

**DeFuniak Springs City Council
Workshop
December 9, 2019**

The following members were present: Mayor Bob Campbell, Mayor Pro-Tem Robert McKnight (Seat 2); Councilmember Todd Bierbaum (Seat 1); Councilmember Kevin Crystal (Seat 3); Councilmember Henry D. Ennis (Seat 4), and Councilmember Wayne Graham (Seat 5). Also present were Clayton Adkinson, City Attorney; Mell Smigielski, City Manager; Debra Gibson, Finance Director; and Maryanne Schrader, City Clerk.

Mayor Campbell called the workshop to order at 5:00 p.m. and turned it over to City Manager M. Smigielski.

City Manager M. Smigielski went over the Consent agenda. Councilmember Kevin Crystal asked about the credit card item and whether the deputy city manager should be added. City Manager M. Smigielski asked the Finance Director if it could be added when necessary, and Finance Director D. Gibson answered that it could be added.

Councilmember R. McKnight asked about the \$12,000 invoice to Christmas Night Inc. City Manager M. Smigielski said it was part of Christmas Reflections money that was approved previously. Councilmember R. McKnight also asked about the \$598 to the tattoo shop. Mayor Campbell replied that they also do marketing plaques and other printshop jobs. Finance Director D. Gibson replied she will look up the invoice and respond in the morning.

City Manager M. Smigielski went on to the regular agenda. He addressed the CRA plan adoption. Councilmember R. McKnight added it was comprehensive and ambitious but was concerned that it was too ambitious for the budget they might receive. He was concerned about the reduction of blight not being upfront and an early topic in the document, as the reduction of blight was the goal of the CRA – not the improvement of the Chautauqua Hall of Brotherhood. He said the challenge will be in the first five years, so the possible \$100,000 to \$200,000 may not cover their goals. City Manager M. Smigielski said the document was crafted before we received the second phase of the grant.

Next, City Manager M. Smigielski asked if anyone had questions on the rezoning of the Jernigan property on 1st reading. The developer plans to build townhomes. Mayor Campbell said we originally thought the School Board was going to purchase it but lost the opportunity. The plan is for up to 90 units. We need to work to build up the neighborhood.

City Manager M. Smigielski went over the lobbyist contract. He said the current contract expires the end of December. On Friday, he received a new contract from Liberty Partners, and the cost is \$30,000 for the entire year. The only other thing changed was a couple of sentences that included the Triumph Gulf Coast information. He asked whether the Board would like to ratify it tonight or in January. Councilmember T. Bierbaum asked if we had funding, and Finance Director D. Gibson nodded that it is in the budget. Councilmember R. McKnight said he would prefer not to have a gap in the contract approval. Mayor Campbell said it could be added on the regular agenda under Administration as 5B.

Mayor Campbell said he will have an item for Executive requests under 8A. City Attorney Clayton Adkinson added it is about the City Hall purchase.

Mayor Campbell said another item to be added is the concert for Healing Tools for Warriors. He said they need a secure location like what we have for the Marvel of Flight, the parking will need to be shared, and we will need approval from the school system to shuttle visitors from the High School. He said they have checked alternative locations, but if they leave no tracks behind, the airport is the best location. He suggested the Special Events committee could help with the marketing. Councilmember R. McKnight said the idea of having 30 to 40,000 people here is going to require more information and coordination of resources. He recommended the Airport Advisory committee make the recommendation on whether they support the use of the property for the concert.

Mayor Campbell added the organizer must meet our criteria early, but they need an answer soon in order to make their deadlines to secure performers.

Councilmember W. Graham asked what the estimated cost for the city would be. Mayor Campbell replied they would take care of expenses on clean-up, port-a-potties, and shuttle arrangements. The city would just provide the space, but police and fire would be needed during the event.

Discussion ensued on preparation and the crowd expectations. In response to Councilmember McKnight, Mayor Campbell responded that the Airport Advisory has been advised of the date and time line. City Manager M. Smigielski added the Airport Advisory Committee expected the organizer to work out the logistics and submit a map of what the organizers will need. Security and fencing logistics were also discussed.

Penny Pinkham, Executive Director of Healing Tools for Warriors, said the sheriff's department is on board. She explained alcohol will not be available. The big artists have penciled the event in their calendar, but they require official approval. P. Pinkham said other communities have asked to host the event, but she wanted to have it here. In reply to Councilmember K. Crystal, she did not attend the Airport Advisory committee meeting. Councilmember R. McKnight requested a joint meeting with Airport Advisory and Special Events committee, as the committees should have vetted the event prior to coming to the Council. Mayor Campbell replied that the Special Events committee was excited about the event.

City Manager M. Smigielski said we do not have a policy in place that includes a checklist, but he will do some research. He added he will work with P. Pinkham on the logistics.

Councilmember K. Crystal asked P. Pinkham to meet with the committees and come back by the first meeting in January. P. Pinkham responded to Councilmember T. Bierbaum that Pot of Gold will cover the insurance, logistics, port-a-potties and security. Mayor Campbell said the police and fire will assist as they do at Marvel of Flight. Councilmember T. Bierbaum suggested asking Panama City Beach on what they require from the event organizer regarding checklists for large events.

Mayor Campbell stated the concert event will be item 8B on the regular agenda. City Manager M. Smigielski stated the Airport Advisory committee will meet next Tuesday at 9 a.m. Councilmember W. Graham said we need to be clear on any city expenditure.

Councilmember R. McKnight asked the Council if there were possible dates for the backlog of workshops after the first of the year. City Manager M. Smigielski said the Charter meeting is set for Tuesday, January 7th at 6 p.m. at City Hall. He said the Council will look at the language the city attorney will provide and look at the election information.

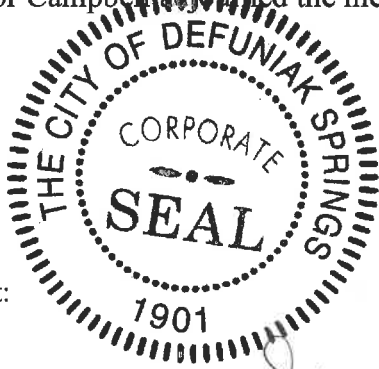
Councilmember R. McKnight asked whether the city has an ordinance about the chaining of dogs outside. He added the dog is in an unfenced area. City Attorney Clayton Adkinson said we do not have an ordinance on the books now.

Councilmember R. McKnight asked about the prohibition of burning leaves and whether a permit was required. An individual who has asthma brought it to his attention, so he asked who would enforce the ordinance. Mr. Hall, Fire Department, replied there has been a lot of discussion on burning over the years, however we do not permit open burning within the city limits. He added that a burn permit may be obtained from the Florida Division of Forestry. Warming fires are permitted inside an approved fire pit with a cover. City Attorney Clayton Adkinson said he does not think we have an ordinance regarding leaf burning.

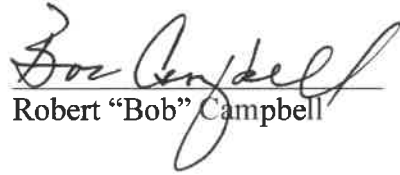
City Manager M. Smigielski said information can be located on the city website. He said leaves and yard debris cannot be burned without a permit from the Florida Division of Forestry. He added the city will pick up bagged leaves on the yard waste pick up day.

Councilmember R. McKnight said we need to be a city with clean air to safeguard those with respiratory problems. We need to enforce what we have on the books. City Manager M. Smigielski said he will check on the ordinance and bring it back for discussion.

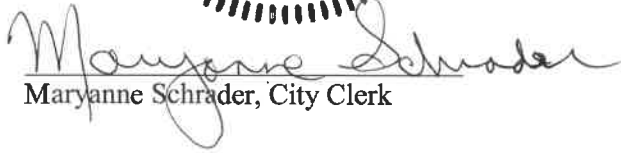
Mayor Campbell adjourned the meeting at 5:52 p.m.



Approved:


Robert "Bob" Campbell

Attest:


Maryanne Schrader, City Clerk