

City Council Regular Meeting Minutes
September 11, 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, Joe Blocker, and Ryan Bullard. Also present: City Manager Tim Bolduc, City Clerk Maryanne Schrader, City Attorney Jonathan Holloway, and various staff members.

2. Invocation, Pledge of Allegiance

2.1. Elder Echols of First Church of God in Christ

The Invocation was provided by Elder Echols of First Church of God in Christ.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the American Heritage Girl Troop.

3. Open Policy Making and Legislative Session

Mayor JB Whitten declared a quorum was present.

4. Approve Agenda

Mayor JB Whitten called for action.

Motion by Mayor Pro-Tem Andrew Rencich and seconded by Councilmember Ryan Bullard to approve the agenda, as presented.

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

5. Presentations and Reports

5.1. 9/11 Proclamation

Mayor JB Whitten stated the Honor Guard would accept the proclamation and asked Councilmember Ryan Bullard to read the proclamation commemorating the anniversary of the 9/11 attack. Councilmember Ryan Bullard explained he was a rescue and recovery worker after the 9/11 attack.

5.2. American Heritage Girl Troop Proclamation

Mayor JB Whitten introduced the American Heritage Girl Troop and read a proclamation declaring September 11th as American Heritage Girl Troop day.

5.3. Presentation of Employee of the Quarter

Mayor JB Whitten stated All In Credit Union sponsors the Strongest Link award and invited Ronnie Owens, Fleet Manager, to accept the certificate. Hannah Wilburn of All In Credit Union voiced her appreciation and presented Mr. Owens with a check for \$100. His supervisor, Michael Criddle, said Ronnie leads by example.

Mayor JB Whitten announced Captain Corey Winkler of the Fire Department was

also a recipient. Hannah Wilburn voiced her appreciation for the First Responders. Fire Chief Tony Holland mentioned his appreciation stating through Corey's work as the CPR instructor, the city was recognized as a training site.

5.4. Tourism Development Council - Tourism Presentation

JB Whitten asked Ron Shumard to come forward.

City Manager Tim Bolduc introduced Ron Shumard of the Tourism Development Council (TDC) to discuss a sports marketing program. He mentioned D. Capps has been working closely with the TDC.

Mr. Shumard went over the benefits of developing a sports marketing package for Crestview as sports tourism generates jobs and tax revenue. He went over the benefits for the children involved in sports programs and how the tournaments have a direct impact on our economics. He went over the obstacles regarding lack of facilities, financial incentives, lack of collaboration and scheduling conflicts. He mentioned the benefits of hotels being built in Crestview and recognized that the community is progressive.

Councilmember D. Capps asked about the lack of facilities in Okaloosa County, and Mr. Shumard replied that the traveling teams need facilities where multi-versality is required. He added a collaborative effort within the county is supported.

City Manager Tim Bolduc mentioned the Council has leaned toward a multi-sports complex. He stated a new hire has just been added to support the city's sports program.

6. Consent Agenda

Mayor JB Whitten called for action.

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

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

6.1. Police K9 Purchase Contract

6.2. Tidal Wave Auto Spa Traffic MOU

6.3. DW Josey Plaza Traffic MOU

6.4. Phillips Energy Truck Stop Traffic MOU

6.5. Approval of August 28th CRA/City Council Special Meeting and City Council Regular Meeting Minutes

7. Public Hearings / Ordinances on Second Reading

No item brought forward.

8. Ordinances on First Reading

8.1. Ordinance 1950 - Sexual Offender and Predator Residency Restrictions

Police Chief Stephen McCosker introduced Ordinance 1950 - Sexual Offender and Predator Residency Restrictions to the City Council. He then asked the City Clerk to read the ordinance by Title.

City Clerk Maryanne Schrader read Ordinance 1950 aloud: An Ordinance of the City of Crestview, Florida, Establishing Chapter 55 – Sexual Offenders and Sexual Predators; Providing For Authority; Providing For Severability; Providing For Scrivener’s Errors; Providing For Liberal Interpretation; Providing For Conflicts; and Providing For an Effective Date.

Police Chief Stephen McCosker stated he has researched ordinances in other communities and amended the earlier draft, as the Council had expressed an interest in prohibiting sexual offenders and sexual predators from establishing a residence within 1,500 feet of certain locations within the City.

Councilmember R. Bullard mentioned he was originally concerned there was no evidence preventing people from moving here and was concerned about undocumented offenders. However, after review, he finds this ordinance may prevent the offenders from moving into the city.

Mayor JB Whitten called for comment from the Council and the public. In hearing none, he called for action.

Motion was made by Councilmember Doug Capps and seconded by Councilmember Cynthia Brown to approve Ordinance 1950 on 1st reading and move to second reading for final adoption.

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

8.2. Ordinance 1951 - Police and Firefighters' Retirement

City Manager T. Bolduc presented Ordinance 1951 relating to Police and Firefighters' Retirement to the City Council. There is full support of staff for the 25 years and out option. He then asked the City Clerk to read Ordinance 1951 by Title.

City Clerk Maryanne Schrader read the Ordinance: An Ordinance of the City of Crestview, Florida; Amending the City of Crestview Police Officers’ and Firefighters’ Retirement Plan, Adopted by Ordinance No. 780, as Subsequently Amended; Amending and Renumbering Section 6 Benefit Amounts and Eligibility and Supplemental Benefit; Amending Section 30 Pre-Retirement Death; Providing

For Inclusion In the Code; Providing For Severability; Providing For a Repealer; and Providing for an Effective Date.

Mayor JB Whitten called for comment from the Council and the public. In hearing none, he called for action.

Motion was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Andrew Rencich and seconded by Councilmember Ryan Bullard to approve Ordinance 1951 on 1st reading and move to second reading for final adoption.

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

9. Resolutions

No item brought forward.

10. Action Items

10.1. Authorization to Proceed with the Foreclosures of Code Compliance Liens

City Manager T. Bolduc explained this is for the approval to move forward on the foreclosure liens.

Chief S. McCosker explained that the sixteen cases are included in the staff report. They have been steadily attempting to gain compliance. However, the properties included remain non-compliant. The staff has tried to work with the owners without success.

Mayor JB Whitten called for comment from the Council.

Discussion ensued on the process to remediate the properties, the labor involved with working with the owners, how long the properties have not been in compliance, and the ongoing replenishing and depleting of funds.

Mayor JB Whitten called for comment from the public.

Victor Kolmetz came forward stating the property he purchased could not meet Section 8 standards. He said he rented the property, but the renter took all the electrical and a/c when he left. He said all the windows have been destroyed by the homeless. He asked that the \$5,000 lien against the house be removed.

Kenny Siler came forward and asked why the blight program is not used to assist the owners to clean up the property. He said the city placed a lien on a property that he tried to sell for \$125,000, so he was unable to sell it.

Motion by Councilmember Ryan Bullard and seconded by Councilmember Cynthia Brown to approve the list of foreclosures.

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

11. City Clerk Report

City Clerk M. Schrader stated she did not have a report.

12. City Manager Report

12.1. City Manager Updates

City Manager T. Bolduc introduced Brady Peters as the Assistant Parks Director, adding he will be coming on board this week.

He mentioned value engineering for the Main Street improvement project, and the recreation complex studies. Jayce and Wayne are working on the Twin Hills Park improvements. The roof is being worked on and the air conditioning unit is being added at Twin Hills Park, as well as partnering with the ROC and Richbourg for other basketball facilities. A renovation project will begin Monday on the dog park which will be closed for about four weeks. Signage will be in place to alert the public of the closure. We are adding parking for the pickle ball courts, as well.

In response to Mayor Pro-Tem A. Rencich regarding the road signage, City Manager T. Bolduc replied that he is discussing it with the TDC.

13. Comments from the Mayor and Council

Mayor JB Whitten announced the overdose awareness day was successful, and the WWII event had a great turnout. He mentioned that on September 23rd, "Music on Main" will have a band and vendors.

14. Comments from the Audience

Mayor JB Whitten called for comment from the public.

Shannon Hayes came forward stating that the time is good for the sports complex.

Frederick Butz came forward stating that wildlife has become a problem as coyotes come into his backyard. He asked that developers think about the side effects of development.

15. Adjournment

Mayor JB Whitten adjourned the meeting at 7:16 p.m.

Minutes approved this 25th day of September 2023.


JB Whitten
Mayor


Maryanne Schrader
City Clerk
Proper Notice having been duly given

