



## MINUTES

### CITY COUNCIL MEETING - SPECIAL SESSION

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2023 at 9:00 AM

Midtown Plaza, 401 McLaughlin Ave. Bonifay, FL 32425

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#### I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Larry Cook called the meeting to order at 9:00 am.

##### PRESENT

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

Also present:

City Clerk Rickey Callahan, Police Chief Johnny Whitaker, City Superintendent Trey Barbee, Chief Plant Operator Matt Perry, Executive Assistant Sierra Smith, and Deputy Clerk Tracy Walker

##### A. Invocation

Executive Assistant Sierra Smith gave invocation.

##### B. Pledge of Allegiance

Executive Assistant Sierra Smith led the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### II. APPROVE AGENDA

Motion made to approve the agenda by Council Member Sellers, Seconded by Council Member Crews.

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

### **III. APPROVE MINUTES**

A. Approve minutes of 10-23-2023 Regular Session

Approve minutes of 11-06-2023 Special Session

Approve minutes of 11-13-2023 Public Hearing SUN Trail

Approve minutes of 11-13-2023 Regular Session

Approve minutes of 12-11-2023 Regular Session

Motion made to approve the minutes of 10-23-23 Regular Session, 11-06-23 Special Session, 11-13-23 Public Hearing SUN Trail, 11-13-23 Regular Session, and 12-11-23 Regular Session by Council Member Crews, Seconded by Council Member Sellers.

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

### **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 Carroll.

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

### **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 on the proposition before the Board.

Richard Willsey questioned the Council not following the agenda.

### **VI. PLANNING & ENGINEERING**

No updates.

### **VII. OLD BUSINESS**

A. Vacant Council Seat Appointment

Applicants-

Jason Powell

Shirley Mitchell

Charles Flowers

Roger Brooks

Eddie Dixon

Motion made to appoint Eddie Dixon to the vacant council seat by Council Member Crews,  
Seconded by Council Member Sellers.

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

B. RFP for State Lobbying Services

Liberty Partners' attorney will review contract for approval.

**VIII. NEW BUSINESS**

A. Hire City Attorney

Motion made to hire John Holloway as City Attorney by Council Member Crews, Seconded by  
Council Member Carroll.

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

B. Meeting Dates for 2024

Motion made to cancel the first meeting in January by Council Member Crews, Seconded by  
Council Member Carroll.

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

Meeting dates will need to be changed for 2024.

**IX. COUNCIL / DEPARTMENT SUPERVISORS / CITY ATTORNEY DISCUSSION**

Items not listed on Formal Agenda.

A. Personnel Updates

Police Chief Johnny Whitaker presented Police Officer Raymond Grimbly with an award for his  
service to the City of Bonifay.

Whitaker stated that three 2017 Ford Explorers were donated from Walton County.

B. Department Updates

- Grants Update

Executive Assistant Sierra Smith stated there was a DOJ Grant, and a Human Trafficking Grant available for the Police Department.

Smith also stated that the 1.47 million dollar grant for the Waste Water Treatment Plant was approved.

C. Employee Spotlight

## **X. ADJOURN**

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

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

Mayor Cook adjourned the meeting at 9:25 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.**