

City Council Minutes
February 13, 2023
6:00 p.m.
Council Chambers

1. Call to Order

The Regular Meeting of the Crestview City Council was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Mayor JB Whitten. Board members present: Mayor Pro-Tem Andrew Rencich, Council members: Doug Capps, Cynthia Brown, and Ryan Bullard. Also present: City Manager Tim Bolduc, City Clerk Maryanne Schrader, City Attorney Jonathan Holloway, and various staff members. Councilmember Joe Blocker, was excused.

2. Invocation, Pledge of Allegiance

2.1. Elder Sylvester Echols from the First Church of God in Christ

The Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance was led by Elder Sylvester Echols of the First Church of God in Christ.

Mayor Whitten extended the Invocation to include the moment of silence for Malcolm Haynes, who recently passed away.

3. Open Policy Making and Legislative Session

Mayor JB Whitten announced Councilmember Blocker was excused and declared there was a quorum.

4. Approve Agenda

Mayor JB Whitten asked for action.

Motion by Mayor Pro-Tem Andrew Rencich and seconded by Councilmember Cynthia Brown to approve the agenda, as amended.

Councilmember R. Bullard requested that the Presentation from the S.W.A.T. team be combined with Item 8.1.

Roll Call: Cynthia Brown, Andrew Rencich, Douglas Capps, and Ryan Bullard, Ayes. All ayes. Motion carried.

5. Presentations and Reports

5.1. Moment of Silence for Mr. Malcolm Haynes

Presented under Invocation.

5.2. S.W.A.T. Club - Crestview High School

The Crestview High School S.W.A.T. Club presented the no-smoking, no-vaping request. Moved to Item 8.1

6. Consent Agenda

Mayor JB Whitten called for action.

Motion to Councilmember Cynthia Brown and seconded by Councilmember R. Bullard to approve the Consent Agenda, as presented.

Roll Call: Cynthia Brown, Andrew Rencich, Douglas Capps, and Ryan Bullard, Ayes. All ayes. Motion carried.

6.1. Approval of the January 23, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes

7. Public Hearings / Ordinances on Second Reading

None brought forward.

8. Ordinances on First Reading

8.1. Create Legislation and Conduct an Open Forum for Council to Discuss a Smoking and Vaping Ban in City Parks

Mayor JB Whitten introduced Ordinance 1917 and asked the Crestview High School S.W.A.T. team to come forward.

The Crestview High School S.W.A.T. Club came forward and Lauren Woodward, the president, explained they are students working against tobacco and support legislation against tobacco use. The Club asked the Council to consider the ban on smoking and vaping stating they are passionate about the Council passing the legislation, as it is such a big problem, with the youth. The team mentioned the litter and environmental and health concerns.

Mayor Whitten thanked the team for presenting.

Councilmember C. Brown thanked the club for their work but she considers the legislation a government over-reach.

City Manager Tim Bolduc presented Ordinance 1917 to the City Council stating the history of HB105 that allows cities to ban smoking in parks. He mentioned Councilmember R. Bullard had brought the issue up several months ago. He then asked the City Clerk to read the ordinance.

City Clerk Maryanne Schrader read Ordinance 1917 by Title: An Ordinance of the City of Crestview, Florida, Providing For Authority; Providing For Amending Chapter 58 of the Code of Ordinances to Prohibit Smoking Within City-Owned Parks as Authorized by Chapter 386.209 of the Florida Statutes; Providing For Filing of This Ordinance With the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Okaloosa County; 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.

Discussion ensued on health concerns and representation of all taxpayers' rights.

Motion by Councilmember Ryan Bullard and seconded by Councilmember Douglas Capps to approve Ord 1917 on first reading.

Roll Call: Douglas Capps, Ryan Bullard, Ayes. Cynthia Brown, Andrew Rencich, Nays. Motion failed, as the vote ended in a tie.

Mayor Pro-Tem A. Rencich stated he wanted to get more engagement from the citizens and voiced concern about enforcement. He requested community engagement. Councilmember C. Brown said we need to have more public input.

Councilmember R. Bullard said he brought the ordinance forward in order to protect the children. Children play in the parks, and they are being placed at risk.

The Mayor and City Council applauded the students for their presentation.

9. Resolutions

9.1. Annexation Fee Moratorium Extension

City Manager T. Bolduc introduced Resolution 2023-06 stating the purpose is to extend the moratorium on fees, as we continue to incorporate areas.

City Manager T. Bolduc asked the City Clerk to read the Resolution.

City Clerk Maryanne Schrader read the Resolution by title: A Resolution of the City of Crestview, Florida, Amending the Comprehensive Fee Schedule, Providing For a Twelve-Month Waiver Period for the Collection of Annexation Application Fees; Providing For Severability; Providing For Repeal of All Resolutions or Parts of Resolutions In Conflict Herewith and Providing For an Effective Date.

Mayor JB Whitten called for Action.

Motion by Mayor Pro-Tem Andrew Rencich and seconded by Councilmember Douglas Capps to approve Resolution 2023-6.

Roll Call: Cynthia Brown, Andrew Rencich, Douglas Capps, Ryan Bullard, Ayes. All ayes. Motion carried.

10. Action Items

10.1. Blackwater Golf Course Entrance and Parking Lot Improvements

City Manager T. Bolduc said this item was brought up by Councilmember Capps at a previous meeting regarding finishing the golf course. During discussion, improvements to the gates was brought up, and Councilmember Bullard mentioned the state of the asphalt. He reviewed the quotes received, stating the total for all is \$102,850 or \$98,850 without the gate openers. He added this is the last piece to finish the golf course. Contract negotiations will be discussed at the next Crestview

Unlimited meeting.

Discussion ensued on the good quote on asphalt paving pricing, the issue with the gate openers tending to break quickly, and that our maintenance workers are available to open and close the gates.

Councilmember R. Bullard requested that the motions be discussed separately.

Mayor JB Whitten asked about the contractor, and their responsibilities. City Manager T. Bolduc clarified that there were cuts in the original contract because of cost overruns. He added that Crestview Unlimited would not pay for this improvement.

Motion Councilmember R. Bullard to accept Top Notch Painting and Cleaning LLC for the Blackwater Golf Course parking lot improvement.

City Manager T. Bolduc explained the Council would have to approve the deviation from the purchasing policy.

Discussion ensued on the painting cost, the timeliness in completing the project, the value of separating each contractor for the project, and the need for a warranty.

Motion by Councilmember R. Bullard and seconded by Councilmember C. Brown to accept Top Notch Painting and Cleaning, LLC for the Blackwater Golf Course parking lot improvement and to deviate from the purchasing policy to select from the middle bidder for painting.

Roll Call: Cynthia Brown, Ryan Bullard; Ayes. Andrew Rencich, Douglas Capps Nays. Motion failed.

Motion Councilmember A. Rencich and seconded by Councilmember D. Capps to follow our purchasing policy and accept the lowest bid from Sergio's Painting and Small Repair, LLC.

City Manager T. Bolduc explained the low bidder process and his spending authority, adding the staff believes the proposal meets all requirements.

City Attorney J. Holloway also explained the purchasing manual which states the city awards to the lowest and responsive bidder.

Mayor Pro-Tem Andrew Rencich withdrew his original motion, seconded by Councilmember D. Capps.

Motion by Mayor Pro-Tem Andrew Rencich and seconded by Councilmember D. Capps to accept all three contractors, as presented.

Motion by Mayor Pro-Tem Andrew Rencich to amend the motion to approve the recommendation from staff.

Final amended motion:

Motion by Mayor Pro-Tem Andrew Rencich and seconded by Councilmember D. Capps to approve the recommendation from staff and to include eliminating the gate opener.

Roll Call: Cynthia Brown, Ryan Bullard; Andrew Rencich, Douglas Capps, Ayes.
All ayes. Motion carried.

11. City Clerk Report

City Clerk Maryanne Schrader announced a sign with a QR Code is now displayed outside of the Chambers for anyone to scan to display the agenda and packet from their device.

She mentioned that Housing Trust Group contacted her to determine whether the Council could attend a groundbreaking for Princeton Grove, an affordable housing project. It is scheduled for March 14, at 11:30 a.m. at 475 Aplin Road.

She also mentioned the Northwest Florida League of Cities Summer Conference will be held April 28, 2023 in Ft. Walton Beach.

12. City Manager Report

12.1. Tentative Budget Workshops and Hearings

City Manager T. Bolduc mentioned the budget retreat schedule for July 6th as an all-day event. He mentioned workshops are set for August 14th and August 28th, and September 12th and 28th are reserved for the budget Hearings. The Hearings are held for TRIM compliance. He asked that Council look at the dates.

He briefed the Council on the CDC and Base meetings he has had on childcare concerns. He has spoken to the CDC on affordable housing issues, as well. He announced Crestview Commons is moving along with late Spring as the target opening date. He has also met with Texas Roadhouse, and they are moving forward and hope to open before the end of the year on their new site.

13. Comments from the Mayor and Council

Mayor JB Whitten asked for comment from the City Council.

Councilmember R. Bullard mentioned the roof repair at the gym at Twin Hills stating we are working on getting it fixed. City Manager T. Bolduc explained the roof leaked, and the gym was shut down in that area. It will cost about \$65,000 for the repair and \$125,000 to replace the roof. We are holding off while we work on a solution and the overall plan.

Councilmember R. Bullard also asked about the employee assistance program, stating he has spoken to the city manager and will continue the conversation. He added the weeds at the corner of Highway 85 and John King Road in the median need to be cleaned up.

Mayor Pro-Tem A. Rencich said he will set up a Town Hall meeting to determine the citizens' needs on the smoking and vaping ordinance.

Mayor JB Whitten said the Bush House celebration went well. Councilmember C. Brown agreed, as she was in attendance.

Mayor JB Whitten said the billboards are up and Signs of Hope have donated space for the Opioid Awareness campaign. A task force has been created. Dr. Brown and he made a presentation to the School Board, as well.

Mayor JB Whitten mentioned the evaluation for the city manager is due by the end of this month. City Manager T. Bolduc said Jessica will send out the information to the Council.

Mayor JB Whitten asked for a resolution or a letter of support for his run for the second vice president for the Florida League of Cities.

In response to Councilmember C. Brown's request for a back-up for the Okaloosa County Library Cooperative, Councilmember R. Bullard accepted.

14. Comments from the Audience

Mayor JB Whitten asked for public comment.

Shannon Hayes came forward. He thanked the Mayor and Council for several items and mentioned his brother, Reverend Hayes, a Crestview resident is speaking at the National Baptist Convention of America in Nashville, Tennessee. He invited the Council to attend an event for another of Crestview's own on February 17 at 6 p.m. at the Carver Hill Museum. He asked that the lights be looked at, particularly in District 1, as there are numerous outages.

Lloyd Childree of Waste Pro, Director of Government Affairs, came forward to address the Council and stated the complaints went to corporate. A management change was made last Wednesday. He has spoken to the members of the Council regarding the complaints. He met with Michael Criddle, and he drove with one of the team members to view the issues. Waste Pro has ordered more trucks, and they picked up 21 tons of yard waste. Waste Pro will continue to bring trucks in from other areas to get things cleaned up.

15. Adjournment

Mayor JB Whitten adjourned the meeting at 7:07 p.m.

Minutes approved this 27th day of February 2023.


JB Whitten, Mayor


Maryanne Schrader, City Clerk
Proper Notice having been duly given

