



Meeting Minutes - Final City Council

Monday, August 4, 2014

4:00 PM

Council Chambers

Work Session

Call to Order

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

Roll Call

All Council members were present. Others present: Mayor John Koniar, Mike Thompson, Vickey Southern, Katy Taylor, Jessica Middleton, Thurston Bullock, Randy Bishop, Leslie Gahagan, Sue Steigerwald, Miranda Bell, Chad Christian, John Jackson, Steven W. Smith, Joey Darby, David Wilson, Rachel Keith, Miriam Boutwell, Jeff Rouzie, YMCA Representatives Perry Wilbourne, Mark Hanke, Sue Sanders, Kim Hillman and Rachel Kaiser, Rick Odess (WBWW), Tommy Patterson, and Cathy Higgins (Foley Onlooker).

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

[14-0498](#)

Discuss Truck Traffic on Fern Avenue

City Engineer Chad Christian reported that he has a meeting scheduled with UTC officials in their trucking division tomorrow morning and has a contact with ALDOT. He handed out two maps that Karen Cowen in GIS mapped out showing two different routes. The first existing route is along Hwy. 59 beginning at Underwood Road, aka County Road 24, turning west on Fern Avenue to the UTC facilities, which is approximately 28,850 feet. The second proposed route begins at Hwy. 59 at Underwood Road, aka CR24, going west on CR24 and the turning left (south) on Airport Drive to UTC facilities, which is approximately 26,250 feet. The proposed route is approximately a half mile shorter in distance and the preferred route. Chad will be letting the UTC officials know that the truck route is off CR24 and not Fern Avenue. He will also give them maps to hand out to the truckers. In addition he will advise them the Mayor and Council are considering posting "No Truck Traffic" signs on Fern Avenue and also work with ALDOT to see if they can get a sign permitted that has "UTC Truck Traffic" for CR24. In the meantime Chad is working with ALDOT on the signage. Mr. Thompson asked if there were any preliminary ideas on Fern since they drove it. Chad recommended to post it for the time being and see if the other things will have the desired effect because once you add four-way stops or traffic speed tables when the trucks are gone it only

effects the residents who live there. President Trawick reported the most complaints were when the trucks gear down to make the stops at the stop signs and those might make it worse. Chad reported the signage is considered outdoor advertising and he is reviewing ALDOT regulations on it at this time. Council's consensus was to move forward with handing out the maps and meeting with the UTC officials.

[14-0529](#)

Discuss Forming A Committee For Graham Creek Nature Preserve

Leslie Gahagan reported that she came up with a resolution going over the different responsibilities and how the committee would be made up. She is requesting to move forward on this and then choose the members at a later meeting. File 14-0553 remained on the Council meeting agenda.

[14-0555](#)

Discuss project options for FY2015 AHC Capital Enhancements Grant

Attachments: [2015 Capital Enhancements Grant Application.pdf](#)
 [Proposal for Ccommunity Development Building Repairs.pdf](#)
 [Proposal for Depot Repairs.pdf](#)

Miriam Boutwell reported there are two different proposals for the AHC Capital Enhancement Grant. The Grant, if awarded, will not exceed \$10,000. The first proposal is for Community Development building repairs that include repairing the roof (\$4495), repairing cracks in the brick structure (\$7475), and removing the rusted out metal fire escape and replace it with a new wooden structure (\$9744). The Fire Inspector wrote them up in April for the fire escape being non-compliant. She was not sure how the State would look at a safety issue and if it would give them higher points to get the grant or if their preference would be the Depot for more asthetic type enhancements for a historical building. The fire escape has to be replaced since the Fire Inspector probably would not wait for the grant and there is no money in the budget. President Trawick reported funds would need to be moved from another account to pay for the replacement.

The second proposal is for the Depot. The repairs consist of repairing damaged wood on the deck area (\$3000), remove the gutter and downspouts (\$1600), power wash and repaint the buildings (\$28,171), and install new gutters and downspouts (\$14,936). The total cost for the Depot is \$47,707 and the total cost for the Community Development building is \$21,714. Mr. Thompson asked if the ratio played into the equasion regarding the amount the City would have to spend or not. Ms. Boutwell reported that she did not find a match but it might be advantageous to show that the City is putting money into the project. Councilman Hellmich asked if Ms. Boutwell could explore to see which one would be the best fit for the grant. Ms. Boutwell reported she could see which one would have the better chance and take it from there. Both buildings are contributing buildings in the Historic District and would be applicable for grant funds. This item is File ID 14-0539 on the Council Agenda and remains for approval.

[14-0566](#)

Discuss Support of YMCA

Mark Hanke, CEO of the YMCA introduced himself as well as the other people (Sue Sanders, VP Baldwin County YMCA, Kim Hillman, Branch Director, and Rachel Kaiser) that were with him. Mr. Hanke thanked the Council for their huge support of the "Y" in Foley and during the past six years the City of Foley has been their #1 supporter. Sue Sanders and Kim Hillman distributed review packets.

Mr. Hanke went on to say that of the five South Alabama branches Foley's location is the second largest and it is growing every year. The number of units are measured by paying unit and then total members and you may have one paying unit with four in the family as one paying unit and four total members. They have had over 12,000 scans a month during the past seven months. The membership fees, program fees and contributions keep the operations going. However, the building is 14 years old and they have some maintenance projects that are listed on the back of one of the handouts that they need help with and are requesting help from the Council. These include:

- 1) Indoor Pool Filter replacement & two Aquatic Center Area Heaters (\$25,000) - They have to vacuum out the pool and add water each morning because there is sand in the bottom of the pool. It has become very costly to keep the pool going. With the 12,000 scans there are people of all different abilities, ages, backgrounds and they really rely on the pool and the YMCA for the health, rehab and social requirements.
- 2) An electrical panel that was struck by lightening that was not all covered by insurance needs to be replaced (\$15,000).
- 3) A partial roof repair in critical areas that are leaking and fastener screws deteriorating also have leakage (\$35,000).
- 4) The Annual Campaign for Youth and Families, aka Strong Kids Campaign (\$15,000).
- 5) Membership Marketing Program (\$10,000). This marketing program is targeted for the citizens of Foley to get them engaged in the YMCA. There are a lot of members but they want to engage more members in the youth, adult and family categories.

These are all estimated costs for budgeting purposes and not actual costs.

Sue Sanders thanked the Council for their continued support for many years and went on to say that the YMCA has touched the lives of many children, youth and adults over the years and they appreciate it sincerely. The "Y" is the number one child care provider in America after school. In the past year 730,000 were in a "Y" child care program. Last year the Foley's "Y" had 60 children in the after school program and can only accommodate 69 children. They would love to have the other nine children. Another point is that there was an elementary school in the area that lost their 21st Century Grant two years ago. With that grant they serviced 240 children during the after school hours from 3:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m. Last year they had 70 children and that is a lot of children who did not have an opportunity to participate in an after school program. While they had the grant they had free after school. They would like to reach these children.

Sue continued to say the USA Y's have been providing Summer Camp for over 130 years. In Baldwin County they serviced 536 children. They want to get back to approximately 800 children. Through the years the economy has changed and there are many needy parents in our area who need financial assistance. She continued to thank the Council for what they do for the community and the children as they are our leaders of tomorrow and they are trying to mold them

into the best they can be.

Rachel Kaiser reported that her son was in K-4 at St. Benedicts in Elberta and she wanted to make sure he was in a safe environment when he left school. The Snook YMCA After School Program was a wonderful fit for them. They picked him up at school, served him a healthy snack, and had activities that stimulated him. It enriched him spiritually, mentally and physically. Both of her children will be in the After School Program this year. One thing she liked about the Program was that they look to see if they have homework, review the homework with them, and see what they need help in before they are able to participate in the other activities. As a working mom this was very helpful to her. The cost is only \$35 per week per child, which is cheaper than what you can get in the public school system. For a working mom on a fixed income it was very beneficial for her.

Ms. Kaiser went on to say this year was the first year for her children to participate in the Summer Camp, which they loved. They do various activities throughout the week, such as attend movies once a week, go swimming twice a week, etc. All the activities are at thirty minute or one hour increments. They work on making banners or team building exercises. She wants her children to be very responsible and she was impressed with the bead system. The bead system is learning virtues such as caring, responsibility, honesty, respect, fitness, faith and hope. She showed necklaces of her daughter and son showing what they had learned in camp. It is a wonderful program because they are constantly involved in activities.

Sue introduced Kim Hillman the new Director at the Y. Kim stated she hoped that she would get the opportunity to know more people that she hasn't met before. She hoped the Council would review the schedules they handed out earlier.

Councilman Hellmich reported the Council appreciates what they "Y" has done for the citizens in Foley because the City doesn't have a comparable facility and counts on them to provide this wonderful service to 3-4,000 citizens. The City wants to help them maintain that facility so that the City does not have to do it. The City has been a big supporter of the Strong Kids Campaign for years and supports other organizations but feel the Strong Kids Campaign is important. With this letter of support, it will be effective October 1st in our budget. It is a very good thing to maintain the building and expand the programs. The more that we can partially scholarship to worthwhile kids fills a gap that we currently cannot meet.

Mike recommended they make a motion to authorize the mayor to sign a letter of support for a proposal adapted to the "Y's" request for FY15. Perry Wilbourne requested the resolution not lock them down because the costs mentioned were for budgeting purposes only and could vary. Councilman Hellmich reported the City would not lock them down to a specified amount. Councilman Ebert reported in the future he would like to see an expansion of a lengthy commitment so they could put it in their planning process similar to when the City helped the school system when they committed to X amount of dollars over a multi-year period. This item was moved to the Council meeting agenda.

Mark stated that he really appreciated the support and they want to be good

neighbors and partners. They want to help all kids and families and he appreciated the commitments and they will work hard to give back to this community.

Enactment No: 14-0332-RES

14-0485

Consider funds assistance request for operating expenses from Foley Performing Arts Association

Attachments: [Foley Performing Arts Assoc.](#)

President Trawick reported the Council needed to take action on the PAA request from the last Work Session. They are requesting to continue the support we have been giving them. They have asked for the following: 1) A lease for the Claude Petee building for \$1 a year. - This is because they are downsizing, re-grouping and starting over with the Performing Arts. 2) An additional \$2,000 per month through January. They will not have money coming in and the additional funds will help them get through the lean times. 3) Signage - We won't address this at this time. 4) Assistance with a website - President Trawick felt the City could help them in-house. If everyone is ok with the lease and additional funds we will need to move this to the Council agenda meeting. This item was added to the Council meeting agenda.

Enactment No: 14-0333-RES

Discuss Council Meeting Agenda for August 4, 2014

Two add ons are as follows:

14-0566 Support of the YMCA

14-0485 Support of the Performing Arts Association

Items to be handed over to President Pro-temp Hellmich:

14-0567 Public Hearing to consider passage of an ordinance and to consider Planning Commission's recommendation for initial zoning for property owned by Magnolia Land Company for the purpose of Fern Avenue Extension

14-0494 An ordinance to rezone 84+/- acres from A-O to B-3 owned by Magnolia Land Company

14-0427 An ordinance approving petition for annexation and bringing property owned by Magnolia Land Company into the City's Corporate Limits

14-0556 Depository Changes for Certain City Accounts

Other Agenda Items as follows:

14-0514 Video System Upgrade request for Police and Municipal Court - Jessica Middleton reported MicroSoft XP is no longer being supported and the upgrade was necessary for the video system.

14-0534 Appointment to the Board of Adjustments and Appeals - Two names were submitted, Jerry Wilkey and Parker Johnston. Mr. Wilkey met the Mayor after one of the Council meetings and volunteered to serve on a board. He submitted a letter and copy of his resume. Councilman Ebert didn't feel that Mr. Parker expressed an interest in the BAA and recommended Mr. Wilkey. This item remained on the Council meeting agenda.

14-0538 Statute purchase for the Library - Mike reported the bronze statute was donated by the Friends of the Library and the Council needed to accept the donation. The Beautification Board has the remaining funds available to have it installed. They are working with Suzanne Kellams and John Jackson for placement in front of the Library. John reported the statute will be in front by the Children's side of the Library and it looks really good. This item remained on the Council meeting agenda.

14-0544 - A resolution authorizing employees to enter upon the property at Ashford Park Unit 8 for the purpose of abating a public nuisance - Leslie Gahagan is to inspect the property to ensure it has not been abated. This item remained on the Council meeting agenda.

14-0545 Migrate Municipal Court Data to LaserFiche - Jessica reported Alchemy is no longer supported and she proposed to migrate Municipal Court's data over to LaserFiche, which is still supported and used by the rest of the City. This item remained on the Council meeting agenda.

14-0549 Approves additional funds as a result of Change Order 1 and 2 for the Construction of a new Fuel Farm at the Foley Municipal Airport - Rachel Keith reported when they put in the Fuel Farm there were two change orders and they resulted in a \$628 more than planned. She is requesting for the additional funds. This item remained on the Council meeting agenda.

14-0550 Approves additional funds for Required Services Associated with the Removal of the Underground Storage Tank at the Foley Municipal Airport - Rachel reported that when they took out the old fuel tank there were charges that they would not know until the end, such as taking the old fuel from the tank and putting it into the new tank and then they had to run a fuel line test. Those were unknowns until the project was completed. The cost was an additional \$750. This item remained on the Council meeting agenda.

14-0551 Transfer of funds for the Police Department - Randy Bishop reported the leak in the A/C unit was repaired and now they need to remediate the mold. This is a budget neutral item since they are moving funds to cover the cost. This item remained on the Council meeting agenda.

14-0552 Resolution transferring equipment from CDD to General Government for Nature Parks - Leslie reported the equipment was transferred to CDD instead of the General Government Account. This item remained on the Council meeting agenda.

14-0559 Setting a Library Fee Schedule - John reported these are long standing fees the Library has been charging with the exception of the Notary fees. He requested to set these as the official fee schedule that they can add or take away at a later date. What brought this up was the amount of notary stamps performed by three employees, which amounted to 150-200 and anywhere from one to many seals. It helps cover materials and time. This item remained on the Council meeting agenda.

14-0561 Fleet Maintenance Program fro Public Works Department - Jessica reported this is a budgeted item. The program ties in with the fuel system installed earlier this year and tracks maintenance on vehicles. This item

remained on the Council meeting agenda.

14-0562 A resolution authorizing creation of an Accounts Clerk for a Specified Duration for Four Pay Periods - Mike reported that an individual is retiring and they plan to promote from within and they want to create this position for a month and a half to train the new person and then the created position would be taken away. It is to help with cross training during the audit period. This item remained on the Council meeting agenda.

14-0563 Resolution authorizing transfer of funds for enclosing office space in HR - Mike reported an employee is working in the open area of HR and we need to create a space for her. He requested funds be moved around to cover the cost. This item remained on the Council meeting agenda.

President Trawick handed the meeting over to President Pro-temp Hellmich. 14-0556 Depository Changes for Certain City Accounts - Sue Steigerward reported they sent out RFP's in an attempt to find better interest rates. The interest rates for public funds are not very good because they have to pledge the securities and in an effort the banks have been raising service charges/fees to get away from some of those charges. She recommended changes in the list stated in the resolution. This item remained on the Council meeting agenda.

President Pro-temp Hellmich turned the meeting back over to the President.

14-0570 Resolution approving MCS Contracting, Inc's proposal to furnish and install a restroom in the Claude Peteet building - President Trawick reported at this time there are no restrooms in the building. The sewer and the water are there so he just needs to hook them up. He understood from Miriam that it is an historic building and the City does not need to conform to any ADA requirements. It does have a ramp. The City can install the hand bars to make it ADA. Councilman Hellmich asked if it was phone and internet compatible. Mike and the Mayor were not positive but it wouldn't be something too difficult to install. This item remained on the Council meeting agenda.

Mayor's Comments

Mayor Koniar reported he was asked to participate in the Coastal Alabama Partnership regarding the bridge across Mobile Bay. They have asked all the Mayor's and County representatives to go to Montgomery for Lobby Day in September. He felt it would be a good investment of the City's time especially because of our tourism traffic that gets stuck in Mobile.

Visitor's Comments

None to report.

Adjourn

Hearing no further comments the meeting adjourned at 4:53 p.m.