

TOWN OF REDDICK COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES
March 4, 2021

Reddick Town Council met in regular session on Thursday, March 4, 2021, at the Community Building.

PRESENT:

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

COUNCILMEN

Thomas Joyner
Martha Cromwell
William Willis
Myra Sherman

GUESTS

Frederick Franks	Pam Gerard	Richard Gerard	Lt. Joyner -MCSO
Tony Ward	Joe Perry	Jan Stratton	George Stratton
Shirley Youmans	Nadine Stokes	Dep. Knipe-MSCO	Carl Shermane

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 Feb 4, 2021, 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 February was reviewed. All bills for the month have been paid and income exceeded expense for the month by \$2626.66. For the year income exceeds expense. Raymond James Statement for Feb. has not been received. Projections remain at \$47,000 interest for the year on investments. Councilman Cromwell made motion to approve report as presented; Councilman Sherman seconded motion. Motion carried, pending audit.

SHERIFF'S DEPT:

Lt. Joyner introduced Dep. Knipe as a patrolman for this area. Lt Joyner reported that there were 21 calls in Reddick proper for the month of February consisting of seven traffic stops, one alarm call, one well-being check, one disturbance, three 911 hang-ups, and two suspicious activity. Six reports were written ranging from aggravated assault to trespassing.

Lt. Joyner about LP Readers to be installed at the intersection of CR316 and CR25A. These readers would be used to read tags for assistance in a criminal and investigative process. They could be used in locating stolen vehicles and help in investigating robberies by targeting vehicles by color, time, and place. He wanted to know if there would be any interest by the Town in stalling them at this intersection. They would require an electrical power source. Council President Rogers responded that both roads at that intersection were county roads and probably would need county approval. He continued that there was power already available at the Windstream utility box located at the intersection. The Town was interested but could not approve without County and Windstream approval. The Town would be agreeable once approvals were secured. The flashing lights on the stop signs at that intersection are solar powered because the cost for power was prohibitive. Lt. Joyner will bring more specifics to next meeting.

Council President asked about traffic in town of major high-speed racing of motorcycles on NW 155th and County 25A. One motorcycle is a high-speed, green bike racing along 25A about 3:00PM in the afternoon and on Friday's through the weekends. Also, other motorcycles, dirt bikes, and 4-wheelers. Lt. responded that he would have patrols here on weekends during the afternoon to assist. Council added that about 85% of vehicles coming through town are speeding after the speed change sign. Lt. Joyner stated that right now there is a training taking place and it has caused them to be short-handed. He will try to increase presence during those hours.

No word was given on progress of trespass order at gatherings on NW 157th.

CODE ENFORCEMENT:

Concerning the junk vehicles on NW 46th and the right-of-way, Mayor Stroup has talked with the owner and he is currently moving vehicles and cleaning the area.

The Town of Reddick currently has inter-local agreements with Marion County Sheriff's Dept and with Marion County Code Enforcement. We are meeting with the Sheriff to discuss the Inter-local agreement and make them aware of enforcing our ordinances. Code Enforcement has the same issue of getting enforcement.

Council will be reviewing a proposed ordinance and at the next meeting we will beginning work on getting it in place. Council needs to bring questions and additions to Mrs. Stroup's attention. A new draft will be made, published in the newspaper and on the website. Then put before the public for input from citizens and have a first reading. The Sheriff's office should have copies of town ordinances. All activity will be addressed by Council first, then Sheriff will step in if not acted on. Anyone with special circumstances can come before Council.

Property on 25A owned by Mr. Kipfer is in process for active violations for Junk and Litter and zoning issues.

A mobile home was dropped off on property on County 316. It is over five years old and had no Special Use Permit. We are in conversation with Sheriff's office.

ROAD WORK:

Donnie Cassidy is currently working on assessing state of stop signs that need cleaning and/or replacing. He is also checking on street name signs throughout the town.

Council received an email from a resident living NW 39th Avenue addressing huge potholes. Road needs to be graded and holes filled in.

STREET LIGHTS:

All street lights seem to be working.

OLD BUSINESS:

- **COMMUNITY CENTER:** The Center will continue to be closed for events until further notice.

- **COVID 19 UPDATE:**

Next Monday and Tuesday, vaccine will be administered to those with appointments and over 65 at the horse park on County 484, off I-75. Contact EMS for those with transportation problems. At Reddick-Collier Elem. on March 18th, a vaccine program will be available. People are being contacted directly. It is limited but anyone who needs vaccine should contact Sheriff's Office, EMS, or Myra Sherman as soon as possible with name, date of birth, and phone number. The Marion County Fire Department will go out to homebound also on March 18th.

- **COMPREHENSIVE PLAN:**

The Comprehensive Plan for the Town of Reddick is to be updated every ten years. This year, 2021, we will be making those updates. Council President Rogers is in contact with the Univ. of Florida Urban Planning and Development Dept. to assist us in updating at a discounted price. A councilman will be appointed to head and get the report ready for year-end filing. The Comprehensive Land Use Plan supersedes all other plans. The Plan can limit growth and also plan for growth in a controlled manner. Before it is finalized, citizens can view and offer input.

- **OLD HIGH SCHOOL:**

The old high school is set for demolition. No time line has been given by School Board as yet. It is School Board property. Liability has become a big issue and no matter how they try to secure the building, kids keep getting in and they fear that someone will get hurt. When a plan is formed they will bring it to the meeting. After demolition, some groups may want to take the opportunity to apply for a grant for a recreation center but they would need to work with the School Board and the School Board would have to be involved.

- **FREDERICK FRANKS**

Mr. Frederick Franks has applied for a Special Use Permit and notice has been posted for the 10 days requirement. A fee has been paid. Mr. Franks would like to make the old nursing home on 25A in Reddick into a group home for veterans and adults. He plans on having three employees for full-time, round the clock care. Area will be fenced in and he is putting in fire sprinklers. Meals will be provided. It is the understanding of Council that this type of home requires a license and asked if he would be applying for one. Mr. Franks responded that he would need certificates but no license for veterans. He added that he ran a similar home in Orlando. The veterans he wants to assist are those with some disability (Pstd for example). He would open it up to regular adults down the road if necessary. The home would have 10 residents as they are 10 bedrooms. Mr. Franks maintains that veteran disability rules are different than state disability rules, but veterans do not have to be disabled. No calls were received by the

town concerning the posted notice. The Special Use Permit is contingent on all permitting and licensing and the Special Use Permit would stipulate that any licensing or permitting necessary must be maintained and kept current. Copies should be sent to the Town office. If there is any reason this was not done the Special Use Permit will be rescinded. Councilman Joyner made a motion that the Permit with limitations be granted. Councilman Willis seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

FARM SHARE DISTRIBUTION:

On March 19th, our Rep. Yvonne Hinson is bringing a coordinated effort from Farm Share working, with a group including the Town of Reddick, to be held at North Marion Middle School, to give away food from 10:00am until it is gone. There will be truckloads of food available. It will be a drive-thru event and items will be placed in car trunks. They are hoping for a good response and flyers are out. Distribution will be on a first-come, first-served basis. Volunteers are welcome and should report at 8:00 am. The event begins distributing at 10:00 am.

MOBILE HOME AGE:

A question was raised at the meeting as to why mobile homes must be five years old or newer. Council President responded that it is a safety issue. Many mobile homes are rented and not kept up before they are resold.

NORTHWEST 48TH:

it was reported that NW 48th has potholes and the right-of-way needs cleaning out.

OLD SHERIFF'S SUBSTATION PLOT:

Mr. Frederick Franks mentioned that he would like to present a plan for a recreation area to be put on the old Sheriff's substation lot. Council President responded that he would welcome the plan and that perhaps a larger area could be put in with grant money on the old school property when it is cleared.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:07 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved:

Marjorie Stroup, Town Clerk

James R. Stroup