

**DeFuniak Springs City Council
Workshop
February 10, 2020**

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 Clay Adkinson, City Attorney; Mell Smigielski, City Manager; Debra Gibson, Finance Director; and Maryanne Schrader, City Clerk.

Mayor Campbell called the workshop to order at 5:01 p.m. and turned it over to City Manager M. Smigielski.

City Manager M. Smigielski went over the Consent agenda. There was discussion on whether a newer model airplane could be loaned to the city, but that is not part of the renewal agreement.

In response to the question on bill ratification from Councilmember R. McKnight, the quarterly fee for Main Street was never suspended.

City Manager M. Smigielski introduced the request from Café Nola on the Mardi Gras Special Event. Discussion ensued and Planning Director K. Schultz came forward stating the organizer has added a scavenger hunt that will last over several days and added a pet parade to the event. The proceeds will benefit the Lions Club. In response to Councilmember R. McKnight, Planning Director K. Schultz said the city does not contact the businesses regarding street closures, however, the event coordinator is told to contact the business owners. She added the city would need to add an application fee, if staff is directed to contact the businesses.

In response to Councilmember K. Crystal, City Attorney Clay Adkinson replied the application fee could be added. He cautioned, the property owner and the business owner could be different. Councilmember T. Bierbaum understands the intention of notifying businesses, but it is a knee jerk reaction to an issue that has not come up. He added we do not want to stress the staff.

In response to Councilmember K. Crystal, Planning Director K. Schultz replied she has had one business and a friend of a business complain about the street closures in the five years she has been in the position. She added there is access to the property to the west. Councilmember R. McKnight mentioned the city alley on Baldwin could be utilized and suggested the city be transparent on street closures. In response to Councilmember K. Crystal and his concern with safety issues, Chief J. Hurley came forward and said they would simply move the barricades. He added an off-duty officer is working the event.

City Manager M. Smigielski went over the request from the Main Street Board asking forgiveness on their balance in exchange for the Christmas decorations. He added Mr. Hinson will store the decorations until next year and will ensure they are in working order.

Discussion ensued on the extension and remaining amount of \$15,000 owed to the city. In response to Councilmember K. Crystal, City Manager M. Smigielski said Christmas Reflections loan was forgiven in their starting year, but they paid \$20,000 for the downtown decorations. Councilmember K. Crystal voiced his concern about the extension when Main Street has grants and other money coming in. He does not think it is good stewardship.

Councilmember T. Bierbaum stated their request should be tabled, as Main Street was given sixty days, and we are roughly only thirty days into it. He added Main Street was given debt forgiveness on previous events, such as Christmas Reflections. He added the Farmers Market has brought in thousands of people which has increased revenue to the downtown area. Councilmember R. McKnight agreed that waiting until the full 60 days is a good point.

City Manager M. Smigielski said Main Street has requested the city attorney send a letter on his letterhead to request the former director return documentation belonging to Main Street. City Attorney Clay Adkinson explained Mr. Work asked if the attorney would send a letter on letterhead requesting passwords, so they can get on their website. However, if the Council approves him composing the letter for Main Street's fiduciary interest, his office will do it pro bono. Councilmember R. McKnight suggested the request be placed on the regular agenda. In response to Councilmember K. Crystal, the letter would be addressed to Mr. Evans requesting that he release the password and include a deadline. Mayor Campbell said the request will be placed under 5A.

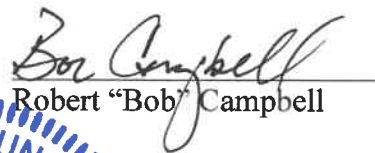
City Manager M. Smigielski said Councilmember R. McKnight will update the Council on the Charter review and add an Amtrak update.

City Manager M. Smigielski said the low bidder on the Live Oak Wastewater Improvements was a lot lower than the other bidders. Ms. Pettis came forward in response to the question from Councilmember K. Crystal. She budgeted for \$680,000, and the low bidder is not way out of line from her estimate. The total bid includes the mobilization and bonds of 2% and 5%. Ms. Pettis replied the other bids included the mobilization and bonds. She added Dewberry has done work with the low bidder in the past, and they did a good job. She said they had ten days to include their qualifications, and they submitted them the afternoon she requested it, in response to City Attorney Clay Adkinson. In response to the Council's concerns, RBM Contracting is working on boardwalks in south Walton now which includes utilities and paving and provided DOT recommendation, as well. In response to City Attorney Clay Adkinson, E. Pettis replied the low bidder could be charged liquidated damages of \$500 a day.

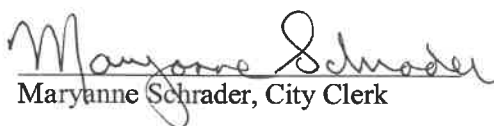
City Manager M. Smigielski said a reconsideration of the permit for New Wave Auto is on the regular agenda. New Wave Auto said they have fixed the issues and resubmitted their request. In reply to Councilmember T. Bierbaum, City Manager M. Smigielski replied New Wave Auto was outside the deadline, as they did not have a full application. Council agreed they did not provide new information. Councilmember R. McKnight added their letter stated, "we strive", but does not say they will do it.

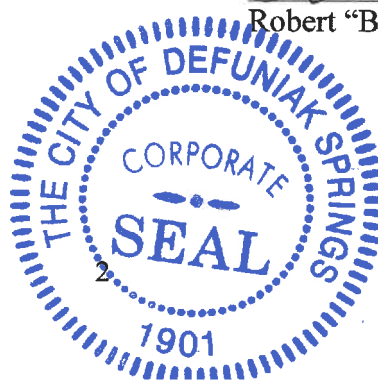
Mayor Campbell adjourned the meeting at 5:53 p.m.

Approved:


Robert "Bob" Campbell

Attest:


Maryanne Schrader, City Clerk



February 10, 2020 — Workshop