

TOWN OF REDDICK COUNCIL MEETING  
MINUTES  
September 3, 2020

Reddick Town Council met in regular session on Thursday, September 3, 2020, at the Community Building.

PRESENT:

James R. Stroup, Mayor  
Marjorie Stroup, Clerk  
Steven Rogers, Council Pres.

COUNCILMEN

Thomas Joyner  
Martha Cromwell  
William Willis

ABSENT:

Michael Salter

GUESTS

Pam Gerard          Dick Gerard          Margarita Sullivan          Felicito A. Torres          Lucy Ward

Meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by Council President Rogers, with Mayor Stroup giving an invocation, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**MINUTES AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT**

- Minutes of the August 6, 2020, meeting were reviewed and motion was made by Councilman Joyner to approve minutes with no corrections. Councilman Cromwell seconded motion and motion carried.
- Financial statement for the month of August was reviewed. All bills for the month have been paid and income exceed expenses for the month by \$3911.96, and also for the year by \$23940. Councilman Joyner made motion to approve report as presented; Councilman Willis seconded motion. Motion carried, pending audit.
- Investments show that value is up 3.95% year to day even though markets are weak. Projected income for the 12-month period off interest for the year is \$49,305.00

**SHERIFF'S DEPT:**

No one from the Sheriff's Dept was present to give a report . Mayor Stroup gave a report sent by email for the northwest district. Report showed activity for the entire northwest district, but the information reflecting the activity for Reddick proper, it is difficult for us to make any decisions. Report did show that 12 deputies were on duty which equates to 2.5 deputies per shift. We are again requesting that statistics and data be provided to us for activity within the town limits of Reddick. We also would like an explanation as to why we do not receive follow up call from dispatched calls even when it has been requested at the time a 911 call is made.

**CODE ENFORCEMENT:**

As of now, our interlocal agreement has not been as effective as hoped.

**ROAD WORK:**

Gordon Fisher has permission to deliver to our requested site. A call was placed giving him the address on his voice mail as he was not in the office. We have heard nothing more. We have had a number of trees that have come down all over the town and we are utilizing an agreement with Donnie Cassidy because he can respond quickly.

**STREET LIGHTS:**

All street lights seem to be working.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**COVID 19 UPDATE:** Mayor Stroup and Council President Rogers met with Mark Landers with Marion County Health Dept. about getting a Covid testing location for the northwest part of the county. The Health Dept. is looking at 9/5 and 9/12. Although Mr. Landers was enthusiastic about providing this service, we have heard nothing further about projected dates. We will require time line to let people know, churches, and schools know. We will

continue to pursue it and try to make it happen. It would be on a first-come, first-served basis starting at 8:00 am. For now, it has been put on hold. We have requested enough notice to advertise the date and location and are shooting for 250 testing kits.

**BUDGET FOR 2020-2021:** The second reading of the 2020-2021 budget was read for approval. The budget will go into effect on October 1, 2020. Revenue projections are down due to Covid 19 and Expense has been trimmed as closely as possible. Total budget is for \$210,675, of which there is a revenue shortfall of \$8,336.00. To balance budget, we will need to transfer from Transportation Restricted Funds when necessary. Income projected from Raymond James for 2020 was \$66,000, but presently is only \$49,500. The Discretionary 1 cent tax is on the ballot for renewal. If this does not pass, we will need to rework the budget and discontinue some services currently being provided as the tax accounts for a large portion of our budget revenue. A motion for acceptance of the budget as presented was made by Councilman Willis and was seconded by Councilman Joyner. Motion carried that we accept the 2020-2021 Budget.

We have learned that Advanced Disposal is being sold to Waste Management who will not service small communities. This could mean a change in trash pick up costs. We have currently budgeted \$31,500.00. City of McIntosh contacted Florida Express out of Belleview who quoted \$18.00 per resident (we are currently paying \$11.96 per resident). They then came back and quoted McIntosh \$24.00 per household, which would be \$60,480 per year. We have only budgeted \$31,500.00. We may have to adjust the budget and reconsider waste pickup. A 60-day notice is required for cancellation of our current contract. We are currently having conversations with McIntosh who has 230 residents and hopefully, we can negotiate pricing. We may have to work out some shared costs with residents which would be mandatory. It is getting more and more difficult to maintain a tax free base. This can impact the 2021 budget.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

- **Procurement Policy:** The policy simply states that small purchases and supplies (those under \$10,000) can be without bids, but bigger items will require competitive bids following state guidelines. 100% of procurement must be approved and audited by the Town Council. Councilman Joyner made a motion to accept and Councilman Willis seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- **Thanks to Tony Ward:** A thank you was made on behalf of the Council by Council President and Mayor to Tony Ward for mowing the park.
- **Mandatory Ethics Training:** Florida League of Cities is streaming a virtual training on October 14th. Councilman need to register on line to attend to mandatory training covering public records, Sunshine Law, ethics, etc.
- **Margarita Sullivan and Felicito Torres:** Ms. Sullivan resides at 15331 NW Gainesville Rd. and has a property on NW 41st. Recently, a tree fell across the road from this property and the Town had Donnie Cassidy clear the right-of-way. He also removed the tree from her fence so that she could access it for repairs. She states that someone came on her property and cut the tree and cut her fence. She further stated that she heard that Madolyn Martin cut the fence and stated she was going to build a daycare and use the area as a parking lot. Council President Rogers replied that the Town had cleared the right-of-way and that is where our responsibility ends. That this was civil matter between Ms. Sullivan and the other person. This was trespassing and we agree that it is wrong, but this is a matter that the Sheriff's Dept. should handle.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:17 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved:

Marjorie Stroup, Town Clerk

James R. Stroup