

Commission Meeting Minutes
April 7, 2020
6:30 pm

Mayor Waters said before we begin the official meeting of the Starke City Commission, there will be a time of voluntary prayer. Those willing to do so are asked to stand and Commissioner Mortimer will lead us in prayer.

This was the first regular meeting of the month. Members attending via GoToMeeting included Mayor Wilbur Waters, Commissioner Tommy Chastain, Commissioner Janice D. Mortimer and Commissioner Shannon Smith. Commissioner Danny Nugent attended in person. Also attending via GoToMeeting were Police Chief Jeff Johnson, Finance Director John-Paul Ledford and City Attorney Clay Martin. Also attending in person were City Manager John Holman, Deputy Clerk Lisa Terry, City Clerk Ricky Thompson and Assistant Dan Williams.

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

Mayor Waters asked if there were any additions or deletions to the agenda. There were none.

Mayor Waters entertained a motion to approve the agenda. Commissioner Mortimer made a motion to approve the agenda. It was seconded by Commissioner Chastain. Mayor Waters polled the commissioners for a vote. Commissioner Nugent voted yes. Commissioner Chastain voted yes. Commissioner Mortimer voted yes. Commissioner Smith voted yes. The motion passed 5-0.

Mayor Waters entertained a motion to approve the consent agenda. The consent agenda consisted of the Minutes of the March 17, 2020 Commission Meeting and Minutes of the March 24, 2020 Special Commission Meeting. Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve the consent agenda. It was seconded by Commissioner Mortimer. Mayor Waters polled the commissioners for a vote. Commissioner Nugent voted yes. Commissioner Chastain voted yes. Commissioner Mortimer voted yes. Commissioner Smith voted yes. The motion passed 5-0.

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

Mayor Waters read the statement for citizen requests "The City of Starke welcomes you to this meeting. This time is set aside for our citizens and general public to address the city commission. This is not a question or answer time. It is not a political forum, nor is it a time for personal accusations or derogatory remarks to or about city personnel. If you would like to address the commission please complete a form, come to the podium when you are called, speak into the microphone and state your name and address for the record. Please also limit your comments to not more than 3 minutes. Your participation is welcomed." There was no citizen participation.

Mayor Waters asked for the City Clerk Report. Clerk Thompson said Commissioner Chastain and Commissioner Nugent reviewed the bills. Clerk Thompson said Commissioner Chastain and Commissioner Nugent asked to pull the bills for CenturyLink, Advanced Biofermentation Services and Gate Elegante. Mayor Waters asked why the Advanced Biofermentation Services bill was pulled. Clerk Thompson said to make sure it was sole sourced. Commissioner Mortimer asked why the other two bills were pulled. Commissioner Chastain and Commissioner Nugent believe the Gate Elegante bill should have been bid out. Commissioner Nugent said the CenturyLink bill should be looked at to see if it would be cheaper to pay employees to use their cell phones. Commissioner Chastain said the cell phone bill is with Verizon. Clerk Thompson said he would pull the Verizon bill if there is one in the batch. Commissioner Mortimer asked if there were any time constraints for the bills being pulled since the services have already been provided. Clerk Thompson said the Gate Elegante bill is dated December of 2019 but was received on April 7, 2020. Clerk Thompson said the Advanced Biofermentation Services bill was received on April 7, 2020. Commissioner Chastain made a motion to pay the bills excluding the bill for Advanced Biofermentation Services. It was seconded by Commissioner Smith. Mayor Waters polled the commissioners for a vote. Commissioner Nugent voted yes. Commissioner Chastain voted yes. Commissioner Mortimer voted yes. Commissioner Smith voted yes. The motion passed 5-0.

Mayor Waters asked for the City Manager Report. Mr. Holman addressed Resolution Number 2020-37 authorizing adoption and implementation of the FMLA Leave and Emergency Paid Sick Leave Policy. Attorney Martin read the resolution by title. Mayor Waters entertained a motion to approve Resolution Number 2020-37 as read by title. Commissioner Nugent made a motion to approve the Resolution Number 2020-37 by title. It was seconded by Commissioner Smith. Mayor Waters polled the commissioners for a vote. Commissioner Nugent voted yes. Commissioner Chastain voted yes. Commissioner Mortimer voted yes. Commissioner Smith voted yes. The motion passed 5-0.

Mr. Holman addressed the emergency purchase for replacement of a blower at the wastewater treatment plant. Mr. Holman said 2 blowers failed at the wastewater treatment plant and 1 was rebuilt and 1 was replaced. Mayor Waters entertained a motion to approve the emergency purchase. Commissioner Chastain made a motion to approve the purchase. It was seconded by Commissioner Mortimer. Mayor Waters polled the commissioners for a vote. Commissioner Nugent voted yes. Commissioner Chastain voted yes. Commissioner Mortimer voted yes. Commissioner Smith voted yes. The motion passed 5-0.

Mr. Holman addressed the disposition of the electrical station breakers from the switching station project. Mayor Waters entertained a motion to approve the disposition of the breakers. Commissioner Nugent made a motion to approve the disposition of the breakers. It was seconded by Commissioner Smith. Commissioner Chastain asked Clerk Thompson if proper procedures were followed for disposing of this property. Clerk Thompson said proper procedures were not followed. Mr. Holman said the contractor followed what was stated in the pre-bid meeting. Mayor Waters polled the commissioners for a vote. Commissioner Nugent

voted yes. Commissioner Chastain voted yes. Commissioner Mortimer voted yes. Commissioner Smith voted yes. The motion passed 5-0.

Mr. Holman addressed the update on the COVID-19 emergency. He said the only change is that people are asked to wear masks while in public. Mr. Holman said there are currently 11 cases in Bradford County ranging in age from 38 to 85 and 7 outstanding tests.

Mayor Waters asked for the Police Chief Report. Chief Johnson said he would like to use the funds in the fines and forfeitures fund to purchase rifles not to exceed \$16,500. Mayor Waters entertained a motion to approve the purchase not exceeding \$16,500. Commissioner Mortimer made a motion to approve the purchase. It was seconded by Commissioner Chastain. Mayor Waters polled the commissioners for a vote. Commissioner Nugent voted yes. Commissioner Chastain voted yes. Commissioner Mortimer voted yes. Commissioner Smith voted yes. The motion passed 5-0.

Attorney Martin had nothing further.

Commissioner Nugent would like the clerk to research cell phone providers. Clerk Thompson said he will do it.

Commissioner Chastain asked if Chief Johnson had looked at any buildings for the Police Department. Mayor Waters said there needs to be a workshop on this once the State of Emergency is lifted.

Commissioner Chastain asked to have a budget update at the next meeting.

Commissioner Mortimer had nothing further.

Commissioner Smith asked if there were any city employees in unmarked trucks. Mr. Holman said there are not.

Commissioner Smith asked about a low wire on Gene Drive. Mr. Holman said he will look into it.

Mayor Waters asked the commissioners to think about ways the city could help small business owners. He expressed appreciation for the Emergency Operations Center, the Sheriff's Office, the Police Department, the Fire Department and the city employees. He said he is praying for everyone's safety. Commissioner Mortimer thanked Chief Johnson for work done on Old Lawtey Road. Chief Johnson said he and Sheriff Smith were glad to do it. Mayor Waters expressed appreciation for President Trump and Governor DeSantis.

Mayor Waters entertained a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Mortimer made a motion to adjourn. It was seconded by Commissioner Chastain. Mayor Waters polled the commissioners for a vote. Commissioner Nugent voted yes. Commissioner Chastain voted yes. Commissioner

Mortimer voted yes. Commissioner Smith voted yes. The motion passed 5-0 and the meeting was adjourned at 7:31 pm.