

DeFuniak Springs City Council
Special Meeting
January 21, 2014

The following members were present: Mayor Bob Campbell, Mayor Pro-Tem Henry D Ennis, Sr., Councilman Mac Work, Councilman Ron Kelley, Councilman Mac Carpenter, Councilman Kermit Wright, City Attorney Clayton Adkinson, Finance Director Tom Carman, City Manager Sara Bowers, and Deputy City Clerk Lisa Gierlinski.

Mayor Campbell called the special meeting at 4 p.m. to discuss potential grant funding available for topography issues at City Hall and Wayside Park.

Elizabeth Moore, Preble Rish engineers, discussed the different economic development grants which include Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), EDA Economic Development grant, rural development grant, and rural infrastructure funds.

Discussion occurred relating to the reasoning behind the special meeting. Mayor Campbell stated at the January 13, 2014, regular council meeting, the council agreed not to move forward with the Crim Development agreement but also suggested for the council to discuss the property's topography concerns at a later date. City Attorney Adkinson indicated the grant process maybe a great benefit to the city in the future but not at this time.

Discussion occurred relating to having grant opportunities for the increased development potential. Chance Powell, Preble Rish Engineers, further discussed current site specifications which include ingress and egress access but could not give an actual site improvement amount without geotechnical analysis, topographic survey and additional engineering data required. Moore further discussed the Rural Infrastructure Fund could assist with feasibility studies for the site.

Councilman Carpenter requested clarification from the city attorney as it relates to the city hall property purchase and what information could be discussed at future meetings. Adkinson requested the January 13, 2014, meeting minutes be provided to him prior to the next regular scheduled meeting on January 27, 2014.

Steve Youell inquired if the proposed grants presented were state or federal funded grants. Moore indicated the CDBG grant is federally funded but disbursed by the state, Rural Development and EDA Economic Development grants are federal funded grants, and rural infrastructure funds are state funded.

Steve Jaeger discussed funded CDBG and EDA Economic Development grant projects.

There being no further business, Mayor Campbell adjourned the meeting at 4:33 p.m.

ADOPTED this 10th day of February, 2014.



Robert "Bob" Campbell, Mayor

ATTEST:



Loretta A. Laird, City Clerk