

**CITY OF WEWAHITCHKA
BOARD OF CITY COMMISSIONERS
SENIOR CITIZEN BUILDING
314 N 3rd STREET
REGULAR MEETING
October 28, 2021
6:00 PM**

The City Commission met on this date, October 28, 2021 at 6:00 P.M. at the Senior Citizens/Community Building, 314 N. 3rd St, Wewahitchka, Florida. **Mayor Gaskin** called the meeting to order, asked **Bro. Derek Gerber** to lead a prayer and everyone said the Pledge of Allegiance.

Attendance

Mayor Phillip Gaskin
Commissioner Ralph Fisher
Commissioner Johnny Paul

Sheriff

Beau McCorvey

City Attorney

Michelle Jordan

City Manager

Michael Gortman

City Superintendent

Chipper Wade

City Clerk

Rachel Jackson

Public Present

Ann Johnson
James Rish
Derrick Gerber
Debra Harvell
James Harvell
Waymon Hanlon
Joey Smith
Gene Hanlon
Chuck Johnson
Tom Wynn
Tommy Hamm
Hunter Baumgardner(SCE)
Tyler Marsh(SCE)
Jack Husband(SCE)
Molly Skipper
Wendy Weitzel
Robert Doyle

Approval of Agenda

Commissioner Paul made a motion to approve the agenda. **Commissioner Fisher** seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Approval of Minutes

Commissioner Paul made a motion to approve the Regular Commission Meeting Minutes – 9/30/21. **Commissioner Fisher** seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Public Recognition

Mayor Gaskin asked if there was anyone in the public who was not on the agenda that had anything to discuss and opened public discussion of Ordinances 2021-1213L and 2021-1215L.

Jim Rish discussed his concerns regarding the proposed code enforcement ordinance 2021-1215L. **Mr. Rish** stated that he felt that your private property is yours people should be allowed to do what they wish with their own property without being over regulated.

James Harvell stated that there was a rumor going around that Harvell's food truck location would be moving; he assured everyone that they are not moving.

REGULAR MEETING
October 28, 2021 @ 6:00 pm
Page 2
Public Recognition Cont'd....

Gene Hanlon sent his condolences to Commissioner Cox's family, then discussed his concerns regarding code enforcement ordinance 2021-1215L and RV ordinance 2021-1213L. **Mr. Hanlon** stated that he appreciated the changes that were made to the RV ordinance during the workshops and meetings, but thinks it will still have long range effects and feels that the board will be faced with tough decisions.

Mr. Hanlon stated that he was still concerned about the areas in the code enforcement ordinance about the property owner taking care of the right of ways. **Mayor Gaskin** stated that it had been changed. **Attorney Michelle Jordan** stated that the language in other areas in the ordinance that was referenced properly.

Chuck Johnson discussed his opinions regarding code enforcement ordinance 2021-1215L. He stated that he felt the ordinance would create more problems and too much control.

Commissioner Ralph Fisher explained the ordinance was a tool to help clean up properties. Owners would be notified and given time by the City to clean them up prior to being sent to code enforcement. **Commissioner Fisher** clarified that the ordinance was not being put into place with the intent of sending people to jail, it would allow for fines if properties in violation were not cleaned up.

Tom Wynn asked if fines assessed due to code enforcement violations that are added to ad-valorem tax assessments would come back to the City or the County. **City Attorney Michelle Jordan** explained the County will collect the money, but it will then be sent to the city.

Mayor Gaskin, asked if anyone else had anything else to say? There were no other comments, so **Mayor Gaskin** closed the public hearing/comments and re-convened the regular agenda.

Agenda

1. RV Ordinance 2021-1213L (Final Reading) – Following public hearing/comments, **City Clerk Rachel Jackson** read by title only Ordinance 2021-1213L

ORDINANCE NO. 2021-1213L

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF WEWAHITCHKA, FLORIDA, PROVIDING FOR AUTHORITY; PROVIDING FOR PURPOSE, PROVIDING FINDINGS OF FACT; PROVIDING FOR REGULATIONS ON THE USE OF RECREATIONAL VEHICLES IN THE CITY LIMITS OF THE CITY OF WEWAHITCHKA, FLORIDA; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR THE REPEAL OF ALL ORDINANCE OR PART OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HERewith AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Commissioner Fisher made a motion to adopt ordinance 2021-1213L. **Commissioner Paul** stated that he has been on the board for over 4 years and have been trying to get these code violation issues corrected numerous times. Putting this ordinance into place is a starting point. **Commissioner Paul** then seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

2. Code Enforcement Ordinance 2021-1215L (Final Reading) – Following public hearing/comments **City Clerk Rachel Jackson** read by title only Ordinance 2021-1215L

ORDINANCE NO. 2021-1215L

AN ORDINANCE OF CITY OF WEWAHITCHKA, FLORIDA PERTAINING TO PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY; DECLARING CERTAIN CONDITIONS ON LOTS, PARCELS, AND TRACTS WITHIN THE CITY OF WEWAHITCHKA BOUNDARIES TO BE A PUBLIC NUISANCE AND THREAT TO THE HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELFARE OF THE CITIZENS AND RESIDENTS OF THE CITY OF WEWAHITCHKA; PROHIBITING CERTAIN CONDITIONS THAT CONSTITUTE AN IMMINENT THREAT TO PUBLIC HEALTH; AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF WEWAHITCHKA TO UNDERTAKE IMMEDIATE ABATEMENT AND REMEDY OF IMMINENT PUBLIC HEALTH THREATS; AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF WEWAHITCHKA TO ABATE AND REMEDY PUBLIC NUISANCE AFTER PROPER NOTICE WHEN IMMINENT PUBLIC HEALTH THREATS EXIST; AUTHORIZING THE ENFORCEMENT OF THIS ORDINANCE BY GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA; AUTHORIZING THE IMPOSITION AND LEVY OF SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS BY THE CITY OF WEWAHITCHKA; ESTABLISHING THE CITY OF WEWAHITCHKA AS A SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICT; AUTHORIZING THE LEVY OF NON-AD VALOREM ASSESSMENTS IN CONNECTION WITH VIOLATIONS OF THIS ORDINANCE.

Commissioner Fisher made a motion to adopt ordinance 2021-1215L. **Commissioner Paul** seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

3. Resolution 2021-1184R- Christmas Parade - City Clerk Rachel Jackson presented and discussed Resolution 2021-1184R regarding the 2021 Christmas Parade, stating the parade is scheduled to be held on December 18, 2021 at 5:00 pm. **City Clerk Rachel Jackson** asked the board to approve the resolution in order to apply for the FDOT permit to temporarily close Hwy 71.

Commissioner Paul made a motion to approve Resolution 2021-1184R. **Commissioner Fisher** seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

4. Solid Waste Collection Services Bid – City Clerk Rachel Jackson asked the commission to approve advertisement for going out to bid for solid waste services. Additionally, she asked for guidance on the term of the contract, franchise fee, handling of billing and complaints, and if the contract would auto renew after the initial term.

The board agreed to a 5 year term on the contract. The franchise fee will remain at 10%. Billing and complaints will be handled by the City, and the contract will not auto renew, but can be renewed upon approval of the board and acceptance of the contractor on an annual basis.

Commissioner Paul made a motion to approve advertisement to bid solid waste services. **Commissioner Fisher** seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

5. COVID-19 – None

REGULAR MEETING
October 28, 2021 @ 6:00 pm
Page 4

Approval of Bills

1. Fisher's - Fisher's invoices unable to be approved, due to Commissioners' absence

2. Charlie Pettis Pest Services - Moved to regular bills

3. Final FY2020-21 Bills & October 2021 Regular Bills – After reviewing bills, **Commissioner Fisher** made a motion to pay Cox Transmission invoice (\$1,875.00), Charlie Pettis Pest Services invoice (\$90.00), Final FY 2020-21 bills, October 2021 regular bills, and additional bills for Gulf Coast Electric and Waste Pro (\$31,514.94). **Commissioner Paul** seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Old Business/Open Items

1. Fire station/old City Hall –

(Original Substantial Completion Date 9/4/21, Original Work Completion Date 10/11/21)

(CHANGE ORDER 3- 7/29/21-Changed Substantial Comp. Date 11/17/21, Work Completion Date 12/25/21)

(CHANGE ORDER 4- SUBSTANTINAL COMPLETION DATE 12/9/21, WORK COMPLETION 1/15/22)

Engineer Tyler Marsh stated that the blocks are being laid and presented the construction schedule and a change order for 20 additional rain days.

Contractor Tommy Hamm discussed the reasons for delays and the explained the future construction schedule. Following discussion, **Commissioner Paul** made a motion to approve Change order #4 for 20 additional days. Adjusting substantial completion date to 12/9/21 and work completion to 1/15/22. **Commissioner Fisher** seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

2. Delinquent Utility Bills – None

3. Water Losses – None

4. SEWER INFILTRATION AND INFLOW – **City Superintendent Chipper Wade** stated the some of the issues had been found at Red Bull and at the cabinet shop.

5. Ray Dickens Fish Fry for the Sr. Citizens (October 7, 2022) – None

6. Lift Station – **City Engineer Hunter Baumgardner** stated now that plans were approved they have been submitted for permitting and should be ready to go out for bid next month.

7. Overtime Report broken down by pay periods – None

8. Buckhorn Archway – **City Manager Michael Gortman** stated the archway is now up and now needs to be bricked around.

9. County LDR – **City Attorney Michelle Jordan** requested a workshop be set in order to get further guidance on the LDR's. The board directed **Attorney Jordan** and **City Manager Michael Gortman** to set a date and schedule it.

REGULAR MEETING

October 28, 2021 @ 6:00 pm

Page 5

Old Business/Open Items Cont'd....

- 10. Employee Water/Sewer License Testing – City Manager Michael Gortman** stated that David Paul had taken the water test, however did not pass. It will be 60 days before he can take it again. Blake and Kyle are both studying to take their tests.

Other Comments

City Superintendent – None

Sheriff – None

City Engineer – None

City Clerk – Presented and discussed an email from the library regarding the upcoming Local History Day.

Stated that the office would be closed on December 3rd for staff training on the new utility billing system.

Asked if the board wanted to schedule the December meeting or wait until the November meeting, the board said to wait until the November meeting.

City Manager – None

City Attorney – None

Mayor/Commissioners' Comments

Commissioner Paul – None

Commissioner Fisher – None

Mayor Gaskin – None


Adjournment

Commissioner Fisher made a motion to adjourn @ 7:30 pm. **Commissioner Paul** seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

CITY OF WEWAHITCHKA


Phillip Gaskin, Mayor

ATTEST:


Rachel Jackson, City Clerk

