Town Council Meeting

November 19, 2018

6:00 P.M.

Present: Shon Owens, Maxine Ivey, Wayne Godwin, Nina Hendricks, Eric Seib, Josh Holloway, Crystal Weatherington, Stephen Cozart, Gretchen MacPherson, Hannah Laney, Tony Howard, James Griffin, Mike Herring, Craig Allen, Kevin Herrman

Meeting called to order: Maxine Ivey

Welcome visitors: Maxine Ivey

Invocation: Joshua Holloway

Pledge: Wayne Godwin

Motion made by Shon Owens to accept the minutes from the November 5, 2018 Regular Council Meeting. Seconded by Wayne Godwin. 5 yeas. 0 nays. Motion carried.

OPERATIONS Report: Eric Seib reviewed the changes in the project tracker. Councilman Godwin requested that the maintenance crew look at the fire hydrant near Smith Tractor and find a way to fix the leak. The portable bleachers will now be delivered in January vice November. Eric mentioned that the Competitive Florida Partnership Grant provides and opportunity for an educated facilitator to lead the Town in a group discussion on the economic growth for the Town of Jay. He discussed the idea with the HAAS Center leadership and was interested in any feedback from the council. No immediate response, the discussion will continue with the next workshop.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Eric provided the monthly revenue and expenditures for the month of October. The water and gas revenues for October were $79,133.61 and expenditures were $88,056.81. Of note, we have not received our Santa Rosa County Municipal Aid or Community Center Lease. The biggest areas of expense were the utility bills and water system maintenance which accounted for 25% of the expenses. The Mayor would like to have the town continue to buy transmitters monthly and prioritize the replacement of old water meters with automated meters.

ENGINEER REPORT: Crystal received a second electrical engineering quote for the Well #1 pump house. That quote was double the first quote given, so she recommended that the Town accept the first quote. The Mayor requested that a conduit layout plan be provided as one of the first deliverables to assist the building construction timeline. Dewberry completed their field survey of the town’s waterlines and are in the process of creating an electronic footprint.

Old Business: The town submitted the parade permit, placed up a banner and started decorating light poles for the Christmas Celebration. A vendor site was contacted on Facebook to invite vendors. Councilman Holloway asked how the town advertised the parade and suggested adding a radio spot to the local radio shows. Discussion continued how to expand the advertising for the Christmas Celebration. A recommendation was given to move the parade to the afternoon next year for a better participation opportunity.

NEW BUSINESS: Mayor Owens discussed the current situation at 5252 Commerce Street. The business currently runs their sewer into a small septic tank area. The Town six months ago spoke to the building owner who did not want to pay the cost for a directional drill into the Town’s sewer system. The town has an opportunity to help the business and building owner by offering to pay a portion of the cost to connect the sewer lateral to the Town’s sewer system. It was agreed to allow the Operations Manager to discuss some different payment options with the building owner and then present back to the Council at the December 3rd meeting. Operations Manager presented a 30-year contract with Florida Gas Utility. The council agreed upon a 15-year contract at the August 20th Council Meeting, this contract contains the same terms, just an extension in the term. Mayor Owens made a motion to accept the 30-year gas contract. Seconded by Councilwoman Hendricks. The motion passed with a vote of 5-0. The Town Clerk read a resolution adopting an Excessive Force Policy at the Town of Jay. Mayor Owens made a motion to accept the resolution. Councilman Holloway seconded the motion.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Tony Howard, 4252 Spring Street, represented the Masonic Lodge. He asked that the town create a non-profit category since they use less than 1,000 gallons per month. The lodge is currently billed at a commercial rate and the minimum charge is $84.00. The Town stated they would take that into consideration. Mr. Mike Herring, 3990 Highway 4, represented Highway 4 Auto Sales and Allen’s Auto Service stated that small businesses with 2-3 employees that use minimal water should not have to pay $84.00 a month. He also would like the Town to look at a category that separates small businesses that use minimal water from the others. James Griffin, 5289 Magnolia St, stated that his water bill has increased too much and wanted to know if he could place a well on his property. He also stated that he had an old meter and it was not being read. Mayor Owens offered to place an automated meter on his property. The attorney stated that there is an ordinance that prohibits water wells except for irrigation. Mr. Griffin also asked that the town drill a deeper well to receive better water.

Shon Owens made motion to adjourn meeting. Seconded by Nina Hendricks. 4 yeas. 0 nays. Meeting adjourned.

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Mayor Shon Owens Town Clerk Donna Bullock