

DeFuniak Springs City Council
Special Meeting
March 28, 2019

The following members were present: Mayor Bob Campbell, Mayor Pro-Tem Henry D Ennis, Sr., Councilmembers: Janie Griffith, Ron Kelley, Kermit Wright, Wayne Graham; City Attorney Clayton Adkinson, City Manager Mell Smigielski, Finance Director Debra Gibson and City Clerk Loretta Laird.

Mayor Campbell called the special meeting to order at 5 p.m.

2019 DeFuniak Springs General Election

Canvassing Board Appointment

City Attorney Clayton Adkinson discussed the canvassing board appointments for the 2019 DeFuniak Springs General Election. The appointments according to the DeFuniak Springs Municipal Code Section 7-10 Counting and canvass of votes reads as follows: (a) *The city canvassing board shall be composed of the members of the city council and the mayor. In the event any member of the board is unable to serve, is a candidate who has opposition in the election being canvassed, or is an active participant in the campaign or candidacy of any candidate who has opposition in the election being canvassed and a quorum cannot be met without such member, such member shall be replaced by the city council as follows: (1) City clerk, city marshal and city manager may be appointed as a member of the canvassing board; (2) Should those persons listed in (1) be unable to serve, the council shall appoint a registered voter from the city that would not be disqualified for any of the above reasons. In this chapter a quorum shall consist of three (3) members.*

Adkinson stated three council members and the city marshal cannot be on the board due them being election candidates. Mayor Campbell and Councilman Graham have recused themselves from the board. Adkinson requested the council appoint another city electorate (voter) to be on the canvassing board and recommended having the city clerk and city manager also on the canvassing board to have a total of 5 members.

Councilman Graham made a motion to have the following individuals on the 2019 DeFuniak Springs General Election canvassing board: Councilman Henry Ennis (Chair), City Clerk Loretta Laird, City Manager Mell Smigielski, and two city electorates, Jack Owen and Debra Gibson, seconded by Councilman Ennis.

Councilwoman Griffith: Aye; Councilman Wright: Aye; Councilman Ennis: Aye; Councilman Kelley: Aye; Councilman Graham: Aye **Motion carried 5-0.**

Canvassing Board Meeting Schedule

Clerk Loretta Laird requested the city council set a meeting time for the 2019 DeFuniak Springs General Election canvassing board meeting.

Councilwoman Griffith made a motion to schedule the 2019 DeFuniak Springs General Election canvassing board meeting at 6:30 p.m. at the DeFuniak Springs Community Center's Main Room with ballots not being opened until after the election polls have been closed, seconded by Councilman Kelley.

Councilwoman Griffith: Aye; Councilman Wright: Aye; Councilman Ennis: Aye; Councilman Kelley: Aye; Councilman Graham: Aye **Motion carried 5-0.**

Election Committee appointments

City Attorney Clayton Adkinson stated the DeFuniak Springs Municipal Code Section 7-9 Conduct generally states: *All city elections shall be conducted under the management and supervision of three (3) managers and a clerk, all of whom shall be appointed by the mayor and council. Such persons shall ascribe to an oath furnished by the city clerk that they will faithfully and impartially discharge their duties and endeavor to prevent fraud in the holding of the election. Upon the closing of the polls such persons shall obtain the returns from the voting machines and deliver them to the city clerk together with the checklist and all papers used by them in the conduct of the election.* Discussion occurred relating to the former election member appointments, which include City Clerk Loretta Laird, City Manager Mell Smigielski, Assistant City Manager Craig Drake and Finance Director Debra Gibson. City Clerk Laird recommended Planning Director Kelly Schultz replace Finance Director Debra Gibson on the Election Committee appointments.

Councilman Kelley made a motion to appoint City Clerk Loretta Laird, City Manager Mell Smigielski, Assistant City Manager Craig Drake and Planning Director Kelly Schultz to the 2019 DeFuniak Springs General Election Committee, seconded by

Councilwoman Griffith. Councilwoman Griffith: Aye; Councilman Wright: Aye; Councilman Ennis: Aye; Councilman Kelley: Aye; Councilman Graham: Aye **Motion carried 5-0.**


There being no further business, Mayor Campbell adjourned the meeting at 5:42 p.m.

ADOPTED on this 8th day of April, 2019.



Mayor Robert "Bob" Campbell

ATTEST:



City Clerk Loretta A. Laird, CMC