

On Monday, May 8, 2023 at 6:00 p.m., the City of Wauchula Commission met for its regular meeting in the Commission Chambers at 225 East Main Street, Suite 105, Wauchula.

Nadaskay called the meeting to order.

Commissioners present were Mayor Pro-Tem Neda Cobb, Commissioner Russell Smith, Mayor Keith Nadaskay, Commissioner Gary Smith and Commissioner Sherri Albritton.

Also present were Interim City Manager Olivia Minshew, Assistant City Manager/Police Chief John Eason, Director of Project Management and Procurement Ward Grimes, Community Redevelopment Director Jessica Newman, Communication Coordinator Katie Wheeler, Finance Director Martha Felix, Community Development Director Kyle Long, City Attorney Kristie Hatcher-Bolin and City Clerk Stephanie Camacho.

Nadaskay declared a quorum.

Approval of Agenda

Albritton motioned to approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Cobb.

With no discussion, Nadaskay asked for all in favor, all responded aye.

Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes from the April 3, 2023 Workshop and April 10, 2023 Meeting

Cobb motioned to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by G. Smith.

With no discussion, Nadaskay asked for all in favor, all responded aye.

Motion carried.

Nadaskay gave the virtual meeting statement.

PUBLIC COMMENT – NON-AGENDA ITEMS

No public comments were heard.

PRESENTATION

Nadaskay introduced the Hardee Senior High School Varsity Tennis Team. The team was the first in Hardee County history to advance passed the first round at Regionals. The team expressed their appreciation for maintaining the tennis courts and allowing the team to use them.

ORDINANCES / PUBLIC HEARINGS

Ordinance 2023-01 – 1st Reading – Rezone of O Strickland Street

Hatcher-Bolin read the ordinance by title only.

Long addressed the Commission and presented 3 letters that were received, possibly from the same resident. One of the letters included a petition with approximately 40 signatures, opposing the rezone.

Long provided a map of addresses where the signatures came from, many of which do not reside within city limits or even near the rezone location. Cobb asked how many residences were in that area. Long explained he sent letters to everyone within a 500-foot radius and there were approximately 100 letters sent out. Hatcher-Bolin asked Long to summarize what the objections to the rezone were. Long stated concerns were increased traffic, puddling of rain water on the property in question, and the removal of the current playground on the property. Long explained the playground equipment currently at Seminole Park is minimal and aged, and there is another park within walking distance of that neighborhood at Farr Field. Newman explained the park study that was conducted in 2019 to help the City determine where

funds would be most appropriately spent. With Farr Field being so close to this area and already a thriving park, the City decided to focus recreational funding there and develop a plan for in-fill housing at 0 Strickland Street. Albritton mentioned that she agreed with the City's plan for this. Cobb asked who would decide whether or not the speed limit in the area could be changed. Minshew explained a study would need to be done in order to determine if the speed limit needs to change. Eason stated the police department can put up the speed trailer and attempt to capture data on traveling speeds. Nadaskay felt it was a good idea to move forward with the ordinance.

Albritton motioned to approve the ordinance, seconded by G. Smith.

With no further discussion, Nadaskay asked for all in favor, all responded aye.

Motion carried.

CITY MANAGER/NON-CONSENT

Announce Power Cost Adjustment

Minshew presented the April power cost adjustment.

City Manager Employment Agreement

Nadaskay asked if there was a motion. Albritton motioned to approve the agreement, seconded by Cobb.

Nadaskay asked if there were any questions. Albritton asked how the salary amount in the agreement was determined. Minshew replied she researched surrounding communities with similar employee sizes, as well as entities that provided electrical utilities, and used those City Manager's salaries to come up with an average salary. Nadaskay commented he had done the same type of study with the previous City of Wauchula Manager and he feels that this salary is appropriate. Albritton stated she thinks Minshew will do an amazing job, that her work history with the City of Wauchula speaks for itself. Nadaskay commented he felt that everything in the contract was appropriate, reasonable and deserving. With no further discussion, Nadaskay asked for all in favor, all responded aye.

Motion carried.

Resolution 2023-09 FDOT Grant for Melendy Street

Long addressed the Commission and presented information on the grant. This grant will go towards CEI and construction of Melendy Street. Long gave a history update on this project.

G. Smith motioned to approve the grant, seconded by Cobb.

With no further discussion, Nadaskay asked for all in favor, all responded aye.

Motion carried.

CITY MANAGER, CONSENT AGENDA

National Day of Prayer Proclamation

RFP 2023-01 Independent Audit Services

RFQ 2023-01 Professional Engineering Services – Airport

Special Event Application – Hometown Happy Hour

Cobb motioned to approve the Consent Agenda, seconded by Albritton.

With no discussion, Nadaskay called for all in favor, all responded aye.

Motion carried.

COMMENTS FROM CITY ATTORNEY, COMMISSIONERS, OTHER ELECTED OFFICIALS AND CITIZENS

Cobb advised she would be attending an upcoming Central Planning Finance Committee meeting as well as a Ridge League of Cities meeting.

Nadaskay recessed the Commission Meeting and called to order the Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Wauchula Community Redevelopment Agency

Approval of Minutes from the April 3, 2023 Workshop and April 10, 2023 Meeting

G. Smith motioned to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by Cobb.

With no discussion, Nadaskay asked for all in favor, all responded aye.

Motion carried.

RFP CRA 22-01 AE Global Contract

Newman addressed the Board and presented the contract. She also stated Chris with AE Global was online for any additional questions.

Albritton motioned to approve the award contract for RFP CRA 22-01, seconded by Cobb.

R. Smith suggested to develop a policy for the use of this new equipment by others that use the auditorium. Albritton asked if the equipment would be secured. Newman explained the equipment would be in the sound booth which has a door that locks.

With no further discussion, Nadaskay called for all in favor, all responded aye.

Motion carried.

RFP CRA 23-02 Award Recommendation

Newman addressed the Board, stating she was recommending the bid for the in-fill housing project be awarded to Top Notch Construction. Travis Maldonado was present to answer any questions. Nadaskay asked about the bond provision in the letter. Newman explained they had 5 days after signing the contract to provide the bond.

G. Smith motioned to approve RFP CRA 23-02 Award, seconded by Albritton.

With no discussion, Nadaskay called for all in favor, all responded aye.

Motion carried.

RFP CRA 23-03 Crews Park Pavilion Completion

Newman addressed the Board and explained there was a date error in the original document that has been corrected.

Albritton motioned to approve RFP CRA 23-03, seconded by Cobb.

With no discussion, Nadaskay called for all in favor, all responded aye.

Motion carried.

RFP CRA 23-04 US 17 and Main Parking Lot

Newman addressed the Board and explained the RFP identification number had changed since the last discussion.

Cobb motioned to approve RFP CRA 23-04, seconded by Albritton.

With no discussion, Nadaskay called for all in favor, all responded aye.

Motion carried.

Revitalization Grant Application

Newman addressed the Board and explained the timeline request has changed from 8 weeks to 12 weeks.

Cobb motioned to approve the Revitalization Grant Application, seconded by G. Smith.

With no discussion, Nadaskay called for all in favor, all responded aye.

Motion carried.

Nadaskay adjourned the Wauchula Community Redevelopment Agency Board Meeting and reconvened the Commission Meeting**Approval of the Wauchula Community Redevelopment Agency Board's Actions**

Albritton motioned to approve the Wauchula Community Redevelopment Agency Board's actions, seconded by Cobb.

With no discussion, Nadaskay called for all in favor, all responded aye.

Motion carried.

Quarterly Financial Report

Felix presented the report to the Commission.

OTHER DISCUSSION

Minsheiw commented that the City would soon be starting budget meetings. The annual Budget Workshop in July would fall on July 3rd this year. With that being a holiday week, Commission opted to not have a workshop that week and reschedule the budget workshop. Minsheiw reminded that the regular meeting would be scheduled for July 10th, therefore the budget workshop could be held on July 17th or July 24th. The Commission decided to tentatively schedule the budget workshop for July 17th at 4:00 pm – to be confirmed at the June meeting.

With no further business to discuss, Nadaskay adjourned the Commission Meeting at 7:15 p.m.

Mayor Richard K. Nadaskay, Jr.

City Clerk Stephanie Camacho