



City of Foley, AL

407 E. Laurel Avenue
Foley, AL 36535

Meeting Minutes - Draft City Council

Monday, February 16, 2015

4:00 PM

Conference Room

Work Session

Call to Order

President Wayne Trawick called the Work Session to order at 4:02 p.m.

Roll Call

All Council members were present. Others present: Mayor John Koniar, Mike Thompson, Sandra Pate, Vickey Southern, Miranda Bell, Sue Steigerwald, Leslie Gahagan, Dana Overton, Chad Christian, Taylor Davis, Darrell Russell, LaDonna Hinesley, Don Staley, Jeff Rouzie, Dan Hellmich, Mark McKenzie, David Thompson, David Wilson, Steven W. Smith, and press representative Jay Sowers (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

There were no discussion items just for Work Session.

Discuss Council Meeting Agenda of February 16, 2015

Agenda Items all remained on the Council meeting agenda with the exception of two items that were carried over and they are as follows.

- 1) 15-0099 Request Champion Disc Golf Course Development Contract; and
- 2) 15-0105 Permission to appropriate and approve \$3,610,967 for the design and construction of a new 5-plex at the Foley Sports Complex.

There were five add on's to the Council agenda and they are the file ID#'s as follows:

- 1) 15-0111 2015 January Sales Tax, Lodging Tax and Rental Tax reports;
- 2) 15-0119 Proclamation declaring March 2nd as "Read Across America Day" in the City of Foley;
- 3) 15-0120 Setting a public hearing to consider an ordinance regulating environmental permits related to land disturbance;
- 4) 15-0121 Setting a public hearing to consider an ordinance regulating Heritage Tree Preservation; and
- 5) 15-0122 Appropriating \$50,000 for dirt work at the site of the new 5-plex.

Items noteworthy of comments:

15-0087 Residential Sanitation Writeoffs - Councilman Ebert asked why there were two of them this Council meeting. City Clerk Vickey Southern reported sometimes one will miss the deadline and it will be placed on the following agenda.

15-0089 Approve the purchase of a Dura-Tech Model TC-12 Chipper - Darrell Russell requested the appropriation of the additional \$1,230 and approval to purchase the Chipper. This will lower the cost of fuel due to less trips to the pit. This is a budgeted item; however, the demo that has ten hours is a little more than what is budgeted. This item remained on the Council meeting agenda.

15-0090 Approves the purchase of a dump truck for the Street Department - Darrell reported the Street Department needed another truck to haul dirt to various locations throughout the City. President Trawick reported the total price is \$106,000 but there showed an additional \$12,400. He wasn't sure if the \$12,400 was included in the total price or not. Dan reported the total price is \$106,000. This item remained on the Council meeting agenda.

15-0091 Approval to Construct an additional office in the Finance Division - Sue Steigerwald reported they will have to move Rachel's wall over to allow for a hallway. The office will be for Amber who is sharing Dianna's office. This will get her out of the Accounts Payable office since she is an accountant. She is thinking about next year's budget if Blue Collar continues to move forward they may be a need to bring in a temporary person to be able to handle the two Districts' payments. This item remained on the Council meeting agenda.

15-0093 Appropriate funds in the amount of \$3,660 for Finance Division Training - Sue reported they looked at the area and could not find the courses needed locally but they did find a couple of courses at the University of Wisconsin, Madison. This relates to Miranda's responsibilities in Project Management Support and Capital Infrastructure Administration. This item

remained on the Council meeting agenda.

President Trawick turned the meeting over to President Pro-temp Hellmich. 15-0096 Request to appropriate funding for the Graham Creek Interpretive Center - Leslie Gahagan reported she would like to move forward with appropriating the funds and moving forward on going to bid on the project. She should have the plans in by the end of the week. She is asking for \$1,002,000 that includes \$2,000 for advertising costs. The bid is split into a base, which includes the building and drainage and there are four additional alternates. This item remained on the Council meeting agenda.

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

15-0097 Request consideration of an Ordinance Regulating Environmental Permits Related to Land Disturbance - Leslie reported they checked the old Erosion and Sediment Control Ordinance and the old Heritage Tree Ordinance and combined them into an environmental permit so that when developers and land owners come in the information is all in one place and it will make it a bit easier on them. They split out the Heritage Tree into a separate ordinance. This item remained on the Council meeting agenda. This is a first reading and a public hearing will also need to be set per the City Clerk. The first reading will be done and setting a public hearing will be done under a separate file id number. It will be file id# 15-0120 and for file id 15-0098 the public hearing will be under file id 15-0121.

15-0098 Request to consider an Ordinance Regulating Heritage Tree Preservation - This will be a first reading and setting the public hearing will be under file id# 15-0121. This item remained on the Council meeting agenda.

15-0099 Request champion disc golf course development contract - Leslie reported she had a presentation but the drive was not working. The master plan is almost complete. They took the old plans, habitat and existing uses, and there were a lot of comments on this, and put in the existing golf course, what we have currently and existing uses. We have approximately 1,000 golfers on the course a month. This Sunday from 1:00 p.m. until 3:00 p.m. we had 50 golfers on the course, which meant they had to wait to get on the course.

In the Master Plan the Board discussed Environmental, Educational, Recreational, and Economic as the four components of the Master Plan. It had a secondary disc golf course in an area that had been discussed. Leslie met with the disc golfers and looked at having a disc golf shoot out for November 2015 and 2016 but needed a championship course in Baldwin County to host a three-day disc golf tournament. Fairhope has one course and Foley has the only other course. The local disc golf group met with Eric McCabe in designing an additional 18 holes plus an additional putter basket. The City will have to get on the designer's schedule in between the tournaments that he is active in participating. They were looking at trying to get on his agenda and in the meantime they looked at an alternate site since there was some feedback from the Advisory Board with the original location. They now have it relocated closer to the entrance of Philomene Holmes Blvd. where the mountain bikers currently have their course and it keeps traffic off of Wolf Bay Drive. They would play due south to the southern open field where there are wooded areas and no sensitive habitats. There would only be one crossing where the power line is going through and the power company continues to keep it cleaned.

EMC will donate a foot bridge for the mountain bikers to cross this area so it would go hand in hand with that area. EMC's crews are going to come out and build it. She and her staff have been negotiating a lot of volunteer work with a lot of projects at the Preserve. Leslie is asking to appropriate an additional \$13,500 to work with Eric McCabe, who won't be coming in until early summer, but need to get on his schedule prior to when he comes. She will be taking this request back to the Advisory Board in April when the entire Board will be present to be able to discuss a final site.

Councilman Hellmich asked if this has been discussed with the Board previously. Leslie reported it has been discussed with the Advisory Board as well as the Friends of Graham Creek, which is the Board that came out of the meeting Council had and no one has given any opposition against another disc golf course, especially if it doesn't come in the middle of the birding habitat. The President of the Friends of Graham Creek is a big, avid bird watcher who does tours through there and she talked with her last week. Mike Thompson confirmed that Leslie was asking for the appropriation of \$13,500 for a professional designed disc golf course but asked if was contingent upon the Board's agreement with a final layout. Leslie reported yes it would be contingent upon the Board's approval for the final layout in April.

Councilman Ebert reported he spoke with Tommy Patterson about his further concerns about the optional location and requested the item to be carried over until the next meeting. Councilman Hellmich asked what the deadline would be. Leslie reported she could come back in March and what she would not want to do is wait until after the Advisory Board's meeting in April because it would put it April 20th and felt it would be too late to get on his calendar. She can come back with some better maps for Council to review. Councilman Ebert reported that he had a late conversation today with Tommy Patterson and he agreed with him about his concerns, which are very valid. There are 1,000 people using it per month. The park needs to be utilized but he felt they needed to be careful on what is done as well as the location. Councilman Ebert felt that this request popped up very quickly and there wasn't enough time to really consider the request. He would like to look at the full layout of the master plan and those areas. Tommy's biggest concern was birding and how the course might conflict with the birding activities. Leslie reported that the original location was in an area where the bird watchers liked to watch and that was why they chose another location. She sent Tommy a map the other day.

President Trawick reported this was discussed in the Advisory Board meeting and the Board focused more concerns about the road. He was surprised about the concerns being expressed because we need to think about the alternatives of what we want to do that Preserve. Councilman Ebert reported there is a diverse group using the Preserve and there is already one disc golf course located there and having a second one is concentrating a use there that he hates to see it so concentrated for one use. President Trawick reported it is one of the uses that fits the Preserve and it is not invasive. Councilman Ebert reported that it would be invasive because the course requires concrete pads. Leslie reported it is 4' pad in front and 6' pad in the back for a total of 10' long. Councilman Hellmich reported by splitting up the courses these are not back to back and you can't even access both of them the same way. Leslie reported each course would be accessed via a different route. In most disc golf courses there are usually two to three courses in the same park. New Orleans

has two courses in the same park; Blue Angel has three in their park, so it is very common to locate several in the same place but with different levels of difficulty. You can put your community on one and the more advanced golfers on the other.

Councilman Ebert asked if that course would fit in where the new 5-Plex was going to be. Leslie reported it would be difficult to put it in that location because they have to have trees to shoot around, water features or some other difficulty at the sight, and the course requires two miles. Councilman Ebert reported that if the City could bring the course closer into town it would be better. Mike Thompson reported that it is a wet area and asked about the outer edge of the 5-plex adjacent to the existing 5-Plex around the soccer park. David Thompson reported that you wouldn't want it placed there because of the balloon festival. Mike asked if Leslie could send the document to the Council for their review and she responded yes. She will also bring forward the master plan. They are finishing up comments on that prior to bringing it forward. Mrs. Southern reported that Leslie did a very good job on this project.

President Trawick reported at the last meeting the biggest discussion was about the road from the existing center to the interpretive center and the golf course went across that road and the Board wanted to move the road back out to Wolf Bay Drive. There was a service road that was mainly for park personnel and they were concerned with a road going through the Preserve so the focus was on that instead of the disc golf course but it was all discussed. He was surprised about the Board wanting to move the traffic back out to Wolf Bay Drive because that was one of their initial complaints. He asked if there would be alternative sites. Leslie reported that she will work with the Board on location. Mr. McCabe will tell us where the T-pads and baskets can go based on difficulty. They will be able to work with him for a suitable location. Councilman Ebert asked about parking and restroom facilities. Leslie reported that when Philomene Holmes Blvd. comes into the Preserve City staff will be putting in parking spaces and a temporary portalet for the mountain bikers. There will be 40 spaces at that entrance. This item was carried over.

15-0101 Collinwood Inlet Repair and Bay Point Drive Concrete Gutter Repair - Taylor Davis reported the items have been in need of repair for some time as Public Works has been patching the problems. It is time to make the repairs. It is on Manchester Lane and they don't have to open the road just repair the boxes on the side of the road. This item remained on the Council meeting agenda.

15-0102 West Section Avenue Culvert Repair Bid Award - Taylor reported the construction prices have risen but Blade Construction came in with a low bid of \$154,652.95. They are a local company around the Bon Secour area along Hwy. 65. President Trawick asked if they sat down with them to review the project to ensure their price was good because there was such a large gap between the bid prices. Taylor reported with HMR being the consultant they have verified their bid tab numbers and had a pre-construction meeting with them. Now they are obligated to that number as they have had opportunities to ask questions. This item remained on the Council meeting agenda.

15-0104 Approve Purchase of Toter 96 Gallon Garbage Carts - Dan Hellmich reported the truck load would finish out the routes set up with the automated garbage trucks. This item remained on the Council meeting agenda.

15-0105 Permission to appropriate and approve \$3,610,967 for the design and construction of a new 5-plex at the Foley Sports Complex - David Thompson reported they are still working on final estimates and HOAR is making sure we are getting reasonable estimates. David will come back at a later date to ask for the final amount. However, he requested \$50,000 for the removal of "Mt. Foley", which is a large dirt pile that needs to be removed prior to construction. Layco has agreed to take the dirt and when he started getting bids R&S also mentioned they had an interest in it. There will be construction going on with the Balloon Festival and Donna has been notified. They are still on target for completion at the end of the year. Councilman Hellmich asked if Riviera has been advised. David reported his goal is to have a final set of plans in hand and meet with anyone that wants to meet with him and Riviera is on that list. This item was carried over and a new file id # was provided (File ID#15-0122) for the \$50,000 item.

15-0108 Purchase of Centennial Coaster Sets - LaDonna Hinesley reported this was budgeted money and the Centennial Committee has identified the coasters as something they would like to sell to raise money. The small bag contains two ceramic coasters that have the Clock Tower on them. The cost is a little under \$8.00 and will sell for \$12 for the bag. This item remained on the Council meeting agenda.

Mayor's Comments

Mayor Koniar reported Norm Moore approached him and wanted to know if Council would consider passing a resolution endorsing the referendum on the 31st of March for the property tax millage increase. We previously supported the one cent sales tax. They have a sample resolution that they will provide the Mayor but he wanted to give the Council a heads up as he might have it by the next Council meeting. It will be the Council's pleasure on whether or not they will endorse it.

Visitor's Comments

LaDonna Hinesley reported this past week the Centennial Committee approved hosting the Baldwin Pops for a special concert for the Centennial events to be held on Sunday, April 19th. High school students will be playing with the Pops during this concert. The Centennial Committee decided to add a picnic in the park at 4:00 p.m. There will be different events at Centennial Plaza similar to Music and a Movie where you can bring your lawn chairs and food or purchase food from vendors in the Park. The festivities and picnic will begin at 4:00 p.m. and the concert will begin at 6:00 p.m. It's a great time to be in the Park to have a good time.

Councilman Ebert reminded fellow Council members the Rotary Club will hold their meeting at the Gift Horse this Friday and David Vosloh will be presenting his awards at that time. The Rotary Club has extended an invitation to Mike Thompson, Mayor and Council. If they can attend they need to be there at 11:45 a.m. and Bradley Byrnes has been invited as a guest.

Councilwoman Quaites reported this Saturday Mayor and Council have been invited to a concert by Ken Ford and they should have tickets in their box. There is a reception in the Conference Room prior to the concert for a meet and greet.

There were no further comments to report.

Adjourn

Hearing no further comments the meeting adjourned at 4:54 p.m.