

TOWN OF REDDICK COUNCIL MEETING

MINUTES

July 1, 2021

Reddick Town Council met in regular session on Thursday, July 1, 2021, at the Community Building.

PRESENT:

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

COUNCILMEN

Shirley Youmans
Martha Cromwell, Councilman Pro Tem
Nadine Stokes
Myra Sherman

GUESTS

Preston Bowlin, MCSO
Elizabeth Berry
Benita King
Claude McQuaig, MCSO
Fondale Evans
Terrence Evans
Kim Law

Cindy Rogers
Fondale V Evans
Lenard Gainey
Katrina Lamar
Shelia Morgan
Michael Mitchell
Frederick Franks

Pam Gerard
Joe Perry
Florine Williams
Alphonso Lamar
Nikita Morgan
Frederick Brown

Dick Gerard
Lee Harden, Jr
Latwanita Stafford
Brittany Lamar
Dewayne Evans
Bob Law

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 June 3, 2021, meeting were reviewed and motion was made by Councilman Cromwell to approve minutes with no corrections. Councilman Sherman seconded motion and motion carried unanimously.
- Financial statement for the month of June was reviewed. All bills for the month have been paid and income exceeded expense for the month by \$7760. For the year income exceeded expense \$72,971. Raymond James Statement for June 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:

Preston Bowlin with Emergency Management addressed the meeting. He has brought various brochures and pamphlets on hurricane information, handicap information, disaster guides, etc. and hand sanitizer to be distributed to those present. We are already watching a storm, Elsa, which we expect to be a rain event if nothing else. He advised that everyone should know their home and know your zone. Watch for storms and look at your property for trees, etc. and take measures.

Mr. Bowlin pointed out the new TV and software for the Town of Reddick that EOC is giving us to keep in contact with EOC during emergencies. His department has also given us two laptops and two printer/copiers. Council President expressed our appreciation for the gifts and it will be a much needed addition during disasters/emergencies.

Lt. Claude McQuaig introduced himself and is now our new Lt. for our district. He has been a resident of Reddick, but now lives in Ocala. He has been in law enforcement for many years and is familiar with our area. His office is on Hwy 441, near CR 326. If you have any concerns, please contact him there. For the report for June, he stated that there were 100 calls for service of which 33 were security checks, 30 reports and 46 of the 100 were acted on by deputies. 911 calls were usually hang ups or misdialed, but they check on all of them. Max staffing for the district at this time is 4 deputies. No central sometimes can also respond for help. Council President asked about the Sheriff substation in Reddick. Can it be utilized and be a show of presence in town?

A guest asked about "children at play" signs for NW 155th and NW 160th. They are concerned about racing on the road. Lt. McQuaig stated that they should call and ask to speak to a deputy and they will call you back.

CODE ENFORCEMENT:

The Interlocal Agreement with the County is still in process. Mayor Stroup spoke with the property owner on the Lily Wilson property and was told the mobile home would be gone in 30 days.

ROAD WORK:

The pothole on NW 48th has been fixed and the right-of-way area has been cleared. Street signs and pole are needed (NW 157th and NW 48th) and they should check with Councilman Youmans. The stop sign at NW 15th and Old Dixie Hwy is overgrown and needs to be cleared. The "Dead End" sign for NW 152nd St is up. County Road NW 155th needs grading and needs lime to fill pot holes.

A guest asked about getting a road added to the town. Councilman Rogers explained that we have on several occasions tried to get streets put in but if the property owners will not donate necessary land and right-of-way, it cannot be done. This would require every property owner on the proposed road to give 20 feet of their property to the town. Then town can maintain the road as they will own it. Once the property is donated, water runoff has to be mapped and culverts need to be put in. Water will run to the sinkhole otherwise. The town cannot take property from owners; they must donate it voluntarily and right-of-ways must be platted. Starting point for getting road put in would be to get people who live on proposed road to donate to the town, then we can begin. Councilman Stokes spoke to the fact that she lives on one of the proposed areas and she will say no because it is too much property to give up and then road is on her doorstep. A guest stated that he thinks the residents could go out and get beginning work done and then have them go forward from there.

STREET LIGHTS:

Street light at NW 155th and NW Gainesville Road needs repair. Pole was put up but no light was ever added.

OLD BUSINESS:

- **COMMUNITY CENTER and COVID 19 UPDATE:**

Councilman Sherman does not think it would be prudent to reopen the Community Center for events. People are not compliant to the CDC rules. Councilman Youmans agreed because there are so many that are not vaccinated and the potential for someone getting sick is too great. Also, sanitizing after an event is a problem in that we do not have the staff available. Also, the new variant to causing cases to rise again. Guest Mrs. Law stated there is a company called Purelight who treats the lights in a building to sanitize the air and it will last for five years. Mrs. Law will have someone make a presentation on Purelight at the next meeting. Councilman Sherman made a motion that the center remains closed and Councilman Stokes seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Guest Dick Gerard recommended that we run opening through the insurance carrier to be sure of liabilities.

- **COMPREHENSIVE PLAN:**

Councilman Cromwell spoke with EEO who is helping us update our plan. The only changes required to send a letter that we have no changes. Property Rights which was to be signed by the governor today it need to be added. We will be glad to pay Ms. McCue to assist us to be sure all T's are crossed and all I's are dotted and to draft the necessary letter. The new plan will be in effect for the next 10 years. Once it is passed, it is law for the next 10 years regarding growth, development, housing, etc. Councilman Stokes added we need to keep Reddick rural. Guest Frederick Franks would like to see more programs helping kids with parks, tutoring, and other programs. Council President Rogers agreed that these things are needed. We need to see a plan which includes staffing, supervising, and more information so that Councilmen can act on it. We have paid for recreation programs through the County and kids did not participate. The County discontinued accordingly. Franks stated he will bring a plan to the next meeting. "Lead by Character and Get a Vision".

- **ANIMAL CONTROL INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT UPDATE:**

Marion County is reanalyzing Ocala, Belleview, Dunnellon and Reddick and McIntosh. There will be a new list of violations and penalties for keeping pets under control.

- **FREDERICK BROWN:**

Mr. Brown has applied for a special use permit to park his trucks on his parcel on NW 41st St which is zoned R-2. He would also like to do light maintenance on his trucks only. This would be a variance from usual R-2 zoning. The notice has been posted for 10 days. The special use permit would be for parking and light maintenance only, no business or income is to be generated. Councilman Sherman made a motion that we approved the special use permit and Councilman Stokes seconded the motion.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **BACK TO SCHOOL EVENT:**

Councilman Sherman announced that the Church of God is having a "back-to-school" event for children. There will be 250 backpacks for kids on the 21st of July. Also, there will be Covid testing, gift cards, and a fish fry open to the community. Ministers are coming from south Florida to speak. She went on to say we need to work together and be knowledgeable as to what is going on in our town.

- **VENDORS LIST:**

The Town of Reddick is compiling a list of vendors available and interested in doing maintenance work on right-of-ways, roads, etc. The information has been posted on the website for the past three weeks, but so far no one has responded.

- **ORDINANCE FOR MOBILE HOME REQUIREMENTS:**

Currently, to place a mobile home on a parcel in the town limits requires a special use permit and the mobile home must be 5 yrs old or less. Guest Fondale Evans asked if the County allows older mobile homes, why does not Reddick? Why is our standard so high? Mr. Evans stated that many could not afford a mobile home five years old or less. Council President responded that the County does not inspect lighting, flooring, etc. inside for safety. Mr. Evans would like to see inspectors come in and inspect the mobile home inside and out. He thinks we should abide with County rules and county inspects outside, plumbing and electrical only. Council President asked how can council make that determination. Council members are not qualified. Mr. Evans responded that we could get inspectors to check out the mobile home. Council President stated that there must be a standard that is uniform for everyone and inspections are a problem. Mr. Evans said that the Town should get inspectors to inspect the mobile homes and the cost of the inspection should be passed on to the buyer. Mayor Stroup suggested we table the request until the next meeting so that we have time to consider the all the implications.

- **CHANGING TIME OF COUNCIL MEETING:**

Council President presented a request to change the time of the Council meeting from 7:30pm to an earlier time. Since the only Councilman with a time crunch was Councilman Sherman, he asked her to respond to the request first. Councilman Sherman stated that she works 10 to 12 hour days and it is difficult for her to make the meeting on time when it begins at 7:30pm. Council President then withdrew his request. The Council will continue to meet the first Thursday of each month at 7:30 pm.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved:

Marjorie Stroup, Town Clerk

James R. Stroup

DATE: