

Regular Council Meeting
November 12, 2003

Mayor Marse called to order the regular scheduled meeting of November 12, 2003.

Councilman Helton gave the invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Members Present: Mayor J.M. Marse, Council members Scott Brannon, Jean Arrant, Earl King, Janice McLean and Mike Helton were present. Also present: City Clerk Diane Riley and City Attorney Clayton Adkinson.

No minutes were presented for approval.

The engineer's report was moved to later in the meeting.

New Business:

Paul Miller with WFRPC explained the large-scale amendment in reference to the text changes, Owl's Head, and Magnolia Baye Estates. Mr. Miller requested transmittal of the amendment to Department of Community Affairs. Councilman Brannon motioned for the City to transmit the large-scale amendment. Councilman King seconded the motion, motion carried 5-0.

Huston Carter the CDBG administrator requested a budget revision for Walton County Industrial Park. His request referred to shifting of remaining funding for the water and sewer line item to the street improvement line item. This would increase street improvement line item to \$72,618.67. Councilwoman Arrant motioned to shift the funding on the budget, the motion was 2nd by Councilman Helton, motion carried, 5-0.

Councilman Brannon motioned to adopt a simple IRA plan for employees, starting January 1, 2004. Councilman King seconded the motion, motion carried, 5-0.

Mary Devlin requested a tree donation from the City for the funding of the Chautauqua building reconstruction program. Charles Peters stated that he would donate the funds if the City would provide the tree. Councilwoman McLean stated she would assist in the decoration of the tree and get it there on the 5th of December.

Gary Hulion of Walton County code enforcement addressed the Council on the agreement with WC and Freeport. He noted that the County attorney was reviewing the current agreement between the County and City. He also informed the Council that the legislative was looking at a bill imposing a \$200 fee for filing and code enforcement must provide a defendant with legal representation. Mr. Hulion will be letting the Council know if any of these bills do become enacted.

Ranking of the water maintenance position applicants was given to the City Clerk. Council set the interview date on November 17, 2003 at 7 pm. The top 3 applicants were Ernest Turley, Bryant Via, and Henry Wright.

The Council talked about the Christmas holidays. Councilman King motioned that the City change the Christmas holidays to Christmas Day and the following Friday for this year only. Councilwoman Arrant 2nd the motion, motion carried, 5-0.

Councilwoman Arrant motioned to cancel the December 25, 2003 meeting due to it being Christmas Day, Councilman Brannon 2nd the motion, motion carried, 5-0.

Charles Peters started the engineers' report with the sewer grant application submitted to the state by saying it was time to renew the application for the next year consideration. The City has committed a match of \$600,000 towards the grant, if funded we would receive about 1.3 million dollars per year for about 5 to 6 years. Phase I design for the sidewalk project is being done and Phase II draft of the LAP agreement is in. The sewer treatment plant design is 90% complete and should be ready for the 12/9/03 meeting. Portland water project is getting close, punch list items have not been completed. Shallow lines are about done being replaced. DOT has been unreasonable on some issues on right of ways. The North Bay water project is ready for submittal to RD, Mayor and Clerk to sign documents. Charles asked if the

Council had made any consideration for the upgrade of well #4. No response by Council was made at this time.

Other Business not on the agenda:

Townplanters request that the City purchase a cake for the Christmas Tree lighting services, Council declined.

James Odom asked the Council for support on the workmen compensation legislation in the senate. Councilwoman Arrant motioned that James Odom in the name of the Freeport Voluntary Fire Department apply for a FEMA grant for a smoke trailer to teach the community about fire safety. Councilwoman McLean 2nd the motion, it carried, 5-0.

Councilwoman McLean motioned to accept the agreement for automatic and mutual aide with Walton County. The motion was 2nd by Councilman Helton, motion carried, 5-0.

Councilwoman Arrant moved to pay all bills in order, motion 2nd by Councilwoman McLean, motion carried, 5-0.

Paul Miller with WFRPC reviewed a proposed development for R & D Development on hwy 331 S consisting of approx. 7.6 acres, his recommendation was to disapprove the development.

With no other business, Councilman Helton motioned to adjourn at 8:30 pm.

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

J.M. Marse, Mayor

Diane Riley, City Clerk

Janice McLean, President of Council