

TOWN OF REDDICK COUNCIL MEETING

MINUTES

June 2, 2022

Reddick Town Council met in regular session on Thursday, June 2, 2022, at 7:00 PM at the Community Building.

PRESENT:

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

COUNCILMEN

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

GUESTS

Dick Gerard	Joe Perry	Cindy Rogers	John Veter	Patti Veter
Fondale Evans	Alphonso Lamar	Lt. C. McQuaig	Dep. L. Karr	Gerry Hubbs
Sara Lambert	Jim Couillard	Shannon Kost		

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Council President Rogers, with Mayor Stroup giving an invocation, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT

- Minutes of the May 5, 2022 meeting were reviewed . A motion was made by Councilman Cromwell to approve minutes with no corrections. Councilman Stokes seconded motion and motion carried unanimously.
- Financial Statement for the month of May, 2022 was presented for review. Income exceeded expense for the month by \$10,393 and fuel taxes have not yet been received. All bills were paid. Income has exceeded expense for the year by \$34,658. A report on investments was received from Greg Stevens with Raymond-James. Councilman Cromwell made a motion that the May financial report be accepted as presented and Councilman Stokes seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously, pending audit.

MARION CO. PARKS AND RECREATION:

James Couillard and Sara Lambert from Marion Co. Parks and Recreation addressed Council and those present regarding a potential recreation area to be placed on the property once occupied by the old Reddick High School. The project is in partnership with Marion County, the Marion Co. School Bd., and the Town of Reddick. July has been designated as National Parks and Recreation Month and the County is have a "Rise Up For Community Week" during July, with July 30th designated at "Rise Up For Reddick Day". The event is to be held at the potential park site and will have bounce house, free hot dogs, popcorn, snow cones, etc. Potential sponsors are Interfaith, Heart of Florida, and the Marion County Public Library. They are looking for support from the community to get the word out. Hopefully, they will have renderings of the park available to show what park will look like. Kick off begins at 10:00 am until 2:00 pm, and the library event will begin at 2:00 pm. Areas of concern include insurance, maintenance, mowing, etc. These things will be assigned once the School Board completes its lease agreements. The letter of intent from the School Board has been received and we should get a memo from the County as to responsibilities. James Couillard will send a copy of a draft of those responsibilities. Council will be in attendance to assist on that day.

SHERIFF'S DEPT:

Lt. McQuaig gave the statistical report for May. There were 63 calls, or which 35 were self initiated, broken down as follows: 12 traffic stops, 3 alarm calls, 13 security checks, 7 disturbances and 2 suspicious activity.

Lisa Spicer at the County Office has an escrow account for citations. The Sheriff's Dept is trying to establish a neighborhood watch program and are looking for people to help run it. Lt. McQuaig then introduced Dep. Carr as one of the deputies assigned to Reddick. Mr. Veter showed Council pictures of abandoned vehicles parked illegally on the corner of NW 41st and NW 155th St. Council will take administrative action first and give owner time to remedy the violation before turning it over for enforcement.

CODE ENFORCEMENT:

A new letter has been written to Jason Kipfer and we have heard nothing from him. It has been turned over to County Code Enforcement and an administrative hearing on the property has been set for August 10th. Anyone who wants to file a concern against the property needs to file with the Town so that it can be passed on to the County. Council President played a voicemail received at 8:30pm and you could hear machinery running. The caller stated it had been running all day. The caller has contacted all agencies and has exhausted all avenues trying to get help concerning the noise, EPA, hazardous waste and junk & litter. Kipfer is aware of problems and complaints and zoning issues. Mrs. Kost asked if Sheriff's Dept and Code Enforcement were aware of activities and Lt. McQuaig responded "yes". Any additional concerns needs to be sent to the Town Clerk to be forwarded to Code Enforcement.

ROADWORK:

Councilman Youmans is working on letter for public meeting on roadways. She also mentioned potholes on CR 316 and NW 39th Avenue need to be filled. Mr. Moncado who lives on NW 39th Avenue asked for assistance. Councilman Youmans will contact Donnie Cassidy and let him know that limerock needs to be added. General maintenance can be taken care of without prior Council approval. Mr. Gerard reported that at the end of NW 152nd St, an oak tree has low limbs hanging low obstructing passage of garbage truck. Council President stated that it is time to clear the right-of-ways of low hanging limbs and mulberries. Councilman Youmans asked about speed bumps/humps being placed on NW 155th St to curb speeders. This is a County road and Town does not have jurisdiction. The County was contacted concerning grading of the roads which was last done in February. County informed us that because it is so dry the graders are parked until we get some rain. Hopefully, in a week or two.

STREET LIGHTS:

Councilman Stokes reported that she reported the three lights that were cycling on and off and they have been fixed. Mrs. Kost stated she has a light out and she will get the pole number to Councilman Stokes or the Town Clerk to be reported.

OLD BUSINESS:

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

Councilman Sherman reported that Covid cases are up 41% in Florida and rising. She recommends that the community center remains closed. The Farmlands Group would like to have a public meeting against proposed action by the County at the Community Center. After discussion, the Council decided that for public meetings or government meetings, the Center can be used but an agreement must be signed and group must wear masks and follow CDC guidelines (temp. checks, hand sanitizer, wearing masks, max. attendance 100). Councilman Sherman made a motion that we accept these restrictions and Councilman Youmans seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

- **COMPREHENSIVE PLAN:**

We should hear from the State by June 16th. All paperwork was completed and sent to essential departments. We have heard from St. Johns River Water Management and we need to add a water supply facilities work plan to our Plan. We have 18 months to complete this. Council should study draft that they received and be prepared to respond at next meeting.

- **HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS:**

The hurricane preparedness meet was cancelled by EOC and nothing new has been rescheduled. Preston Bowlin has offered to give any Councilman a tour of the facility.

- **ON-LINE MEETING ON BROADBAND STATUS:**

Councilman Cromwell attended the virtual meeting which was gathering information on broadband. They will be doing an "E" check up survey. This is to help them study service gaps and come up with a solution. She learned there is affordable internet for the disadvantaged which would be \$30.00 per month. It is called the "Affordable Connectivity Program".

NEW BUSINESS

- **BACKPACK GIVE AWAY CHURCH OF GOD:**

Councilman Sherman informed those present that the Church of God will be having a backpack give away again this year. There will be prizes, bbq, and a fish fry. Information booths will be available to assist the community with vital information. This year, they are also teaming up with the Jamaican Community with backpacks.

- **HURRICANE SEASON APPROACHING GENERATOR HEALTH:**

Mr. Gerard inquired as to the status of our generator. Council President Rogers reported that it is checked twice a year for maintenance and although the Community Center cannot be used as a shelter, we are planning to use it as a distribution center and a place to get in out of the heat and get devices charged.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Approved:

Marjorie Stroup, Town Clerk

James R. Stroup

Date: