

Commission Meeting Minutes
October 1, 2024
5:30 pm

Mayor Roberts said before we begin the official meeting of the City of 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 I will lead us in prayer followed by the Pledge.

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

Mayor Roberts presented Shannon Smith with a plaque for 6 years of dedicated service as a commissioner.

Judge Tatum Davis swore in Commissioner Bob Milner.

Members in attendance included Mayor Scott Roberts, Commissioner Bob Milner, Commissioner Janice D. Mortimer, Commissioner Danny Nugent and Commissioner Andy Redding. Also in attendance were Executive Assistant Cathy Bradley, Chief Administrative Officer Jimmy Crosby, Deputy Clerk Lisa Heeder, Captain Kevin Mueller, General Manager Drew Mullins, Building & Zoning Official Kevin Powell and Attorney Scott Walker.

Mayor Roberts entertained a motion for a nomination for the election of the mayor. Commissioner Mortimer made a motion to elect Vice Mayor Andy Redding as mayor for the upcoming year. It was seconded by Commissioner Nugent. The motion passed 5-0.

Mayor Redding entertained a motion for nominations for vice mayor. Commissioner Roberts made a motion to nominate Commissioner Mortimer for Vice Mayor. It was seconded by Commissioner Milner. The motion passed 5-0.

Mayor Redding asked if there were any additions or deletions to the agenda. Attorney Walker asked to add Ordinance Number 2024-23 as a quasi-judicial hearing. Mr. Mullins asked to add Resolution Number 2024-55 under number 13. Mayor Redding entertained a motion to approve the agenda with the changes. Commissioner Roberts made a motion to approve the agenda. It was seconded by Commissioner Mortimer. The motion passed 5-0.

Mayor Redding called for the consent agenda. The consent agenda consisted of the Minutes of the September 17, 2024 Final Budget Hearing, the Minutes of the September 17, 2024 Commission Meeting, Resolution Number 2024-54 approving the 2020 Federal Highway Administration Adjusted Urban Area Boundary and the commissioner bill review. Mayor Redding entertained a motion to approve the consent agenda. Commissioner Milner made a motion. It was seconded by Commissioner Mortimer. The motion passed 5-0.

There was no old business.

There were no emergency items.

Mayor Redding said the City 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 welcome. There was no citizen participation.

Mayor Redding called for quasi-judicial hearings. Attorney Walker said the first step is have anyone who will testify about this matter raise their right hand and be sworn. Kevin Powell, Dwight Hewett and Chris Raley took the oath to tell the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth. Attorney Walker said the next item is to ask the commissioners if they have had any ex parte communications and whether that would influence your decision. Commissioner Nugent said no. Commissioner Milner said I have not. Commissioner Mortimer said no sir none. Commissioner Roberts said none. Mayor Redding said no sir. Attorney Walker read the ordinance by title only. This is Ordinance Number 2024-23, an ordinance of the City of Starke Florida, amending the Zoning Map of the City of Starke Land Development Code, as amended; relating to the rezoning of less than ten contiguous acres of land and pursuant to an application, Z 24-01, by the property owners of said acreage; providing for rezoning from multi-family, residential district (R-2B) and single-family, medium density district (R-1C) to planned unit development district (PUD) in accordance with a preliminary development plan dated July 19, 2024, revised on August 15, 2024, and revised on September 20, 2024, of certain lands within the corporate limits of the City of Starke, Florida; repealing all ordinances in conflict; providing for severability; and providing for an effective date. The appropriate motion is to continue or deny Ordinance 2024-23 as read by title only. Mr. Powell said we are bringing forward a proposal to change the zoning from R-1C and R-2B to a PUD. The applicant is here so he can answer any questions. The Planning & Zoning Board voted last night 3-0 in favor of this. Commissioner Mortimer asked what the changes entailed. Mr. Powell said it is zoned R-2B and R-1C but we are trying to get it zoned PUD so they can start to develop the property. Mayor Redding entertained a motion to pass the ordinance. Commissioner Roberts made a motion to approve Ordinance 2024-23. It was seconded by Commissioner Mortimer. Mayor Redding asked if there was any public comment. There was none. The motion passed 5-0.

Mayor Redding called for the general manager's report. Mr. Mullins said Resolution Number 2024-55 is not on the agenda because we got it late. The current plan calls for a dewatering box. It is more efficient to have a screw press. Justin deMello with Woodard & Curran gave a presentation on dewatering boxes and screw presses. Attorney Walker read the resolution by title. Resolution Number 2024-55 a resolution of the City of Starke, Florida approving that certain amendment number 5 to the agreement between Woodard and Curran, Inc. for engineering services; making certain findings of fact in

support of the city approving said amendment; recognizing the authority of the mayor to execute and bind the city to said amendment; recognizing the authority of the vice-mayor to execute and bind the city to said amendment in the absence of the mayor; directing the mayor or vice-mayor, as appropriate, to execute and bind the city to said amendment; repealing all prior resolutions in conflict; and providing an effective date. The appropriate motion would be to pass Resolution Number 2024-55 as read by title only. Mayor Redding entertained a motion to pass Resolution Number 2024-55. Commissioner Nugent made a motion. It was seconded by Commissioner Milner. The motion passed 5-0.

Mayor Redding called for the chief administrative officer report. Mr. Crosby asked to swap A and B. Chrissy Allen Thompson with the Downtown Merchants and Pam Whittle with the Chamber of Commerce came forward. Mrs. Thompson said the Christmas tree can't be at the square because of construction. She said they could have it at city hall or the gazebo at Santa Fe. Santa Claus will be at the chamber after the parade which is on the second Saturday of December and breakfast with Santa will be Sunday. We will not be throwing candy but will have candy stations. Mrs. Whittle said over the years we have had quite a few close calls. Mrs. Thompson said Shop Small Saturday will be November 30th.

Mr. Crosby asked for the audit presentation. Caleb Perla with Powell & Jones CPA went over the audit report. The report was very favorable with only 1 finding and 1 recommendation.

Mayor Redding called for the attorney report. Attorney Walker had nothing further.

Mayor Redding called for the law enforcement report. Captain Mueller expressed appreciation for the commissioners. The sheriff's office is sending 10 people to help with disaster relief in Perry. The problem with semis parking on State Road 16 has been fixed. Commissioner Milner said he is proud he hired Captain Mueller. Commissioner Mortimer said you are doing a fantastic job. Thank you. Commissioner Roberts said thank you and keep doing what you are doing.

Mayor Redding called for the commissioner's reports.

Commissioner Nugent said the Northeast Florida League of Cities Dinner is October 17th at the Embassy Suites in St. Augustine and the cost is \$35.

Commissioner Milner said it is a pleasure to be back on the board.

Commissioner Mortimer welcomed Sheriff Bob. Thank you, Mayor Roberts for your leadership over the last 2 years. General Pension Board Trustees attended training in Orlando.

Commissioner Roberts said we have a great team and we work well together and Mayor Redding will do a fantastic job.

Mayor Redding said we have great team.

Mayor Redding entertained a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Mortimer made a motion to adjourn. It was seconded by Commissioner Roberts. The meeting was adjourned at 7 :05 pm.