



City of Foley, AL

407 E. Laurel Avenue
Foley, AL 36535

Meeting Minutes - Draft City Council

Monday, March 17, 2014

4:00 PM

Conference Room

Work Session

Call to Order

Council President Wayne Trawick called the Council 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, Sandra Pate, Katy Taylor, Thurston Bullock, LaDonna Hinesley, Jessica Middleton, Leslie Gahagan, Taylor Davis, Dan Hellmich, David Wilson, Butch Stokes, Pam Harris, Steven Smith, Rachel Keith, Sue Steigerwald, Jeff Rouzie, Don Staley, Miriam Boutwell, Linda Hula, Joey Darby, David Vosloh, Todd Forrest (Christian Life Church), Sted McCollough (McCollough Architects), Micah Jones, Page Felts, and Jay Dickson (Volkert), 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

14-0179

Discuss Pedestrian Bridge

Attachments: [Pedistrian Bridge](#)

City Administrator Mike Thompson reported the pedestrian bridge is part of an ALDOT grant and there are certain requirements that need to be met. One being the consideration of the bridge being in a historic district and concerns about having the design stay architecturally similar. Mike, Jay Dickson (Volkert), and Sted McCollough (McCollough Architects) went to Montgomery to meet with the State of Alabama Historical Commission. They were concerned with line of site issues and with the footprint. When they looked at the first design the Commission felt that it needed to be softened so that it would pick up the surrounding wooden structures, i.e. the Depot. Today Sted presented two designs for the Council to look at and Volkert presented five versions of the placement of the pedestrian bridge for the Council to consider. The first design shown was approved by the Commission and showed the elevator in the tower and the stairs on the outside with observatory platforms. The railing is a standard 42" high and the walk way 12' wide. LED lighting is to be included on the walkway that spans 100'. After discussion it was determined the Council did not want a roof but an open structure; wanted to see more of an arched trestle and more boxed type column for stairs. Mr. McCollough will make the changes on the design and bring it back to Council for their review.

Micah Jones of Volkert presented five placements for the pedestrian bridge. Option 1 has right in and right out lanes on Jessamine Avenue and lines up with the Fountain in John B. Foley Park. Option 2 shows parking where the right out lane was in Option 1. Option 3 has a right in only option leaving parking on both sides and right in the middle with the bridge moved just north of the John B. Foley Park fountain. Option 4 has a right in and right out lane with the tower just north of Jessamine Avenue and the fountain. Option 5 leaves Jessamine Avenue as it is and moves the tower location north into the newly purchased lot.

In option 3 it was noted that an oak tree might need to be removed but before making that determination the Council would like John Graham to identify the oak to ensure that it is not a live oak. Council expressed concern about moving the bridge north of Jessamine and asked for the architect's opinion. Mr. McCollough reported he felt that there was symmetry with leaving the bridge aligned with Jessamine Avenue and the fountain because everything lines up and flows nicely. In further discussing the bridge Councilman Ebert requested Dr. Lawrence and some of the Elementary School teachers are included in the design decision because it will be the path they use for outings to the Park and the Depot Museum.

Ms. Paige Felts reported the timeline is rather short as the NEPA is scheduled to be in by the end of this month and the plan review is due March 26th. It will need to go before the next local historic commission meeting. Ms. Boutwell reported their next meeting will be April 2nd. She stated that if they need to call a special called meeting to get the design approved prior to the end of the month it can be done. Recapping what will be done in short order Mr.

McCollough will submit the third drawing to be distributed to Council; Volkert will flag the location so Council can see the footprint; and Mike will send the Council maps of the location. There was also a consensus that the sidewalks need to remain clear and they might need to be moved due to the columns for

safety reasons.

14-0182

Discuss Chicago Street Farmers Market and Coastal Alabama Farmers and Fishermens Market

LaDonna Hinesley reported it is that time of year whereby the Visitor's Center plans the Chicago Street Market and Music and a Movie. They sent out surveys of 40 farmers who are selling their produce at the new Coastal Alabama Farmers and Fishermens Market to see who would be willing to participate in both Markets and had they received less than 15 back and of those only a few stated they would be interested. The majority stated they would find it difficult to find the manpower to do both. They also found that those attending the Chicago Street Market usually did not attend the Movie later as there are two different demographics and suggested that maybe the City could consider doing something else instead of the Chicago Street Market. Mr. Thompson asked if the craft vendors would be willing to do the Chicago Street Market. President Trawick reported the only negative comment that he heard was that people were worried that there would be too many craft vendors at the Coastal Alabama Farmers and Fishermens Market and not enough farmers to carry the Coastal Alabama Farmers and Fishermens Market. Ms. Hinesley reported they have 18 tents and they are sharing them with the Coastal Alabama Farmers and Fishermens Market on CR 20. This item was carried over until the next meeting for further consideration.

Discuss Council Meeting Agenda for March 17, 2014

ADD ON'S:

President Trawick reported there are several add-on's as follows:

14-0198 – Waive fees for YMCA 2nd Annual Y Get Dirty Mud Run – This is the second annual event for Baldwin County YMCA of South Alabama

14-0199 – Calvary Chapel Fellowship and Foley PD's request to hold a community skate boarding contest at the Foley Skate Park March 29, 2014 from noon until 4:00 p.m.

14-0194 – Approving participation in the Baldwin County Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan

14-0176 – February 2014 Sales, Lodging and Rental Tax Reports

All these items were added to the Council meeting agenda.

14-0172 Amending Pay Classification Plan for IT Division – Mr. Thompson reported this item corresponds with the next item. The workload is substantial and we are looking at also renewing the Baldwin County contract. The contract will go up and rather than spend the money on a contract for another person the City could approve another IT position because the support is needed for in-house support while the County could be focused on project work, such as Sky Guard. They had 30 new desktops to install and 20 more additional going out. Connectivity is important and more applications are cloud based. If the in-house needs dry up then the City could reduce the County support to a half-time body. There was a consensus to proceed with the item and it remained on the Council meeting agenda.

14-0170 Amending Pay Classification Plan for the creation of a budgeted Chief Building Inspector - Miriam Boutwell reported that this is a budgeted position and currently on the books for March there is over 100,000 sq. ft. of inspections and over \$1 million in valuations. They hope to open this position to promote from within and open an inspector position. This item remained on the agenda.

14-0173 Amending Pay Classification Plan to Convert a Vacant Parks Laborer Position to a Parks Maintenance Worker I Position – Ms. Pate reported this conversion is the same pay grade and no funds are needed. The Parks Department needs more laborers. This item remained on the Council meeting agenda.

14-0175 Renegotiate Medistat Storage Lease – Mr. Rouzie handed out a map of the HT Barnes building and noted Medistat is purchasing a conditioned building containing 11,500 sq. ft., restrooms, two loading docks and a fenced area. Currently we are paying \$33,000 annually for 6,568 sq. ft. They are offering the new space \$46,000 or \$4 per square foot. Medistat has outgrown their facility and need to take back the storage portion and are paying \$650,000 for the building. The lease would be for five years with an option to renew one time for a five year term. Pam Harris reported that the City has always had problems with not having enough storage space and the space being presented would allow for the City to grow. Her staff has cleaned out the building at the Wilson Pecan property and cleaned out the washateria building. Time did not allow having a lengthy discussion of this item and was carried over for further discussion.

14-0176 – Approve Funding Agreement Form – Mrs. Southern reported this item was in regards to the New Market Tax Credit deal and the attorney, Rusty Russell, was not ready to bring it forward at this time. This item was carried over.

Mayor's Comments

None to report.

Visitor's Comments

None to report.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 5:27 p.m.