

Commission Meeting Minutes
October 3, 2023
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 and the Pledge of Allegiance. Those willing to do so are asked to stand and Commissioner Redding will lead us in prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Roberts called the meeting to order at 5:31 pm.

This meeting was the first regular meeting of the month. Members attending included Mayor Scott Roberts, Commissioner Janice D. Mortimer, Commissioner Danny Nugent, Commissioner Andy Redding and Commissioner Shannon Smith. Also present were Executive Assistant Cathy Bradley, City Clerk Jimmy Crosby, Deputy Clerk Lisa Heeder, City Attorney Clay Martin, City Manager Drew Mullins and Police Major John Riles.

Mayor Roberts called for the election of the mayor. He entertained a motion. Commissioner Redding made a motion that Mayor Scott Roberts be the mayor for fiscal year 2023-2024. It was seconded by Commissioner Mortimer. The motion passed 5-0.

Mayor Roberts entertained a motion for the vice mayor. Commissioner Mortimer made a motion that Commissioner Redding be the vice mayor for the fiscal year 2023-2024. It was seconded by Commissioner Smith. The motion passed 5-0.

Mayor Roberts asked if there were any additions or deletions to the agenda. There were none. Mayor Roberts entertained a motion to approve the agenda. Commissioner Mortimer made a motion to approve the agenda. It was seconded by Commissioner Smith. The motion passed 5-0.

Mayor Roberts entertained a motion to approve the consent agenda. The consent agenda consisted of the minutes of the September 19, 2023 Commission Meeting, Resolution Number 2023-A a joint resolution of the Bradford County Commission declaring a portion of State Road 230 "Dr. Peter J. Ganas Memorial Highway", Resolution Number 2023-62 agreement with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection for administration of state grant funds, Christmas on Call Street road closures December 8 and 9, 2023 and the parade route December 9, 2023, the Great Pumpkin Escape road closure October 28, 2023 and the commissioner bill review. Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve the consent agenda. It was seconded by Commissioner Redding. The motion passed 5-0.

Mayor Roberts asked for emergency items. There were none.

Mayor Roberts asked for old business. There was none.

Mayor Roberts 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.” Ken Carman came forward and stated his address as 420 West River Road in Palatka but he is looking to relocate to Starke. He requested permission to send an email about starting a program on how to reduce water use and waste going into landfills. Mayor Roberts thanked Mr. Carman.

Mayor Roberts called for public hearings. Attorney Martin read the title of Ordinance Number 2023-16 relating to the sale and exchange of city property. Commissioner Nugent said he likes the policy as long as they can work it accordingly. Commissioner Mortimer asked about the requirement for a super majority vote. She asked if it is statutorily required. Attorney Martin said it is not statutorily required. Commissioner Mortimer said she would like it changed. Commissioner Nugent agreed. Commissioner Redding asked about the fair market value. He said property values have increased significantly over the last several years due to inflation. Commissioner Redding would like to increase the \$100,000 threshold. Mayor Roberts asked if they could still have the first reading with the requested changes. Attorney Martin said yes. Mayor Roberts entertained a motion. Commissioner Redding made a motion to move forward without the super majority vote and raising the threshold from \$100,000 to \$500,000. It was seconded by Commissioner Smith. The motion passed 5-0

Mayor Roberts called for the clerk’s report. Clerk Crosby had nothing further.

Mayor Roberts called for the city manager’s report. Mr. Mullins had nothing further.

Mayor Roberts called for the police chief report. Major Riles had nothing further.

Mayor Roberts called for the attorney’s report. Attorney Martin had nothing further.

Commissioner Nugent had nothing further.

Commissioner Mortimer had nothing further.

Commissioner Redding had nothing further.

Commissioner Smith said today we got an email about downtown trash pickup. He asked about having a central location and using inmate crews to pick it up. Mr. Mullins said they need to pull their trash cans up to Call Street. Mr. Crosby asked if this is temporary. Mr. Mullins said it is while the construction is going on. He said he can’t count on the inmate crews to be available. Commissioner Mortimer asked about the email. Mr. Mullins said it came from Pam Whittle and was sent to himself, Clerk Crosby, Mayor Roberts and Vice Mayor Smith.

Commissioner Nugent said the League of Cities is going to be in St. Augustine at the Embassy Suites on October 19, 2023.

Mayor Roberts thanked the commission for allowing him to serve as mayor again.

There being no further business Mayor Roberts entertained a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Mortimer made a motion to adjourn. It was seconded by Commissioner Smith. The meeting was adjourned at 5:58 pm.