MINUTES
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
CITY OF NICEVILLE, FLORIDA
APRIL 14, 2020

The Niceville City Council met in regular session at 7:00 PM, April 14, 2020 in the Council Chambers, 208 N Partin Drive. Mayor Pro Tem Henkel was present to preside over the meeting. All other Council members and the City Attorney joined the meeting by conference call. Also present were City Manager, Lannie Corbin; City Clerk, Dan Doucet; Steven Rausch, Finance Director and Deputy City Clerk. The public was invited to attend, however, the reporter from the Bay Beacon was the only one in attendance. City Departments submitted written reports in order for the City Manager to brief the council. Mayor Pro Tem Henkel called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

ROLL CALL:

Mayor Pro-Tem asked each Council member to acknowledge their presence. They all responded individually that they were present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Regular Council Meeting, March 10, 2020
Special Council Meeting, March 30, 2020
Planning Commission Meeting - No Meeting Held
Local Planning Agency Meeting, No Meeting Held

Mayor Pro Tem Henkel requested a motion to approve the minutes for the Regular Council meeting held on March 10, 2020 and a Special Council meeting held on March 30, 2020. Councilman Nodjomian moved approval. Councilman Schaetzle seconded the motion. No one spoke for or against. Council Vote: Henkel-yes; Schaetzle-yes; Boudreaux-yes; Nodjomian-yes; Alley-yes. Motion passed.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

PRESENTATION:

CDBG Housing Rehabilitation Program - Status Report - Dennis Dingman, Summit Professional Services, Inc. (Conducted via telephone.) Mr. Dingman stated that it was a pleasure to join the Council meeting and stated the purpose for his report to the Council.
**Recommended Action #1:** Councilmembers to disclose business or familial relationships with any of the two new applicants highlighted on the Applicant List and abstain from voting on those applicants.

Mr Dingman stated that the two applicants were added to the list of applicants who are Sheila Commander at 1002 Bayshore Drive and Bethney & John Sikes at 203 Jones Avenue. Mr Dingman stated that Councilmembers are to disclose any business or familial relationships with these applicants and further requested that they acknowledge separately for each applicant. For: Sheila Commander: Henkel-no; Schaetzle-no; Boudreaux-no; Nodjomian-no; Alley-no. For: Bethney & John Sikes: Henkel-no; Schaetzle-no; Boudreaux-no; Nodjomian-no; Alley-no.

**Recommended Action #2:** Council to adopt the Applicant List, dated April 14, 2020, for the City’s FFY 2018 CDBG Housing Rehabilitation program.

**Motion:** “Motion to adopt the Applicant List, dated April 14, 2020, for the City’s FFY 2018 CDBG Housing Rehabilitation program.”

Mr Dingman requested a motion from the Council to adopt the Applicant List, dated April 14, 2020. Councilwoman Boudreaux moved approval. Councilman Nodjomian seconded. Discussion followed. Council Vote: Henkel-yes; Schaetzle-yes; Boudreaux-yes; Nodjomian-yes; Alley-yes. Motion passed.

Ordinance 20-03-02 - An Emergency Ordinance of the City of Niceville, Florida, recognizing a national, state and local State of Emergency due to COVID-19; declaring a State of Emergency within the City of Niceville, Florida; providing for and adopting emergency regulations to address preparation management and mitigation of the COVID-19; authorizing the City Manager to serve as Director of Emergency Management; providing for authority; providing for findings of fact; providing for repeal of conflicting ordinances or provisions; providing for severability; and providing for an effective date.

Mr Doucet read Emergency Ordinance 20-03-02 by title. Attorney Powell stated that he asked Mr Doucet to leave the emergency ordinances on the agenda because they had already been advertised for public hearing in case anyone had any discussion about the ordinance even though the ordinance was passed on Monday, March 30th during our Special Council meeting. He further stated there is no action required tonight by the Council regarding this ordinance.
Ordinance 20-03-03 - An Emergency Ordinance of the City of Niceville, Florida, providing for the rescheduling of special municipal election scheduled for April 14, 2020 to July 21, 2020 because of a national, state and local State of Emergency due to COVID-19; providing for authority; providing for findings of fact; providing for repeal of conflicting ordinances or provisions; providing for severability; and providing for an effective date.

Mr Doucet read Emergency Ordinance 20-03-03 by title. Attorney Powell stated that he asked Mr Doucet to leave this emergency ordinance on the agenda because they had already been advertised for public hearing in case anyone had any discussion about this item even though the ordinance was passed on Monday, March 30th during our Special Council meeting. He further stated there is no action required tonight by the Council regarding this ordinance.

Ordinance 20-04-01 - An Ordinance of the City of Niceville, Florida relating to a Gas Utility Franchise to the Okaloosa County Gas District, created under the laws of the State of Florida, the right, authority, easement, and privilege to install, operate and maintain a natural gas manufacturing plant or plants, natural gas transmission and distribution system and such other necessary facilities for the purpose of providing natural gas services to all classes of customers within the City of Niceville, Florida, providing for non-exclusive grant; providing geographic area, providing a term; providing consideration; providing accounting; audit; inspection; providing City not to compete; providing relocation at district expense; providing relocation for private enterprise; providing right to purchase after expiration of franchise; providing notice of exercise of option; providing transmission system and interruptible customers; providing annexation; providing default clause; providing proper operation; providing hold harmless clause; providing sovereign immunity; providing exclusivity of ordinance sections, providing repealing clause; providing severability; and providing for an effective date. (Final Reading)

Mr Doucet read Ordinance 20-04-01 by title. Councilman Schaetzle moved approval on final reading. Councilman Nodjomian seconded. No one spoke for or against. Council Vote: Henkel-yes; Schaetzle-yes; Boudreaux-yes; Nodjomian-yes; Alley-yes. Motion passed.

Ordinance 20-04-02 - An Ordinance for the rezoning of certain properties in the City of Niceville, Florida providing zoning for same and an effective date. Property is located on Maple Avenue; owner is requesting that it be re-zoned from PCI, Public Civic
Institutional to R-1, Single Family Residential and the Future Land Use be changed to MDR, Medium Density Residential. The North ½ of the Southwest 1/4 of Block 64, Valparaiso Realty Company’s Pine Crest Addition Subdivision No. 6. Doug Stauffer representing Faith Independent Baptist Church, 1309 Valparaiso Blvd; Niceville, Florida. (Final Reading)

Mr Doucet read Ordinance 20-04-02 by title. Councilman Schaetzle moved approval on final reading. Councilman Nodjomian seconded. No one spoke for or against. Council Vote: Henkel-yes; Schaetzle-yes; Boudreaux-yes; Nodjomian-yes; Alley-yes. Motion passed.


Mr Doucet read Resolution 20-04-01 by title. Councilwoman Boudreaux moved approval. Councilman Schaetzle seconded. No one spoke for or against. Council Vote: Henkel-yes; Schaetzle-yes; Boudreaux-yes; Nodjomian-yes; Alley-yes. Motion passed.

CITY MANAGER REPORTS/REQUESTS/RECOMMENDATIONS:

Water/Sewer/Drainage Projects – Update

Mr Corbin briefed the status of current projects.

Well 11: Griner Well Drilling began to work on the well March 31, 2020, they pulled the well and pump; cleaned well with scrubber, made it to the bottom of the well 800 feet; began setting up pipe to airlift the debris after cameraing the well.

Calls: 30 water calls and 31 sewer calls; made one water tap and one sewer tap; due to the Coronavirus the crews are handling day to day issues at this time.

STORMWATER:

Thomas Branch: RBM Contracting began construction of a 2.38-acre stormwater pond, adjacent to Interior Exterior Building Supply, on March 9, 2020. RBM worked out an access agreement with Interior Exterior to use their parking lot for access until the site
has been cleared for the driveway off John Sims to be installed. They have hauled over 200 dump truck loads of material, excavated from the site, to the Breland Mini Storage site on Evans Street. They will begin to grind the tree debris and haul it to Freeport this week. The driveway connection to John Sims Parkway will begin this week.

**Boggy Bayou Headwaters (Update):** Still awaiting the Army Corps of Engineers Permit approval.

**STREETS:**

**Maintenance:** Due to the loss of the inmate crews, City workers are currently maintaining the holding ponds. Bush hogged the Turkey Creek Ruckel Properties nature trail; keeping the dirt maintained at the Breland Mini Storage Site so that the dump trucks can continue to pile the dirt up on the site and keep it out of the wetlands; potholes city wide; and sweep the FDOT Right of Ways.

**PARKS:**

**Maintenance:** Crews are continuing to cut right of ways, spray for weeds; install walls, pour concrete, and set pavers at the Senior Center; poured concrete at the City yard; mulched at the triangle; selected new plants for the library.

**REPAIR AND MAINTENANCE AND ELECTRICAL:**

**Senior Center:** working to complete the gazebos at the Senior Center, power wash the gazebos to be painted.

**Maintenance:** Fixed wall on the Council Chambers; working on new metal building in the City Yard; fixed deck at Children’s Park by pool; have material list for new metal building, installed lights at new building; installing washer and dryer at the Police Department; installed lights at the triangle; working on lift station and water well electrical issue.

Regional Sewer System – Update

No Report
Police Department - Update

Chief Popwell stated that during the month of March the Police Department responded to 2,023 calls for police assistance. There was a total of 43 traffic crash reports written involving 81 vehicles. The estimated amount of damage to these vehicles and related property was $163,714. A total of 119 Traffic Citations and 157 Warnings were issued, six Misdemeanor, 13 Felonies and two DUI Arrests were made.

Fire Department - Update

Chief Mayville stated that, during the month of March 2020, the Fire Department responded to a total of 122 calls. There were 116 calls located in the City and 6 mutual aid calls. The Fire Department continues to sterilize the station and equipment and decontaminating firefighters after medical calls. A thermometer has been purchased and temperatures are checked regularly. Shift firefighters check all vehicles daily to make sure everything is operating correctly; Boat 21 is checked each week on Monday. We are constantly staying informed and up to date on the Coronavirus, educating firefighters on safety and prevention. Firefighters have responded to approximately 12 COVID possible calls.

Other Business:

Mr Corbin stated that our Emergency Management team members are meeting daily at 9:30AM. Committee members are myself, Chief Popwell; Chief Mayville, Johnathon Laird, Public Works Director; Steven Rausch, Finance, and Dan Doucet. He stated that there are 14 virus cases in Niceville. Our employees are doing well. We reopened the Dog Park in Niceville today and stated that other Cities are doing that as well. Discussion followed.

Councilwoman Boudreaux stated that she wanted to recognize Mr Corbin and Mr Doucet for the great job they are doing during these trying times.

Councilman Nodjomian stated that he wanted to update the Council regarding the Youth Advisory Council. He stated they met just before this meeting using ZOOM, and that he could visually see them to conduct the meeting. Unfortunately, we had to cancel the Mock Debate. I say cancel, since we won’t be able to get it done during this term, since 2 of them will be graduating. So, we’ll plan for when school is in session this fall, and hopefully get it done before the general election.
They want to move forward with another community service activity. They are going to reach out to five different outlets to include Superior Residence; the senior living facility in Blue Water (The American Housing); the Twin Cities Pavilion; the two larger Churches, First Baptist and Cross Point, to find out if they can volunteer to support projects they have instituted for Seniors, such as meal delivery, and/or other programs that support our senior population.

Mayor Pro tem Henkel requested a motion to pay the bills. Councilman Nodjomian moved approval. Councilman Schaetzle seconded. Council Vote: Henkel-yes; Schaetzle-yes; Boudreaux-yes; Nodjomian-yes; Alley-yes. Motion passed.

There being no further discussion the meeting adjourned at 7:35 PM.

ATTEST:

MAYOR PRO TEM

CITY CLERK

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