

**DeFuniak Springs City Council**  
**Regular Meeting Minutes**  
**Council Chambers**  
**December 13, 2021**

Mayor Campbell called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. followed by the invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Campbell called the roll. The following members were present: Mayor Bob Campbell; Mayor Pro-Tempore Todd Bierbaum (Seat 1); Councilmember Kevin Crystal (Seat 3); Councilmember Henry D. Ennis (Seat 4); and Councilmember Anthony Vallée (Seat 5). Also, present were City Manager Robert Thompson, City Attorney Clay Adkinson, Finance Director Debra Gibson, and Planning Assistant DeAnn Brooks. Councilmember Robert McKnight (Seat 2) was absent.

**ITEM 2 – PRESENTATION-** None at this time.

**ITEM 3 - CONSENT AGENDA**

**Additions/Deletions** to the Consent Agenda  
**Approval** of the Consent Agenda

Mayor Campbell asked if there were any additions or deletions.

Move item 3.C. to agenda item 7.D.

Move item 3.E.3 to agenda item 7.E.

**Motion** by Councilmember T. Bierbaum and seconded by Councilmember H. Ennis to approve the Consent Agenda, as amended.

**Vote:** Councilmember T. Bierbaum, Aye; Councilmember K. Crystal, Aye; Councilmember H. Ennis, Aye; Councilmember A. Vallée, Aye. Ayes 4, Nays 0. All ayes. Motion carried.

- A. Planning Assistant-
  - 1. Minutes for approval – November 22, 2021 - Regular Meeting Minutes.
- B. Planning-
  - 1. Special Events Application for Forward DeFuniak, Urban Campout with Tin Can Tourist
- C. City Marshal J. Hurley- Purchase three F-150 pick-up trucks for Police Department
- D. Airport Director- D. Edwards- Increase box/corporate hanger rent to \$1,400 per month
- E. Administration-
  - 1. Lacey Woodham- Approve RC Settlement Agreement and authorize City Manager R. Thompson to sign
  - 2. Lacey Woodham- Approve EAP Renewal
  - 3. Lacey Woodham- Approve City Manager pay increase

**ITEM 4 - 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.

Add agenda item 7.D. City Marshal J. Hurley- Purchase three F-150 pick-up trucks for Police Department formerly 3.C.

Add agenda item 7.E. Lacy Woodham- Approve City Manager pay increase formerly 3.E.3.

**Motion** by Councilmember K. Crystal and seconded by Councilmember T. Vallee to approve the Regular Agenda, as amended.

**Vote:** Councilmember T. Bierbaum, Aye; Councilmember K. Crystal, Aye; Councilmember H. Ennis, Aye; Councilmember A. Vallée, Aye. Ayes 4, Nays 0. All ayes. Motion carried.

**ITEM 5. PUBLIC HEARING/ORDINANCES-** None at this time

**ITEM 6. RESOLUTIONS –** None brought forward

**ITEM 7. REQUEST TO BE ON THE AGENDA**

A. Bill Imfield- Walton County Economic Development Alliance- Request Approval for 2021-2022 Agreement between the City and Walton EDA

Mr. Imfield presented to the council 2021-2022 EDA expenditures and requested the approval of the agreement and increase of 10%.

At City Attorneys advice this agenda item would need to come back in January along with the amended budget request of 10%, then Council could decide on the request for approval.

B. Citizen Robert Raymond-Request to discuss Florida SunTrail and its benefits to North Walton County and South Walton County.

Mr. Raymond discussed with councilmembers the Florida SunTrail and its long-term plan in connecting North Walton County with South Walton County whether it be by bikes, scooters, and wheelchairs. The benefits of the connection of the two would bring more revenue to Walton County and DeFuniak Springs specifically. Mr. Raymond asks for a letter of support to include Highway 331 within the city limits for the Sun Trail Program to consider.

Motion by K. Crystal and seconded by T. Bierbaum to authorize staff and mayor to explore the Florida Sun Trail process and determine what letters to issue in support and allow the mayor to sign the letters.

C. Liberty Partners- Jennifer Green- Request Approval for additional scope of services between Liberty Partners and the City of DeFuniak Springs

Ms. Green explained the additional services between Liberty Partners and the City of DeFuniak Springs, to include grant compliance and monitoring.

Financial Director D. Gibson advised she would need to bring back to council an amended line-item budget.

**Motion** by Councilmember K. Crystal and seconded by Councilmember H. Ennis to approve request of additional scope of services between Liberty Partners and the City of DeFuniak Springs.

**Vote:** Councilmember T. Bierbaum, Aye; Councilmember K. Crystal, Aye; Councilmember H. Ennis, Aye; Councilmember A. Vallée, Aye. Ayes 4, Nays 0. All ayes. Motion carried.

D. City Marshal- James Hurley- Request to Purchase three F-150 pick-up trucks for Police Department

Chief Hurley discussed previously council approved the purchase of Tahoe's but then determined the Tahoe's were sold out from under them and instead decided on three F150 pick-up trucks.

Financial Director D. Gibson advised she would need to bring back to council budget amendment to include impact fee amount.

**Motion** by Councilmember T. Bierbaum and seconded by Councilmember H. Ennis to approve using Police Impact fees of \$86,364 for the purchase of the pick-up trucks.

**Vote:** Councilmember T. Bierbaum, Aye; Councilmember K. Crystal, Aye; Councilmember H. Ennis, Aye; Councilmember A. Vallée, Aye. Ayes 4, Nays 0. All ayes. Motion carried.

**Motion** by Councilmember T. Vallee and seconded by Councilmember H. Ennis to approve the purchase of three F-150 pick-up trucks for Police Department.

**Vote:** Councilmember T. Bierbaum, Aye; Councilmember K. Crystal, Aye; Councilmember H. Ennis, Aye; Councilmember A. Vallée, Aye. Ayes 4, Nays 0. All ayes. Motion carried.

E. Administration- Lacey Woodham- Request for approval of City Managers pay increase effective

HR Director Lacey Woodham asked council for direction as to City Managers pay with the completion of six months including his positive evaluations and asked if everything was satisfactory then request to increase his pay up to \$120,000.

**Motion** by Councilmember K. Crystal and seconded by Councilmember T. Bierbaum to approve the increase in city manager's pay to \$120,000 with effective date of current pay period as of December 13, 2021.

**Vote:** Councilmember T. Bierbaum, Aye; Councilmember K. Crystal, Aye; Councilmember H. Ennis, Aye; Councilmember A. Vallée, Aye. Ayes 4, Nays 0. All ayes. Motion carried.

### **ITEM 8 – CITIZEN COMMENTS-**

Chief Hurley announced Homelessness meeting on December 14, 2021, at 10 a.m. in City Council Chambers. Everyone welcome and public encouraged to attend. City Attorney suggested in the future it be scheduled as a workshop.

Chief Hurley presented City Hall with a certificate for Terrific Christmas Lights.

Councilmember K. Crystal made comment in reference to the Homelessness meeting, it was not the intention to exclude the council it just happened so fast and people with connections to other people and ended up being a bigger group than expected. However, the next one will be properly noticed.

Melinda Henderson with Forward DeFuniak came forward with some information regarding a few items: The National Historic Landmark project, the organization had mailed out about 30 requests for proposals and have found one national job board to put the request for proposal on. As soon as general liability policy is written and reviewed by counsel an MOA will be ready to sign. Permits for the Sprint Triathlon have been submitted to the city and is in progress with the county.

### **ITEM 9 - DEPARTMENT REQUESTS/REPORTS**

- A. Finance Director D. Gibson- Request Approval of Finance Report period ending November 30, 2021.

Finance Director D. Gibson goes over the highlights with the council and answers any questions that were asked.

- B. Planning Director- C. Wallace- Discuss potential changes to Section 18-7-time limit as it relates to Development Orders.

Planning Director C. Wallace presented council with a suggestion to work with counsel and develop a change to Section 18-7 Development Orders that extends that period out so the D.O.'s are valid for up to twelve months to start construction and once construction is started and continues is good up until the construction is complete or certificate of occupancy is issued.

**Motion** by Councilmember T. Bierbaum and seconded by Councilmember T. Vallee to approve Mr. Wallace work on language as to Development Orders and bring back before council for approval.

**Vote:** Councilmember T. Bierbaum, Aye; Councilmember K. Crystal, Aye; Councilmember H. Ennis, Aye; Councilmember A. Vallée, Aye. Ayes 4, Nays 0. All ayes. Motion carried.

## **10. CITY ATTORNEY**

- A. City Attorney Clay Adkinson – Request to accept or reject proposal from Regions Bank for the acquisition of old Chelco Building.

City Attorney C. Adkinson presented the council the bid received from Regions Bank to finance the loan that is to purchase the Chelco Building and governmental complex. Regions was the only bid received as of close of business day. One note mentioned by counsel was that Regions Bank has stipulated that this stays in effect for a period of 8 years.

**Motion** by Councilmember T. Bierbaum and seconded by Councilmember K. Crystal to accept bid from Regions Bank to finance loan to purchase the Chelco Building.

**Vote:** Councilmember T. Bierbaum, Aye; Councilmember K. Crystal, Aye; Councilmember H. Ennis, Nay; Councilmember A. Vallée, Aye. Ayes 3, Nays 1. Motion carried.

## **11. LEGISLATIVE REQUESTS**

- A. Councilmember T. Bierbaum- Request to discuss Omnibus Code/Ordinance Review Committee.

Councilmember T. Bierbaum discussed to amend the structure of committee to two council members and one citizen. Previously approved was Councilman Bierbaum and Councilman Vallee and a citizen from each zone be on the committee. However, with such different zones and not many for mixed use it's just not feasible to do that structure.

**Motion** by Councilmember K. Crystal and seconded by Councilmember T. Bierbaum to authorize an amendment to restructure committee to have Councilman Bierbaum and Councilman Vallee and one citizen representative make up committee.

**Vote:** Councilmember T. Bierbaum, Aye; Councilmember K. Crystal, Aye; Councilmember H. Ennis, Aye; Councilmember A. Vallée, Aye. Ayes 4, Nays 0. All ayes. Motion carried.

## **ITEM 12. EXECUTIVE COMMENTS –**

City Manager R. Thompson thanked staff for their efforts during this time and especially during Christmas Reflections.

Mayor Campbell reminded City Council of Christmas Party on December 16, 2021, at 12-5 p.m. at the Hall of Brotherhood.

## **ITEM 13 - COUNCIL COMMENTS –**

Councilmember T. Bierbaum thanked staff and council for their continued efforts and Merry Christmas.

Councilmember H. Ennis said Merry Christmas to everyone.

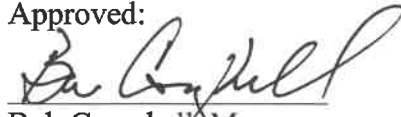
Councilmember T. Vallee thanked staff and said Merry Christmas.

Councilmember K. Crystal thanked City Manager R. Thompson on his tireless effort. Also, commended the mayor on his leadership.

**ITEM 14 - ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Campbell adjourned the meeting at 6:19 p.m.

Approved:

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Bob Campbell, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Minutes taken by DeAnn Brooks  
Planning Assistant, Interim City Clerk  
*Proper notice having been duly given*