

**City Council Meeting
December 14, 2020
6:00 PM
Council Chambers**

The Regular Meeting of the Crestview City Council was called to order at 6:00 P.M. Members present were Shannon Hayes, Joe Blocker, Andrew Rencich, Cynthia Brown and Harry LeBoeuf. Also present were the honorable Mayor JB Whitten, City Clerk Elizabeth Roy, City Manager Tim Bolduc, City Attorney Mr. Holloway, and staff members.

REGULAR AGENDA

1. Called to Order

This meeting was called to order by the Honorable Mayor Whitten at 6:00 p.m.

2. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

The invocation was led by Mr. Milligan, former Mayor with the pledge led by Mayor Whitten.

3. Open Policy making and legislative session

4. Approval of Agenda

Mayor Whitten asked if there were any changes or objections to the current Agenda.

There were no objections or changes to Agenda it was approved by unanimous consent.

5. Presentations and Reports

5.1 Awards from the Northwest Florida League of Cities presented by Mayor Whitten- The Gene Wright Municipal Resilience Award 2020 and the 2020 Community of Excellence Award

Mayor Whitten presented the two awards to Mayor Pro Tem Hayes.

5.2 Presentation of Christmas Parade Winners

Mayor Whitten with the assistance of Ms. Wilson, Main Street Director, presented the winners of the 2020 Christmas Parade.

6. Consent Agenda

6.1 Contract Amendment

Mayor Whitten asked for action by Council.

A motion made by Mr. Hayes to approve the Consent Agenda. Seconded by Mr. LeBoeuf with 5 yeas from Mr. Hayes, Mr. LeBoeuf, Mr. Blocker, Ms. Brown, Mr. Rencich with 0 nays, motion carried.

7. Public Hearings- Ordinances on Second Reading

8. Ordinances on First Reading

8.1 Ordinance 1792- Animal Safety

Mr. Bolduc, City Manager stated that this Ordinance concerns the treatment of animals in the City limits of Crestview. The proposed language addresses the treatment of animals when they are used in a performance. As written, the language will prohibit the permitting of any circus or other traveling show that engages in practices determined to be unsafe for the animals participating in the show. He then asked the City Clerk to read Ordinance 1792 by title.

Ms. Roy, City Clerk stated "Ordinance 1792 reads by title,

ORDINANCE 1792

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF CRESTVIEW, FLORIDA; PROVIDING FOR AUTHORITY; PROVIDING FOR ADDITION TO CHAPTER 10 - ANIMALS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR SCRIVENER'S ERRORS; PROVIDING FOR LIBERAL INTERPRETATION; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF ALL ORDINANCES OR PARTS OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HEREWITH AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

This the First Reading of Ordinance 1792."

Mr. Rencich stated that if a business is lawful in the State then who are we as the City to determine that they cannot conduct business in the City and that he was not in favor of the Ordinance.

Mr. Blocker asked if there were certain statutes in the law that addresses the issue.

Mr. Holloway, City Attorney answered that there is, but it is not very specific.

Ms. Brown stated that the circus that normally comes to Crestview has already addressed their issues years ago and that she was not in favor of the Ordinance.

Mr. Milligan, 1097 North Pearl Street, gave his thoughts on the issue as concerning the fundraising for the City of Crestview Historic Preservation Board.

Mr. Hayes stated that he was not in favor of moving forward either.

Being that four Council members are not in favor of the Ordinance it will be tabled for another time.

9. Resolutions

10. Action Items

10.1 Approval of 2021 Citizen of the Year

Mayor Whitten asked for action by Council to approve or disapprove the nomination from the Citizen of the Year Award Committee.

A motion was made by Mr. Blocker to approve the recommended nomination for the Citizen of the Year by the Citizen of the Year Committee. Seconded by Mr. Hayes with 5 yeas from Mr. Blocker, Mr. Hayes, Mr. Rencich, Ms. Brown, Mr. LeBoeuf with 0 nays, motion carried.

11. City Clerk Report

Ms. Roy, City Clerk asked for a time for clarification for January 11th to schedule the Citizen of the Year reception and the Workshop.

Discussion ensued concerning the Workshop.

12. City Manager Report

12.1 City Manager Update

Mr. Bolduc, City Manager gave the Council an update on several different items.

1. Legislative Requests- Mr. Bolduc stated that it was the time to year to ask for funds for the Community Issues Budget Request and asked Council for requested items. He provided a suggested list for their approval:
 - A. Foxwood Country Club Sewer Expansion
 - B. Wastewater Treatment Expansion
 - C. Community Center Hardening Project
 - D. Bush House Renovation
 - E. Fire Training Tower

F. Stormwater

G. Transportation

Discussion ensued with Mr. Rencich stating that the starting priority should be “A” and “B”.

Mr. LeBoeuf asked the Council to be back briefed once the requests are made known in the Legislative Session.

2. Brookmeade Property- The City Manager informed Council that the property is purchased, and we are currently in the design process to improve the property.

A brief discussion ensued.

3. CARES ACT Funding Update- Mr. Bolduc, City Manager updated the Council on the division of the \$4.4 million dollars with \$2.35 million going into reserves, an allocation of \$882,000.00 to the County for a grant program which they will return \$600k. Then there was \$750k for a purchase of property that did not happen, and it is his expectation to talk to Council to about other items that could possibly be funded.
4. Blight Removal Update- He noted that Code Enforcement is out doing their job the new system in place is a benefit.
5. 2020 Year-End Funding Numbers- Mr. Bolduc stated that he would update Council in January.
6. Foxwood Country Club Update- He informed Council that there is bid opening tomorrow for the Master Plan and the Facilities Assessment and there will be more conversation going into next year.
7. Skatepark Update- Currently we are in the design phase and there was a great response to the survey. There was a meeting with the design team and at this time it will cost \$130k to complete for Phase 1 and there will be three phases to the park.

Mr. Hayes suggested to research the company online because they do very good work.

A brief discussion ensued.

8. Police Vehicle Special Paint Scheme- Mr. Bolduc showed the new paint schemes that the Citizens’ Advisory Board chose from students at Crestview High School.
9. Downton Park/Parking Lot Update- The parking lot across from the Okaloosa County Brackin Building had a meeting with the contractors to explain about matching the color scheme of the downtown area. Matrix is looking at the pocket park to making it all match.
10. Mobility Study Update- Mr. Bolduc stated that there will be changes and you will see layouts in the first couple of weeks in the new year.

11. Surplus Property- Mr. Bolduc informed Council that when the City owns a piece of property Council must decide whether the City keeps it or labels it surplus. This way it can be determined what to do with the property. He recommended to declare the Old Bethel property as surplus so that another piece of property for a new Fire Station. He then asked Council if they would like for him to start the surplus process and was there any other properties they would like to include for surplus.

Discussion ensued.

12. Old Spanish Trail Festival- In having discussions with the Mayor and Staff, Mr. Bolduc informed Council that with Niceville no longer having the Mullet Festival this would be a way to bring something along those lines back to the area. He asked Council if there was an interest in bringing this festival back because the upfront funding would be \$30k.

Discussion ensued and Council gave consensus to go forward with the upfront funding for bringing back the Old Spanish Trail Festival.

13. Crestview Corners Update- Mr. Bolduc, City Manager spoke with the Benchmark Group last week and they are continuing to press on, they have five national retailers and one nation restaurant for the complex.

14. Late Payments for Utility Bills- Mr. Bolduc wanted to verify that he has permission about working with the County in aiding people to pay their utility bills. The County has program that is funded through the CARES ACT that benefit people who live within the City limits.

Discussion ensued and the Council gave their permission.

Mr. Bolduc concluded his update by informing Council that the Fire Department will be driving Santa around in the City neighborhoods in the coming week.

Mayor Whitten suggested in memory of our former City Attorney, Ben Holley to name a stand-alone kiosk out front at City Hall.

A brief discussion ensued.

13. Comments from the Mayor and Council

Mr. Blocker inquired about an issue on Panama Drive.

Mr. Bolduc stated that he would discuss the issue further with Mr. Blocker.

Ms. Brown inquired about the traffic situation for traffic relief is that something that could be added for the Legislative Requests. She also thanked the Staff and Ms. Wilson of the Main Street Association for all their hard work.

Mr. Bolduc said that he understands the complaint, but it will take some time.

Mr. Rencich wished all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Mr. LeBoeuf shared the same sentiment of Mr. Rencich.

Mr. Hayes gave Council updates concerning a Legislative Webinar and reviewed the list of items for the legislative session. He announced that Crestview was in the top 20 list for “Best Places for Veterans to Live” and that he and the Mayor were selected for the Citizens Advisory Board for the FAMU Pharmacy School. Mr. Hayes mentioned an idea for a Spring Cleanup in the City. He closed by thanking Staff for him this has been the best year since he has been serving on the Council. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Mr. Bolduc informed Council that PAWS is looking for a one-hundred percent increase in the fees that we pay. The City maybe looking into alternatives to that, we will be researching information and Council will be updated in the future.

13.1 Mayor’s Updates

Mayor Whitten informed Council that the Homeless Advisory Council and that the Veteran’s Stand Down was successful and they would like to come again next year. The Youth Advisory is on hold for now. The Citizens’ Advisory Council approved the car wraps for the Police Department and asked for a traffic stop video which was able to be recorded and out for the Public to view.

The Mayor did meet with the local Veterans’ group and is planning on having Quarterly meetings. He informed Council that the High School will be performing their Christmas presentations at different City venues. The Red Kettle campaign is having organizations scheduling and hopefully with the City participating in ringing the bell to collect monetary donations.

14. Comments from the Audience

Ms. Sandra Mims, 101 Louise Drive, Crestview Fl asked for an update the project on PJ Adams. She did ask if there would be a Martin Luther King Parade in the upcoming year.

Mr. Bolduc updated Ms. Mims on the work being completed on that project on PJ Adams.

Mayor Whitten stated that there would be a program on the Saturday leading up to the holiday.

Mr. Kenny Siler, 497 South Wilson, Crestview Fl inquired about affordable housing in the City being that a lot of the residents cannot afford the rising rates of rent.

Mayor Whitten said that this is a good inquiry and Mr. Hayes stated that he would keep Mr. Siler informed about what is going on in Tallahassee on fair housing.

15. Adjournment

This meeting was adjourned by Mayor Whitten at 7:40 p.m.

Elizabeth M Roy
Elizabeth M. Roy
City Clerk

J B Whitten
J B Whitten
Mayor

Minutes approve this 25th day of January, 2021.