

Commission Meeting Minutes
April 19, 2022
5:30 pm

Mayor Janice D. Mortimer 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 Waters will lead us in prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Mortimer called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm.

This meeting was the second regular meeting of the month. Members attending included Mayor Janice D. Mortimer, Commissioner Danny Nugent, Commissioner Scott Roberts, Commissioner Shannon Smith and Commissioner Wilbur Waters. Also present were City Clerk Jimmy Crosby, Deputy Clerk Lisa Heeder, Police Chief Jeff Johnson, City Attorney Clay Martin and City Manager Drew Mullins.

Mayor Mortimer asked for agenda changes. Clerk Crosby asked to move item 9.A. to after the consent agenda. Mr. Mullins asked to add a citizen request from Sheila Cummings for a National Day of Prayer as item 10.B. Mayor Mortimer entertained a motion to approve agenda with the requested changes. Commissioner Smith made a motion. It was seconded by Commissioner Waters. The motion passed 5-0.

Mayor Mortimer entertained a motion to approve the consent agenda. The consent agenda consisted of the minutes of the April 5, 2022 Commission Meeting, the Bradford Cowboys Athletic Association 5K Run square use and road closure, Resolution Number 2022-25 reassignment of the meter readers, Resolution Number 2022-26 addendum to James Moore & Company contract, Resolution Number 2022-27 release of lien 1315 West Madison Street and the commissioner bill review. Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve the consent agenda. It was seconded by Commissioner Nugent. The motion passed 5-0.

Clerk Crosby addressed the engagement letter for the retiree health plan by GRS. He said the State requires the Actuarial Study and he recommends that the commission approve it. Mayor Mortimer entertained a motion to approve the study. Commissioner Nugent made a motion. It was seconded by Commissioner Roberts. The motion passed 5-0.

Mayor Mortimer asked for emergency items. There were none.

Mayor Mortimer 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 public participation.

Mayor Mortimer called for old business. There was none.

Mayor Mortimer called for public hearings. There were none.

Mayor Mortimer asked if the City Clerk had anything else to report. Clerk Crosby had nothing further.

Mayor Mortimer asked for the city manager report. Mr. Mullins addressed the Weldon Crossing Developer Agreement. He said this is the second agreement with Welford Place being the subsidized housing and Weldon Crossing being multi-family. Mayor Mortimer entertained a motion to approve the agreement. Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve the agreement. It was seconded by Commissioner Nugent. Commissioner Smith asked what the time frame is to finish the apartments. Mr. Mullins said they are waiting on cabinets. Mayor Mortimer asked when the \$60,000 will be paid. Mr. Mullins said it is a split payment with the remainder due upon the certificate of occupancy. The motion passed 5-0.

Mr. Mullins said the Board of Adjustment met on the Winn Dixie package store and the motion was denied 2-1. Mayor Mortimer asked what the next step is. Attorney Martin said nothing on our part but they could appeal. Commissioner Roberts asked if Winn Dixie was represented by counsel. Mr. Mullins said yes.

Mr. Mullins addressed the request from Sheila Cummings for a National Day of Prayer on May 5, 2022 from 6:30 to 8:00 pm. Mayor Mortimer asked who is sponsoring the event. Mr. Mullins said the Church of God by Faith. Mayor Mortimer entertained a motion to approve the request. Commissioner Smith made a motion upon receipt of proof of insurance. It was seconded by Commissioner Waters. The motion passed 5-0.

Mr. Mullins said one of his big focuses is on community involvement and one idea is a city sponsored fireworks show on the football field. He said Superintendent of Schools Will Hartley is on board. Mr. Mullins asked about an amount to be spent on the fireworks. Mayor Mortimer said this should have been added to the agenda. Commissioner Nugent suggested having the fireworks show at the pavilion as a military day and asking the Downtown Merchants and Bradford County to contribute. Mayor Mortimer asked what the cost would be. Mr. Mullins said between \$7,000 and \$10,000. Mayor Mortimer entertained a motion and asked when the event would be. Mr. Mullins said July 3, 2022. Commissioner Waters made a motion to set a limit of \$10,000. It was seconded by Commissioner Roberts. The motion passed 5-0.

Mayor Mortimer asked for the police chief report. Chief Johnson said there are multiple ordinances in place with no way to enforce them. He mentioned leash law, side by side, parking and noise ordinances. He said he has received multiple complaints about loud music. Attorney Martin said side by sides are not permitted by state statute. Commissioner Smith asked Mr.

Mullins to get with Chief Johnson and work out the details. Mayor Mortimer asked a gentleman from the audience if he would like to speak. He came forward and introduced himself as Oliver Crum Junior. He said he does not want any trouble he just likes to drive around and listen to music. Mr. Crum said Chief Johnson recorded him today. Mayor Mortimer said she has been at Reverend Green's house and she can hear Mr. Crum's music as he is driving down the road. She said Mr. Crum has a right to listen to his music but people who don't want to hear it have a right too. She asked him to be respectful of those outside of his vehicle. Commissioner Nugent suggested Mr. Crum soundproof his car. Mayor Mortimer suggested Mr. Crum sit down with Chief Johnson and discuss the issue. She thanked Mr. Crum for attending the meeting and invited him to come back.

Mayor Mortimer asked for the attorney report. Attorney Martin said the redistricting documents have been drafted and are being signed by the attorneys for the plaintiffs. He plans to have them at the Federal Courthouse in Jacksonville by Thursday. Mayor Mortimer thanked Attorney Martin, Clerk Crosby, Mr. Mullins and everyone for handling this and asked Attorney Martin to prepare a contract with the Bradford County Supervisor of Elections for the next meeting.

Commissioner Smith asked Mr. Mullins to have a good plan for mowing amongst the districts. Commissioner Smith asked if there is going to be a meeting with DOT for landscaping the overpass. Mr. Mullins said it is being scheduled.

Commissioner Roberts had nothing further.

Commissioner Waters asked about no trespassing signs on Alligator Creek due to kids causing problems. Commissioner Nugent said there are signs at Colley Road and Southgate Drive that need to be replaced.

Commissioner Nugent said the Northeast Florida League of Cities dinner is in Keystone Heights this month.

Mayor Mortimer said there is a picture of her and Mr. Mullins in the Quality Cities magazine.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 6:17 pm.