

DeFuniak Springs City Council
Special Meeting
January 30, 2018

The following members were present: Mayor Pro-Tem Henry D Ennis, Sr., Councilmembers: Ron Kelley, Janie Griffith, Wayne Graham, Kermit Wright, City Manager Danny Lucas, City Clerk Loretta Laird and Assistant City Manager Craig Drake. Mayor Bob Campbell was absent from the meeting.

Mayor Pro-Temp Ennis called the special meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. with the topic of discussion being Council direction to the city manager concerning the water bill for service address: 73 Scribner Avenue.

Councilwoman Griffith stated she had requested a special meeting being called relating to the water bill for service address 73 Scribner Avenue. Griffith discussed receiving information on Thursday, January 25, 2018, relating to water service being disconnected at the residence for non-payment and Mayor Campbell authorizing the water service be turned back on without payment being made.

Griffith stated her concern was Chapter 23, Water, Sewer, and Sewage Disposal Section 23-44 entitled Nonpayment of the DeFuniak Springs Municipal Code. The section states "The water supply shall be shut off from any premises for which the water bill remains unpaid for a period of ten (10) calendar days from the fifteenth of the month in which due. Upon disconnection of service for nonpayment the water meter placed at that location shall be locked. When shut off, water shall not be turned on except upon payment to the required fees, including but not limited to tap fees, service connection fees, and re-connect fees." This ordinance was adopted by the DeFuniak Springs City Council originally on September 10, 1984 and has been modified to its current form on July 13, 2015.

Amber Davis Williams, 73 Scribner Avenue resident, discussed receiving a bill in November 2017 that included service for an agricultural meter. The total amount of the billing statement was \$2,047.27. The current bill sent for utility services was for the amount of \$3,475.47 on December 31, 2017, with the last payment being made on the account on October 25, 2017.

Williams discussed her request to have the agricultural meter turned off on July 25, 2017, by city staff. Kenneth Gavins, water supervisor, discussed turning the agricultural meter off at the hand valve when payment for services was made on July 25, 2017, at which time was disconnected for non-payment. A one-in-five year adjustment was made on August 24, 2017, in the amount of \$580.35 for a broken water line from the agriculture meter.

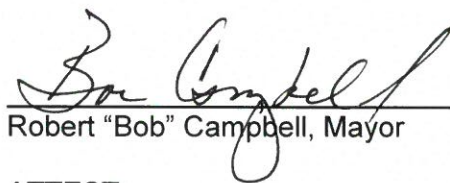
Discussion occurred relating to the issue not being Williams' water bill being delinquent but Mayor Campbell violating an adopted ordinance.

Councilwoman Griffith made a motion to turn off the water service to 73 Scribner Avenue if full payment has not been made by the end of the business day on Wednesday, January 31, 2018, seconded by Councilman Wright.

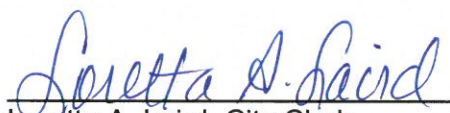
Councilwoman Griffith: Aye; Councilman Wright: Aye; Councilman Kelley: Aye; Councilman Graham: Aye **Motion carried 4-0.**

There being no further business, Mayor Pro-Temp Ennis adjourned the meeting at 5:13 p.m.

ADOPTED on this 12th day of February, 2018.


Robert "Bob" Campbell, Mayor

ATTEST:


Loretta A. Laird, City Clerk