

**DeFuniak Springs City Council
Regular Meeting Minutes
Council Chambers
April 26, 2021**

Mayor Campbell called the meeting to order at 4:01 p.m. followed by the invocation and Pledge of Allegiance by Councilmember Graham.

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

ITEM 3 - SWEARING IN CEREMONY – Judge David Green

Judge David Green presided over the Swearing in Ceremony for Mayor Bob Campbell, Councilmember Henry D. Ennis for Seat 4, and Councilmember Anthony Vallee for Seat 5.

Proclamation - Mayor Campbell declared May 3 – May 7, 2021 as Municipal Clerks Week and recognized City Clerk M. Schrader.

ITEM 4 - PRESENTATION – Mayor Campbell – Presentation to Wayne Graham

Mayor Campbell presented a plaque to Councilmember Wayne Graham in appreciation for his ten years of service to the city.

ITEM 5 - EXECUTIVE REPORTS

City Attorney Clay Adkinson reviewed the scheduled regular meetings currently and advised the Council they could change the schedule if they chose to do so. Mayor Campbell mentioned the conflict with the 9 a.m. time period with the Walton County Courthouse Boardroom and advised that time slot be eliminated.

A. Set Regular City Council Meeting Dates and Times

Motion by Councilmember T. Bierbaum and seconded by Councilmember R. McKnight to hold the City Council meetings on the second and fourth Monday at 5:00 p.m. Council concurred that the later start for the meeting would allow for more public participation.

Vote: Councilmember T. Bierbaum, Aye; Councilmember R. McKnight, Aye; Councilmember K. Crystal, Aye; Councilmember H. Ennis, Aye; Councilmember A. Vallee, Aye. Ayes 5, Nays 0. All ayes. Motion carried.

B. Mayor Pro-Tempore Appointment

Motion by Councilmember K. Crystal and seconded by Councilmember H. Ennis to appoint Councilmember T. Bierbaum as Mayor Pro-Tempore.

Vote: Councilmember T. Bierbaum, Aye; Councilmember R. McKnight, Aye; Councilmember K. Crystal, Aye; Councilmember H. Ennis, Aye; Councilmember A. Vallee, Aye. Ayes 5, Nays 0. All ayes. Motion carried.

C. City Committee Appointments

Mayor Campbell provided the committee appointments list and asked for the nominations by the next meeting. City Attorney Clay Adkinson mentioned it is not an automatic renewal of current appointments, but it is the choice of the Councilmembers.

D. Executive Appointments – Emerald Coast Regional Council, Walton County Tourism Development Council, Main Street DeFuniak Springs

Motion by Councilmember T. Bierbaum and seconded by Councilmember K. Crystal to appoint Councilmember T. Vallee to serve on the Walton County Transportation Organization.

Motion amended by Councilmember T. Bierbaum and seconded by Councilmember H. Ennis to appoint Councilmember T. Vallee to serve on Walton County Transportation Organization and appoint Councilmember K. Crystal to serve as the alternate.

Vote: Councilmember R. McKnight, Aye; Councilmember T. Bierbaum, Aye; Councilmember K. Crystal, Aye; Councilmember H. Ennis, Aye; Councilmember A. Vallee, Aye. Ayes 5, Nays 0. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Councilmember T. Bierbaum and seconded by Councilmember H. Ennis to appoint Councilmember T. Vallee to the Okaloosa Walton Community Health Improvement Planning Board.

Vote: Councilmember R. McKnight, Aye; Councilmember T. Bierbaum, Aye; Councilmember K. Crystal, Aye; Councilmember H. Ennis, Aye; Councilmember A. Vallee, Aye. Ayes 5, Nays 0. All ayes. Motion carried.

Regarding appointing the City Manager to the Triumph Board, City Attorney Clay Adkinson said the County gives the city a couple of appointments and mentioned the Mayor could reach out to the County to ask if the seat needed to be filled.

Motion by Councilmember K. Crystal and seconded by Councilmember H. Ennis to re-appoint Mayor Campbell to the Emerald Coast Regional Council.

Vote: Councilmember R. McKnight, Aye; Councilmember T. Bierbaum, Aye; Councilmember K. Crystal, Aye; Councilmember H. Ennis, Aye; Councilmember A. Vallee, Aye. Ayes 5, Nays 0. All ayes. Motion carried.

E. Evaluation Policy for the City Manager Position

Mayor Campbell mentioned the Council was sent several templates to review, as the current template did not meet the needs.

Councilmember R. McKnight mentioned the evaluation would be an executive evaluation form respecting team development, planning, communication, and strategies with a high level of performance that Council would expect.

Motion by Councilmember H. Ennis and seconded by Councilmember T. Bierbaum to have Councilmember R. McKnight prepare an evaluation policy form.

Councilmember K. Crystal suggested decision planning be included, as well as a succession plan. Councilmember T. Bierbaum suggested a grading scale of 1 to 10 so a nuance can be given with a notes section, and Councilmember T. Vallee suggested educational training and human development be included and Councilmember T. Bierbaum added morale.

Councilmember R. McKnight suggested a third-party interview for confidential comments from the city manager's direct reports, and Councilmember K. Crystal said a performance improvement plan needs to be added.

Councilmember R. McKnight said that if any councilmember feels there is a deficiency of the city manager that a performance of the city manager should occur. However, City Attorney Clay Adkinson said the Council should be cautious to allow one councilmember to impose discipline in a performance improvement plan.

Vote: Councilmember R. McKnight, Aye; Councilmember T. Bierbaum, Aye; Councilmember K. Crystal, Aye; Councilmember H. Ennis, Aye; Councilmember A. Vallee, Aye. Ayes 5, Nays 0. All ayes. Motion carried.

ITEM 6. CONSENT AGENDA

Additions/Deletions to the Consent Agenda

Motion by Councilmember K. Crystal and seconded by Councilmember H. Ennis to approve the Consent Agenda, as presented.

In response to Councilmember R. McKnight and the question on Item D, LakeFest, regarding the practice swim and insurance verification, Mayor Campbell replied there would not be a practice swim.

Vote: Councilmember R. McKnight, Aye; Councilmember T. Bierbaum, Aye; Councilmember K. Crystal, Aye; Councilmember H. Ennis, Aye; Councilmember A. Vallee, Aye. Ayes 5, Nays 0. All ayes. Motion carried.

Approval of the Consent Agenda

A. Clerk

1. Minutes for approval: April 12, 2021 – Regular Minutes
 2. Minutes for approval: April 5, 2021 – Special Meeting Minutes
 3. Minutes for approval: April 13, 2021 – Special Meeting Minutes
 4. Minutes for approval: April 15, 2021 – Special Meeting Minutes
- B. Administration –**
1. Mayor Campbell – Request renewal of the FDOT State Highway Lighting, Maintenance, and Compensation Agreement
 2. Kara Chilcutt – Motion to approve and authorize the Mayor to execute the Airport Coronavirus Response Grant Program Agreement (No match required)
 3. Kara Chilcutt – Motion to approve the application for the North Walton Event Support Program for Marketing Materials for LakeFest 2022 and Christmas Reflections 2021 (Not match required)
 4. Cindy Permenter for DeFuniak Springs Coin Club – Motion to approve the selling of coins and food at the Community Center on August 21, 2021 from 7:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
- C. Finance –** Finance Director Debra Gibson – Motion to approve designation of the Finance Director as the user for the USDA portal for the application for financing the Wastewater Treatment Plant
- D. Planning –** LakeFest Working Group – Motion to approve the LakeFest Parade and Festival beginning May 14th – May 16th (includes street closures and parade) Requesting no fishing during the LakeFest.
- E. Fire –** Fire Chief R. Sheffield –
1. Motion to approve the Resolution to enter into an Interlocal Agreement for Automatic Aid with Argyle and Liberty Fire Departments
 2. Motion to approve the Resolution to enter into an Interlocal Agreement for Mutual Aid with Argyle and Liberty Fire Departments

7. REGULAR AGENDA

Additions/Deletions to the Regular Agenda
Approval of the Regular Agenda

Mayor Campbell asked if there were any additions/deletions to the Regular Agenda.

Mayor Campbell mentioned Item 12 needed to be moved to 10A, and Item 14 moved to 10B.

Motion by Councilmember K. Crystal and seconded by Councilmember R. McKnight to approve the Regular Agenda, as amended.

Vote: Councilmember R. McKnight, Aye; Councilmember T. Bierbaum, Aye; Councilmember K. Crystal, Aye; Councilmember H. Ennis, Aye; Councilmember A. Vallee, Aye. Ayes 5, Nays 0. All ayes. Motion carried.

ITEM 8. ADMINISTRATION - Nothing brought forward.

ITEM 9. CITIZEN COMMENTS

A. General Comments from the audience

Resident, Robert Raymond, asked for a letter of support or verbal support for the Transportation Shuttle, GoWal that provides seasonal transportation, as the item is coming before the Board of County Commissioners. City Attorney Clay Adkinson said a letter of support could be on the agenda for the next meeting.

Rudy Wells, Dewberry, came forward and gave an update that construction is 85% complete on 2nd Street project. He added the dressing has been done with seeding, pressure density is complete from Best Western, bore work is continuing, and the project is moving along. In reply to Councilmember R. McKnight regarding citizen comments, Mr. Wells replied that they are happy.

Councilmember T. Bierbaum asked for an update on encroaching beyond the right-of-way in the Pine Shores Subdivision project, Mr. Wells responded that he did not have an update on that issue. Councilmember T. Bierbaum said he had higher expectations. He voiced concern about the encroachment to the homeowners and the large holes. He asked that the handling of the project be improved.

Mayor Campbell asked about Village Springs project progress, and Mr. Wells replied Dewberry can check on it.

ITEM 10A. PUBLIC WORKS – Request approval of the low bidder for the Chautauqua Hall of Brotherhood Stairway Completion project and authorize the Mayor to execute the contract after legal review.

Grants Manager Chris Mitchell said the Chautauqua Hall of Brotherhood grant is ready to wrap up, as it needs to be completed by June 30th. He provided an overview of the pre-bid walkthrough and sealed bid received from the sole bidder, Paul Rushing Construction, in the amount of \$21,400.

Motion by Councilmember H. Ennis and seconded by Councilmember R. McKnight to approve the proposal from the low bidder, Paul Rushing Construction, for the Chautauqua Hall of Brotherhood Stairway Completion project.

Councilmember R. McKnight asked if it could be done in time, and Paul Rushing stated the project can be completed.

Councilmember K. Crystal voiced concern with the solicitation on who would be responsible for the materials, as Mr. Rushing's bid states the city would be responsible.

City Attorney Clay Adkinson said the bid was mandatory on materials, however, on #6, it indicates the city would provide any materials that are not present to include the missing doors, so the bid is technically not responsive. Councilmember K. Crystal stated he does not want to be in the position where money is required, as we only have \$21,400 to spend.

Councilmember R. McKnight was concerned with the short bid turnaround time. City Attorney Clay Adkinson said the bid would have to conform with the bid specifications.

Councilmember T. Vallee asked if he could participate, and City Attorney Clay Adkinson said he could recuse himself from the vote. Councilmember T. Vallee said the doors are essentially the problem, as they were not on site.

Councilmember R. McKnight voiced concern that staff should have stated that the bid was not responsive adding legal did not see the contract before adding it to the agenda. Mayor Campbell mentioned we are very low staff for review.

Mr. Rushing mentioned he did not have time to inventory the materials. He noted the doors were not on site.

In response to Councilmember K. Crystal, Grants Manager C. Mitchell said the doors should be replaced. Councilmember T. Vallee requested if the scope of the contract could include the materials for the walls, trim, staircase, and railing minus the doors.

City Attorney Clay Adkinson said we could waive the non-responsiveness of the bid specifications, but it does not cover buying five or six more boards or the absence of the doors.

Mr. Rushing mentioned the disorganized display of materials, but he stated he could complete the project without the doors.

Councilmember T. Vallee mentioned two additional items such as the city was going to clear the debris, so the contractor could start work, and complete the stairway for the public area.

City Attorney Clay Adkinson clarified the contract could state the contractor would be responsible for the interior trim and finishing the stairs, walls, ceilings, and floors of the north exit stairs. The contractor would also need to finish the historic wood railings.

Motion amended by Councilmember H. Ennis and seconded by Councilmember R. McKnight to waive the non-responsiveness of the bid based on the contractor's understanding not to require the city to provide the materials, and the doors need not be included in the scope of work.

Vote: Councilmember R. McKnight, Aye; Councilmember T. Bierbaum, Aye; Councilmember K. Crystal, Aye; Councilmember H. Ennis, Aye; Councilmember A. Vallee, recuse. Ayes, 4; Nays, 0; Recuse, 1. Motion carried.

City Attorney Clay Adkinson will review the contract with the amended language.

ITEM 10B. POLICE – Introduction to Police Canine – Drago – Belgian Malinois

City Marshall James Hurley introduced the canine and handler, Sgt. Kaiser. A private donor provided the canine and training, which is about \$6,500. He added the canine is being trained for narcotics detection.

ITEM 11. LEGISLATIVE REQUESTS –

- A. Councilmember K. Crystal – Motion to direct Planning staff to prepare a plan for handling the disposition of properties acquired through the administrative liens

Councilmember K. Crystal said after we implemented the Special Magistrate to review the code enforcement cases, and we do not have a method of handling the properties on which liens have been applied.

Planning Director C. Wallace added the number of fines exceeds the property value. He requested that staff work with legal to develop a policy and determine a way to acquire the properties from the homeowners and either transfer the properties to the CRA or explore options with the transfer of ownership. Some lot sizes are large enough to accommodate a larger home and provide lower cost housing.

City Attorney Clay Adkinson mentioned establishing a threshold of where to cut off the fines.

Code Enforcement Officer C. Strawn said we have eight administrative liens with the highest being \$14,300 with a market value of \$17,000. In response to Councilmember R. McKnight, Code Enforcement Officer C. Strawn replied four properties are abandoned.

Discussion ensued on whether to have a different set of rules depending on whether the homes are occupied or not, whether the staff could work with the residents to find suitable housing and working with the County to determine if the housing is unfit for occupation.

Councilmember R. McKnight said the key purpose is that the city needs to get rid of certain blighted properties but is concerned about creating homelessness.

Planning Director C. Wallace asked permission to research the options and give Mr. Strawn the ability to get these houses back on the market to address CRA blight and development.

Councilmember T. Bierbaum suggested that there should be consideration where we know someone lives in the structure but does not have utilities, and Planning Director C. Wallace said water and sewer must be connected for the property to be habitable.

City Marshall J. Hurley said several of the blighted homes do not have water and sewer. Some are run by generator, some have cut locks, and some have extension cords running across yards.

Councilmember T. Vallee mentioned public safety adding it warrants compassion, but we cannot allow the described issues because of safety, as there is also a risk of fire.

Motion by Councilmember T. Bierbaum and seconded by Councilmember T. Vallee to direct the Planning staff to prepare a plan within 60 days for handling the disposition of properties, as well as submitting an ordinance to address houses without utilities.

Resident, Robert Miller, asked how Council was going to address hoarding issues stating it is a health issue to his family. He added someone is using a shed as an accessory dwelling on the back of the property, and Councilmember R. McKnight said you cannot use an accessory building as a dwelling. Code Enforcement Officer C. Strawn said one of the cases is on his list of liens.

Mayor Campbell said they are working on cleaning up the area.

Resident, R. Raymond, said the CRA has a moratorium on properties taken and voiced concern about the restrictions.

City Attorney Clay Adkinson there are restrictions on property taken. We have to determine whether cost-sharing is done or transferring them directly to the CRA. It would be better for the city to dispose of the property.

Vote: Councilmember R. McKnight, Aye; Councilmember T. Bierbaum, Aye; Councilmember K. Crystal, Aye; Councilmember H. Ennis, Aye; Councilmember A. Vallee, Aye. Ayes 5, Nays 0. All ayes. Motion carried.

B. Councilmember K. Crystal – Motion to remove the Planning Director from the CRA Board

City Attorney Clay Adkinson said staff could be the chair of the meeting but not vote. Council can also direct the staff to serve as ex-officio.

Motion by Councilmember T. Bierbaum and seconded by Councilmember K. Crystal to have the Planning Director serve on the CRA Board as ex-officio, as well as changing all staff members who serve on Boards to ex-officio status.

Vote: Councilmember R. McKnight, Aye; Councilmember T. Bierbaum, Aye; Councilmember K. Crystal, Aye; Councilmember H. Ennis, Aye; Councilmember A. Vallee, Aye. Ayes 5, Nays 0. All ayes. Motion carried.

C. Councilmember K. Crystal – Motion to permit Public Works staff to implement changes to cemetery operations to include preparing a Request for Qualifications to solicit bids for a single source provider of burial services and start the implementation at the start of FY 21/22

Councilmember K. Crystal explained we want the cemetery to be at a breakeven point. He supports the restructuring plan, as we have several providers who open and close the graves and we do not have much control, so having one provider will give us better control. He asked Public Works to prepare the RFQ for this fiscal year. He added the city will have oversight of the funerals, not the funeral homes. He stated the revenue of the city could increase between \$300 to

\$400 per burial adding we had 43 burials this year. He went over the potential revenue that would cover the cost of the cemetery coordinator. He would also like to research increasing the fees to break even.

Councilmember R. McKnight asked about the reason there is a fee increase for the weekend and how we would determine residency. Councilmember K. Crystal replied the fees are factoring in overtime. Councilmember T. Vallee mentioned the RFQ may dictate the fee schedule.

Councilmember T. Bierbaum asked for clarification on whether the charges would be stacked.

Councilmember K. Crystal suggested addressing the fee schedule at another time.

Motion by Councilmember T. Vallee and seconded by Councilmember T. Bierbaum to direct Public Works staff to implement changes to cemetery operations to include preparing a Request for Qualifications to solicit bids for a single source provider of burial services.

Vote: Councilmember R. McKnight, Aye; Councilmember T. Bierbaum, Aye; Councilmember K. Crystal, Aye; Councilmember H. Ennis, Aye; Councilmember A. Vallee, Aye. Ayes 5, Nays 0. All ayes. Motion carried.

Councilmember T. Vallee and Councilmember Crystal withdrew a motion to start the implementation at the start of FY 21/22.

City Attorney Clay Adkinson mentioned the Ordinance on the agenda tonight can be held as there could be substantive reform after the RFQ comes in adding the draft ordinance was the staff's attempt to clean up the ordinance.

- D. Councilmember R. McKnight - Motion to direct the Mayor to write two letters of support, one for a DeFuniak Springs Landmarks, Inc. grant application to the National Trust for Historic Preservation, and another letter for a DeFuniak Springs Landmarks, Inc. grant application to the National Park Service

Councilmember R. McKnight recused himself from the vote because of potential income and submitted a Form 8B. He explained the foundation, DeFuniak Springs Landmarks, is applying for two grants and has requested two letters of support. One deals with the issue of historical housing for \$221,000 which will allow them to restore three or four houses, and the other letter is for the National Trust for Historic Preservation, which would fund historic preservation education.

Motion by Councilmember K. Crystal and seconded by Councilmember H. Ennis to direct the Mayor to edit the two letters of support, one for a Landmarks grant application to the National Trust for Historic Preservation, and another letter for a Landmarks grant application to the National Park Service.

Vote: Councilmember R. McKnight, recuse; Councilmember T. Bierbaum, Aye; Councilmember K. Crystal, Aye; Councilmember H. Ennis, Aye; Councilmember A. Vallee, Aye. Ayes - 4, Nays - 0, Recuse - 1. Motion carried.

City Attorney Clay Adkinson said that letters of support that do not bind the city financially or do not require taking a certain position are routine. He will bring back a resolution of when non-profits request a letter for a symbolic sign of support, the mayor can sign on at his discretion, or have the city manager sign.

ITEM 13. PLANNING –

A. Planning Director Chris Wallace – Miley Abandonment

Planning Director Chris Wallace mentioned Council had staff go back and look at the survey regarding the drainage. The survey they received does not show the drainage structure or show the city will maintain access. He added Public Works said the some of the swale is on the neighbor's property. He added the owner said they would not be willing to deed the right-of-way back to the city. He suggested getting a survey of the drainage structure, abandon the 50 foot right of way with the city maintaining a 50-foot-wide easement and which does not require the owner to deed the property back to the city. He added Mr. Miley said the surveyor will redo the survey and show the swale.

Councilmember K. Crystal asked how the stormwater would be affected by the solution, and City Attorney Clay Adkinson said you would still be abandoning a part of the stormwater adding one of the problems is Mr. Miley wants to construct a carport. He advised that to change from the previous vote, Council would need to bring a motion up for reconsideration. He added another issue is that the survey addresses the north and south extension of the property which Mr. Miley also owns. The city would be abandoning the middle section, so Mr. Miley is now asking for more than what he originally asked. He has not complied with the original motion. He also is asking for the back alleyway, and the city does not abandon alleyways.

Planning Director Chris Wallace said Mr. Miley is proposing a portable carport, which can be moved, if needed.

Councilmember K. Crystal stated once we abandon the easement, they can do whatever they want to do and voiced concern that certain requirements that Council requested have not been addressed. He added State Statute also does not allow us to abandon it. City Attorney Clay Adkinson said there should have been a pipe in the easement, so we would have to remove it from our stormwater management program if abandoned.

Discussion ensued on what surveys Mr. Miley has presented and the cost to him.

City Attorney Clay Adkinson said Mr. Miley was directed to bring back a full survey, but he did not bring back the survey for the entire 50 foot. We have looked at whether the property appraiser's plat was right. He has complied and has worked with Mr. Wallace, but the only thing that is not on it is whether there is a pipe under the right of way. He recommends that a Public Hearing be done on the abandonment if Council reconsiders the motion as other parties are involved.

Councilmember K. Crystal suggested Mr. Miley get a new survey and determine whoever the property owners are who would need to deed it back to the city.

After further discussion on what is needed on a corrected survey, City Attorney Clay Adkinson recommended tabling the decision to either May 24th or June 14th to allow for additional time.

Councilmember T. Bierbaum asked about the additional property, but City Attorney Clay Adkinson said the survey would not include the south part of the property.

Mr. Miley said he will bring back a corrected survey including documents from the Council's first request.

City Attorney Clay Adkinson cautioned that the south side of the property would require additional public notice.

Motion by Councilmember K. Crystal and seconded by Councilmember T. Bierbaum to table the discussion to June 14th.

Vote: Councilmember R. McKnight, Aye; Councilmember T. Bierbaum, Aye; Councilmember K. Crystal, Aye; Councilmember H. Ennis, Aye; Councilmember A. Vallee, Aye. Ayes 5, Nays 0. All ayes. Motion carried.

B. Planning Director Chris Wallace – Planning Update

Planning Director Chris Wallace updated the Council on his first two months. He mentioned delaying a hire of a Planning Coordinator until he gets processes in place. He announced that he no longer has a Planning Assistant and will need to hire someone else. He updated the Council on the number of permits and construction projects he is working on for residential and commercial. He will be bringing two small scale amendments to the May 4th Planning Board. He went over Code Enforcement issues stating Chris Strawn is doing a good job and keeping him informed. He mentioned cases coming before the Special Magistrate and the fines continue to increase when the homeowner does not comply with the Order. He appreciates the ability to draft a policy to address the issue.

Councilmember T. Bierbaum said his hard work has not gone unnoticed. He commended him for his comment that he is building a system for succession, and Councilmember K. Crystal commended him for bringing the updates forward. Councilmember R. McKnight echoed the positive feedback and the renewed confidence in the Planning department.

In response to Mayor Campbell and the need to operate CAD with Public Works, Planning Director Chris Wallace mentioned his past GIS experience, adding he can do all of the GIS updates in-house. Discussion ensued on the need for a GIS position and the joint use for Planning and Public Works.

Stewart Duncan mentioned the progress with asset management adding the diamond maps, is about \$1200 a year and has multiple levels.

ITEM 15. CITY ATTORNEY

A. CIP Ordinance Amendment Discussion

City Attorney Clay Adkinson said he needed consent of Council to work with the planning director to streamline an ordinance for the ability to update the CIP by resolution.

ITEM 16. STAFF REPORTS – No other comments.

ITEM 17. COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilmember R. McKnight said at the next meeting, he will have an agenda item on bringing up topics we do not talk about at Council, explaining there are many things that are issues in our city that do not come to Council. He also applauded the Council in the collaborative decision making, citing the amended Charter, as an example. He also mentioned the collective wisdom in selecting the city manager.

Councilmember T. Vallee voiced his appreciation of being welcomed to the Council.

ITEM 18. EXECUTIVE REPORT

Mayor Campbell updated the Council on the Okaloosa Gas territory bill containing favorable language, adding amendments are on the floor. He added Mr. Thompson was a great choice as our city manager adding Mr. Thompson plans to visit May 14th.

Mayor Campbell added we have been looking at financing options for the Wastewater Treatment Plant. He said we have closed on one of the properties, however, the third offer has been turned down. He added they are continuing improving the work at the airport.

ITEM 19. ADJOURNMENT

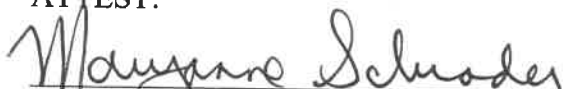
Mayor Campbell adjourned the meeting at 7:02 p.m.

Approved:



Bob Campbell, Mayor

ATTEST:



Minutes taken by Maryanne Schrader, City Clerk
Proper notice having been duly given

