

Special Commission Meeting Budget
August 3, 2021
5:30 pm

Mayor Shannon Smith 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 I will lead us in prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members attending included Mayor Shannon Smith, Commissioner Tommy Chastain, Commissioner Janice D. Mortimer, Commissioner Danny Nugent and Commissioner Wilbur Waters. Also present were Director of Operations Scott Anaheim, City Manager John Holman, Police Chief Jeff Johnson, City Attorney Clay Martin, Deputy Clerk Lisa Terry, City Clerk Ricky Thompson, Fire Chief Gary Wise.

Mayor Smith called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm. He asked to move the budget discussion to the end of the agenda.

Attorney Martin said the candidate who ranked first withdrew his name from consideration. He asked for direction from the commission. Commissioner Nugent suggested appointing Clerk Thompson to be the interim city manager because he has served in the capacity previously. Commissioner Mortimer asked to appoint Mr. Anaheim as interim city manager because he has been acting in the capacity in Mr. Holman's absence. She made a motion to appoint Mr. Anaheim as interim city manager until the new commissioner and clerk are on board. It was seconded by Commissioner Waters for discussion. He asked Mr. Anaheim if he has the time to serve as city manager. Mr. Anaheim said it will be a burden with all the projects but he will do it for a few months. Mayor Smith asked if the commission wanted to consider the two remaining candidates. Commissioner Nugent said he does not. Attorney Martin asked if it is Commissioner Mortimer's intent to start the search process now or to wait a couple of months until the new commissioner is on the board. Commissioner Mortimer said it is her intent to wait until the new board member takes office. She said someone needs to fill the role now because Mr. Holman is leaving at the end of the month. Commissioner Nugent said he would like Mr. Thompson to fill the role because Mr. Anaheim is already busy with his current position. Commissioner Chastain said if the start the search now the same people will apply. Commissioner Waters asked Mr. Thompson if he would have the time to do the job. Mr. Thompson said if they have someone in mind they should hire them but he is willing to help. Commissioner Mortimer asked if Mr. Thompson and Mr. Anaheim could work together on an interim basis. Commissioner Waters said he likes that solution. Commissioner Waters withdrew his motion. Commissioner Mortimer amended her motion to have Mr. Anaheim and Mr. Thompson work together to perform the duties of the city manager on an interim basis. It was seconded by Commissioner Waters. The motion passed 3-2. Mayor Smith and Commissioner Chastain opposed the motion.

Mayor Smith called for the biosolid contract. Attorney Martin read Resolution Number 2021-64 by title. Mr. Holman suggested putting a limit of \$80,000 on the contract. Mayor Smith entertained a motion to approve the contract with an \$80,000 limit. Commissioner Chastain made a motion. It was seconded by Commissioner Nugent. The motion passed 5-0.

Clerk Thompson addressed the closure of West Call Street on August 14, 2021 from 7:30 to 9:30 pm for football pictures. He said he has talked to Police Major Barry Warren and he is ok with it. Commissioner Nugent made a motion to approve the closure. It was seconded by Commissioner Mortimer. The motion passed 5-0.

Mr. Holman addressed the draft budget He said it focuses on capital projects. Mr. Holman said revenues have increased and a \$1 per hour increase for employees has been added. Chief Johnson reviewed the police department budget. Chief Wise reviewed the fire department budget. Mr. Anaheim reviewed the operations budget.

Mayor Smith entertained a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Waters made a motion to adjourn. There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7:37 pm.