

The City Council of the City of Monticello, Florida, met in regular session on April 5, 2016 at 7:00 PM at City Hall. The following members were present:

Tom Vogelgesang, Mayor
Troy Avera
Julie Conley
John Jones
George Evans

Others present were:

Fred Mosley, Chief of Police
Steve Wingate, City Manager
Emily Anderson, City Clerk
Bruce Leinback, City Attorney

Mayor Tom Vogelgesang called the meeting to order. Council Member George Evans offered an invocation, and Mayor Vogelgesang led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT

***Howard Marx** of Main Street presented a summary of downtown improvement suggestions from property owners.

***Dick Bailer** of the Legislative Committee presented a review of the recent legislative session.

***Betty Russell** of 730 M L King Street complained of some nuisance properties near Memorial Missionary Baptist Church.

CONSENT AGENDA

***Approval of Minutes of 3/1/2016**

***Application for Emancipation Day Parade on May 16, 2016 / Resolution 2016-01 Assuming Liability for Highway Closing**

***Application for Jefferson County Watermelon Festival Parade on June 18, 2016 / Resolution 2016-02 Assuming Liability for Highway Closing**

On motion of John Jones, seconded by George Evans, the City Council unanimously voted to approve the Consent Agenda items.

MONTICELLO VOLLUNTEER FIRE CHIEF LESTER LAWRENCE AND MARK VINSON IN RE: FIRE HYDRANT PAINTING PROJECT Chief Lawrence and Mr. Vinson reported that 125 hydrants were painted as part of an Eagle Scout project. A formal letter of thanks will be provided to Mr. Vinson.

REPORT ON STATUS OF PUBLIC NUISANCES

***Resolution 2015-28 – 665 Ash Street**

-Jennifer Allen, Owner

***Resolution 2015-29 – Ash Street**

-Willie May Scurry, Owner

City Manager Wingate reported that a refuse container had been moved to the property, but no demolition was taking place. Attorney Bruce Leinback noted that Council had authority to remove the buildings without further notice to owner. On motion of George Evans, seconded by Julie Conley, the Council voted unanimously to proceed with nuisance abatement of the two properties.

APPROVAL OF BID FOR W. DOGWOOD STREET IMPROVEMENTS AND ISSUANCE OF NOTICE OF AWARD (SIDEWALK/CONCRETE WORK)

Engineer Rob Davis presented a recommendation on awarding a bid for concrete and sidewalk work on the W. Dogwood Street improvements. He noted that the low bidder, Stege Contracting Company, has also offered to perform demolition of the existing sidewalk and cutting of asphalt at no extra cost. On motion of George Evans, seconded by John Jones, the Council unanimously voted to approve the bid as recommended.

APPROVAL OF TASK ORDER FOR DOWNTOWN WATER MAIN SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS Engineer Rob Davis explained the grant project of replacement of three sections of deteriorating water lines and explained the task order of engineering services to be provided. On motion of Troy Avera, seconded by George Evans, the Council voted unanimously to approve the task order for engineering services.

RESOLUTION 2016-03 DESIGNATING THE CITY MANAGER AS THE PROJECT MANAGER FOR UPCOMING SMALL COUNTY OUTREACH PROGRAM MUNICIPAL GRANT CYCLES On motion of John Jones, seconded by Troy Avera, the Council voted unanimously to approve Resolution 2016-03.

APPROVAL OF PURCHASE OF POLE BARN FOR CITY EQUIPMENT STORAGE City Manager Wingate asked for approval of \$15,000 of BP settlement funds for purchase of a pole barn for storage of city equipment. On motion of Troy Avera, seconded by George Evans, the Council voted unanimously to approve the purchase from BP funding.

DISCUSSION OF REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES – WATER TOWER MAINTENANCE City Manager Wingate noted that a request for proposals for water tower maintenance was being developed. On motion of George Evans, seconded by John Jones, the Council voted unanimously to approve the issuance of a request for proposals.

COUNCIL MEMBER TROY AVERA TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION:

***Historic Property Inventory/Historic District Expansion** Council Member Troy Avera discussed the goal of obtaining updated documentation on historic properties and consideration of expansion of the historic district and the need for an address list of historic district properties for the county permitting department.

***E. Dogwood Street Concept #2**

Council Member Avera suggested adoption of Concept Plan #2 for E. Dogwood and indicated it is imperative for the city to make the downtown attractive and that the Council show commitment to the project. Several property owners and business owners urged the Council to move forward on the project, indicating that Concept #2 was the preferred design for street improvements.

After discussion by the Council on the design and budget, the matter was set for a workshop on April 25th at 6:00 p.m. to further discuss the specifics of the plan.

OLD BUSINESS

***HISTORIC PROERTY TAX EXEMPTION ORDINANCE** City Attorney Leinback is still reviewing the proposed ordinance.

NEW BUSINESS

Council Member Avera mentioned the vacancy of the county building inspector position and possible need for the city to address permitting within the city.

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND DEPARTMENTS

***Steve Wingate, City Manager** – City Manager Wingate thanked the county crews who have provided much assistance on the W. Dogwood Street parking lot. He also noted Wastewater Collection Technician Class C Certificates received by Ron Brumbley and Joe Shiver. He also noted an expensive repair needed on the grapple truck.

***Emily Anderson, City Clerk** – Clerk Anderson reported on repairs needed at City Hall and asked for approval to apply for a grant through the Division of Historic Resources for window rehabilitation and painting of City Hall. On motion of Julie Conley, seconded by George Evans, the request was approved by unanimous vote.

COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS

***Council Member Troy Avera** noted that the county is beginning a zoning designation process, and the city should request that county properties which are contiguous to the city be zoned to match city zoning. He asked that the city employees receiving certification be recognized and that the county be thanked for their assistance to the city in finishing the parking lot. He encouraged support for the city's grant application for city hall rehabilitation at the time of the state hearings.

***Council Member John Jones** reported on Apalachee Regional Planning Council discussions.

***Mayor Tom Vogelgesang** suggested that Comcast be invited to come talk to the Council about local offerings and receive an update on digital cable connection within the city.

***April Workshop** The Council will meet on April 25th at 6:00 p.m. Topics of discussion will be the E. Dogwood Street conceptual plans, the historic property tax exemption ordinance and other budget discussions.

With no further discussions, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Emily Anderson
City Clerk/Treasurer

Mayor

NOTE: These proceedings were digitally recorded (1 File)