

## City of Foley, AL

407 E. Laurel Avenue Foley, AL 36535

# **Meeting Minutes - Final City Council**

Monday, September 16, 2013

4:00 PM

Conference Room

#### Work Session

#### Call to Order

Council President Wayne Trawick called the meeting 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

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**

13-0990

Discuss Coastal Wildlife Rescue Center

Leslie Gahagan had requested this item be carried over. This item was carried over until the next meeting.

13-0991

Discuss The Festival Of Flavor Update.

Donna Watts was present and reported the plans for the annual Festival of Flavor were moving along nicely. Faulkner's Gulf Shores campus culinary department and their students will be preparing the meal for the October 5th event. Wolf Bay Lodge is also partnering as the Faulkner team will need access to a kitchen and Wolf Bay Lodge is willing to let them use their facilities.

The festivities on October 19th are going good as well. Chris Sherrill will be in charge of the tastings and publicity is being done. Ms. Watts handed out a copy of their working budget. The contract for the money the Council gives them is not in this section of the budget as it is held in another section of the budget because it deals with other events as well. Tickets are selling and they have also identified some cost savings. The rental equipment, i.e. tables, chairs and tents, of all sizes and shapes to do the various events add up in cost. They plan to have a tailgate cookoff, have some restaurants do some samplings and chef's doing cooking demos with local fresh food. Since the event is centered around Alabama produce, meats, seafood, the beer and wine will also be from Alabama as well.

When questioned whether or not the Festival of Flavors would have an impact with the Taste of South Baldwin's event, Ms. Watts assured the Council they were not targeting the same people and that if they contacted someone who was already committed to the Taste they would not encourage them to do the Festival of Flavors since they had already obligated themselves to the Taste. It is not their intent to draw people away from the Taste since this is a very good community event. The Festival is more centered around local foods.

#### Discuss Council Meeting Agenda for September 16, 2013

13-0990 Discuss Coastal Wildlife Rescue Center - Carried over to the next meeting.

13-0993 Extension of Special Economic Development Grant Agreement between the City of Foley and COROC/Rivera, LLC - Mike Thompson reported Tanger is requesting a renewal of the agreement for a two year period. Since the agreement went into effect Tanger has gotten better quality stores and has a higher occupancy rate. The funds have been used according to the terms and conditions set forth and the City has used their portion for infrastructure maintenance. This item was kept on the Council agenda for consideration.

13-0996 Appointing Vernie Heard as a regular member of the BAA - It was clarified that this is Vernie Heard Jr. and not Sr. that has served as an alternate on the Board of Adjustments and Appeals and since there is a vacancy for a regular member that he was next in line to be moved to a regular position on the Board.

13-1003 - Approving contract with NAI Mobile to list the Peavey Building - Council President Trawick expressed his concerns about selling the building without stipulations because it could be sold to someone wanting to use it for a storage facility instead of a company that would create jobs. The City could transfer the property to the IDB so that an interested company could benefit from abatements offered by the Board. After discussion there was a consensus to change the term from 12 months to 6 months and let NAI list the property without any criteria. Jeff will get back with John Peebles and Alan Cameron on the change.

13-1004 Resolution to approve the Facade Improvement Incentive Grant Program - Mike Thompson reported during the last meeting the Council approved setting aside \$50,000 for a downtown facade improvement project. Robert and Barbara Ingram have been instrumental in getting the guidelines together. Mr. Ingram reported there are many grant programs around the country and most of them are administered around the Main Street program. They got a half dozen forms and policies and chose the best things from each of them to come up with a draft to fit Foley's needs to encourage growth and perhaps protect the City's money and investments in the program. The Incentive Grant Program provides financial assistance for exterior appearance improvement projects on buildings located in the Foley National and Local Historic Districts. The districts may grow or shrink over time or the footprint of the area eligible could change and the program will tie to those footprints as they change. The amount of the grant for an approved project is 50% of the project total with a cap of \$5,000 per property and that is subject to funding

availability. Grants for improvements to buildings that have been vacant for a year or longer or to expand existing operations will be eligible for a 75% reimbursement or a maximum of \$7,500 per project. Mr. Ingram felt that the funds appropriated would cover ten to fifteen projects and if the program had more demands the Council could revisit the funding. The only thing that Mike was concerned about was looking at the program as an economic program rather than an historical preservation program. If it was viewed as an economic program then Amendment 750 would come into play and the project would have to be advertised. Amendment 750 deals with the use of public dollars being spent for a private entity to benefit for economic development. City Attorney Casey Pipes views this as an historical program and not economic development. There was consensus to keep this on the Council agenda.

Addition: 13-1012 Consider a resolution approving the purchase of decorative boulders for beds on Hwy 98 at Hwy 59 to deter trucks running over the flower beds. This was added to the Council agenda.

#### **Mayor's Comments**

Mayor Koniar reported the City received notification from Governor Bentley that they were awarded \$334,920 for the Federal Transportation Alternative Program for the bike paths along the Foley Beach Express and County Road 12.

He further reported there would be a meeting on Wednesday to further discuss security measures and the installation of camera's.

#### Staff/Visitor's Comments

None to report.

### Adjourn

Hearing no further comment	ts the meeting adjourned at 5:09 p.m.
	J. Wayne Trawick, President
Victoria Southern, CMC	