

City Commission Meeting
January 22, 2019
6:30 pm

Vice Mayor Waters offered a prayer and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Vice Mayor Waters called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

This was the second regular meeting of the month. Members present included Vice Mayor Wilbur Waters, Commissioner Tommy Chastain, Commissioner Janice D. Mortimer and Commissioner Shannon Smith. Also present were City Manager Bob Milner, City Attorney Dan Sikes, Deputy Clerk Lisa Terry, City Clerk Ricky Thompson and Police Major Barry Warren. Mayor Daniel W. Nugent was absent due to his work.

Vice Mayor Waters asked if there were any additions or deletions to the agenda. There were none. Commissioner Mortimer made a motion to approve the agenda. It was seconded by Commissioner Chastain. The motion passed 4-0.

Vice Mayor Waters said Katelyn Donovan Coach of the Bradford High School Academic Team wants to address the commission but needs to get back to the school. Mrs. Donovan introduced the academic team members Daphne Sheffield, Connor Nugent, Autumn Elkins and Emily Garrett. Mrs. Donovan asked the commissioners to make a personal donation so the team can compete at the State Academic Tournament. Ms. Elkins said the team has been asked to compete in the Florida State Commissioner's Academic Challenge. She asked each of the commissioners to donate \$100 and the City Attorney, City Clerk, City Manager and Police Chief. Ms. Elkins said they will be making the same request of the County Commissioners. She said the donations will pay for the \$6,000 in registration fees and hotel rooms. Ms. Elkins thanked the commissioners for allowing her to speak and for considering the donation. Vice Mayor Waters said he is willing to donate \$100. Commissioner Mortimer asked how many students are on the team. Ms. Elkins said 6. Commissioner Mortimer asked when the competition is. Ms. Elkins said April 11th, 12th and 13th. Commissioner Mortimer asked where the competition is. Ms. Elkins said at the Orlando Boardwalk. Commissioner Chastain asked who to make the check payable to. Mrs. Donovan said the check can be made out to Bradford High School with Academic Team in the memo. Commissioner Chastain said he would give his check to Mr. Thompson. Commissioner Smith asked when the money is needed. Mrs. Donovan said by the beginning of April. Commissioner Smith asked if the Telegraph could do an article so citizens can make donations. Commissioner Smith said he will give his check to Mr. Thompson.

Vice Mayor Waters asked the commissioners if there was anything they wanted removed from the consent agenda. There was not. The consent agenda consisted of the Minutes of the January 8, 2019 Commission Meeting. Vice Mayor Waters entertained a motion to approve the consent agenda. Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve the consent agenda. It was seconded by Commissioner Mortimer. The motion passed 4-0.

Vice Mayor Waters asked if there were any emergency items. There were none.

Vice Mayor Waters asked if there was any citizen participation. There was none.

Vice Mayor Waters asked for the City Clerk Report. Mr. Thompson said Commissioner Chastain met with the Bond Trustees to review the bills. Commissioner Chastain made a motion to pay the bills. Commissioner Smith seconded it. The motion passed 4-0.

Mr. Thompson addressed Ordinance No. 2019-01 amending the future land use plan map. Attorney Sikes read the title of the ordinance. Vice Mayor Waters entertained a motion to approve the second reading of Ordinance 2019-01. Commissioner Chastain made a motion to approve the second reading. It was seconded by Commissioner Smith. The motion passed 4-0.

Mr. Thompson addressed Ordinance No. 2019-02 amending the official zoning map. Attorney Sikes read the title of the ordinance. Vice Mayor Waters entertained a motion to approve the second reading of Ordinance 2019-02. Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve Ordinance 2019-02. It was seconded by Commissioner Chastain. The motion passed 4-0.

Mr. Thompson addressed the Florida Municipal Insurance Trust refund of premium check. Mr. Thompson said the check is for \$5,049. Vice Mayor Waters said that is good news.

Vice Mayor Waters asked for the City Manager Report. Mr. Milner addressed the contract with City Attorney John Cooper. Mr. Milner said the commission selected John Cooper as their City Attorney on December 18, 2018. Vice Mayor Waters entertained a motion to approve the contract. Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve the contract. Vice Mayor Waters passed the gavel to Commissioner Mortimer. Commissioner Waters seconded the motion. Commissioner Waters asked if it could be postponed until there is a full board. Attorney Sikes said Commissioner Waters could withdraw his second. Commissioner Waters withdrew his second. Commissioner Smith withdrew his motion. Commissioner Mortimer asked if there could be a Special Commission Meeting to discuss the Attorney Contract. Attorney Sikes said there could. Commissioner Mortimer asked if the meeting could be on January 29, 2019 at 5:30 pm. Commissioner Smith made a motion to have a Special Commission Meeting on January 29, 2019 at 5:30 pm. Commissioner Mortimer passed the gavel back to Vice Mayor Waters. Commissioner Mortimer seconded the motion. Commissioner Mortimer asked for a copy of the previous contract. Mr. Thompson agreed to provide one. The motion passed 4-0.

Mr. Milner addressed the Appropriations Project Request Application. He said he is working with Mittauer & Associates to request funds for the lining of sewer pipes along Alligator Creek and the replacement of 11 manholes. Mr. Milner is asking for permission from the commissioners to submit the Project Request Application for \$500,000 for the project. Commissioner Mortimer made a motion to approve the submission of the Appropriation Project Request Application. It was seconded by Commissioner Chastain. Commissioner Mortimer asked if Mr. Milner has reached out to Senator Rob Bradley and Representative Bobby Payne for support. Mr. Milner said he has. The motion passed 4-0.

Mr. Milner addressed the dates/topics for the joint city/county meeting. Commissioner Mortimer asked about having a workshop on agenda items for the meeting. She asked about unresolved issues from previous meetings. Vice Mayor Waters said there is the fire assessment.

Commissioner Smith said there is annexation and recreation. Mr. Milner said he needs to meet with the Bradford Parent Athletic Association and the City Attorney because the only contract he can find is expired. Commissioner Chastain asked about having a Commission Workshop after the Special Commission Meeting on January 29, 2019. Vice Mayor Waters entertained a motion to have a Commission Workshop on January 29, 2019 at 6:00 pm to discuss items for the city/county meeting. Commissioner Smith made a motion. It was seconded by Commissioner Mortimer. The motion passed 4-0.

Mr. Milner reminded the commissioners that they are hosting the Northeast Florida League of Cities dinner on the February 21, 2019 at the Governor Charley E. Johns Conference Center. Commissioner Mortimer asked who is doing the catering. Mr. Milner said the Downtown Grill. He said he got prices from other local restaurants but the prices from the Downtown Grill were much better.

Commissioner Chastain asked Mr. Milner if he was having the sprayfield surveyed. Mr. Milner said he is not. Commissioner Chastain asked about the lease of the sprayfield. Mr. Thompson said 200 acres are being leased.

Commissioner Chastain asked Mr. Milner if he has met with the lady who came to the last meeting who lives behind Noegel's Auto Sales. Mr. Milner said Commissioner Smith met with her because she lives in his district. Commissioner Smith said he met with Mrs. Brown and observed vehicles speeding on her street. Commissioner Smith has met with Mr. Milner and Police Chief Johnson and would like to add speed humps and children at play signs on her street. Commissioner Chastain asked about the lady who requested children at play signs on South Old Lawtey Road. Commissioner Mortimer said she spoke with her and she suggested Commissioner Chastain speak with her because that is his district. Commissioner Mortimer does not believe safety issues should have to wait until there is a Commissioner Meeting. She believes the commissioners should be able to meet with the Chief of Police and move forward with addressing the issue.

Vice Mayor Waters asked for the Police Chief Report. Major Warren said the Martin Luther King Junior Parade went very smoothly.

Vice Mayor Waters asked for the Attorney's Report. Attorney Sikes had nothing further.

Vice Mayor Waters said he has been receiving requests for speed bumps on Westmoreland Street, Epperson Street and Alton Road. He said a state funded resurfacing project is going to be done in town. He suggested the commissioners look at streets in their district that need to be resurfaced. Commissioner Mortimer said a penny tax has been collected for some time for the resurfacing of streets so she believes the streets need to be resurfaced. Commissioner Chastain said he is all for the resurfacing but he thinks some of the layers need to be removed first. He said they need to make sure that the contractor does not cover any manholes. Vice Mayor Waters asked the commissioners to come up with a prioritized list of streets in their district that need to be resurfaced. Mr. Milner said the roads need to be engineered so they can handle heavy truck traffic.

Commissioner Chastain asked Mr. Thompson about the 311 number that does not work when called from a cell phone. Mr. Thompson said he is looking into it and does not believe the city is still paying for it. Commissioner Chastain said the city paid an initial cost of a few thousand dollars. Mr. Thompson said he will look into it further.

Commissioner Chastain asked who is appointed to the Tourism Development Council Board. Mr. Milner said Mayor Nugent said Commissioner Chastain is. Commissioner Chastain said the County Commission appoints board members to the Tourism Development Council. Mr. Thompson said the Mayor makes a recommendation and the County Commission approves it. Commissioner Chastain asked Commissioner Smith if he had attended a meeting for the Tourism Development Council. Commissioner Smith said he did and then he was told to stop attending the meetings for the Tourism Development Council and to start attending the meetings for the Communities in Schools Board. Commissioner Chastain asked if the appointment could be on the agenda for the next meeting. Commissioner Mortimer said the Mayor makes appointments at the beginning of the fiscal year.

Commissioner Chastain asked about having zoning for Medical Marijuana Dispensaries on the next agenda. Attorney Sikes said it can be addressed as a zoning issue. Major Warren said Florida is only allowing it in vapor, liquid or pill form. Commissioner Mortimer said Governor DeSantis is leaning toward allowing it in smoking form. Dan Sikes said Governor DeSantis is asking to abandon legislation banning smoking marijuana for medical reasons. Attorney Sikes suggested requiring an armed guard to be present during working hours at Medical Marijuana Dispensaries because of the high incidence of robberies.

Commissioner Chastain said Orange Street South needs to be paved at the same time Orange Street North is paved. He said Adkins Street needs to be paved as well. Director of Operations Scott Anaheim asked to be notified of paving projects in advance because he is working to make sewer system repairs. Vice Mayor Waters said they are aware that sewage repairs need to be considered before paving is done.

Commissioner Chastain asked for an update on the \$300,000 budgeted for sewer system repairs. He asked how much has been spent to date.

Commissioner Smith asked about the email from the Florida Department of Transportation to be at the March 5, 2019 Commission Meeting to discuss closing the Adkins Street and South Street railroad crossings. Mr. Milner said the Florida Department of Transportation will be giving a presentation at that meeting.

Commissioner Smith asked about having some additional work done to Orange Street. He said turning lanes are needed at Orange Street and State Road 100. He said there should only be a sidewalk on one side of Orange Street. Commissioner Smith said that would allow room to have a turning lane at Bradford Middle School where the parent pick-up is. Commissioner Smith suggested having the Florida Department of Transportation come to a meeting to discuss Orange Street. Commissioner Waters suggested replacing the ditch on the east side of Orange Street with piping. Commissioner Chastain asked when the Orange Street Project will start. Mr. Milner said Mittauer & Associates is working on the engineering. Mr. Thompson said it has to

be completed by June of 2020. Mr. Milner said the city will need to include Water Management because of the drainage issues in the area. Commissioner Chastain asked for an update on the project at the second meeting in February.

Commissioner Mortimer said the turnout for the Martin Luther King Junior banquet was tremendous. She thanked Commissioner Waters and Commissioner Smith for purchasing tickets for the banquet allowing some senior ladies to attend. Commissioner Mortimer thanked Clerk Thompson for purchasing a ticket. She said the Martin Luther King Junior Parade was very well attended. Commissioner Mortimer thanked the Police Department and the Fire Department for their help and attendance. She thanked Mr. Milner for the support.

Commissioner Mortimer asked Major Warren about response time for a call about a senior citizen whose house on Oak Street was broken into while the owner was at church on February 8, 2019. She said several citizens made multiple phone calls before officers responded. Major Warren asked if the calls were to 911. Commissioner Mortimer said they were. Major Warren said he would check the records.

Commissioner Mortimer said she will be retiring from the Veteran's Administration on February 28, 2019 so she will be in town more often.

Commissioner Chastain asked Mr. Williams to explain the documentation he provided the commissioners regarding the Group Health Trust. Mr. Williams attended the board meeting on January 11, 2019 in Lakeland. He said the bylaws were reviewed and the name of Group Health Trust was changed to Group Health Pool to be consistent with documentation. Mr. Williams said a Federal Circuit Judge ruled that a mandate in the Affordable Care Act is unconstitutional so the mandate fee is now \$0. He said acupuncture is now a covered benefit.

Commissioner Smith asked about the shooting within the city limits that was brought before the commission at the last meeting. Major Warren said there have been no additional reports of shooting within the city limits.

Mr. Milner asked the commissioners if they would consider moving the February 5, 2019 meeting to February 12, 2019 so Commissioner Mortimer and Commissioner Waters can be in attendance. Vice Mayor Waters entertained a motion to move the meeting from February 5, 2019 to February 12, 2019. Commissioner Mortimer made a motion. It was seconded by Commissioner Smith. The motion passed 4-0.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:50 pm.