**Town Council Meeting**

**July 20, 2020**

**6:00 P.M.**

**Present:** Steve Cozart, Nina Hendricks, Maxine Ivey, Gretchen McPherson, Shon Owens, Eric Seib, April Watson, Crystal Weatherington

**Meeting called to order:** Eric Seib

**Prayer**: Maxine Ivey

**Pledge:** Shon Owens

**Approval of Meeting Minutes:** Mayor Owens made a motion to accept the minutes as written. Seconded by Councilwoman Hendricks. 3 Yeas. 0 Nays. Motion carried

**Operations Report:** Mr. Seib presented the operations report (attached). Discussion followed.

**Financial Report:** Ms. Watson presented the financial report (attached).

**Engineer Report:** Ms. Weatherington gave an update on CDBG Project stating that it is closing out. The USDA project is on track. She will speak to Mayor Owens regarding Park Engineering.

**Old Business:**

* Garbage Contract – Mr. Seib discussed the upcoming pre-bid meeting (see attached email with questions from one company). He asked for council members to discuss later whether garbage service should be mandatory for residents inside of the city limits.
* Employee Update –Mayor Owens made a motion to increase the salary of Trenton Flowers, maintenance worker, by $1.00 an hour ($0.50 merit raise and $0.50 gas certification raise), and to increase the salary of Tony Howard, maintenance worker, by $0.50 an hour (merit raise). Seconded by Councilwoman Ivey. 3 yeas, 0 nays. Motion carried.
* New Development Gas Line – The developer will be in town in 3 – 4 weeks to discuss the possibility of adding a gas line and the detail included with this.
* Appointment of FGU Board of Directors Representative – Mr. Seib read Resolution No. 20-07-01, a resolution establishing a director and alternate director for Florida Gas Utility (attached). Councilwoman Ivey mad a motion to approve the resolution naming Eric Seib as the director and Donna Bullock as the alternate director for Florida Gas Utility. Councilwoman Hendricks seconded. 3 yeas, 0 nays. Motion carried.
* State of Florida COVID-19 Funding (CARES Act) – Mr. Seib stated that we requested $18,500 to help businesses affected by COVID-19. It is waiting on approval.

**New Business:**

* Law Enforcement Appreciation Request (attached) – Mr. Seib presented the request to the council to help fund Law Enforcement Appreciation Day in Santa Rosa County. Mayor Owens made a motion to do a Sergeant Sponsorship for $250.00. Seconded by Councilwoman Hendricks. 3 yeas, 0 nays. Motion carried.
* FY – 20-21 Budget Proposed Millage Rate (attached) – Mr. Seib presented the council with a proposed millage rate increase to be discussed at a later meeting.
* Property Complaint for 3810 McCurdy Ave. (attached) – A complaint was received regarding this property and rodents due to overgrowth of vegetation. A letter has been sent to the property owner to request clean up (attached).
* Firework Contract – Mr. Seib stated that he has been in contact with the firework company who has agreed to charge the same rate ($1,000 per minute) for next years fireworks show. Mayor Owens requested that we speak to the company to ask how many fireworks this includes per minute.
* COVID 19 Pledge / Blood Drive – Mr. Seib presented the council with a pledge to donate blood during the COVID-19 pandemic. Senator Doug Broxson will be attending our next council meeting to discuss the efforts of this.
* Sewer Tap on Hwy. 89 – Mayor Owens requested that we research the costs of adding a sewer line to a property to open a business there for the property owner. Mr. Seib will continue to research the costs for this tap.

Mayor Owens made a motion to adjourn meeting. Seconded by Councilwoman Ivey. Meeting adjourned

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Mayor, Shon Owens Town Clerk, Donna Bullock