



City of Foley, AL

407 E. Laurel Avenue
Foley, AL 36535

Meeting Minutes - Draft City Council

Monday, September 21, 2015

4:00 PM

Conference Room

Work Session

Call to Order

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

Roll Call

All Council members were present with the exception of Vera Quaite due to obligations at work. Others present: Mike Mhompson, Vickey Southern, Sandra Pate, Katy Taylor, Leslie Gahagan, Steven Smith, Dana Overton, LaDonna Hinesley, Kate Embry, Richard Humphry, Albert Lugo, Taylor Davis, Don Staley, Darrell Russell, Joey Darby, Sue Steigerwald, Chad Christian, Rachel Keith, John Graham, Stephen McNair (McNair Consulting), Jason Mills (SBST), Tom DeBell (Riviera), George Woerner, Roger Woerner, Mike Murphy, Jay Sowers (Foley Onlooker), Parks Rogers (Gulf Coast Media), David Vosloh, and Janley Miarka (On the Ball Auto Mall), Francis Holk-Jones.

Present: 4 - President Wayne Trawick, Council Member Ralph Hellmich, Council Member Rick Blackwell and Council Member Charles Ebert III

Absent: 1 - Council Member Vera Quaite

Presentation

[15-0569](#)

Presentation by Stephen McNair, Ph.D., McNair Historic Preservation, Inc. on Downtown Revitalization

Attachments: [MCNAIR PRESENTATION .pdf](#)

[TAX CREDIT BOOKLET .pdf](#)

Dr. Stephen McNair, owner of McNair Historic Preservation Consultant, stated his business is full service, ranging from cities to multi-million dollar developers. He was invited by civic and community leaders to speak about Historic Preservation and Economic Development opportunities in Foley. He proposed that his services be retained on behalf of the City of Foley to instigate a greater historic economic development, historic training for the members of Foley's historical commission, and a program to help find economic incentives for business owners who own properties in a historic district.

If retained he could do an historic tax credit eligibility and incentive analysis. This is usually a service held for private clients that would have to pay a fee but that would be something the City would take care of to put the greater good on behalf of the community. Before a project can move forward you have to do your due diligence and research to find out if the project would even be eligible for any kind of federal or state tax credits, grants and incentives. He understands from the property owners that there is an appetite for this locally to try to stir greater economic development in Foley. To qualify for any type of incentive the property would have to be an income producing property. You would have a short term employment of the construction project as well as the long term stability of permanent jobs in that structure.

There is a three step process for both federal and state and a 20% tax credit option for the federal level. This means for every \$1.00 you spend, not on the purchase, on the rehabilitation of the property you get \$0.20 for every dollar you spend. There is a ten percent option for those properties that are outside of the direct lines of the historic district. At the state level there is a 25% option and that is not currently available.

Legislation will be introduced in 2016 to start that three year program again for the state. Mr. McNair is a registered lobbyist and the purpose is to lobby in Montgomery on behalf of municipalities, business owners and interested parties. It could be a power company, small business owner or tax credits and economic incentives. The three year program, adopted three years ago, has a 25% return on every dollar. They want a bill to be passed in 2016 to continue the program and he is actively working on it now with the Legislature. Foley has an interesting stake in this because it has representation in this District by Senator Tripp Pittman, who has a detailed knowledge of this program as well as a great interest. He will be working with Senator Pittman to get this introduced and passed. On behalf of the community Foley is the only local Historic District in South Baldwin County. Since Foley has so many historic structures it is illegible for the State tax credits.

Mr. McNair stated that just because a building is listed on the national, state and local historical Register does not mean that it is safe from alterations or demolition. Foley is different because it has a local historic district with a historic commission. You have to have certain criteria in order to move forward with a project. There will be structures in the greater Foley area that

are not in the local or national district so he can assist the owners of historic buildings that might fall outside of the perimeter to get those listed so they can become eligible for the tax credits and the property tax abatement.

Foley's community is only going to be as prosperous in terms of preservation and economic development as the Historic Commission allows. They should be fully trained on preservation materials, techniques, and understanding their role in the community as far as a government agency. They should be trying to stimulate economic progress also in the name of preservation. The Historic Marker is for those owners wanting the marker on their property. The Historic American Building Surveys are done by architects and they are stored in the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C. The Historic Building Documentation Reports are crucial to qualify for any grants or incentives to make sure the building is properly documented when you are applying.

Mr. McNair also does Research, Planning and Management so that people don't purchase a building without the knowledge of what can or cannot be done. He acts as a coordinator between the contractor and regulatory agencies, makes sure everyone understands the rules. Everyone needs to understand the greater goal for Foley in planning. For example, is it just to maintain the historic buildings or is it to recruit development, developers and businesses. There are a lot of buildings that could be removed because they do not contribute and replaced with new construction that adds character to the historic district. There needs to be a preservation plan. Foley is a CLG (Certified Local Government) City and is already eligible for grants, incentives and training opportunities. Mr. McNair acts as a liaison between the State Historic Preservation Office in Montgomery and municipalities to ensure they get what they need from the CLG program. Everyone has to be on board to understand how preservation is important to Foley.

Councilman Blackwell asked how would he bring in people to the downtown area. Mr. McNair stated that tourism was not his forte and he would leave that up to the Chamber and he would not tell the stores what to sell. If you have an interesting downtown you have people that will want to stop and shop. One does follow the other.

Council Ebert asked if redevelopment authorities get involved on the historic preservation side. Mr. McNair responded in the affirmative. It is taking an under-utilized property and maximizing the potential or taking a vacant property and putting a business into it. No one has to apply for tax credits and those that don't can pay for it out right.

President Trawick thanked Mr. McNair for the presentation and Mr. McNair thanked the Council for their time.

Discussion Items

[15-0600](#)

Presentation by George Woerner

Presentation by George Woerner

President Trawick reported there is another add on. George Woerner thanked the Council for allowing him to be present to make this presentation. It is truly an honor. He introduced his brother, Roger Woerner, and Mike Murphy who helped him get the project together. They have been working for the past six years to come up with a diversified agriculture. Part of what brings people to Baldwin County is to drive through and see the beautiful crops and the great heritage we have. We can't compete with the Midwest corn belt. The Woerner's have been big in the turf business and after the housing crash in 2008 they realized that they had a lot of things and no one wanted anything that they had to sell. It was time for a big change.

They have been doing a lot of experiments with a lot of crops, for example, Chicory, Sweet Potatoes, and Butternut Squash. Chicory is one of the products they are wanting to produce. It is an herb that is used in coffee, is more commonly used in New Orleans and has a long heritage in Louisiana. Sweet potatoes are in high demand for pet treats. The Woerner's used to grow alot of sweet potatoes so they hired some one to help them sell to pet food stores. With the purchase of a dehydrator they are cutting them up and drying sweet potatoes. Butternut Squash is a very healthy food for not only human consumption, but also as a pet treat. They want to set the plant up for human consumption for this product. The main focus on this is to become a healthy ingredients company. One that uses as much of Baldwin County agriculture as they can. They are looking at 25 million pounds of produce from Baldwin County.

The State of California is is going through many changes, such as running out of water, regulating minimum wage, etc., and they are looking for resources. In two weeks they will be presenting their lines to a group that is already interested in purchasing everything from one of the lines.

They are also looking at putting a drum in one of the lines to make powders from sweet potatoes and butternut squash. The powders are used just like regular flour. It can be used for baking but some have a lower grade quality and it will go into the pet food. The high end pet food will have sweet potatoes in it as an ingredient.

Three weeks ago he was at their farm in Hawaii and on the farm there was approximately eight acres of Hawaiian Breadfruit. They call it a super food because it is gluten free and extremely healthy. C H Robinson, one of the largest transportation companies in the world, did a study on it and they claim that industry could be as big as \$7 billion a year. This year there is just a photo of the dehydrated tropical bread fruit as they continue with the experimentation.

Some people may know they have been invited by the Cuban government to work on a lot of golf course projects. While there the top people in the Cuban agriculture industry invited them to the Port of Mariel, which is like a free trade zone port. Once the American government gives them permission to go in they would like to possibly bring in tropical fruits, such as mango, papaya, etc.

It could also be in powder form. Samples of Chicory, dehydrated sweet potatoes, butternut squash, and powder sweet potatoes could be brought in from the U.S.

They have a lot of unique things going on and would like the agricultural center in Foley. The Peavey building is a great location. They could be producing food that they harvest now. Mr. Woerner's daughter loves organic products and a lot of the products will be as healthy as they can get it. He heard on CNBC that every year there are 332 billion pounds of food wasted that never get to the dinner table. They want to capture that as they have grown produce for many years and seen the packing lines discard items that had a little bug bite. All of it is good food but because no one who goes to the grocery store will purchase produce with a bug bite on it. One of the northwest Louisiana canneries was purchased, closed and moved to North Carolina. There is a huge amount of produce of #2's that are being left in the fields. They want to capture it with all the certifications with food safety in Foley. They have already spent three quarters of a million dollars on equipment and there a lot of business coming. They are looking at spending \$3.5-4 million in the building with their plans and they are asking the City of Foley to help them with the actual building needs to make it so that all the trucks can backup and load/unload. They are wanting to limit it to three major crops with expansion in the future. Chicory is beginning to be planted. The only production in North America is Western Nebraska and they are enjoying it here. The Woerner's have learned some mistakes and they traveled to New Orleans to meet with the coffee people and each one of them told him their money has been going to Belgium and other places and would love to keep their money in the United States. The strong dollar hurts them a bit but they are a 100 year old company as well as the Woerner's and trying to be here long term. They have committed to help them do the roasting.

Mr. Thompson reported in the previous presentation we talked about fixing up buildings and it doesn't do any good to not fill it. He asked Mr. Woerner what they would bring to Foley in terms of short-term and long-term employment. Mr. Woerner stated they are looking at 50-60 employees as soon as they get the lines up and going. The engineers who were visiting asked him if there would be enough room. They would have 50-60 sq. ft. for lines and then there would have to be another 10 people in the fields.

Mr. Thompson asked him if there was much interaction between Woerner's and the other entities or is it up to the farmer. Mr. Woerner stated that the aggregation center alone, if it would be grading sweet potatoes they would be willing to take all the large sweet potatoes that go out of grade and all the small ones. They would be buying everything except the number one's that they would be selling. It would be another source for them.

Mr. Woerner explained that Chicory is similar to a big white carrot, it is very bitter and extremely healthy. Since the 1980's Europe has turned Chicory into a \$30 billion business. They are pulling the carbohydrates out of the Chicory and it is a polysaccharide, which is a long carbohydrate, prebiotic, probiotic and doesn't digest until your lower intestine. It has ten percent of the calories. The health benefit from the Chicory is unbelievable. You can also harvest the leaves. The root can also be cured in a dark room with low temperatures. The leaves will sprout and it is then known as Endive, which is a premium product. If they want to save agriculture they need to be doing various things.

[15-0556](#)

Discuss Pecan Street Culvert Repair Bridge Structure Inspection

Attachments: [Safe Span, LLC Bridge Inspection Proposal for Pecan St. Culvert Repair](#)
[PECAN STREET.pdf](#)

Taylor Davis reported the contractors were out backfilling around the culverts. The inspection item is a \$1500 proposal but they are not asking for any money as it is already budgeted. This is just an update. When they do the bridge inspection report it is a watermark of the project to let us know we are getting close to completion. Volkert let Taylor know that it will be approximately three to four weeks before the asphalt, top soil and sod would be done. Councilman Blackwell asked if there would be any concrete before the fill. Taylor reported there would be a foot of fill.

Discuss Council Meeting Agenda of September 21, 2015

The following items had no comments on them and they remained on the Council meeting agenda:

File ID 15-0533 09-08-2015 Work Session Minutes

15-0566 09-08-2015 Council Meeting Minutes

15-0568 Audit of the accounts of August 2015

15-0540 August 2-15 Bid Activity

15-0557 August 2015 Sales, Lodging and Rental Tax Reports

15-0554 August 2015 Community Development Department Report

15-0570 August 2015 Fire Department Report

15-0544 August 2015 Police Department Report

15-0546 Set a Public Hearing declaring weeds to be a public nuisance and ordering its abatement at 406 East Myrtle Avenue

15-0547 Set a Public Hearing declaring weeds to be a public nuisance and ordering its abatement at 510 West Carolyn Avenue

15-0548 Set a Public Hearing declaring weeds to be a public nuisance and ordering its abatement at 620 East Pedigo Avenue

15-0559 Authorizing certain commercial accounts to be written off as uncollectable

15-0567 Set a public hearing for October 5, 2016 to consider a revocation of a business license.

15-0572 Residential Sanitation Write Offs as Uncollectable in the Amount of \$45.15

15-0491 Seeking approval for a new gateway signage design for six entrance locations: Foley Beach Express north and south, Highway 98 east and west and Highway 59 north and south - LaDonna reported the resolution consists of two parts. The first part is to approve the sign design for all six gateway signs. In working with a consultant it was determined that Foley's signage should have clean lines. Foley is a comfortable town and laid back and the signage should be strong, sturdy, using simple materials. The sign on Highway 59 South, Highway 98 east and west have to have permits from ALDOT. The logo part matches the look at the Welcome Center and was done at Vulcan. She has gotten prices for the back part from Big Fish Trading Company. The nice part of this sign is that the sign can be done in Foley. Councilman Ebert reported he liked the rustic look and keeping the paint very fresh would be very important and a maintenance program would need to be in place. Mike Thompson asked if the white part was white-wash. LaDonna responded yes it is white-wash and one of the things that will help to preserve the wood is Vulcan recommended putting a small strip of aluminum across the top. The pilings will come from Baldwin Pole and Piling in Bay Minette. Tom Burns agreed to help them with the signage. The size of the sign is 12' wide and 6.5' tall.

The second part is to create a capital project to pay for it. It is not in the FY16 budget but they have a plan to pay for it. The cost includes the water, electrical, lighting, landscaping, and irrigation. The two on Highway 59 will be the least expensive because lights are there. They have paid the consultant fee because it is a capital project there is a rule to add a 10% contingency that brings the cost from \$36,000 to \$45,000. They propose pulling \$15,000 out of the current Marketing budget. The balance would come from funding that the City expects to get from third allocation of the BP grant in the total of

\$37,720.00. The guidelines were very narrow and it has to be used for specific marketing purposes. Mike reported he was comfortable with the Highway 98 east/west sign being permanent. Jeff Rouzie asked if the signs are located with a good background and not just at the City limits. LaDonna reported they will pickout a nice visual spot for the signs. This item remained on the Council meeting agenda.

15-0500 Amending the Budgets of City Funds - Sue Steigerwald reported she is not asking for any increases. They are moving either departmental budgets or interdepartmental with the exception of some of the debt service that they had on the \$4 million that was borrowed to help out with the sports fields. This item remained on the Council meeting agenda.

Mike Thompson reported Sue received an award today. Sue reported the City of Foley received the Certificate of Excellence in Financial Reporting for FY14 on the second annual financial report (CAFR). President Trawick reported Sue's department puts a lot of work into the report. Sue reported that a lot of work goes into the report and a lot of people input data in the report. President Trawick reported that he is very proud of Sue's department. This item remained on the Council meeting agenda.

15-0509 (2nd Reading) Ordinance Approving the Application for Pretrial Intervention and Diversion Program - Vickey Southern reported there were some minor amendments to the ordinance: where it stated "Act" we changed it to "Ordinance" and added the actual Act number to the first paragraph. Mike Dasinger was agreeable to the changes. This item remained on the Council meeting agenda.

15-0542 Amending the City's Fund Balance Policy - Sue reported in 2009 the City set a minimum fund balance policy goal of 25% of operational expenditures and debt service payment. They would like to remove from the calculation are the expenditures that are offset by transfers in or other financing sources (pass-throughs). In addition, this policy will combine the policy adopted in 2011 that is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement #54, which will combine the two into one. This item remained on the Council meeting agenda.

15-0545 Amending Resolution 14-0577 appointing members to the Graham Creek Advisory Board - Leslie Gahagan reported the Graham Creek Advisory Board members ask Council to amend the resolution for the Board to meet as necessary instead of monthly now that the Management Plan is complete. This item remained on the Council meeting agenda.

15-0550 Appoint new board member to the Museum Archive Board - Vickey Southern reported there are two recommendations to be considered for Al Staple's position. Mr. Staple passed away and the new board member will need to be appointed to fill that position. The first recommendation is Mr. Drew Wenzel, who is an attorney, and his father serves on the Board. The other is Larry Davenport who submitted a resume and is interested in serving on the Board. Councilman Blackwell recommended choosing Drew Wenzel because he knows him and is involved in the community. There was a consensus to appoint Drew Wenzel. This item remained on the Council meeting agenda.

15-0552 Request to apply for the Legacy Environmental Education Grant for

Graham Creek Preserve - Leslie reported she would like to apply for the Legacy grant. There is approximately \$3,000 in the Small Tools account in the FY16 budget that would cover the match if awarded the grant. The funds would be used to provide canoe or water access educational program to get people on the water to do nature tours. Councilman Ebert asked if they helped with the program itself. Leslie reported they would purchase the equipment with their portion of funds and then the City's educational programs would be used for the match. This item remained on the Council meeting agenda.

15-0553 Approval for the Dia dela Raza Festival to be held Sunday, October 18, 2015 - Al Lugo reported this will be the seventh year that it will be held and it brings out a lot of family to enjoy the park and share in the culture. It will be held at Heritage Park. He thanked the Parks and Recreation Departments for helping set up everything. He will be making tamales, mariachis and it will be a good time. Chief Wilson reported that Al Lugo is has been with the City for many moons and in law enforcement for many, many moons and next month he honorably retires. Elizabeth needs him to start on the "honey do" list.

15-0555 Approval for the Gulf Coast Gospel Jubilee to be held Saturday, October 3, 2015 at the Foley Soccer Complex from 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. - Richard Humphrey reported this is the second annual Gulf Coast Gospel Jubilee. This year they joined forces with the Centennial Committee, Historic Church Committee and will be having historic church tours during the gospel music event. I starts at 9:00 a.m. goes until 6:00 p.m. They will have local area talent from Baldwin and Mobile Counties. The music will go all day long and will be alternating between two stages as one is tearing down and the other is setting up the other stage will have someone performing. The proceeds go to the Lighthouse, which is the women's and children's shelter, and the Care House, which is for abused children. These support groups help a lot of people and last year they raised a little over \$4,000 that was split between the two agencies. He thanked the Council for their support. This item remained on the Council meeting agenda.

15-0558 Request to purchase Field Striping Equipment and Paint - Don Staley reported this gets them started for the November events. It is budgeted. This item remained on the Council meeting agenda.

15-0560 Amending Pay Classification Plan for Position Change in the Recreation Department - Sandra Pate reported this is David Thompson's receptionist/secretary position. Sue Sutton is retiring and they need to upgrade the skill set so they had the position reevaluated. There would not need to be a budget adjustment just because of the salary being higher so they are upgrading the job from a 7 to a 9 and retitled that position to Office Manager. This item remained on the Council meeting agenda.

15-0561 Acceptance of Dog Park Irrigation bid - Rachel Keith reported when they bid the different portions of the dog park project they did not initially accept the irrigation bid because they weren't sure if there would be enough money to cover it after other priority items were done. There are funds available and she requested to accept the irrigation bid for Kent's Landscape in the amount of \$9,700. This item remained on the Council meeting agenda.

15-0562 ABC License - 150 Special Retail License - 30 days or less for on the Ball Auto Mall, LLC. - Janley Miarka reported that she would like to do a

Haunted Forest and to have bar set up outside to help offset some of the costs. She is getting 3.5 acres and props prepared and children's area set up. There will be two different sections of trails for their first event. She has run a bar for the past 13 years and is well versed in keeping people safe and making sure everyone has a good time without any huge problems. They want to have it beginning October 2 - 31, 2015 on Thursday, Friday and Saturday and if it takes off well they might add a day. Mike asked for clarification on the attendees and Ms. Miarka stated that there would be adults as well as children. They will have concessions while they are waiting in line, not a place to hang out. It will be held at the old Texaco Station at 7651 Hwy. 59 that has been closed and she has been remodeling it so it can open back up. She would like to add paint ball by the end of the year. Chief Wilson reported the Department looks forward to working on it with her but he has some parking concerns and with alcohol added to the mix he has some definite concerns. He is not ready to moving forward on the proposal yet until they sit down with them. Ms. Miarka needs the approval so that Montgomery can move forward with the background check and requested to move forward. She stated that she has some parking next door from both places as well as some five parking she cleared out space. She spoke with Nelson at the Fire Department about it she thinks that there will be enough parking. She also has spoken with the neighbor across the street that if they were in need of more she would contact them. Chief Darby reported that they have met with her to make sure that she understands that the building could not be used for any part of it and does understand that. As a final they need to follow up once she is setup to insure that her life safety plan is in place. They gave her the concerns with the parking and sounds like she followed up on that and if she has large crowds then she needs to understand she will have to have crowd management there to manage them. Her plans were reviewed and they looked okay providing she does not use her building because it is not setup for that. President Trawick reported they will give the Fire and Police Departments the last word. We could move forward with the licensing but the license would not be issued unless they sign off on it. This item remained on the Council meeting agenda.

15-0563 Reallocation of funds for Recreation Capital Account for the purchase of field drag with attachments and a pull type blower - David Thompson reported he is requesting to move some purchases that they planned for FY16 up to FY15 and moving the SUV to next year. They are looking to purchase a field drag as well as a heavy duty blower. It would not require any new funds and it appears that it would come under budget. This item remained on the Council meeting agenda.

15-0564 Request to enter into a contract with Facility Maintenance Consultant, Jason Mills, for the Sports Tourism Complex for FY 2016 - Don reported in lieu of a Facilities Manager for a year they will go with a consultant. He introduced Jason Mills from South Baldwin Sports Turf and he lives in Foley. This item remained on the Council meeting agenda.

15-0571 Resolution to approve letter of intent from Riviera Utilities for well site exchange at Graham Creek Nature Preserve - Tom Burns of Riviera Utilities reported they have been trying to swap a parcel with Orange Beach Water, Sewer and Fire Protect on a piece of property that they have on the southwest corner of Hickory and CR20 (Orth property). The first phase means that they can drill free test well sites. The agreement with Orange Beach is they build well sites and they test the water. If the aquifer works out then they have a lot

of other things to start working because they still have to have arrangements with the City on what kind of well sites, the size and what will be allowed. Councilman Hellmich reported Leslie has presented this to the Board and they are aware of it. It isn't really complicated and this water is closer to Orange Beach and the water where we are looking at is closer to Foley. It would be advantageous for the City to do the swap and do the quality of water because water doesn't like to run uphill, it likes to go downhill. The advantage to the citizens would be having low cost water aquifers nearby because it keeps the price of water down for our citizens. The big thing would be to control the well sites and everyone has been working through Casey Pipes. If we do this, if the water quality does meet then it is gone, but if it does then there would be a small block house in a fenced area and they are all around Foley and placed in such a way that it would not interfere with any other activities. This item remained on the Council meeting agenda.

ADD ON's

15-0573 Approving a lease contract with Modspace for the Sports Tourism Department - Mike reported this is a trailer rental for Don, Dana and HPM. The funds are budget to pay a lease rate where they are currently located. Putting the trailer where the City would like it would put them closer to the properties that are our fields and event center that we are building. It will make it easier to do tours, etc. It is close to the Farmers Market and they can show them what is adjacent to the fields. There is approximately \$12,000 the fields project for set up. Councilman Hellmich reported they talked about doing this but now is the time to move forward. Mike further reported it gives them more space for others to have offices. This item remained on the Council meeting agenda.

15-0574 Entering into a contract with r360 LLC - Jeff Rouzie reported this is a change because Chuck Branch and Charles Branch left Retail Strategies and they were the heart and soul of Retail Strategies. They have all the contract part of the software and Chuck is going out on his own. This item remained on the Council meeting agenda.

Mike reported that Council will likely go into Executive Session after the meeting.

Mayor's Comments

Mayor reported that they met with CIEDA late Friday afternoon and spoke about a number of things and got some things straightened out. Hopefully they will have a MOU for the hotel coming soon. CIEDA did hire a new engineering firm and David Mills will work with them on their engineering. They will need a space out at BC Foley.

The light posts are going up for Don's sports fields. There were three up on Friday and may be more up today. They are moving along. Don has a sight visit in December.

Councilman Hellmich reported the Planning Commission had a site visit a couple of weeks ago and you can't really see all the things going on along CR20 or even Juniper but when the road is complete you will be able to see the progress.

Mayor Koniar further reported ALDOT should be putting down some more asphalt.

Visitor's Comments

Councilman Blackwell asked when the Fire Station would be opening. Chief Darby reported it is getting close. The contractor has a couple of things to finish up prior to starting the punch list. They are ordering the furnishings, etc. and are underway in the hiring process. It's getting closer.

Councilman Ebert asked the status of the extension of Fern Avenue. Chad reported they are back and forth with ALDOT. Councilman Ebert reported the crews were on North Pine Street removing some of the asphalt they put over the manhole covers that are recessed and asked if they will be raised back up and if the collars came in. There are a couple that are flush and a one is recessed approximately six inches deep. There was a plug of asphalt in it but they removed it today. They need to look at it. Councilman Hellmich reported that in the past Randy coordinated with the water department about putting extensions in as we pave and then they seal around the edges so that it keeps it smooth and also keeps any storm water influx from getting into the sewer system. Councilman Ebert reported they still have water coming down through the planter beds in front of the old Dairy Queen building. Chad reported they looked at that last week. The crews are back working today.

Councilman Blackwell asked if Section Street is getting new sidewalks. Chad reported yes they will be installed.

Councilman Ebert reminded Council there is a presentation on the Historic District Revitalization tomorrow morning at 8:00 a.m.

There were no visitor comments.

Adjourn

Hearing no further comments the meeting adjourned at 5:26 p.m.