

CITY OF MACCLENNY
Regular Meeting
March 14, 2017
6:00 p.m.

The City Commission met in a regular session, Tuesday, March 14, 2017 with the following present: City Manager Phil Rhoden, City Attorney Frank Maloney, Commissioners Mark Bryant, Sam Kitching, Cecil Horne Jr., and Danny Norton and Council Secretary Deanna Dinkins.

City Manager Rhoden called the meeting to order. At the request of Manager Rhoden, Commissioner Kitching opened the meeting with prayer followed by a pledge to the United States flag.

New Business:

Attorney Frank Maloney administered the Oath of Office to Mark Bryant, who was appointed Mayor upon Dr. Dopson's retirement. Mayor Bryant then took his seat as Mayor and chaired the remainder of the meeting.

Mayor Bryant explained that when he was appointed as Mayor that created a commissioner seat vacancy. The position was advertised and several people inquired about the position, but only one application was received. Mr. Lynward Bones has been serving the City as a member of the Zoning Adjustment Board for several years. Commissioner Kitching made a motion and was seconded by Commissioner Norton to appoint Lynward Bones as Commissioner. There were no questions or comments. Voting was unanimous. Motion carried.

Attorney Frank Maloney administered the Oath of Office to Mr. Lynward Bones, who then took his seat as Commissioner.

Mayor Bryant announced a slight change in the order of the agenda and asked Manager Rhoden to introduce the representatives from Florida Power and Light. Daniel Hronec, Jeff Simmons, and Meier Wise were present to answer questions regarding the utility easements along Lowder Street required for the new transmission line. Manager Rhoden added we have their pledged support for using their existing right-of-way easement if the property in east Macclenny (Midpoint) develops. Mayor Bryant asked what the timeline is for the project. Mr. Hronec stated there is not a defined timeline but they are hoping to complete by the middle of 2018. Commissioner Bones asked if it would be a conflict of interest for him to vote on this because he lives a few hundred feet from where the line will be installed. After brief discussion, Attorney Maloney replied there would be nothing illegal or immoral about voting on the matter as long as he feels comfortable doing so. Commissioner Norton asked if the distance of the transmission lines from houses were the same in Baker County as in other counties. Mr. Hronec responded that FPL was able to use the existing easements in most of the other areas. Commissioner Kitching made a motion and was seconded by Commissioner Horne to approve the utility easements on three parcels of land requested by Florida Power and Light. There were no further questions or comments. Motion carried with Commissioner Bones voting against, while Commissioners Kitching, Horne, Norton, and Mayor Bryant voted in favor of approval of the utility easements.

Assistant City Manager Mike Griffis recommended the reappointment of Pam Lyons to the Zoning Adjustment Board. Mayor Bryant asked how long Ms. Lyons has served on the Board. Assistant Manager Griffis stated she was appointed in February 2014 and is willing to serve another term. Commissioner Kitching made the motion to reappoint Pam Lyons to the Zoning Adjustment Board and was seconded by Commissioner Norton. There were no further questions or comments. Voting was unanimous.

The next agenda item was the approval of fixed assets to be disposed of. Mayor Bryant read the list of items (see attached list). Manager Rhoden stated a public auction will be held to auction off the items. This will be a joint effort with the County, and they have already delivered some items to the yard. Manager Rhoden has also met with Denny Wells, Baker County School Board, to ask if they have items to dispose of. A date for the auction will be scheduled when all entities involved have obtained approval for dispositions, and it will be advertised in the paper. Commissioner Kitching made the motion to approve the dispositions of fixed assets and was

seconded by Commissioner Horne. There were no further questions or comments. Voting was unanimous. Motion carried.

Manager Rhoden began discussing Engine 2, which is the oldest unit in our fire department's fleet, but is still functional. We were asked to assist the fire college in Lake City in obtaining a piece of equipment from Jacksonville Fire and Rescue Department (JFRD). Upon examination we discovered the City could benefit from the apparatus from JFRD, and donate Engine 2 to Lake City's fire college. Manager Rhoden asked for approval to donate Engine 2 to Florida Gateway Foundation, contingent upon obtaining apparatus from JFRD. If we do not get the equipment, we will loan ours to Florida Gateway Foundation for training. Chief Dugger added that the City would prepare a hold harmless agreement. Attorney Maloney stated he can prepare this. There was brief discussion regarding the agreement. Commissioner Bones made the motion to approve the donation of Engine 2, with a hold harmless agreement, to Florida Gateway Foundation, contingent upon obtaining the apparatus from JFRD and was seconded by Commissioner Kitching. There were no further questions or comments. Voting was unanimous. Motion carried.

Mayor Bryant introduced Geoffrey Sample from St. Johns River Water Management District. Mr. Sample thanked the Mayor and Commissioners for their support on behalf of St. Johns River Water Management District and briefly discussed the need for heightened alert to conserve water where possible. Mayor Bryant read the proclamation declaring April as Water Conservation Month. Commissioner Kitching made the motion to approve the proclamation declaring April as Water Conservation Month and was seconded by Commissioner Norton. There were no further questions or comments. Voting was unanimous. Motion carried.

In other business was the approval of the minutes. The following minutes were submitted for approval:

- Regular Meeting: February 14, 2017
- Second Public Hearing CDBG: February 14, 2017

Commissioner Kitching made the motion to approve both of the above minutes and was seconded by Commissioner Horne. Voting was unanimous. Motion carried.

In other business was the review of the bills for February. Commissioner Norton asked about the purchase of pumps for a liftstation. Manager Rhoden stated it was a critical repair and while this specific purchase was not budgeted there was \$30,000 budgeted for emergency repairs. Commissioner Kitching made a motion to approve the bills and was seconded by Commissioner Norton. Voting was unanimous. Motion carried.

Comments from the Board:

Commissioner Norton asked for an update regarding the CSX gravity sewer line project. Manager Rhoden stated we are waiting on final approval of contracted labor from CSX.

Manager Rhoden briefly discussed the newly formed committee regarding EMS assessments fees and Fire assessment fees and the various options for providing services that are being discussed. He concluded by stating, "Anything that we take on we will only take on with the understanding that we will provide the same level of service in the County that we do in the City, and we must be able to do that without jeopardizing the existing service to the citizens of Macclenny." Manager Rhoden explained there is an ISO rating that needs to be maintained in order to keep the costs to our citizens down. About 18% of Macclenny Fire and Rescue Department's calls currently are out of the City limits. Manager Rhoden welcomed input from the board and the citizens regarding the EMS and Fire assessment fees.

Manager Rhoden reported both Buck Starling Road and Jonathan Street have been paved and striped. East Boulevard North was also striped, as there were safety concerns. The City has applied for a grant to widen and repave East Boulevard North and South.

Manager Rhoden stated we are seeking advice regarding the overpopulation of ducks at Memorial Park. The pond is also being treated and will be maintained quarterly.

Manager Rhoden discussed the sidewalks needed next to Winn Dixie.

Mayor Bryant stated the traffic lights and new lane paving on SR 228 look great. He then asked if the mosquito control would be started soon. Manager Rhoden stated spraying would begin soon. Mayor Bryant also encouraged everyone to buy local when possible.

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



Mark Bryant
MAYOR MARK BRYANT

ATTEST:

Phil Rhoden

CITY MANAGER / CLERK PHIL RHODEN