

MINUTES
CITY COMMISSION MEETING
September 8, 2014

The City Commission met this date in regular session in the Commission Chambers. The Invocation was given by Mayor Arnold, after which the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. A quorum being present, the meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM with the following in attendance.

Mayor	:	John B. Arnold, Jr.
Commissioners	:	Kay Hamilton
	:	Joe Morgan
	:	Clark (Tom) Browning, IV
City Clerk	:	Tammy Johnson
City Administrator	:	Carl Scott
Police Chief	:	Joe Hart
Fire Chief	:	Mark Norris
City Attorney	:	Hayward Dykes
City Engineer	:	Roy Petrey
Public Works Director:	:	James Valandingham
Library Director	:	David Weatherford
Recorder	:	Beth Millsaps

Others in attendance: (Not inclusive) Mike Matthews (camera), Mike Griffin (Bay Beacon), Joe Cobb, Don Caverly

Mayor Arnold welcomed everyone this evening and stated that the Commission was interested in hearing their thoughts and welcomed any comments. He asked that anyone wanting to make any comments should raise his/her right hand to be recognized and use the microphone at the podium to address the Commission.

Welcome

Mayor Arnold said that Comm. Strong will not be in attendance this evening, he is out of town lobbying in Washington DC.

1. CITIZENS' CONCERNS (non-agenda items) – Resident

There were no resident comments.

2. CITIZENS' CONCERNS (non-agenda items) – Non Resident

There were no non resident comments.

Citizens' Concerns
Resident
Citizens' Concerns
Non – Resident

1. NEW ACTION ITEMS – Added Agenda Items

Comm. Hamilton said she had asked to discuss a date to set a workshop to discuss employee pay, Mayor Arnold said that has been added under reports, correspondence and announcements.

Added
Agenda
Items

2. NEW ACTION ITEMS – Resolution No. 06-09-08-14 Increase Wastewater Rates

Mayor Arnold read Resolution No. 06-09-08-14, a resolution amending the schedule of sewer rates, charged to residential and commercial customers and providing for an effective date. Mayor Arnold said this resolution would raise rates \$2 a month due to modification of the regional sewer plant. He said this resolution needed to be voted on tonight in order for it to be in effect when meters are read on September 15th. COMM. MORGAN MADE A MOTION TO PASS RESOLUTION NO. 06-09-08-14. COMM. BROWNING SECONDED THE MOTION. Comm. Morgan asked if the major single family resident base rate less than 4,000 gallons. Mrs. Johnson said about 60% use less than 4,000 gallons. Comm. Morgan said he is concerned about an increase for a fair segment of community that is struggling. He suggests increase the amount for those in the community that use more that way those that use less aren't charged for using less. Mayor Arnold said the additional increase is \$2 for all. Comm. Morgan said it is a 10% increase you could reduce by \$.50 the base rate and increase the rate for the people who use more to bring in the same amount of money. MAYOR ARNOLD CALLED FOR A VOTE ON RESOLUTION NO. 06-09-08-14, MOTION PASSED BY VOTE OF 3 TO 1, WITH COMM. MORGAN VOTING IN THE NEGATIVE.

Resolution
No. 06-09-
08-14
Increase
Waste-
Water Rates

3. NEW ACTIONS ITEMS – Resolution No. 07-09-08-14 Community Planning Month

Mayor Arnold read Resolution No. 07-09-08-14 a resolution designating the month of October 2014 as community planning month. COMM. HAMILTON MADE A MOTION TO PASS RESOLUTION NO. 07-09-08-14. COMM. MORGAN SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE OF THE COMMISSION 4 TO 0. Mr. Scott said in October we need to be gearing up for more volunteers. He said the reason we didn't receive the CDBG grant is because of income levels, he said there is an opportunity to submit for another grant but will need to have 51 % moderate to low income, we will also have to form a panel for review that will need to have volunteers in the income range. Mr. Scott said the city needed to actively solicit volunteers for the new panel that needs to be formed and also for our Planning Commission.

Resolution
No. 07-09-
08-14
Community
Planning
Month

4. NEW ACTION ITEMS – City Facebook page

Comm. Hamilton recommended establishing a facebook page for the city to help keep residents more informed for those who don't go to the website. She said a lot of cities are doing this, help in communicating with the people but also careful not to use as a forum. Comm. Hamilton said we could list the meeting schedule, what functions are going on within the city,

Facebook
Page

she said she runs several for other businesses. Comm. Hamilton said we would need a resolution. Mr. Dykes said they are composing a resolution for the City of Ft. Walton Beach, the page will get out more information such as events, things going on within the community. He also recommends a disclaimer on the Facebook site due to the Sunshine Law and public records internal policy within the city. Comm. Hamilton said it is easy to control and maintain. Comm. Morgan asked about restricting comments. Comm. Hamilton said everyone carries a phone with them nowadays, and on the other pages she maintains and has over the past five years there have only been two or three inappropriate comments and you would simply delete them. Mr. Dykes said on facebook you can also hide posts, that way they could be out of sight but still be able to retrieve them if need be, for public records request. Comm. Hamilton answering the Mayor's question she would volunteer to manage or maybe Mr. Shipley but first she wanted to see if the Commission would be interested. Mayor Arnold said it should be managed by an employee not an elected official. Mr. Dykes said he agrees and a disclaimer could be added to state the internal policy. Comm. Morgan said he was in favor but would the Commission need to respond to emails off of the site, if a facebook person requests information, seems like every other week we are having to respond to a public records request, all of these things take up a huge amount of time, if we could find a way that would be easier. Mr. Dykes said regardless of what form a request comes in it has to be responded to, that would be part of what the disclaimer is for. Mayor Arnold said he believes this would be more work for the staff. Comm. Morgan said someone would request information on sanitation for example, Comm. Hamilton said then we would tell them to call Mr. Valandingham and given them the phone number. Mayor Arnold said he feels this might be opening Pandora's Box. Comm. Hamilton said there are so many cities that are doing it. Mrs. Johnson said what if a public records request is made on Facebook, Mr. Dykes said it would have to be responded to, a records request has to be responded to regardless of what the forum it is requested in. Mr. Weatherford suggested doing a blog, he said the library has one and it is a great way to get information out. Comm. Hamilton said the Facebook idea would be better, everyone has an I phone nowadays. Mr. Weatherford said a blog is a great way to get information out to the public. Mr. Dykes said a lot of cities, the county and even the sheriff's office have Facebook pages. Comm. Morgan said he thinks it is a great idea, just need to approach cautiously. Mr. Dykes said he can begin to work on a resolution for the Commission to review. Mayor said that would be fine but we need to take a good hard look at resolution once it is complete.

City Hall
Roof &
Outside
Walls
Update

1. **OLD BUSINESS – City Hall Roof & Outside Walls Update**

Mr. Petrey said the roof is complete only short some of the final paperwork, as far as the outside walls we are going on the premise of the DOC workers opening the wall to see what extent of the damage might be, then look to hire a contractor or have the work done in house by the DOC crew. He said there is no way to tell the extent of the damage until the walls are opened. Mayor Arnold asked if from the roof they were able to tell the amount of leakage. Mr. Petrey said not able to see what led to infiltration. He recommends when DOC staff is available to open one section at a time and go forward to make repairs go out for bid if necessary. Once damage extent is known he can write up performance specifics for bid if necessary. Mr. Valandingham said he has spoken to Lt. Carnahan and was told he had one possibly two carpenters that he could work with scheduling them to come out with the work squad. He said also in talking with Officer Long to schedule he said his main concern is exposing the work crew as well as his staff to the mold and remediation limiting the exposure to that and finding someone who actually deals specifically with that. Mayor Arnold asked if we were opening from the outside, Mr. Valandingham said yes open the block structure outside. Mayor Arnold asked if any removal will be done of the sheetrock inside. Mr. Valandingham said the plan is to remove from the outside first to see damage. Mayor Arnold said it was his impression this problem was from a roof leak where the roof joined outside wall. Mr. Petrey said in the details provided water not coming from the roof, could be wind blown water right now penetrating and coming through the breaches in the stucco, until we open and see the extent behind there and the damage we would be just guessing. Comm. Morgan said the intent is to remove the stucco not concrete block. He said the intent is to remove spoiled concrete stucco to expose the damage stucco and material attaching so we can reattach correctly. He said once outside is repaired might have to go inside and look at the inside damage. Mayor Arnold said lets proceed with having the prison crew access the damage. Mr. Petrey said he will have Mr. Valandingham coordinate with him.

Removal
City
Assets
From
Inventory

2. **OLD BUSINESS – Removal of City Assets from Inventory**

Comm. Morgan said he has made little progress. He said he has spoken to the Florida State University system that our auditor Mr. Scott had referred him to, next he will speak with the League of Cities.

Plat I
Docks

3. **OLD BUSINESS – Plat 1 Docks**

Comm. Morgan said he has been working with Mr. Bill Smith to obtain documents for Plat I for riparian lines working on the best solution, making progress.

TPO/
DOT

1. **REPORTS/CORRESPONDENCE/ANNOUNCEMENTS – TPO/DOT**

Comm. Morgan said he didn't have anything to report.

Storm-
water

2. **REPORTS/CORRESPONDENCE/ANNOUNCEMENTS – Stormwater**

Comm. Morgan said nothing new to report.	
3. <u>REPORTS/CORRESPONDENCE/ANNOUNCEMENTS</u> – Legal Activities	
<p>Mr. Dykes said regarding a code enforcement situation that Mr. Bowman had to remove himself as magistrate, the resident has reconnected power so in order not to enlarge the process he ask the permission of the Commission to contact Mr. Hall who previously handled this original matter to begin a new case. COMM. MORGAN MADE A MOTION TO APPOINT MR. STEVE HALL AS THE REPLACEMENT FOR MR. BOWMAN ON SAID MATTER. MAYOR ARNOLD SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE OF THE COMMISSION 4 TO 0.</p>	<p>Legal Activities</p>
4. <u>REPORTS/CORRESPONDENCE/ANNOUNCEMENTS</u>- Median Beautification Update	
<p>Mr. Petrey said we are still working with the DOT, he said Mr. Davis has gone over and beyond to try and satisfy the DOT. He said at one time Dr. Davis’s plan was accepted and then it wasn’t it has turned into a very frustrating situation. Mr. Petrey said it boils down to now they don’t want the trees which is what they requested in the beginning. He said Mr. Davis is also working with the City of Destin and they having the same problem. Mr. Petrey said they are meeting with the district secretary trying to find out what is needed to satisfy their requirements. He said plans are all but finished but then when the trees were eliminated plans had to be started all over again. He said also watching to see what happens in Destin, see if they have any results there. Comm. Morgan answering the Mayor’s question said everything had been going along well till about a week ago, he said that he, Mr. Petrey and Mr. Davis have gone over everything line by line in accordance with the new guidelines given and now to be disapproved isn’t anything they wanted to hear. Comm. Morgan said Mr. Davis had spent well over what he was paid for in his design cost. He said timing was not an issue as of yet but could become one.</p>	<p>Median Beautification Update</p>
5. <u>REPORTS/CORRESPONDENCE/ANNOUNCEMENTS</u> – Planning Commission	
<p>No report this evening.</p>	<p>Planning Comm.</p>
6. <u>REPORTS/CORRESPONDENCE/ANNOUNCEMENTS</u> – Visioning Committee Update	
<p>Mayor Arnold said he regrets to inform the Commission, Dr. White has had to resign as chair due to a personal matter. The committee will still have their regular meeting this Thursday the 11th.</p>	<p>Visioning Comm.</p>
7. <u>REPORTS/CORRESPONDENCE/ANNOUNCEMENTS</u> – Budget Final Hearing	
<p>Mayor Arnold said the final budget hearing will be the 18th of September at 6 PM.</p>	<p>Final Budget Hearing</p>
8. <u>REPORTS/CORRESPONDENCE/ANNOUNCEMENTS</u> – Schedule Workshops	
<p>Employee Salaries</p>	
<p>Comm. Hamilton request that this be placed on the agenda. She said Comm. Morgan had originally brought up. Comm. Morgan said the question is how to approach, he thinks the Commissioners need to speak with their department heads on what we have at this time, get familiar with it and then next meeting actually schedule on how to approach.</p>	<p>Workshop Employee Salaries</p>
9. <u>REPORTS/CORRESPONDENCE/ANNOUNCEMENTS</u> – Etc.	
<p>Mayor Arnold said that Mrs. Johnson had conducted a health insurance survey with Blue Cross and also the League of Cities and we had received a better quote from Blue Cross and we were looking at changing. He said that when Mrs. Johnson spoke to the League of Cities about this that the league modified their rates by a considerable amount instead of a 9 % increase we will have a 15% reduction. Mrs. Johnson said she was going to recommend the change to Blue Cross but when she spoke to the Florida League of Cities they wanted to do right by us. Comm. Morgan complimented Mrs. Johnson on a good job.</p>	<p>Etc. Health Ins.</p>
<p>Chief Norris said he wanted to make the public aware that on 306 Okaloosa Avenue, the building behind Tom Thumb, they have been given permission to use this building as ventilation and demo training, this will be going on over this week and next.</p>	<p>Fire Dept. Demo Training</p>
<p>He also stated that on October 5th the fire department will hold their annual open house, kicking off national fire prevention week is the 6th through the 11th. Chief Norris said the hours of the open house will be 10 am to 3 pm, everyone is welcome.</p>	<p>Fire Dept. Open House</p>
1. <u>ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS</u> – Minutes	
<p>Comm. Morgan said on page 2, line 31 it should be deferred, not differed. COMM. MORGAN MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM AUGUST 4, 2014 WITH COMPLETED CORRECTION. COMM. BROWNING SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE OF THE COMMISSION 4 TO 0.</p>	<p>Minutes</p>
<p>Comm. Morgan had corrections on minutes from August 11, 2014. He said on page 4 line 5 should be newsletter not newspaper and on page 6 line 27 should be swale not swell. COMM. HAMILTON MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM AUGUST 11, 2014 WITH COMPLETED CORRECTIONS. COMM. MORGAN SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE OF THE COMMISSION 4 TO 0.</p>	
<p>COMM. BROWNING MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM AUGUST 18·2014. COMM. HAMILTON SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE OF THE COMMISSION 4 TO 0.</p>	

Comm. Morgan had a correction on page 2 line 25 to add a comma between the words it, that. COMM. BROWNING MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM AUGUST 25, 2014 WITH COMPLETED CORRECTION. COMM. HAMILTON SECONDED

Mayor Arnold commended Ms. Millsaps for her hard work on all the minutes there was a lot of information and a lot of talking, fantastic job.

Disburse-
ments
Made

2. **ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS – Disbursements Made**

Mayor Arnold said the Commission would find a copy of the disbursements to be made in the financial for their perusal.

Adjourn

ADJOURN

There being no further business to be brought before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 7 PM.

John B. Arnold, Jr.
Mayor

Heyward H. Strong, Jr.
Chair, VCA

ATTEST:

Tammy Johnson, CMC
City Clerk

September 8, 2014

The DVD labeled September 8, 2014 contains the audio and video of this meeting and will be kept as a permanent part of these minutes.