

Special Commission Meeting Minutes
August 22, 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 Smith will lead us in prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Members attending included Mayor Janice D. Mortimer, Commissioner Scott Roberts, Commissioner Shannon Smith and Commissioner Wilbur Waters. Also present were City Clerk Jimmy Crosby, Deputy Clerk Lisa Heeder, Community Services Director Brandon Ludwig, Attorney Clay Martin and City Manager Drew Mullins. Commissioner Danny Nugent was absent.

Mayor Mortimer asked if there were any agenda changes. Mr. Mullins asked to add the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity rejection letter for the RJE Center. Mayor Mortimer entertained a motion to approve the agenda with the changes. Commissioner Waters made a motion. It was seconded by Commissioner Smith. The motion passed 4-0.

Mayor Mortimer called for public hearings. Attorney Martin read the title of Ordinance 2022-10 providing for dates on which elected officials shall assume office. Mayor Mortimer asked for the wishes of the board. Commissioner Roberts asked for a point of clarity because the elected officials have always been brought in in October. Attorney Martin said the General Election has been in August with a run-off election two weeks later. He said there is nothing in the Charter or Code of Ordinances that says when an elected official takes office. Mayor Mortimer asked if the Charter needs to say when someone takes the seat. Attorney Martin said it could be challenged. He said with the Bradford County Supervisor of Elections running the election a run-off would be at a much later date. Mayor Mortimer asked for the wishes of the board. There was no motion so the ordinance died.

Mr. Mullins addressed the CDBG Grant for the RJE Center. He said Grant Administrator Andy Easton seems optimistic about an appeal. Mr. Mullins asked for permission to file an appeal. Mayor Mortimer entertained a motion to proceed with the appeal. Commissioner Waters made a motion. It was seconded by Commissioner Roberts. Mayor Mortimer asked for the commissioners to be provided a copy of the rejection letter. The motion passed 4-0.

There being no further discussion the meeting was adjourned at 6:10 pm.