



MINUTES

CITY COUNCIL MEETING - SPECIAL SESSION

FRIDAY, JUNE 02, 2023 at 3:00 PM

Bonifay City Hall Council Meeting Room – 301 J Harvey Etheridge St.

I. CALL TO ORDER

A. Invocation

Invocation was given by Vice-Mayor Smith

B. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Vice-Mayor Smith.

II. 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.

Mr. Brian Schultz appeared before the Council to file a complaint about the process used for hiring and naming the new Police Chief and Assistant Chief. He stated he was told at his interview that the applicants would be scored, and that the top applicants would be presented to the Council. He stated that he "heard things through the grapevine", and that he had not gotten a phone call from anyone. He stated he also had heard that someone who had scored lower than he did got the job. He stated that he had requested the score sheets and the interview scores, but had yet to receive them at the current time. He stated that the Mayor had used her discretion in choosing to fill the positions and that he felt that this was "disrespectful and highly unprofessional". He said that you don't let an applicant who is your top tier "find out through the grapevine." He continued, "I have YET to receive a phone call from you Mayor or anybody else with this department. If you are gonna have a process, follow it. If you are not, hire the positions. That way you don't have to explain later. You've monkeyed up this whole works, you make your whole Council look ridiculous and highly unprofessional, and I do not appreciate the disrespect that I have been shown. Thank you."

III. NEW BUSINESS

A. Personnel Updates

Mayor McCann recommended Jimmy Macon to be hired as the City of Bonifay Police Chief. She stated that once the Council approves the recommendation of the Chief, all other candidates will be notified by email or phone that the position has been filled.

Motion made by Vice-Mayor Smith, Seconded by Council Member Sellers.

Voting Yea: Mayor McCann, Vice-Mayor Smith, Council Member Cook, Council Member Sellers, Council Member Carroll

Mayor McCann recommended Johnny Whitaker to be hired as a Full Time Officer with the City of Bonifay Police Department.

Discussion followed as to the make up of the Department, and the Mayor advised that would be done with advice from the Chief of Police, and that the target date to have the City of Bonifay Police Department operational again is June 19, 2023.

Motion made by Council Member Cook, Seconded by Council Member Sellers.

Voting Yea: Mayor McCann, Vice-Mayor Smith, Council Member Carroll, Council Member Sellers, and Council Member Cook.

Mayor McCann also praised the work that has been done by Officers Chuck White, Betty Sims, and George Record during this time while the Bonifay Police Department is being reorganized.

B. Vac-con Omnibus Vacuum Jetter Combo Truck

Motion made by Council Member Sellers, Seconded by Vice-Mayor Smith.

Voting Yea: Mayor McCann, Vice-Mayor Smith, Council Member Cook, Council Member Sellers, Council Member Carroll

C. Cameras at BPD/Fire Station

Mayor McCann presented a quote from our IT provider, Modern Tech Squad for repairs to the camera system at the fire and police station to get it fully functional and running in the amount of \$6,879.00.

Motion made by Council Member Cook, Seconded by Vice-Mayor Smith.

Voting Yea: Mayor McCann, Vice-Mayor Smith, Council Member Cook, Council Member Sellers, Council Member Carroll

D. Bonifay PD Material Needs

Mayor McCann advised the Council that much of the equipment for the Bonifay Police Department is worn out and out of date, including items that are provided for the protection and safety of officers and to be expecting some purchases needing approval to get the Department up to date and as safe as possible.

E. City Owned Property

Mayor McCann advised the Council that there is a need to get ALL City-Owned properties up to date by way of surveys and inventories. The consensus of the Council was to move forward.

F. HCBOCC Partnership Opportunity

Mayor McCann advised the Council that the Holmes County Board of County Commissioners is in the process of appointing a committee to oversee the Grant Appropriation Implementation for the City/County Appropriation for the Holmes County Recreational Facility. The Mayor hopes to be seated on this committee and will report back to the Council., as the Commissioners are still interested in a partnership with the City.

G. Headshot Schedule

Headshots are scheduled for Wednesday, June 7, and Thursday, June 8 at Panhandle Technical College.

H. June 12 Budget Workshop at 4:30

First Budget Workshop will be held Monday, June 12, 2023 at 4:30PM prior to the Regular Session.

I. City cell phones

Legal has recommended that Council utilize City cell phones for City business.

IV. COUNCIL / DEPARTMENT SUPERVISORS / CITY ATTORNEY DISCUSSION

Items not listed on Formal Agenda.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

VI. ADJOURN

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.