

MINUTES
Regular Meeting
January 23, 2012
6:00 P.M.

The Regular Meeting of the Crestview City Council was called to order at 6:00 P.M. Members present were: President Charles Baugh, Phillip Berezo, and Robyn Helt. Also present were Mayor David Cadle, City Clerk Elizabeth Roy, City Attorney Ben Holley, department heads and members of the press. Ben Iannucci and Tim Grandberry, were absent .

The data reflected within these proceedings constitutes an extrapolation of information elicited from notes, observations, recording tapes, photograph(s) and VCR tapes. Comments reflected herein are sometime paraphrased, condensed and have been edited to reflect essential subject matter covered during the meeting. Background data of individual cases heard before the council are on file with the Clerk's office. Parties interested in receiving a verbatim account of the proceedings are responsible for coordinating with the City Clerk Department pursuant to Crestview Policy 91-1, Duplication of Public records, Chapter 119 and 283, Florida Statutes and Attorney General Opinions in force at time of enactment of Policy 91-1. This meeting was advertised through all sources pursuant to F.S. 286.011, ET. Seq.

1. Approval of Consent Agenda.

Motion by Ms. Helt to approve the consent agenda. Seconded by Mr. Berezo. Vote – 3 yeas and 0 nays. Mr. Iannucci and Mr. Grandberry were absent. Motion carried.

2. Presentation of Service Awards – Mayor.

Mayor Cadle presented David Turnage and Edward Mosley of the Crestview Fire Department with their five year service awards and pins and Andrew Schneider with the Crestview Police Department with his ten year service award and pin.

3. Presentation of Life Saving Awards – Chief Traylor.

Mayor Cadle & Chief Traylor presented Fire Fighters Preston Downs & Jonathan Hoke with Life Safety awards for saving the life of Crestview Citizen that was in a car accident and stopped breathing.

Mayor Cadle & Chief Traylor presented Fire Fighter Richard Cook and David Pilkilton with Life Safety Award for their efforts in saving the life of a Crestview citizen that was in cardiac arrest.

4. New Business:

a. Discuss support of the Spanish Trail Cruisers annual show in April – Councilman Baugh.

The President of the Spanish Trail Cruisers addressed the Council requesting the City's support for its annual car show in April. The Spanish Trail Cruisers requested that they be allowed to close Main Street on Saturday, April 21, 2012 beginning at 9:00 am, in addition to that they would like the City to provide an electrician to hook up electricity for the vendors that will be participating, along with a few Police Officers for security, and some portable toilets.

Motion by Mr. Berezo to approve support for the Spanish Trail Cruisers annual car show. Seconded by Ms. Helt. Vote – 3 yeas and 0 nays. Mr. Iannucci and Mr. Grandberry were absent. Motion carried.

b. Discuss Department Head Reports – Councilman Berezo.

Mr. Berezo stated, “I was asked to clarify what the Council is asking to see on a quarterly basis from the Department Heads. I would like to see some metrics, whether it’s funding to show the public so we can be transparent, or bullet statements, or charts etc. I do not want you to fudge any numbers; just give us the straight facts so that the public can see what is going on with the City on a quarterly basis. If its ugly put it on there, it’s ugly and we are trying to improve it. I definitely want to see where we are with the recommendations that the auditors made back in August. I want to see where we are on the improvements and the upgrades to the systems; HTE, utility billing, meters, meters installed etc. Put yourself in the citizen’s place and put on there what they would like to see and what you feel the Council needs to know.”

Ms. Helt stated, “If you have any special needs or requests I would like you to include that as well.

c. Solid Waste Collection discussion – Councilman Berezo.

Motion by Mr. Berezo to direct staff to re-write the Ordinance so that a citizen can request an exemption if they do not want garbage picked up. Seconded by Ms. Helt for discussion.

Ms. Helt stated, “I believe the Clerk’s office was checking with other cities and doing some research to find what other cities were doing with respect to this what type of exemption were out there and then what type of potential conflicts there would be. I would be interested in the Clerk sharing what information she has found.”

Mrs. Roy advised that through her research with other cities she has found that 90% of them have the exact same Ordinance that the City of Crestview does. The exemptions are very rare, and very detailed. There was one City that had an application process for a waiver; the wavier is very detailed, and very specific about how it is handled. With that City the exemption is on a yearly basis, it is not anything that goes on forever, the customer has to fill out the application every year, and they have to prove how they can dispose of their garbage. Another City’s Ordinance states that you may not carry garbage through City unless you are a licensed garbage collector.

Ms. Roy stated, “As far as the way the City of Crestview’s Ordinance works we are in compliance with everyone I spoke with.”

Discussion ensued.

Mr. Berezo’s motion was voted on at this time. Vote – 0 yeas and 3 nays. Mr. Iannucci and Mr. Grandberry were absent. Motion failed.

Motion by Mr. Berezo to direct staff to research the garbage Ordinance/collecting garbage fees. Seconded by Ms. Helt. Vote – 3 yeas and 0 nays. Mr. Iannucci and Mr. Grandberry were absent. Motion carried.

d. Discuss consideration to hear proposal from Michael Rutledge of Signs Galore, to provide the City three electronic signs at the Bull dog sign located at the intersection of Hwy. 90 and State Hwy. 85 in front of CVS Pharmacy – Public Services.

Mr. Steele stated, “This item has been placed on the agenda on behalf of Mr. Michael Rutledge of Signs Galore. I have advised him that this had to be in conceptual only because anything that the City does like this would have to be advertised and competitively bid out. I will now defer to Mr. Rutledge so that he can explain this proposal to you.”

Mr. Michael James Rutledge of 111 Hammock Street, Crestview, Florida and of Signs Galore presented the council with a proposal for the sign at the intersection of Hwy. 90 and State Hwy. 85. His presentation included having an electronic message center where businesses could advertise, which could create the opportunity for the City to advertise for things like the Spanish Trail Cruisers or other nonprofit events. Revenue could be generated by selling advertisement to local businesses, which would allow the City to do some profit sharing, allow Sign's Galore to make money, and then allow the nonprofits access to it.

Mr. Rutledge stated, "The equipment is fairly expensive. What my company would provide the equipment, the service, the installation, the programming, and the insurance, along with everything relating to signs maintenance. There would be no cost to the City, and with the profit sharing you will actually generate revenue."

Mr. Rutledge went on to elaborate on his proposal for the sign.

Mr. Steele advised that because this is a City owned structure and Mr. Rutledge would be making a profit from that, the City would have to determine that it needed a service to be provided, and come up with a service contract agreement. The City would have to advertise it that way and bid it out.

Mr. Holley stated, "I have several problems with this. Normally cities don't get in the business of raising money through advertising or allowing somebody to advertise on their property. If you could do it you would have to strictly control what could be on the sign. I believe that there were some other groups involved in erecting the sign and they may need to be consulted."

Mr. Steele advised that the Kiwanis Club as well as some other organizations were involved in donating funds to erect the sign.

Mr. Holley stated that he would need to do research relative to liability, and was not prepared to address any legal questions at this time, but he had some serious reservations about it.

It was the consensus of the Council to direct Mr. Holley to research the feasibility of Mr. Rutledge's proposal for the sign.

- e. Discuss consideration to hear a proposal to enter into a Utility Service Agreement with Beach Community Bank, D.R. Horton and Bishops Landing to provide a much needed sewer upgrade in the area north of Lowe's – Public Services.**

Mr. Steele advised that this item had been discussed at a previous meeting. It is a special utility service agreement for water and waste water. This was approved by Mr. Holley, and has been signed by the bank. Everything is the same as it was, with the exception of upgrading the sewer line from a 12" to 15". We were also asked to abandon the existing old line that we would be replacing and that document is also included in with this.

Discussion ensued relative to the sewer line agreement.

Ms. Helt asked if with the 15" upgrade of that line if the City would be well positioned for future growth of that area.

Mr. Steele advised Ms. Helt that it would be sufficient for future growth of that area, and that were able to make that change without really changing the overall costs.

Motion by Mr. Berezo to approve the Utility Service Agreement with Beach Community Bank, D.R. Horton and Bishops Landing to provide a sewer upgrade in the area north of Lowe's. Seconded by Ms. Helt. Vote – 3 yeas and 0 nays. Mr. Grandberry and Mr. Iannucci were absent. Motion carried.

f. Discuss approval of settlement with Dawn Sledge – City Clerk.

Mrs. Roy stated, “The settlement was offered and accepted by Ms. Dawn Sledge and her attorney. We recommend that the money come out of the contingency fund, and we are asking approval from the Council to take it out of that fund.”

Motion by Ms. Helt pay the settlement to Dawn Sledge out of the contingency fund. Seconded by Mr. Berezo for discussion.

Mr. Berezo stated, “I will state what I always have since the beginning, as Mr. Holley said one time, was there or was there not a contract.”

Ms. Helt stated, “I agree with your position, and I am right there with you, but we voted as a Council to make that offer and the client accepted it, and this is just a matter of where the money is to come from.”

Ms. Helt's motion was voted on at this time. Vote – 3 yeas and 0 nays. Mr. Iannucci and Mr. Grandberry were absent. Motion carried.

g. Appointments:

1. Planning & Zoning Board (Alton Jones -1-28-12) – Councilman Berezo.

Motion by Mr. Berezo to re-appoint Mr. Alton Jones to the Planning & Zoning Board. Seconded by Ms. Helt. Vote – 3 yeas and 0 nays. Mr. Iannucci and Mr. Grandberry were absent. Motion carried.

2. Police Officer & Firefighter Retirement Board: (Elected by Trustees to a four year term through 11-29-15) – Confirm by City Council vote.

Motion by Mr. Berezo to approve elected trustees for the Police Officer & Firefighter Retirement Board. Seconded by Ms. Helt. Vote – 3 yeas and 0 nays. Mr. Iannucci and Mr. Grandberry were absent. Motion carried.

~~**h. Approval of a re-plat for Arbor Lake Townhomes Phase I – Administrative Services.**~~

This item was removed from the agenda.

5. Mayoral Report.

Mayor Cadle stated, “I recently had a conversation with the County Commission Chairman Don Amunds who is working with the Economic Development Council to ensure we have strong representation and local input on our EDC. Some of our cities are not participating in those meetings. I believe Mr. Grandberry is our representative and he may not be able to attend because of his work schedule, but I would really like for us to be involved. I will wait until I see Mr. Grandberry to see what his situation is. We are not the only City in the County with this problem, but I did want to bring it your attention.”

Mayor Cadle advised that Police Department is working to raise funds for the Special Olympics. They have been very active in the past few years in raising funds for that organization and taking the lead. With our partnerships with our businesses such as Dunkin Donuts, and Walgreens we raised over \$800.00 this past weekend. Mayor Cadle gave special thanks for all that were involved.

6. Business from the Floor.

Mr. Brian Hughes spoke as a proponent for Mr. Michael Rutledge's sign proposal and suggested that perhaps the money received could go to school rather than the City so that the City would not have to be in the sign business since the school is so highly visible on that sign. This could be an opportunity for everybody.

Ms. Helt stated that she was approached by a citizen that had read that the City would be handling its own concessions stands. The citizen thought that there may be a way that the City could provide an opportunity for some of our high school students, who are in need of finding community service outlets to put on their resumes to make application for college scholarships. The citizen offered to provide Ms. Helt a list of names of parents that have students that would be willing to donate volunteer hours by working the concession stands at no cost in exchange of receiving recognition by the Council perhaps in the form of a letter of commendation that they could attach to college application to submit for scholarship consideration.

Ms. Helt asked if Council would entertain having Mr. Wing look into the feasibility of this.

Mr. Berezo asked Mr. Holley if there would be any liability issues with this.

Mr. Holley stated that there may have to be some type of a waiver that the parents would need to sign.

It was the consensus of the Council to have Mr. Wing and Mr. Holley work together to look into the feasibility of allowing students to volunteer at the concession stands as well as if there would be any liability issues.

Mrs. Roy advised the Council that the City did receive its annual payment from the Crestview Housing Authority in the amount of \$21,101.00.

President Baugh advised that the senate bill dealing with business tax receipts was introduced to the legislative floor. This bill could potentially hurt some of the municipalities. One of the amendments that were mentioned was to look over the past six years to see if it's 25% or greater of the City's revenues, and then there is some sort of provision that will allow these municipalities to continue to exercise this business tax. They are really doing a lot of things to impact our home rule ability to be able to collect revenues for our City.

Motion by Ms. Helt to adjourn. Seconded by Ms. Berezo. Vote – 3 yeas and 0 nays.

Meeting adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

Elizabeth M. Roy
City Clerk

Charles E. Baugh
Council President

Minutes approved this 13 day, February, 2012.