



“The Crossroads to the Future”

## Town Council Meeting Minutes

September 17, 2018

7:00 P.M.

**Present at Meeting:** Mayor Rau, Mr. Bass, Mrs. Smith, Mr. Mellecker, Mrs. Shaw, Mrs. Kirk, Mr. Branham, Mr. Williams, Mrs. Knagge, Eleven (11) members of the Community, and two (2) members of the Media.

**Absent:** Mr. Fontes

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- I. **Call to Order** – Mr. Bass at 7:02 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**
  1. Dr. Malachi Clowers – 2<sup>nd</sup> Baptist Church
    - February 17, 2019 with an Event with Convoy of Hope.
    - Event is sponsored by Paul Schwend, Westside Churches, and the Business Leaders Prayer Breakfast team.
    - The Event will be from 11:00 AM – 2:00 PM at West Nassau High School.
    - There will be Family Photos, Free Haircuts, a Kid Zone, Lunch, and more to be determined as the Community gets on board.
    - The first 1,500 Adults will receive food to take home.
    - Would love the Town to come and be a part of the Event.
    - Lots of Volunteers will be needed.

## V. Minutes

- Motion to Approve the Minutes by Mr. Mellecker and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mrs. Shaw.
  - Discussion: None
  - Motion Carried

## VI. Presentations

- Paul Schwend & Urban Flemming – Community Fireworks Event
  - Urban asked if we are Tax Except, and for a W9 to be completed.
  - Plan to go door to door in the Community to promote Event.
  - Mayor Rau asked for a Fireworks Plan & Quotes. Mr. Fontes has said he would have those at the next meetings.
  - Paul stated he hoped that the Town would reconsider joining with Hilliard on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Fireworks at the Fairgrounds. It will help to show unity on the Westside of the County.
  - Mr. Mellecker – We need to see how this venture goes and then we will discuss the Hilliard venture.
  - Mayor Rau stated he is very excited about this, and looks forward to more events. He stated all of the Westside needs to stick together.
  - Mayor Rau also stated that the Town has received its first donation from the Schwend Agency for \$500.
  
- Approval of 5 year Capital Improvement Element to Comprehensive Plan
  - Mr. Mellecker stated the Planning & Zoning would like the following changes:
    - Change Street improvements & sidewalks to Re-Paving of Page St.
    - Change Ewing Park Improvements to the Railroad Bed Park.
  - Motion to make the changes to the 5 year Capital Improvement Plan as recommended by the Planning & Zoning Board by Mr. Mellecker and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ms. Smith.
    - Discussion:
      - Mrs. Smith stated that since the Park is going to be at the Depot area we should name it “Depot Park” instead of Regional Park.
  - Motion to amend the motion to include naming the park ‘Depot Park’ by Mr. Mellecker and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ms. Smith.
    - Discussion: None
    - Motion Carried.
  
- Approval of FRDAP Grant Submission -- Ewing Park & Railroad Park
  - Mr. Williams stated that the new FRDAP Grant cycle is coming up and he would like to apply for 2 \$50,000 Grants for Depot Park.
  - Motion to apply for 2 FRDAP Grants in the amount of \$50,000 each by Ms. Smith and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Mellecker.
    - Discussion:
      - Mr. Williams stated that this would be a Venue for Movies & Concerts. We could possibly even make it look like the old Weigh

Station to enhance the Railroad Bed area. He stated there is way more parking there than Ewing Park.

- Mr. Mellecker stated this a great idea to help keep adults in the area instead of always going to Jacksonville or Fernandina.
- Motion Carried.
- Approval of Playground Equipment for Phase 5
  - Ms. Smith stated that the new Park Equipment is a sole source item that has to come from Burke. The cost is \$68,000 and the Grant covers \$50,000 of that.
  - Motion to pay the difference for the Park Equipment by Mrs. Smith and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ms. Shaw.
    - Discussion:
      - Mr. Mellecker asked if the price included the mulch. Mr. Williams stated that it did not. The cost of that would be about \$1500.00 and our guys would handle the installation.
    - Motion Carried.
- Nassau County Economic Development Board Update – Randy Knagge – TABLED
- Final Budget Hearing
  - Resolution 2018-R15 – Final Millage Rate
    - Mr. Branham read by Title.
    - Closed Regular Meeting & Opened Public Hearing at 7:30 PM
      - No Public Comment
    - Closed Public Hearing & Reopened Regular Meeting at 7:30 PM
    - Motion to adopt Resolution 2018-R15 by Mr. Mellecker and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mrs. Smith.
    - Discussion:
      - Mr. Mellecker asked if this goes into effect immediately or on October 1<sup>st</sup>. Mr. Branham stated it goes into effect now.
    - Motion Carried.
  - Resolution 2018-R16 – Final Budget
    - Mr. Branham read by Title.
    - Closed Regular Meeting & Opened Public Hearing at 7:31 PM
      - No Public Comment
    - Closed Public Hearing & Reopened Regular Meeting at 7:32 PM
    - Motion to adopt Resolution 2018-R16 by Mrs. Smith and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mrs. Shaw.
    - Discussion: None
    - Motion Carried.

### **Review & Approval of Town Expenditures**

- General Fund **\$16,118.58**
  - Motion to Pay the General Fund by Mr. Mellecker and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mrs. Smith.
    - Discussion: None
    - Motion Carried

- Water & Sewer Fund **\$6,583.85**
  - Motion to Pay Water & Sewer Fund by Mrs. Shaw and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Mellecker.
    - Discussion: None
    - Motion Carried
- Water & Sewer Adjustments -- None

## VII. **Around the Council Table**

### ➤ **Mayor**

- Please send any quotes for Fireworks, and review the one we've received.
- Amendment 1 about Property Exemption won't help anyone except people with Homestead Exemption and only ones with property values of \$100,000 or higher. The Tax Shift will hurt people that need to be hurt the least.

### ➤ **Mrs. Smith – Parks** – Nothing

### ➤ **Mr. Fontes – Water & Sewer** -- Absent

### ➤ **Mrs. Kirk – Treasurer** – Nothing

### ➤ **Mrs. Shaw – Streets**

- Spoke with woman in Hilliard about meat for the Christmas Party, and for 40 people it would be about \$300 which would include Brisket, Pork Tenderloin, Crepes, and chicken & gravy.
  - Mrs. Knagge stated the consensus of the office staff is that we go back to the old way. She also stated maybe we could do some different meats along with the ham & turkey.
    - Lengthy Discussion
  - Council Consensus – Party on December 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM at the Fire Station & to have only the December 3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting, and cancel the one on the 17<sup>th</sup>.
- Christmas Lighting
  - Mrs. Graham asked if whatever we decide it can be do after Thanksgiving.
  - Do Christmas Insert on both signs.
  - Draping lights around building.
  - Wreaths need re-strung.
  - Fire Station big silhouette tree for \$550. Mr. Bass stated the Volunteers handle the tree there.
  - 4 big flags at the Main Red light.
  - Do six lights in each direction.
  - Mrs. Knagge asked if the Tree at the Depot could be done a little prettier. Mr. Williams stated that is the Historical Societies deal, but we do help with our Boom Truck. Mrs. Shaw & Mrs. Knagge stated that maybe if the Town helps it could be a little nicer with ornaments and more lights.


### ➤ **Mr. Mellecker – Zoning** – Nothing

- **Mr. Branham – Attorney** – Nothing
- **Mrs. Knagge – Clerk** - Nothing
- **Mr. Williams – Town Manager**
  - Audit is still not done due to issues with the CPA's. There will be a finding. We need to look at something different for next year.
- **Mr. Bass – Council President & Fire**
  - Lights & lettering at the Fire Station will be going up soon.
  - Remember the Event at the Historical Society from October 27<sup>th</sup> – December 8<sup>th</sup>.
  - Had meeting with Chief Rigdon and things between the Volunteers & the County are going very well right now.
  - Opened to the Floor
    - Dr. Clowers asked if the \$50,000 Grant is one time or Re-Curing.
      - Mr. Williams stated it is one time, but we can apply for more.

**VIII. Adjourn**

- Motion to adjourn by Mr. Mellecker and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mrs. Smith. Motion Carried.
- Time: **7:58 PM**

  
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**John Kenneth Bass, Council President**

  
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**Stephanie Knagge, 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.*