



MINUTES

CITY COUNCIL MEETING - REGULAR SESSION

MONDAY, OCTOBER 07, 2024 at 9:00 AM

Midtown Plaza, 401 McLaughlin Ave., Bonifay, FL 32425

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Larry Cook called the meeting to order at 9:03 am.

PRESENT

Mayor Larry Cook
Council Member James Sellers
Council Member Shelley Carroll
Council Member Rick Crews
Council Member Eddie Dixon

Also present

City Clerk Rickey Callahan, Deputy Clerk Tracy Walker, Executive Assistant Sierra Smith, City Attorney Jon Holloway, Director of Public Works Aaron Taylor, Chief Plant Operator Matt Perry, and Chief of Police Johnny Whitaker

A. Invocation

City Clerk Rickey Callahan gave invocation.

B. Pledge of Allegiance

City Clerk Rickey Callahan led the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. APPROVE AGENDA

City Clerk Callahan stated that Chief Whitaker needed police cars added under Item VIII.

Motion made to approve agenda, as amended, by Council Member Crews, Seconded by Council Member Dixon.

Voting Yea: Mayor Cook, Council Member Sellers, Council Member Carroll, Council Member Crews, Council Member Dixon

III. APPROVE MINUTES

A. September 16th, 2024 Regular Session Minutes

Motion made to approve the minutes of September 16, 2024 by Council Member Sellers,
Seconded by Council Member Crews.

Voting Yea: Mayor Cook, Council Member Sellers, Council Member Carroll, Council Member Crews, Council Member Dixon

B. September 24th Special Session Minutes

Motion made to approve the minutes of September 24, 2024 by Council Member Sellers,
Seconded by Council Member Dixon.

Voting Yea: Mayor Cook, Council Member Sellers, Council Member Carroll, Council Member Crews, Council Member Dixon

IV. APPROVE ACCOUNTS PAYABLE / TRANSFERS / FINANCIAL SHEETS TO REVIEW

Motion made to approve Accounts Payable, Transfers, and Financial Sheets by Council Member Sellers, Seconded by Council Member Crews.

Voting Yea: Mayor Cook, Council Member Sellers, Council Member Carroll, Council Member Crews, Council Member Dixon

Mayor Cook commended all Department Heads for their work for the Rodeo.

V. VISITORS – PUBLIC ADDRESSING THE COUNCIL

NON- AGENDA AUDIENCE

Effective October 1, 2013, Florida Statute 286.0114 mandates that “members of the public shall be given a reasonable opportunity to be heard on a proposition before a Board or Commission.” Each individual shall have three (3) minutes to speak about the proposition before the Board. **THIS IS NOT A QUESTION-AND-ANSWER SESSION.** It is NOT a political forum, nor is it a time for personal accusations and derogatory remarks to/or about City personnel. Those who wish to speak are reminded to observe proper decorum, and to avoid the use of profane or vulgar language. If you would like to address the City Council please come to the podium, state your name and address for the record

Mr. Richard Willsey stated he was disappointed in the Council, that nobody has taken a moment to speak on the Jewish State of Israel and the Americans that lost their lives on the day of the attack.

Mr. Willsey also questioned the cost of the boots in front of the fire and police stations, grants for the Fire Department for new equipment, and mentioned the need for road improvements.

Mayor Cook asked Mr. Willsey if he would like to lead in prayer and a moment of silence.

Mr. Willsey led a prayer for Israel.

VI. PLANNING & ENGINEERING

A. Melvin Engineering

A. BON22OS - Bonifay Old School Rehab- Recommendation of Award

B. Downtown Stormwater Park Amendment 2

Executive Assistant Sierra Smith stated that Melvin Engineering recommended awarding the contract for the Old Middle School Rehab to Knight Commercial.

Motion made to approve awarding contract to Knight Commercial by Council Member Crews, Seconded by Council Member Dixon.

Voting Yea: Mayor Cook, Council Member Sellers, Council Member Carroll, Council Member Crews, Council Member Dixon

Executive Assistant Smith said the second item needed Council approval for Mayor Cook to sign the Downtown Stormwater Park Amendment 2.

Motion made to approve Amendment 2 for the Downtown Stormwater Park by Council Member Crews, Seconded by Council Member Dixon.

Voting Yea: Mayor Cook, Council Member Sellers, Council Member Carroll, Council Member Crews, Council Member Dixon

Mayor Cook asked if the water and sewer replacement, and the paving on Chance Road was on schedule?

Director of Public Works Aaron Taylor stated yes.

Mayor Cook asked if they were all the way to Son-In-Law Road.

Director Taylor stated yes.

Executive Assistant Smith told the Council Members that the Weeks Street repaving and drainage project should begin soon.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Cook told the Council Members there were issues with beavers in the ditch by Middlebrooks Park. The Public Works crew would clean the ditch out, and within two days, it would be stopped back up.

Motion made to approve moving forward with beaver eradication by Council Member Crews, Seconded by Council Member Sellers.

Voting Yea: Mayor Cook, Council Member Sellers, Council Member Carroll, Council Member Crews, Council Member Dixon

A. Chief of Police Johnny Whitaker - Hardware and Software for Evidence Collection and Control

Police Chief Johnny Whitaker told the Council Members that a 5-year contract with Axon for evidence collection and control would cost \$28,524.80. It included 7 bodycams with unlimited storage.

Motion made to approve contract with Axon by Council Member Crews, Seconded by Council Member Dixon.

Voting Yea: Mayor Cook, Council Member Sellers, Council Member Carroll, Council Member Crews, Council Member Dixon

Chief Whitaker informed the Council Members that 2 of their 2019 Explorers were damaged, one wrecked at least twice and one needed a transmission. Based on our cost to maintain those vehicles, he sought some bids for a lease/purchase option.

Chief Whitaker recommended leasing two vehicles for approximately \$34,000.

Mayor Cook stated the 2 damaged vehicles could be sold at auction.

Motion made to approve lease/purchase of 2 vehicles by Council Member Crews, Seconded by Council Member Sellers.

Voting Yea: Mayor Cook, Council Member Sellers, Council Member Carroll, Council Member Crews, Council Member Dixon

IX. COUNCIL / DEPARTMENT SUPERVISORS / CITY ATTORNEY DISCUSSION

Items not listed on Formal Agenda.

A. Council Updates

B. Department Updates

Executive Assistant Smith congratulated Chief Plant Operator Matt Perry for pushing for a \$102,000 grant, that was originally being considered a loan.

Mayor Cook stated that Matt Perry was the Employee Spotlight.

Chief Whitaker stated the rodeo went well and that they had to slow some traffic down.

City Clerk Callahan stated they the front third of the ceiling in for the city hall renovation project; the doors that were ordered were in a warehouse in Jacksonville, and they were hoping the storm did not damage them.

C. Employee Spotlight

X. ADJOURN

Motion made for meeting to adjourn by Council Member Crews, Seconded by Council Member Dixon.

Voting Yea: Mayor Cook, Council Member Sellers, Council Member Carroll, Council Member Crews, Council Member Dixon

Mayor Cook declared the meeting adjourned at 9:30 am.

Persons with disabilities needing special accommodations to participate in this proceeding should contact City Hall at (850) 547-4238, at least five days prior to the proceedings.