Pyro Shows for the fireworks and stated that it is for \$17,300.00 and requested approval of the quote.

Following discussion, **Commissioner Paul** made a motion to approve the fireworks quote for \$17,300.00. **Commissioner Pettis** seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

### **Approval of Bills**

- 1. Fisher's Building Supply** – Moved to regular bills, in **Commissioner Fisher's** absence.
- 2. Charlie Pettis Pest Services** - Following review, **Commissioner Paul** made a motion to approve Charlie Pettis Pest Services bill (\$90.00) **Commissioner Cox** seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0, with **Commissioner Pettis** abstaining due to conflict of interest.
- 3. Wewa Outdoors** –Following review, **Commissioner Pettis** made a motion to approve payment of Wewa Outdoors bills (\$773.64) **Commissioner Cox** seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0, with **Commissioner Paul** abstaining due to conflict of interest.
- 4. Regular Bills** – Following review and discussion, **Commissioner Cox** made a motion to approve payment of the regular bills (\$73,198.91) re-occurring bills (\$31,103.07) and additional bills (\$31,552.34) and Fisher's Building Supply bills (\$2,110.65). **Commissioner Paul** seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.
- 5. Monthly Budget Update** – **City Finance Director Brittney Proctor** gave an update stating that things are looking pretty good. There are some things that we knew we would need to amend and fire has some extra expenses with the new building, but overall we are doing good.



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**Old Business/Open Items...**

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**Old Business/Open Items**

- 1. Delinquent Utility Bills – None**
- 2. Extension List – None**
- 3. Bad Debts – None**
- 4. Water Losses – City Superintendent Chipper Wade said they are working on it.**
- 5. SEWER INFILTRATION AND INFLOW – City Superintendent Chipper Wade said they are working on it.**
- 6. Ray Dickens Fish Fry for the Sr. Citizens (October 3, 2025) – None**
- 7. Overtime Report broken down by pay periods – None**
- 8. Employee Water/Sewer License Testing – City Manager Michael Gortman provided and update:**
  - Kyle Whitfield – Water – working on books, has until August 14<sup>th</sup>
  - Blake Gilmore – Sewer – rescheduled for 13<sup>th</sup> of May
- 9. Senior Building – City Manager Michael Gortman stated he has to get Millers to take unit out to get the floors replaced.**
- 10. Cemetery Committee & Buckhorn Decorative Fencing – Mayor Gaskin and City Superintendent Chipper Wade discussed expanding the area and going to Apalachicola next week to look at their structure.**
- 11. TL James Ballfield Lights – City Manager Michael Gortman said we probably need to go out for bid for the electrician. Discussion followed about ordering the lights and seeing if Justin Barnes can attend next meeting.**

**Other Comments**

**City Attorney Michelle Jordan – None**

**City Manager Michael Gortman – Stated we have a lot of people expressing they would like more pickle ball courts and less tennis courts. The board asked what it would take to convert the tennis courts to pickle ball courts. City Parks & Rec Director David Paul said that they would need to be re-striped and buy more nets, it will be less than \$6,000.00.**

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**Other Comments cont'd...**

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**County Commissioner Jack Husband** said it might be possible to use the remaining funds from the county for the batting cages to help with the pickle ball courts, additionally he discussed getting wooden slats to help with the wind issue.

Following discussion, the board agreed for **County Commissioner Husband** to check into using the remaining batting cage funds and will discuss further at the next meeting.

**City Superintendent Chipper Wade** – None

**City Parks & Rec Director David Paul** – None

**Sheriff Harrison** – Provided the stats for month, stated there were 108 calls for services in the city, there were 652 total calls in the County, 17% of all calls were in the City.

**Engineer Hunter Baumgardner** – Gave updates on grants, has received a lot of calls on the waterline project. There will be a mandatory pre-bid meeting on May 8<sup>th</sup> at fire station and a special meeting on May 20<sup>th</sup> to open bids.

Waste water permits done, working on bid docs and should be out to bid in about a month or so.

Storm water a few more surveys that were missed, plans should be finished shortly on those.

**City Finance Director Brittney Proctor** – None

**City Finance Clerk Misty Robbins** – None

**City Clerk Rachel Jackson** – None

**Mayor/Commissioners' Comments**

**Gulf County Commissioner McLemore** – None

**Gulf County Commissioner Husband** – Discussed putting together a list of items to be done at TL James

**Commissioner Cox** – None

**Commissioner Paul** – Thanked the County for helping with Corn Griffin Street road and ditches done and everything else they do.

**Commissioner Pettis** – None

**Mayor Gaskin** – Stated we need a workshop on the waste water plant.

Following discussion, the board agreed to hold a workshop on Tuesday morning April 29<sup>th</sup> @, 8:00 am at the firestation.



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**Mayor/Commissioner Comments cont'd...**

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**Ann Johnson** – asked if the historical society can get plaques for the tree that was the Pidgeon lot at Lake Alice. Following discussion, the board agreed to allow them to put a plaque by the tree.

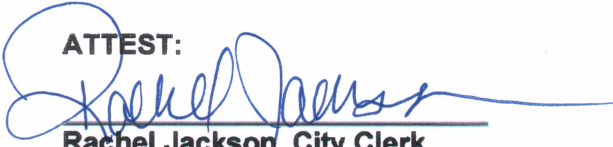
**Adjournment**

**Commissioner Pettis** made a motion to adjourn at 6:56 **Commissioner Paul** seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

**CITY OF WEWAHITCHKA**

  
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**Phillip Gaskin, Mayor**

**ATTEST:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**Rachel Jackson, City Clerk**

