

Commission Meeting Minutes
December 17, 2024
5:30 pm

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

Members in attendance included Mayor Andy Redding, Commissioner Bob Milner, Commissioner Danny Nugent and Commissioner Scott Roberts. Also in attendance were Attorney Danielle Adams, Executive Assistant Cathy Bradley, Chief Administrative Officer Jimmy Crosby, Deputy Clerk Lisa Heeder, Code Enforcement Officer Nick Krah, Captain Kevin Mueller and General Manager Drew Mullins. Commissioner Janice D. Mortimer was absent.

Mayor Redding asked if there were any agenda changes, additions or deletions. There being none, Mayor Redding entertained a motion to approve the agenda. Commissioner Milner made a motion to approve the agenda. It was seconded by Commissioner Roberts. The motion passed 4-0.

Mayor Redding called for the consent agenda. The consent agenda consisted of the Minutes of the December 3, 2024 Commission Meeting, the American Recovery Act, Resolution Number 2025-08 authorizing the conveyance of certain real property commonly known as Veterans Park to Kingsley Development and the commissioner bill review. Mayor Redding entertained a motion to approve the consent agenda. Commissioner Nugent made a motion. It was seconded by Commissioner Roberts. The motion passed 4-0.

Mayor Redding said Governor DeSantis added two holidays the 23rd and the 31st. Mayor Redding recommended adding the 23rd. Commissioner Milner made a motion. It was seconded by Commissioner Nugent. The motion passed 4-0.

There was no old business.

There were no emergency items.

There were no citizens requests.

Mayor Redding called for the Infrastructure Consulting & Engineering Impact Fee Study. Jerry Dabkowski came forward and said the impact fee is a one-time capital charge levied against a new development. An impact fee is designed to cover the portion of capital costs of infrastructure capacity consumed by this new development. Mayor Redding entertained a motion to have legal counsel, staff and the contractor work together to get up to date information. Commissioner Milner made a motion. It was seconded by Commissioner Roberts. The motion passed 4-0.

Mayor Redding called for Ordinance Number 2025-01. Attorney Adams read the ordinance by title. An ordinance of the City of Starke, Florida, amending the Starke

Firefighters' Retirement System, Chapter 78, Article IV, Division 3, as amended, by amending Section 78-171 "definitions" by adding a definition of "cancer"; by amending Section 78-182, "eligibility for disability retirement" by adding that cancer is presumed to have occurred in the line of duty; and by amending Section 78-185, "benefits payable to beneficiary upon member's death" by providing that death from cancer has occurred in the line of duty; providing for codification, severability, and conflicts; providing an effective date. Mayor Redding entertained a motion. Commissioner Nugent made a motion. It was seconded by Commissioner Milner. The motion passed 4-0.

Mayor Redding called for Ordinance Number 2025-02. Attorney Adams read the ordinance by title. An ordinance of the City of Starke, Florida calling for a referendum question to be placed before the qualified electors of the City of Starke at the next special election which is scheduled for April 8, 2025; providing charter referendum question determining whether to adopt the proposed amendments to the charter for the City of Starke; providing for the full text of the proposed amended charter for the City of Starke; providing for requisite ballot language; providing for repeal of all conflicting ordinances; providing for severability and providing an effective date. Mr. Crosby said the language that will be on the ballot will be shall the city charter be amended to remove any reference to the city clerk and respective role and powers and allow the city commission to appoint a chief administrative officer to perform any duties of the former city clerk position. Commissioner Milner made a motion to pass Ordinance Number 2025-02 as read by title only. It was seconded by Commissioner Roberts. The motion passed 3-1. Commissioner Nugent opposed the motion.

There were no quasi-judicial hearings.

Mayor Redding called for the general manager's report. Mr. Mullins said FMPA will have their Strategic Planning Session on February 12th to set new goals moving forward. The SCADA system is being installed at the substation. Starke is the oldest electrical provider in the state starting in 1890. We are getting a grant for AMI for real time readings.

Mayor Redding called for the chief administrative officer's report. Mr. Crosby asked where is the commission at on the \$10,000 to be a member of the Northeast Florida Economic Development Corporation. Mayor Redding entertained a motion to make the donation to the Northeast Florida Economic Development Corporation. Commissioner Milner made a motion to make the investment of \$10,000 to the Northeast Florida Economic Development Corporation. It was seconded by Commissioner Roberts. The motion passed 3-1. Commissioner Nugent opposed the motion. Mr. Crosby said the city Christmas party is Thursday at 11:30 am. Mr. Crosby said there have been 72 code enforcement cases. He showed a PowerPoint presentation of the code enforcement cases with before and after pictures and properties that are proposed to be foreclosed on.

Mayor Redding called for the city attorney report. Attorney Adams asked for permission to engage in lawsuits on the properties. There will be additional attorney's fees of \$5,000

apiece. None of the properties are homesteaded. Mayor Redding entertained a motion to move forward with foreclosure on the properties. Commissioner Milner made a motion . It was seconded by Commissioner Roberts. The motion passed 4-0.

Attorney Adams said Mr. Crosby's contract calls for an annual evaluation. She asked that they be returned to her office, preferably before Christmas.

Mayor Redding said he had some property stolen and it was returned to him by the Bradford County Sheriff's Office.

Mayor Redding entertained a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Milner made a motion. It was seconded by Commissioner Roberts. The meeting was adjourned at 6:29 pm.