



City of Foley, AL

407 E. Laurel Avenue
Foley, AL 36535

Meeting Minutes - Draft City Council

Monday, May 4, 2015

4:00 PM

Conference Room

Work Session

Call to Order

Council President Wayne Trawick called the Work Session to order at 4:00 p.m.

Present: 5 - President Wayne Trawick, Council Member Vera Quaites, Council Member Ralph Hellmich, Council Member Rick Blackwell and Council Member Charles Ebert III

Roll Call

All Council Members were present. Also present: Mayor Koniar, Mike Thompson, Sandra Pate, Vicky Southern, Katy Taylor, Steve Smith, David Wilson, Joey Darby, Jessica Middleton, Dana Overton, Don Staley, Virginia Corker (Pickleball), Jerry Corker (Pickleball), Deb Peterson (Pickleball), Bob Webb (Pickleball), Faith Eagles (Pickleball), Kate Embry, Taylor Davis, David Thompson, Sal Muccio, Pam Harris, Chad Christian, David Vosloh (Glenlakes), Stephen Delahunty (Sawgrass), Sue Steigerwald, and Michael Lucas.

Present: 5 - President Wayne Trawick, Council Member Vera Quaites, Council Member Ralph Hellmich, Council Member Rick Blackwell and Council Member Charles Ebert III

Discussion Items

[15-0209](#)

Discuss appointing someone to the Board of Equalization

Attachments:

[ADOR BD OF EQUALIZATION](#)

[ADOR CO BD OF EQUALIZATION NOMINEE_Redacted.pdf](#)

City Clerk Vicky Southern reported the last person nominated by the City was Sue Wilson. Mrs. Wilson declined to serve on the Board of Equalization for a second term due to her husband's health. The deadline for the nomination is August 14, 2015. President Trawick asked Council to be thinking of a person to nominate to serve on this board.

[15-0225](#)

Discuss the donation of an easement for ingress and egress over the former L & N right of way.

Attachments:

[Letter and Map](#)

[Warranty Deed](#)

President Trawick reported this item was a carry-over item that was erroneously added to the agenda. Staff is still working on this item.

15-0263

Discuss Pickleball

Ashford Park HOA President Bob Webb gave a presentation on Pickleball and its growing popularity. He also gave Council handouts, which is attached as backup to the minutes. He presented statistics that show the number of people playing pickleball and how much revenue national pickleball tournaments can generate if the City had a facility that could house pickleball courts. Approximately 2.4 acres is needed for 24 pickleball courts with a .5 acre buffer designed for eight (8) more courts if needed. The Foley Sport Tourism Park is the preferred location for the courts due to the easy access to Beach Express and 1-10. He reported the investment for the City would be less than \$1 Million and within a five year period, the return on the investment could be \$138.5 Million. He reported the members of the Pickleball Club are willing to manage the facility at no cost to the City. Mr. Webb presented quotes he has received for a facility, which also consists of restrooms and locker rooms. City Administrator Mike Thompson reported that the Sports Tourism facility will have restrooms, locker room and concession stands for people playing soccer, lacrosse or any of the sports that will be played there because it will be shared space. Mr. Thompson asked Mr. Webb if they would need their own restrooms, locker rooms and concession stands. Mr. Webb reported no as long as the proximity is not an issue then they could use all those amenities that are already in place. Economic Director Jeff Rouzie suggested there could possibly be acreage available for a pickleball facility west of the Coastal Alabama Farmers and Fishermen Market. Councilman Hellmich reported that the acreage behind the Snook Family YMCA may be a good place as well. Sports Tourism Director Don Staley reported that pickleball is a fast growing sport and it is not only for older people, young people are playing the sport and parents and grandparents are playing pickleball with their children and grandchildren. Economic Development Director Jeff Rouzie reported that this sport will bring a lot of people to Foley during the fall and winter months as well. Mr. Webb reported pickleball's U.S. Open is a nine (9) day tournament, held the last week of April and it will bring 1000 players and 10,000 spectators the first year. Mr. Thompson reported City staff can work with Mr. Webb more to find out where and how pickleball can fit into the Sports Tourism because it sounds like a great fit for the City. There will be an investment but there will also be great saving if the Sports Tourism facilities could be utilized. Mr. Webb reported the size of the courts would need to be specifically dedicated to pickleball.

15-0299

Consider appointing a Voting Delegate for AMIC's annual membership meeting on May 16, 2015 at 1:00 p.m.

Attachments: [AMIC Voter Designation Form](#)

Mrs. Southern reported that Councilmembers Vera Quaite and Rick Blackwell will be representing the Public Facilities Cooperative District during the business meeting. Councilman Blackwell will be serving as the Voting Delegate and Councilmember Quaite will be serving as the First Alternate. Since the annual membership meeting will be at a different time, there was a consensus to appoint Councilmember Quaite as the Voting Delegate and

Councilman Blackwell as the First Alternate to represent the City. There was a consensus to add this item to the Council agenda.

Enactment No: 15-2165-RES

Discuss Council Meeting Agenda of May 4, 2015

15-0270 Public Project - Airport Drainage - Councilman Hellmich reported this item is for Council to approve the recommendation made by the Planning Commission for the public project.

15-0277 No Outlet Sign for Cypress Gates Subdivision - Assistant City Engineer Taylor Davis reported this item is to approve the installation of a "No Outlet" sign on the existing street sign for Cypress Gates Subdivision. Motorists try to cut through the subdivision thinking there is a short cut to bypass the intersection at Cedar Street and Fern Avenue when there is no outlet within the subdivision.

15-0278 Permanent Drainage and Maintenance Easement for the Drainage Ditch between North Alston Street and AL 59 - Mr. Davis reported this is the ditch south of Southern Rental Storage. There is no designated drainage easement there. The City's equipment cannot reach the north side to maintain the area. This item is to accept the easement to allow the City's equipment to maintain the area.

15-0279 Bid Award for Pecan Street Culvert Repair - President Trawick turned the Work Session over to President Pro-tem Hellmich.

City Engineer Chad Christian reported that the bid tab shows they were within 1.5% under budget and he recommends approving the lowest bidder, Blade Construction, LLC., to install the box culverts. President Pro-tem Hellmich asked what the time frame will be for the installation. Mr. Christian reported this is the same contractor that is completing the West Section Avenue repairs and he believes once that work is complete they will begin the Pecan Street culvert repair.

President Pro-tem Hellmich turned the meeting back over to President Trawick.

15-0280 Drainage Ditch Clearing between Collinwood and Meadow Run Subdivision - Mr. Christian reported they obtained quotes to mechanically clear the bottom of the side slopes of the drainage channel. The low quote was just over \$10,000.00. They tried to get four (4) quotes but only received two (2). He believes the price is the best they can do for work. This will be contingent upon obtaining all the easements needed.

15-0281 AL 59 and CR 10 Intersection Improvements - City Administrator Mike Thompson reported that currently, there is a protected left-hand turn at this intersection if you are traveling north bound but there isn't a protected left-hand turn going south bound turning east onto County Road 10. The City and ALDOT have received complaints about safety particularly from people traveling south and turning left at the intersection to go into the Dollar General Store. The City has reached out to the County, ALDOT and Gulf Shores to see if the City can partner with them to solve the problem. There is a quote to put in a left-hand turn signal for south bound traffic that is approximately

\$24,000.00. The County is willing to split the cost with the City. The City of Gulf Shores has not yet agreed to fund any of the project even though they approved Dollar General being built at that location. There is a danger there for south bound traffic making the left-hand turn. Foley will never annex all four corners of that intersection so we will not accept the traffic signal maintenance from ALDOT but since there are City of Foley residents traveling south to shop at that Dollar General store and there is a safety issue with the left-hand turn, the City will split the cost with the County for a protected left-hand turn signal. At a future date, the entire intersection will need to be upgraded but the County, Gulf Shores and ALDOT will all have to agree to split the costs with the City of Foley.

15-0282 Request permission to use \$2,500 of allocated advertising funds to participate in a regional tourism website - Mr. Thompson reported Marketing Director LaDonna Hinesley has been attending meetings with a regional tourism group who are trying to create a tourism website that will consist of other areas, such as Gulf Shores and Mobile. Foley will have a section as well. They are seeking the City's monetary support for the website in the amount of \$2,500. Mrs. Hinesley is asking to allocate the funds from her existing budget for the website because she believes it will be beneficial to the City to be a partner in this website. Councilman Hellmich reported that it is his understanding that this website will send people to the City's website, which adds another layer of contact through the internet.

15-0288 MORNING STAR BAPTIST CHURCH'S MAY DAY EVENT - Police Chief David Wilson reported this is an annual event and that Foley will have extra officers out this weekend due to the Hangout Fest in Gulf Shores and they should be able to help with traffic control.

15-0289 Resolution authorizing transfer of funds to support the creation of a System Administrator position for the IT Department and amends the City's Pay Classification Plan. - HR Director Sandra Pate reported the IT Department has had several projects and there is a need for someone in-house with a higher level of network experience.

President Trawick reported the following items are add-ons:

15-0301 A Resolution Approving The Structure And Sale Of Athletic And Sports Facilities Revenue Bonds, Series 2015, By The Public Athletic And Sports Facilities Board Of The City Of Foley, Alabama

15-0302 A Resolution Approving The Structure And Sale Of General Obligation Warrants, Series 2015, Of The City Of Foley, Alabama

City Administrator Mike Thompson reported that both items (15-0301 and 15-0302) are related to the bond issuance. The bonds will be sold on Wednesday May 6, 2015. One bond is a \$13 Million Revenue Bond, which is tied to the Cooperative District; and the other bond is a \$1.925 Million General Obligation Warrant. The reason for selling two is due to when the funds were validated 8 months ago, there was going to be 13 sports fields for the \$13 Million and now things have changed. Instead of doing a re-validation, there is a \$13 Million bond and a \$1.925 Million General Obligation Warrant for the balance. It is structured so that the General Obligation Warrant will pay off in seven years and the \$13 Million bond will be a long term bond. It is structured this way to reduce any effect to the City's borrowing capacity.

Mayor's Comments

Mayor Koniar reported that he just received news that Fannie Jo Holk passed away.

He also reported the Hot Air Balloon Festival went very well. It probably was not as big as it has been in the past and the Relay For Life was not as well attended as normal. Gulf Shores will have a separate Relay For Life in the fall. We received two Certificates of Appreciation from the Cancer Society, one for the City and one for the Parks Department for what we have done through the years with Relay For Life.

Councilman Hellmich reported Don Staley won a national award at the National Association of Sports Commission Conference, which is a great accomplishment.

Visitor's Comments

None to report.

Adjourn

Hearing no further comments, the meeting adjourned at 5:15 p.m.