



"The Crossroads to the Future"

Town Council Minutes

April 03, 2023 ** 7:00 PM

Present at Meeting: Mayor Knagge, Mr. Bass, Mr. Mellecker, Mrs. Fleming, Mrs. Bishop-Vargas Ms. Shaw, Mrs. Kirk, Mrs. Pearce, Mr. Williams, Mrs. Gugliuzza Members of the 13 Community and 2 Members of the Media.

Absent: None

- I. **Call to Order** – Mr. Bass at 7:00 PM
- II. **Pledge of Allegiance to Flag & Invocation** – Mr. Bass
- III. **Visitors Welcomed & Reminded Meeting Minutes are Being Recorded** – Mr. Bass
- IV. **Persons Wishing to Address Council – 3 Minute Limit** – None
- V. **Minutes**
 - Motion to approve the Minutes by Mr. Mellecker and 2nd by Ms. Shaw
 - Discussion: None
 - Mrs. Gugliuzza called roll
 - **Motion Carried**
- VI. **Business**
 - **New Business**
 - a. Fair Housing Presentation - Melissa Fox with Fred Fox Enterprises my address is 4425 US HWY 1 South Saint Augustine, Florida 32086 the purpose of tonight's Fair Housing Presentation is to notify the public and the elected officials of the Federal Fair Housing Act. Handouts were provided to the council and to anyone in attendance. Mrs. Fox gave a thorough presentation.

- b. 1st Public Hearing for Community Development Block Grant- Melissa Fox with Fred Fox Enterprises my address is 4425 US HWY 1 South Saint Augustine, Florida 32086 the maximum grant amount is \$650,000.00 there are three categories that the Town can apply for the 1st is a **Housing Rehabilitation** that would be where the Town would go in and Rehab or Replace an owner occupied low to moderate income homes within the Towns Limits additionally all code violations would have to be addressed under the CDBG Program. 2nd is a **Commercial Revitalization** that's where you are going to address street scaping, sidewalks, planters, and different things like that in your downtown area. The purpose is to revitalize the downtown area to bring residents back downtown. The Town would be considered a service area and in order to be eligible for commercial revitalization at least 51% of the Town residents would have to be low to moderate income. 3rd **Neighborhood Revitalization** that's where you are addressing infostructure items and low to moderate income areas. Examples are water lines replacement, sewer line replacement, parks, street paving, new paving, drainage, community centers, the beneficiaries must be 51% low to moderate income. You must pick a category to apply for 1,2, or 3. The 4th one is a **stand alone** that's an **Economic Development** and that one is a state that every year puts money into this fund, and they have it available until the money runs out and the next year it is replenished. With this one there are no hard deadlines. The Town would provide infostructure on town easements or property to facilitate a new business coming into the town or the expansion of an existing business. The business must create one long term job and must be included as the developer in the application. In this category you can request up to 1.5 million. One full time equivalent job must be created by the developer for each \$34,999.99 that's being requested. Nothing can be done on private property; you must create jobs and retain them for one year. They must be low to moderate jobs on the payroll.

Council President Mr. Bass @ 7:15pm closed the regular council meeting and opened to the Public.

A question from the public asked (How would this benefit Callahan when applying for the grants. Would someone be monitoring these homes)

Ms. Fox answered if the city chose to do the housing, then yes. A housing inspector would come out and inspect the homes they would follow section 8 guidelines.

Council President Ken Bass closed the floor @ 7:18 pm and reopened the regular council meeting

A motion was made to accept the 1st Public Hearing for the Community Development Block Grant by Mr. Mellecker and 2nd by Mrs. Fleming

- Discussion: None
- Mrs. Gugliuzza called roll
- **Motion Carried**

➤ **West Nassau High School Women of Influence**

Anna Rodriguez my address is 54784 Church Road Callahan, FL. 32011 & Jamiah White my address is 45121 Brown Street Callahan, FL. 32011 both individuals addressed the council to represent the West Nassau High School Woman of Influence. Women of Influence envisions a network of young women to create connections with mentors to grow as leaders and influence the world around them from the local to global community. They are looking for a donation from the Town to help with scholarship monies.

A Resolution for West Nassau High School Women of Influence will be placed on April 17, 2023, agenda for council approval.

➤ **Resolution 2023-R04 Take Stock in Children**

A motion was made to approve Resolution 2023-R04 Take Stock in Children in the amount of \$500.00 by Ms. Shaw and 2nd by Mrs. Fleming

- Discussion: None
- Mrs. Gugliuzza called roll
- **Motion Carried**

➤ **Memorial Day Rod Run**

Brad Mangold 55286 Deer Run Road Callahan, FL. 32011 & Kim Harrison 54186 Hurst Road Callahan, FL. 32011 this year will be the 4th Annual Rod Run in Callahan

Part 1 would be we are looking to have street closure on Booth Street during the Rod Run on May 27, 2023, from 7:00 am to 3:00 pm to bring cars in and out of the church during the event.

Part 2 this is a fundraising event the money goes through our church not to our church. Last year 80% of the money went to Barnabas and the rest went toward Gear up for Graduation which goes to low-income children to meet the dress code attire/requirements for the ability to walk at graduation with the rest of the graduating class.

Consensus was made to allow the road closure on Booth Street from 301 to Second Avenue on May 27, 2023, from 7:00 am – 3:00 pm

A Resolution for the Memorial Day Rod Run will be placed on April 17, 2023, agenda for council approval.

➤ **U.S. Constitution Scholarship Foundation**

Mike Cole- 55114 Jewel Thomas Road Callahan, FL. 32011 addressed the council on the U.S. Constitution Scholarship Foundation and the Constitution Bowl. Five High Schools will be competing against each other. There are four to a team and it is Yulee, Fernandina, Callahan, Home School and Hilliard competing and the winner receives the scholarship money. These kids study the constitution and really work very hard. The first event will be held in Hilliard at the Council on Aging as a watch party on April 6, 2023 @ 5:30 pm the main event will be held in Wildlight. Bradley Bean is the moderator for it, and he is phenomenal. I would like to invite everyone to come be part of this event on April 6th or to the main event. It is a very good time. They also have a paver program, and I would like to come back and give a presentation on that.

VII. **Review & Approval of Town Expenditures**

General Fund Weeks of March 23rd \$3,813.19 & March 30th \$15,901.46 totaling \$19,714.65

A motion to approve the General Fund for March 23rd & March 30th totaling \$19,714.65 by Mr. Mellecker and 2nd by Ms. Shaw

- Discussion: None
- Mrs. Gugliuzza called roll
- **Motion Carried**

Water and Sewer Fund Weeks of March 23rd \$1,366.35 & March 30th \$ 437,214.16 totaling \$438,580.51

A motion to approve Water and Sewer Fund for March 23rd & March 30th totaling \$438,580.51 by Mrs. Fleming and 2nd by Mrs. Bishop-Vargas

- Discussion: None
- Mrs. Gugliuzza called roll
- **Motion Carried**

VIII. Water – Sewer Disbursement

Month of March

Amount to be disbursed into the water and sewer fund \$877.67 and back to active customers \$207.63 totaling \$1085.30

A motion was made to disburse the funds totaling \$1,085.30 back by Mrs. Fleming and 2nd by Mrs. Bishop-Vargas

IX. Around the Table

Mayor- Two weeks ago I had the opportunity to take a trip to DC with my family and I visited representative Bean's office. Although he wasn't there, I did present his office with some promo material. It is now displayed properly for all visitors to see. Last week I had the opportunity to meet with commissioner Huppmann. He reached out to me to establish a relationship and to hear about what is going on with the Westside of the county. Coming up on April 17, 2023, we are having a meeting with the County Manager Taco Pope and his assistant Marshall and a representative from the convention and visitor's bureau. I have asked Mrs. Fleming to also attend to discuss tourism on the Westside of the County. Lastly to give thanks to Mr. Williams and Mrs. Gugliuzza for the grant work for the Crawford Diamond Project.

Mrs. Bishop-Vargas- None

Mrs. Fleming- Glad to hear about the grant we have for our continued work. Thank you, Mr. Williams, and Mrs. Gugliuzza. It is much needed.

Mrs. Kirk- None

Mrs. Shaw- None

Mr. Mellecker- Can we look into ordering different chairs for the Council Chambers.

Mrs. Pearce- None

Mrs. Gugliuzza- None

Mr. Williams- None

Mr. Bass- CVFD is only going to brush fires and house fires. We have upgraded to front bumper feeds. We have modified our tanker to do a pump and roll. We are getting toned out more.

Monica Monk- 45061 Dutton Way- Thank you all for paving Page Street. I have lived here for 17 years, and my business has been here for 12 years, and I was very disappointed to hear there is a bar on a main road especially because of how busy the traffic is, and I think it should have been made a bigger deal.

X. Adjourn

Motion to Adjourn by Mr. Mellecker and 2nd by Mrs. Fleming

- Discussion: None
- Time 7:50 pm
- **Motion Carried**



John Kenneth Bass, Council President



Shawna Gugliuzza, Town Clerk

If a person decides to appeal any decision made by the board, agency, or commission with respect to any matter considered at such meeting or hearing, he or she will need a record of the proceedings, and that, for such purpose, he or she may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.