

CITY OF MACCLENNY
Regular Hearing
November 12, 2013
6:00 p.m.

The City Commission met in a regular session, Tuesday, November 12, 2013 with the following present: Mayor Gary Dopson, City Manager Phil Rhoden, Commissioners Floyd V. Bennett, and Sam Kitching. Mark Bryant was not present.

Mayor Dopson called the meeting to order. City Commissioner Mr. Kitching opened the meeting with prayer, followed by a pledge to the United States Flag.

No old business at this time.

Mayor Dopson recognized Michelle Hodges who gave an update to the council on Heritage Park Village. Michelle spoke about the activities that had been and will be going on at the Park. She mentioned the Antique Road Show, Ghost in the Oaks, School Field trips, Senior Expo, Fall Festival and Christmas. So far these activities have brought in funds to help with the running and upkeep of Heritage Park. Mayor Dopson asked about checking into putting the Park into some type of Historical Tour for Northeast Florida. Commissioner Bennett stated this was the best report he had heard about the Park in a long time. City Manager Mr. Rhoden discussed the playground area. It is being fenced and will be completely accessible from the park. The school will be donating lights and the City will purchase a little bit of playground equipment to make it more kid friendly. Mayor Dopson, City Manager Mr. Rhoden and Commissioner Bennett all stated what a great job Mrs. Hodges was doing for the Park.

Mayor Dopson stated that Macclenny Townhomes were requesting a waiver of \$2500.00 in fees for their project as part of the application for funding from the Florida Housing and Finance Agency. Attorney Hugh Fish was there to represent the owners of the property, Ray and Blair Gatlin. In reference to the 39 unit PUD that is being looked at to build behind the new American Enterprise Bank, for the application review process, Mr. Fish asked for the City to give a \$2500.00 contribution for financing to look at the application. Mayor Dopson stated the purpose of this is to show community participation. Mayor Dopson asked Mr. Fish if this is the exact same PUD the City agreed to. Mr. Fish acknowledged he has sold the product exactly as the City agreed, and if the buyers wanted to change anything they would have to come back before the City Council. Mayor Dopson stated after this project is done who would be in charge of maintenance of this property. Ms. Brandi Volz answered Bridge Land Development will keep and maintain property. Mayor Dopson asked for pictures of some of their properties they own. Commissioner Kitching made a motion to accept the waiver of \$2500.00 in fees for the application for funding from the Florida Housing Finance Agency. Commissioner Bennett seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous.

Mayor Dopson recognized City Attorney Frank Maloney who gave a brief description of the Resolution before reading the Resolution 14-01 by title only. A resolution of the City of Macclenny, Florida; Adopting rules and policies governing public comment; adopting said rules and policies in compliance with section 286.0114, Florida Statutes; providing findings; providing definitions; providing rules for the conduct of meetings; providing rules for public participation and conduct; requiring the observance of decorum; providing for waivers; providing for severability; providing for an effective date. There were no comments from the Commissioners. Commissioner Bennett made a motion to accept the Resolution 14-01. Commissioner Kitching seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous.

Mayor Dopson recognized City Attorney Frank Maloney to read the Emergency Ordinance 14-01 by title only. A bill entitled an ordinance of the City of Macclenny, Florida; authorizing fire fighters of the City of Macclenny to vote on opting out of the current chapter 175, Florida statutes plan and receive their individual employee contribution; providing for an effective date. Mr. Maloney stated this Ordinance had to be passed before January 1, 2014. Mayor Dopson stated this would be better for firefighters and the City in the long run. There were no comments from the Commissioners. Commissioner Kitching made a motion to accept the Emergency Ordinance 14-01. Commissioner Bennett seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous.

Mayor Dopson recognized City Attorney Frank Maloney to read the first reading of Ordinance 14-02 by title only. An ordinance of the City of Macclenny, repealing Ordinance 96-07 levying all insurers an excise tax for the firefighters officers retirement trust fund; providing for conflicts, severability, and an effective date. Mayor Dopson stated this was a tax on homeowners that partially funded firefighter's retirement, and is now being terminated. There were no comments from the Commissioners. Commissioner Bennett made a motion to accept the first reading of Ordinance of 14-02. Commissioner Kitching seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous.

Mayor Dopson recognized City Attorney Frank Maloney to read the first reading of Ordinance 14-03 by title only. An ordinance of the City of Macclenny, Florida amending the capital improvements element to update the five-year schedule of capital improvements; providing for conflict with other ordinances; providing for severability; and providing an effective date. There were no comments from the Commissioners. Commissioner Bennett made a motion to accept the first reading of Ordinance of 14-03. Commissioner Kitching seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous.

Mayor Dopson recognized City Attorney Frank Maloney to read the first reading of Ordinance 14-04 by title only. A bill to be entitled an ordinance amending section 10-11 placement of utilities underground of the City of Macclenny unified land development regulations; to delete electric from underground utilities; creating a new section 10-12 underground electrical utilities; providing renumbering of section 10-12 to 10-13 and section 10-13 to 10-14; providing for an effective date. Mayor Dopson said this in an effort to eventually get all electrical wires underground. There were no comments from the Commissioners. Commissioner Kitching made a motion to accept the first reading of Ordinance of 14-04. Commissioner Bennett seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous.

Mayor Dopson recognized City Attorney Frank Maloney to read the first reading of Ordinance 14-05 by title only. A bill to be entitled an ordinance of the City of Macclenny, Florida, repealing ordinances 1996-07 and 2002-09, establishing a firefighters pension trust fund pursuant to chapter 175, Florida Statutes; providing for continuity of benefits; providing for acceptance of every active participants request to transfer to the Florida State retirement plan; providing for direction to the trust board of trustees to distribute the assets of the trust in compliance with section 175.361, Florida Statutes; providing for repeal of any conflicting ordinances or resolutions; providing for severability; and providing for an effective date. There were no comments from the Commissioners. Commissioner Kitching made a motion to accept the first reading of Ordinance of 14-05. Commissioner Bennett seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous.

In other business was approval of the Minutes from the month of October. Commissioner Bennett made a motion to approve the minutes and was seconded by Commissioner Kitching. Voting was unanimous.

In other business was the review of the bills for October. Motion to approve the October bills was made by Commissioner Kitching and was seconded by Commissioner Bennett. Voting was unanimous.

City Manager Phil Rhoden mentioned he had some good news to share. First the wastewater treatment plant was permitted for the next five years, and the City closed today on the Rayonier property. Mayor Dopson was excited to hear the news.

With no further comments from the audience, Mayor Dopson adjourned the regular meeting.




MAYOR GARY DOPSON

ATTEST:



CITY MANAGER/ CLERK Phil Rhoden