

Commission Meeting Minutes
December 6, 2022
5:30 pm

Mayor Scott Roberts 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 Andy Redding will lead us in prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

This meeting was the first meeting of the month. Members attending included Mayor Scott Roberts, Commissioner Danny Nugent, Commissioner Andy Redding and Commissioner Shannon Smith. Also present were City Clerk Jimmy Crosby, Deputy Clerk Lisa Heeder, Finance Director James Hughes, Attorney Clay Martin, City Manager Drew Mullins and Assistant Police Chief Barry Warren. Commissioner Janice D. Mortimer was absent.

Mayor Roberts asked if there were any agenda changes. Clerk Crosby asked to add Resolution Number 2023-15 as 9.A. Mayor Roberts entertained a motion approve the agenda with the changes. Commissioner Smith made a motion. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Redding. The motion passed 4-0.

Mayor Roberts entertained a motion to approve the consent agenda. The consent agenda consisted of the minutes of the November 15, 2022 Commission Meeting, the minutes of the November 22, 2022 Special Commission Meeting and the commissioner bill review. Commissioner Nugent said he reviewed the bills and made a motion to approve the consent agenda. It was seconded by Commissioner Smith. The motion passed 4-0.

Mayor Roberts asked for emergency items. There were none.

Vice Mayor Smith asked for old business. There was none.

Vice Mayor Smith 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 three minutes. Your participation is welcomed." Mayor Roberts asked Brian Beard to come to the podium. Mr. Beard stated his address as 1084 Market Road Silver Spring, Maryland. He said he works for the Small Business Administration who provides low interest loans to businesses for economic injury due to natural disasters. Mayor Roberts asked Mr. Beard if Mr. Mullins has his contact information. Mr. Beard said yes.

Mayor Roberts called Alvin Hunter to the podium. Mr. Hunter stated his address as 455 West Pratt Street. He said he would like to form a Veteran's Advisory Council. Mr. Hunter expressed his concern over veteran suicide. He asked the commission for support of forming a Veteran's Advisory Council.

Mayor Roberts asked John Frasier to come to the podium. Mr. Frasier stated his address as 828 Crosby Street. He said he has complained about limbs around his power lines for years and Cathy Bradley got it done in two days. He said he asked for a load of dirt but they gave him a pile of mud and didn't spread it out. Mr. Mullins said they can't spread dirt on private property.

Mayor Roberts called for public hearings. There were none.

Mayor Roberts asked for the City Clerk report. Clerk Crosby said Resolution Number 2023-15 will put in motion the interim financing. Attorney Martin read the resolution by title. Clerk Crosby said the interest rate will be 3.95%. Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve Resolution Number 2023-15. It was seconded by Commissioner Nugent. The motion passed 4-0.

Clerk Crosby addressed Resolution Number 2023-14 the contract with BBG Contracting Group. Attorney Martin said the appropriate motion would be to approve Resolution Number 2023-14 to approve the contract with BBG Contracting Group which is piggybacking on a contract with Florida State College of Florida and also authorizing the Mayor to negotiate with BBG Contracting Group to reroof the police department and sign the contract if it does not exceed \$200,000. Commissioner Smith made a motion. It was seconded by Commissioner Nugent. Commissioner Redding expressed concern about possible change orders. Mr. Warren said there is \$207,500 in grant money. He is thankful Paul Stresing found the state bid. The motion passed 4-0.

Mayor Roberts asked for the City Manager report. Mr. Mullins addressed Resolution 2023-13 the agreement with PWC Joint Venture for the construction of the wastewater treatment facility. Attorney Martin read the resolution by title. Mayor Roberts entertained a motion to approve Resolution Number 2023-13. Commissioner Smith made a motion. It was seconded by Commissioner Nugent. Commissioner Smith asked when the construction will begin. Mr. Mullins said spring of 2023. Commissioner Smith asked how long the construction will take. Mr. Mullins said about 20 months. The motion passed 4-0.

Mr. Mullins addressed switching the office phone system to Verizon. He said the monthly bill will be reduced from around \$2,500 to \$975. Commissioner Smith suggested looking at changing the security system as well. Mr. Mullins said he will bring back a contract at the next meeting.

Mayor Roberts asked for the Police Chief report. Assistant Police Chief Warren said the Christmas Parade is this weekend. He said there will be partial road closures on Call Street

Friday and Saturday. Mr. Mullins said News4Jax named the City of Starke as having one of the best light displays.

Mayor Roberts asked for the City Attorney report. Attorney Martin reminded the commissioners of the Ethics Training on December 14, 2022 from 4:00 to 8:00 pm at Folds & Walker.

Commissioner Nugent said the Northeast Florida League of Cities dinner is in Lake Butler this month. Clerk Crosby said the deadline to RSVP is Thursday.

Commissioner Redding had nothing further.

Commissioner Smith had nothing further.

Mayor Roberts said the Bradford Legislative Delegation Hearing with Senator Jennifer Bradley is coming up and the water plant at the north end of town needs to be brought back up. Mayor Roberts congratulated Commissioner Nugent for retiring from the military after 30 years and thanked him for his service.

There being no further discussion the meeting was adjourned at 6:07 pm.