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

The Niceville City Council met in regular session at 7:00 PM, July 14, 2020 in the Council Chambers, 208 N Partin Drive. All Council members were present. Councilman Nodjomian attended remotely by phone conference. Also present were City Manager, Lannie Corbin; City Clerk, Dan Doucet; Technology Department, Chad Morris; Police Department, Chief Popwell; Fire Department, Chief Mayville; Public Works, Johnathan Laird and Finance Director, Steven Rausch. There were approximately 16 visitors in the audience.

Mayor Pro Tem Henkel called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM, and Councilman Schaetzle led the prayer, and all present said the pledge of allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Regular Council Meeting, June 9, 2020
Planning Commission Meeting – July 6, 2020
Local Planning Agency Meeting – No Meeting Held

Councilwoman Alley moved approval of the minutes. Mayor Pro Tem Henkel seconded. No one spoke for or against. Council Vote: Henkel-yes; Schaetzle-yes; Boudreaux-yes; Nodjomian-yes; Alley-yes. Motion passed

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Presentations – Mayor Pro Tem Henkel asked Mr. Doucet to ask the guests of honor to enter. Mr. Doucet returned quickly introducing Coach Tanya and the Niceville Cheerleading team she coaches.

Niceville High School Cheerleaders – Come on up here and stand and face the group, Mayor Pro Tem Henkel said. This is something pretty exciting. For those of you that don’t know, this is the head cheerleading coach and some of our cheerleaders from Niceville High School. While we were all in school, when we were younger, especially when we were all in High School, the goal was always to have a State Championship in something. Well, guess what? Niceville High School excelled this year. We’re here to recognize our cheerleaders because they won the State Championship for cheerleading for the City of Niceville! So, we thought it would be appropriate for the City of Niceville to make a proclamation. Here it is. It’s kind of a legalese thing. Thanks Dixie (Mr. Powell); I appreciate that too!
Whereas it gives me a great deal of pleasure to express congratulations to all of the members of the Niceville High School Cheerleaders, and on behalf of myself, the Mayor Pro Tem, and all of the citizens of the City of Niceville, we congratulate you on winning the State Championship for Cheerleading this year. We are very proud of you and we want you to understand that you are welcome to come and join us at any time, and please keep up the great work. Pictures were taken.

Coach Tanya said this is actually the first State Championship for Niceville Cheerleaders. So, it is actually a huge accomplishment for us. These are three of them. They are seniors now. They were juniors last year. So, their kind of leading the charge this season as we go in. Hopefully COVID-19 will go away and we’ll get to do it again and bring home another one. That will be the goal for us. It’s been a lot of fun. We’re really thankful. This community is really supportive of our program. The sponsorships and fundraisers, and things like that, make the travel with all of the expenses a possibility really. It is really a very expensive sport. We’re really thankful just to be a part of the Niceville community and to have been invited here tonight. So, thank you guys so much for having us and hopefully we’ll do it again for you.

CDBG Housing Rehabilitation Program – Bid Award Recommendations – Dennis Dingman, Summit Professional Services, Inc.

Mr Dingman stated that Summit has been around for 24 years that we’ve been in this business and we work all around the State. So, I attend Council and Commission meetings all over the State. I just have to say, I’ve never seen a community like Niceville which honors and rewards its young people and it’s a credit to you all. It’s a wonderful thing.

We have a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) housing program that we’re working on. And, on June 11th, we received bids. We had three contractors show up. One contractor decided not to bid. There was so much work they decided they couldn’t take on any more. That was a local contractor. So, we had two contractors bidding on seven jobs. There will be four rehabilitation jobs and three new homes. The homes in front of you are for Mr. Michael Warthen, Ms. Daniella Miller, and Bethney and John Sikes. The rehabilitation work will be for Dawn and Michael Kaiser, Angela Griffith, Mary Brinkley, and Sheila Commander.

On the front page of the packet you have, are the low bid amounts for these jobs. So, tonight I ask you to make a motion and vote to award the bids, as proposed, to those contractors. The two contractors are Florida Homes for Warthen, Miller, Sikes, and Kaiser. And, then Jason Bart Construction; he’s a little contractor we hired for Griffith, Brinkley, and Commander. Just a little update to let you know what’s going on in this
business; you may already know this. COVID has had an effect, slowing things down a little bit, but we’re way ahead of schedule. The prices are just going up, so these look like expensive contracts, and they are, but statewide, these prices are going up. Discussion followed.

Thanks Mr. Dingman; that’s a very true statement, said Mayor Pro Tem Henkel.

Councilman Schaeztle made the motion to approve the bids as recommended for Mr. Warthen, Ms. Miller, Mr. and Mrs. Sikes, Mr. and Mrs. Kaiser, Ms. Griffith, Ms. Brinkley, and Ms. Commander. Councilwoman Alley seconded. Any further discussion, asked Mayor Pro Tem Henkel? Councilman Nodjomian asked how much above the estimate was the bid amount? Mr. Dingman replied, they are within 15 percent of the estimate. So, they fall within the guidelines of the agency. Fortunately, I’ve been working with other communities recently and I’ve seen prices go up, so I raised the estimates on the homes before we bid them. So, they do fall within the 15 percent which is what the agency requires. But, just in general I see prices going up 15 to 20 percent since COVID happened, said Mr. Dingman. Okay; so, there is no reprogramming requirement or anything like that. The prices are already slightly inflated, and as you said they’re within the parameters of acceptable bids. That’s all I was asking for, said Councilman Nodjomian. No one spoke for or against. Council Vote: Henkel-yes; Schaeztle-yes; Boudreaux-yes; Nodjomian-yes; Alley-yes. Motion passed

Ordinance 20-07-01 - An ordinance authorizing the City of Niceville, Florida to obtain a commercial bank loan, up to a maximum amount of $315,000, to purchase certain properties within the City of Niceville, Florida; authorizing solicitation of sealed proposals from commercial banks for said commercial bank loan at a fixed and competitive rate; providing for terms and conditions of said loan; authorizing the City Attorney to provide an opinion letter and to prepare any and all loan and/or closing documents necessary to accomplish said commercial bank loan; providing that interest will be tax-exempt to the holder as a qualified tax-exempt obligation, within the meaning of 265(b)(3) of the internal revenue code; providing for proper advertisement; and providing for an effective date. (Final Reading)

Mr Doucet read Ordinance 20-07-01 by title. Councilman Schaeztle moved approval on final reading. Councilwoman Boudreaux seconded. No one spoke for or against. Council Vote: Henkel-yes; Schaeztle-yes; Boudreaux-yes; Nodjomian-yes; Alley-yes. Motion passed.

Ordinance 20-07-02. An ordinance authorizing the City of Niceville, Florida to obtain lease/purchase financing from a commercial bank, up to a maximum amount of $190,000 for the purchase and installation of a 2020 Generac industrial generator; authorizing the
solicitation of sealed proposals from commercial banks for said commercial bank loan at a fixed rate and competitive rate; providing for terms and conditions of said lease/purchase financing; authorizing the City Attorney to provide an opinion letter; and to prepare any and all loan and/or closing documents necessary to accomplish said commercial bank loan; providing that interest will be tax-exempt to the holder of the qualified tax-exempt obligation within the meaning of 265(b)(3) of the internal revenue code; providing for proper advertisement; and providing for an effective date. (Final Reading)

Mr. Doucet read Ordinance 20-07-02 by title. Councilwoman Alley moved approval on final reading. Councilman Schaetzle seconded. No one spoke for or against. Council Vote: Henkel-yes; Schaetzle-yes; Boudreaux-yes; Nodjomian-yes; Alley-yes. Motion passed

Ordinance 20-07-03 - An Ordinance for the rezoning of certain properties in the City of Niceville, Florida; providing zoning for the same and an effective date. The property is located 307 Palmetto Avenue. The owner is requesting rezoning from R1-Residential Single Family to R1b-Residential Single Family, lots 5, 6, and 7 Niceville Heights, addition to Valparaiso, Florida, per plat thereof; recorded plat book 1, page 102, of the public records of Okaloosa, Florida; requested by Gerald Nedrow, 307 Palmetto Avenue. (Final Reading)

Mr Doucet read Ordinance 20-07-03 by title. Councilman Schaetzle moved approval on final reading. Councilwoman Alley seconded. No one spoke for or against. Council Vote: made the motion. Councilwoman Alley seconded. No one spoke for or against. Council Vote: Henkel-yes; Schaetzle-yes; Boudreaux-yes; Nodjomian-yes; Alley-yes. Motion passed

Ordinance 20-07-04 - An Ordinance for the rezoning of certain properties in the City of Niceville, Florida; providing zoning for the same and an effective date. The property is located 714 Elm Street. The owner is requesting their property be rezoned from R-2, 1 or more multiple families to C-1, limited commercial. Lot 15, block 12, Powell subdivision, according to map or plat thereof; as recorded in plat book 1, page 96 of the public records of Okaloosa County, Florida; requested by Jessica and Johnathan Olsen, 714 Elm Street. (Final Reading)

Mr Doucet read Ordinance 20-07-04 by title: Councilman Nodjomian moved approval on final hearing. Councilman Schaetzle seconded. No one spoke for or against. Council Vote: Henkel-yes; Schaetzle-yes; Boudreaux-yes; Nodjomian-yes; Alley-yes. Motion passed
Ordinance 20-08-01 - An ordinance annexing to the City of Niceville, Florida, contiguous lands described as set forth herein; providing for proper advertisement; pursuant to section 171.44, F.S.; providing the property will be zoned R-1b for future land use of Low Density Residential (LDR); providing for severability; providing for an effective date; and providing for filing with the Clerk of Court of Okaloosa County and with the Department of State. The property is located on 11th Street. (First Reading)

Mr Doucet read ordinance 20-08-01 by title. Councilman Nodjomian moved approval on first reading. Councilwoman Alley seconded. No one spoke for or against. Council Vote: Henkel-yes; Schaetzle-yes; Boudreaux-yes; Nodjomian-yes; Alley-yes. Motion passed

Resolution 20-07-01 A resolution awarding a $315,000 commercial bank loan financing to purchase certain properties within the City of Niceville, Florida, to Peoples National Community Bank, 1020 John Sims Parkway, Niceville, Florida, as the successful bidder, solicitation limited to competitive bids from commercial banks; fixing the interest rate and other terms for the commercial bank financing; and providing for an effective date,

Mr. Doucet read resolution 20-07-01 by title. Councilwoman Boudreaux moved approval. Councilwoman Alley seconded. Councilman Nodjomian asked what rate the City received for the loan. Mr. Doucet stated the winning bid was 1.95 percent. The next bid was 1.96 and the others were over 2.00 percent. Discussion followed. Council Vote: Henkel-yes; Schaetzle-yes; Boudreaux-yes; Nodjomian-yes; Alley-yes. Motion passed

Resolution 20-07-02, a resolution awarding $190,000 lease/purchase financing to purchase and install a 2020 Generac industrial generator for the City of Niceville, Florida, to Peoples National Community Bank, 1020 John Sims Parkway, Niceville, Florida, the successful bidder; pursuant to the limited competitive bids from commercial banks; fixing the interest rate and other terms for lease/purchase financing; and providing for an effective date.

Mr. Doucet read resolution 20-07-02 by title. Councilwoman Boudreaux moved approval. Councilwoman Alley seconded. Councilman Nodjomian asked again what rate the City received for the loan. Mr. Doucet stated the winning bid was 1.95 percent. The next bid was 1.96 and the others were all over 2.00 percent. Discussion followed. Council Vote: Henkel-yes; Schaetzle-yes; Boudreaux-yes; Nodjomian-yes; Alley-yes. Motion passed

Resolution 20-07-03, a resolution from the City of Niceville, Florida providing for submission to the Okaloosa County Board of Commissioners, a proposal to levy a half-cent sales tax for a period of ten years, to fund Okaloosa County schools; providing for support thereof; and providing for an effective date.
Mr. Doucet read Resolution 20-07-03 by title. Councilwoman Alley motioned approval. Councilman Schaetzle seconded. Discussion followed. Councilman Schaetzle stated this is a resolution for us to show our support to the County Commissioners. Councilman Schaetzle said I have a question on this. Obviously, the City of Niceville is supporting this half-cent sales tax, but can you give a little bit more background on why we are asked to support this? Sure, Mayor Pro Tem Henkel replied, I’ll speak to that a little bit. First of all, some of you may be aware and some may not aware; but per student population right now, in Okaloosa County, we spend a little over $240 per student. When you look at the surrounding counties, they range significantly more, up to as much as about $3,300 per student. The last time we had a public school built was when they built the one over in Destin back in the nineties. Most of our buildings are forty, fifty, or sixty years old, and they are falling apart. Basically, what’s happening is the County is going to put a big push on to ask for a half-cent sales tax, over the next ten years to start to correct the problems with the structures and infrastructures of the schools. This is a pretty important thing. I know that some folks have issues when it comes to taxes; but when you start talking about our kids’ future and the facilities that they’re using, most of you understand that a lot of our schools are A-rated schools, but they’re at capacity, and those issues need to be resolved, said Mayor Pro Tem Henkel.

Councilwoman Alley said, I’d like to make a point also that there will be guidelines and stipulations on how this money can be used. It can only be used toward infrastructure and school buildings themselves. Councilman Ndjomian said, let me add on to that. Thank you. I was going to say the same thing. That was very well-stated. The other thing I want to just remind everybody is that this is a requirement one way or another. If you don’t get it through sales tax, it will come through some other revenue like property tax or whatever. When we make it sales tax, we put a significant burden on people who don’t necessarily live in Okaloosa County. When they travel to our County, they will be helping reinvest in our school program. So, I think that school tax is a good place to get the levy, said Councilman Ndjomian. And, that is an important point that you make, because we have a lot of visitors who come into this County and spend money and it’s nice to have more of the burden placed on them than on the actual residents of this County. This is a good thing to do, said Mayor Pro Tem Henkel.

This discussion came up recently with some of our constituents, said Councilwoman Boudreaux, and what was said earlier is true. We are over capacity actually, and we do need to address this issue. However, what was brought up was, before we spend more money through taxes, is to look at our budget and where we could cut things to help alleviate the need for additional taxes, said Councilwoman Boudreaux. I can answer that question, said Councilwoman Alley. There is no money in the budget to cut, to be able to work on the infrastructure of these schools that they’re putting band-aids on. Choctaw is over fifty years old and the HVAC system in that school has them putting band-aids on it.
continuously because they don’t have the money to replace the structures in the schools. We have A-plus rated schools, but our school buildings that are falling apart. It’s very sad, and if you go to one of the counties on each side of us, the sales tax is higher than what we have right now in Okaloosa County. So, they’re already charging extra sales tax, but when you go over and shop in Walton County you’re paying a higher sales tax than we are in Okaloosa County. Or if you go to the west, their sales tax is much higher than what ours is as well, said Councilwoman Alley.

Councilman Schaetzle said, and this is just a resolution for us to show our support to the County Commissioners, when they move forward with this in November’s election. It will probably be on the ballot, and it’s forecast to be only for ten years. Correct; it is to sunset in ten years. And, you’re right this is just us letting the County Commission know that we do support their decision to do this, said Mayor Pro Tem Henkel. No further discussion followed. Vote: Henkel-yes; Schaetzle-yes; Boudreaux-yes; Nadjomian-yes; Alley-yes. Motion passed

Resolution 20-07-04 – A resolution requesting a special exception to land development code, section 7, paragraph 7.05c, to allow for a 4-foot set-back from the house and a 4-foot set-back from the side and rear property lines, as opposed to the required 10 feet and 5 feet. Requested by Jason and Nichole Hurt, 102 Georgia Avenue. Councilwoman Boudreaux made a motion to discuss the resolution. Councilwoman Alley seconded the motion to discuss. Is this the property that came out of planning that was denied, she asked? Yes; replied Mayor Pro Tem Henkel. Are there some neighbors around it that are opposing it, asked Councilwoman Alley? Are you guys the family that are requesting it, she asked the Ms. Hurt? Yes; replied Ms. Hurt. Please come up and explain to us, said Councilwoman Alley. Please state your name and address for the record, said Mayor Pro Tem Henkel.

Jason and Nichole Hurt, 102 Georgia Avenue, replied Mr. Hurt. Mr. and Mrs. Hurt spoke in favor of a land development code special exception that would allow him to put up a pole-barn canopy with a metal top to cover his 35-foot RV, which is currently parked there. Discussion followed.

Mr. James Buchs, 905 Bay Breeze Cove spoke against the land development special exception, which, if approved would allow Mr. Hurt to install a pole-barn canopy beside his home, for his RV, due to its potential impact on his view from his property.

Mr. James Buchanan, 903 Bay Breeze Cove asked about the location of the RV, and said as long as the RV does not obstruct his view of the water, he is not against the special exception to the land development code, but if it does obstruct his view, he is against it.
City Attorney Powell asked Mr. Hurt have you thought about parking it parallel to the house? Mr. Hurt replied that he did not want to do that because there is a big old Oak tree there.

Councilman Nodjomian asked Dixie Powell if there was anything in the resolution that would prevent the canopy from being improved to a permanent structure? Mr. Powell agreed that there is nothing to prevent the owner from improving the structure if the zoning set-back exception is approved. As far as I am concerned this could be turned into permanent construction and it would be completely compliant with what we agree to, which I am not agreeing to. So, I think this needs to be reworked and it should go back to the planning council with a full explanation of what is trying to be done and Mr. and Mrs. Hurt should be in attendance next time, said Councilman Nodjomian. Yes; that would work best if we tabled the resolution instead of denying it. It's up to the Council; however, you want to do it, said Mr. Powell. Councilman Nodjomian moved to table the item predicated on the two items I just mentioned earlier, one being we need a stipulation on the type of construction that's going to occur within this variance, and two, that the item be brought back to the planning commission with the idea that the owners are there to present on their behalf. Councilman Nodjomian moved to table the discussion. Councilman Schaetzle seconded. No further discussion followed. Vote: Henkel-yes; Schaetzle-yes; Boudreaux-yes; Nodjomian-yes; Alley-yes. Motion passed

Resolution 20-07-05 — A resolution granting a special exception to the land development code. Table 7-2, R2 zoning, to allow for a 20-foot set-back, as opposed to the required 25-foot set-back, and a 10-foot rear set-back, as opposed to the required 20-foot set-back at 1305 Cedar Avenue, South, Niceville, Florida; and providing for an effective date. Councilman Schaetzle made the motion to approve. Councilwoman Alley seconded. Mayor Pro Tem Henkel opened it up to discussion. Councilwoman Alley said I am assuming this is to build a new house; does anybody know? Yes, ma'am, said a citizen in attendance. Would you come forward and state your name and address, and give us a little background on this, asked Mayor Pro Tem Henkel?

I'm Rick Goff. The address of the house is 1305 South Cedar. My residence is 215 Etrehi. This will be the fourth variance I've come for; three of them have already been approved. The third house is under construction right now too. They completed it and it is sold. This will be the fourth one which is adjacent to the other three. It's just a very shallow neighborhood right in through there and you can hardly get a footprint in this day and time that is attractive to a potential buyer. I might add to that, said Mr. Corbin; one of the reasons is that Cedar Street is not platted where it should be. He's got a situation where a lot of his property goes out into the middle of the paved street. So that's the reason for some of these issues in that area. I understand, said Mayor Pro Tem Henkel.
Councilman Nodjomian asked what the size of the home that’s planned for the lot with the variances, if they’re granted? Mr. Goff said it was between 1,800 and 1,900 square feet of living area. Okay, so they’re not trying to put a mansion on a small lot, replied Councilman Nodjomian. No further discussion followed. Vote: Henkel-yes; Schaetzle-yes; Boudreaux-yes; Nodjomian-yes; Alley-yes. Motion passed

CITY MANAGER REPORTS/REQUESTS/RECOMMENDATIONS:

Mayor Pro Temp Henkel asked Mr. Corbin for his update. Mr. Corbin recognized that Mrs. Helen Wise was in the audience tonight.

Water and Sewer Update

Mr. Johnathan Laird stated that well 11 on College Boulevard did not pass inspection. It’s still offline. We’re working with a company called Water System Engineering out of Kansas. What’s going to happen is they will send us two vials to pull two samples from the well. Then we’ll take the samples and send them off. Then they’ll review the samples and hopefully give us an idea of what we need to do to correct the problem.

We had 44 water calls, 21 sewer calls, made five water taps and 41 sewer taps. At the stormwater project on Thomas Branch, across from the high school, we’re awaiting clay sample results. Once they pass, they’ll begin laying drain underground to the pond.

We’ve had our inmates back for a week and a half. We lost them again due to one of them having COVID-19. We did get a $16,855 reimbursement from the State, so the street department is working to maintain the holding pond around the City. Within the next few weeks we’ll be starting the sidewalk extension project again beginning with Edgewater Drive. Discussion followed.

Councilman Schaetzle said yes. We’ve been struggling to get well 11 back online now for four months… five months? We used Poly Engineering, and I think another company in between. Now we’re going to another out-of-state firm for advice. Is there something more that we can look at that’s causing this? Basically, they’re telling us the problem is in the aquifer. We’re not too sure. This is a recommendation from Poly Engineering, to use this company out of Kansas. They’re trying to help us out with the situation, said Mr. Laird.

We really don’t have a choice said Mr. Corbin. I guess we have a choice as to what company we choose to test it, beyond what’s been tested, but if we don’t test it we’re not
going to get that well back online. The company that hopefully is going to be testing soon said they have had this happen several times and they’ve always got the well back online. Usually this happens because of a pinhole leak in the casing, but if you recall we changed out the casing. We spent about $64,000 on doing that. We think it’s in the aquafer itself. So, we think this company is going to recharge, or at least put chlorination into the aquifer, that will create a flume and if it doesn’t clear it up, then we’re going to have some issues with a big well that produces 800 gallons per minute, and we’re going to have to address that issue if that happens, said Mr. Corbin. There were no other questions for Mr. Laird. Mayor Pro Tem Henkel and Mr. Corbin thanked Mr. Laird.

Mr. Corbin asked Ms. Ammy Hanson to bring us up to date on some good news. Okay; Ammy Hanson stated we received notification today from the state of Florida that the City was approved for the 2020-2021 Florida Recreation Development Assistance Program (FRDAP) grant. This is a grant for $108,750 to rehabilitate the Neal property, which is part of the Turkey Creek property. We purchased that property to eventually include an educational center. This grant will help create, with the labor of our City crews, an ADA compliant canoe/kayak launch and recovery facility, a fishing platform, an observation deck, and picnic facilities. The boardwalk will connect to the existing boardwalk. So, from that property, you will be able to park there and walk from that boardwalk to get to those youth facilities, as well as to the original Turkey Creek South Park. It will also have money in there to improve the parking lot. I know people park in various ways that is not always helpful to other people. It will be more of a parking lot like Turkey Creek South. It will also use impervious surfaces, like Turkey Creek South, so that it won’t be causing such muddy conditions down there.

Mayor Pro Tem Henkel asked the amount of the grant? Ms. Hanson stated it was $108,750. We were scored number 21 by the State, and they had selected 40 large development projects, totaling almost 7.5 million dollars. The State Legislature, actually this year for FRDAP grants, approved 12 million dollars for recreational grants for the state of Florida, which is really good. For the past few years, they have not supported any projects, said Ms. Hanson.

Councilman Schaetzle asked, and the location again where this money is going to be applied? Turkey Creek South is right on John Sims Parkway, right next door is a red brick house that’s called the Neal property, that we purchased about 13 or 14 years… it’s been a while since we purchased that. It won’t renovate the house, but this will actually provide a place where people can take their water devices out. If you put it in at the north park, now you can take it out there, instead of having to go someplace else. So, it
provides greater accessibility to the creek for people, and those picnic facilities will always be used, as well as the fishing platform, so people can go there and they will have a safe place to fish and it won’t interfere with anyone who is swimming in the creek. And, there will be an awesome observation deck so people can view the creek, said Ms. Hanson.

Councilman Schaetzle said, probably this is a question for Mr. Corbin. When do you expect to be able to start this project? Our position on this is that in-kind services are going to be our match. I was talking to Ammy about that today. I think it is a two-year project, so I think we have some time on what we are going to do there. This is really going to enhance one of the most beautiful parks in this area to begin with. It’s something we have looked at for a long time. Where this is going is a big cove. If you look from the pavilion to the north, there is an area that’s a big cove there. That would be good for kids to fish. There’s going to be a fishing platform and an observation platform. We’re going to build a walkway down to it. We’re going to build a walkway from there and tie in to the pavilion. Ms. Hanson and Dr. McCartney have done a great job putting this together for us, said Mr. Corbin. That’s great, said Mayor Pro Tem Henkel.

Mr Corbin asked Ammy to brief the status of the Breland property, Mrs. Hanson stated she spoke with to the Florida Communities Trust (FCT) this week. They are still hammering out the final details for the purchase of this property. They have almost everything that they need to complete the purchase, but we are still waiting on their end for the final numbers. Mr. Corbin stated there was money left over in the Florida Forever Fund, and we were lucky enough to get $780,000 of that money. That means from the corner of Early Street and John Sims, we now will own all of the frontage from there all the way to the Comfort Inn Suites. That sort of finishes the puzzle. We now own nine plus acres in that area. Now, the big thing is developing the property. We’re going to make a beautiful area out of that nine acres. We have some plans and we will present them to the Council when we finally sign the bottom line on that purchase. Mr. Corbin thanked Dr. McCartney and Ms. Hanson.

Councilman Schaetzle asked if there is any City matching in-kind effort also? They pay 51 percent and the City pays 49 percent said Mrs. Hanson. We had matching property, such as the property we purchased with USAF grants to buy the Lloyd Mill property. There were two we purchased right on the creek and also the Generations Church property, and that little property that we purchased from the County on the north side of Turkey Creek, up at the top, said Ms. Hanson. Yes; they allowed us to use property that we already purchased along Turkey Creek, to use as part of our match. Otherwise it
would have been a lot more than it is, said Mr. Corbin.

Mr. Corbin called on Mr Steve Rausch to bring us up to date on where we are with the budget. Mr. Rausch stated that the 2021 budget which covers October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2021 which will be approved in September, and we are nearly complete with the draft budget and it is going to be discussed by the Council in August and we’ve already had some departmental meetings. We’ve looked at revenue and expenses, and right now the department heads are asking for what they need and what they want to better perform their mission, but it’s a lot more than the revenue can support, especially considering the pandemic and its effect on revenue. So, the City Manager is going to have a lot of difficult decisions to make about what he wants to do because he has to bring to you a balanced budget and as of today it is not yet balanced, but it will be on the day you vote. Right now, we have a shortfall, between what’s been asked for by the department heads, and what the projected revenue will support, of between four and five million dollars. The revenue is a little bit down from last year and the expenses are a little bit up from last year, and that does not even include any potential pay raise for any employees. That is just based on keeping a zero percent increase in pay. So, we are talking about some capital expenditures, and things like that, being in the budget and some grant money. Some of that is just pass-through, but there is a little bit of matching fund expenses. If you have any questions, I’d be happy to answer them, said Mr. Rausch. I might add to that, said Mr. Corbin, in all of our departments, we are under budget. The staff and all of our supervisors realize the situation we are in and they’ve all been very conservative on spending, so we’re going to be under the budget on almost all of those departments, unless we have some issues, like in water and sewer that you cannot control. They’ve done a great job signing on to this budget. They realize that this pandemic might last beyond October one, so Mr. Rausch and Mr. Doucet have done a good job keeping me up to date on where we are financially. Mayor Pro Tem Henkel said it sounds like you have a lot of challenges ahead of you! A lot of “no’s” said Mr. Corbin.

**Police Department - Update**

Chief Popwell stated that during the month of June 2020, the Niceville Police Department responded to 4,727 calls for police assistance. There was a total of 35 traffic crash reports written involving 64 vehicles and one pedestrian. The estimated amount of damage to these vehicles and related property was $177,314. We wrote a total of 138 traffic citations and 238 traffic warnings were issued, 21 misdemeanor arrests, 9 felony arrests and one DUI. The DUI was at 146 North Partin at 6:24 am. They didn’t want to cooperate as to where they got the alcohol from. So that gives you a short version.
I'm going to tell you a few more things about the 4,727 calls. We had seven 911 accidental calls and seventy-two 911 welfare checks. That's where people dial 911 and we actually have to go to their house. We had 56 agency assists. That's with Okaloosa County or Valparaiso for law enforcement agency assists. They need back-up or they want some help. We did 29 business alarms, nine residential alarms, one alcohol-related incident, that was the DUI. We had two animal complaints, animal control calls, Baker act, and domestic violence-battery. We had one business burglary. We did 2,730 business checks for business people in the City, checking the businesses during non-duty hours where we rattle the doors and check the windows, and make sure that they lock their doors. We had 40 assisting contacts, which is just general calls where they stop us. We had civil disputes where people are arguing, or it could be a landlord and tenant dispute. We had four civil stand-bys, that's usually during a divorce decree, where someone is just there to pick up property. We're there to keep the peace. We responded to counterfeiting. We had 36 disabled vehicles, 192 foot patrols, 42 fingerprints, fireworks, two fraud cases, one road hazard, two harassments, three identity thefts, one injunction violation, and 31 criminal investigations related to ongoing investigations, said Chief Popwell.

As of today, we have a collegiate high school student who has been with us for the last two weeks. We're helping her with a senior capstone project. So, she is learning what law enforcement's all about. We'll send a little note back up to the high school to help her graduate. We deal a lot with mentally challenged individuals. In one case in particular we've had 253 calls to one house since January 1st. Our subjects got a mental health issue and has a hand gun. It's very suspicious and strange. We have another gentleman that's been around the City for a while. He's got some mental challenging issues. We had an issue in the front parking lot of City Hall, with him having a baseball bat and he was upset because he got fired from Eglin Air Force Base. We had to deal with that. Those are some. We also have homeless issues. We've dealt with them. We've also dealt with the big bear issue, trying to keep the residents safe from the bears. That's been kind of interesting to deal with. We're working with fish and game on that one.

We also had a fun one a little while ago. Some people stole some boxes off of a front porch of a house. And, come to find out, they were presents. Of course, the family wasn't really in a financial position to replace all of the presents. So, without prodding, the guys went ahead in shifts, contacted everybody else, and took up a collection. They asked the parents what the presents were and they went over to Walmart and bought that family presents. In another instance, we had a homeless lady from Mississippi, who had nowhere to go and was here. She needed to get to Mississippi. We took care of getting her
transportation, a bus ticket and ride to get her back home to where she belongs. We have been checking all the buildings at night for all of the business owners, and we find businesses where the business owners forget to lock the doors. We call them and wake them up in the middle of the night and we tell them; hey not only did you forget to lock your doors, but you forgot to turn your alarm on. So, we try to save them money in those areas.

Chief Popwell stated that the biggest thing we’re dealing with right now is the general uncertainty of what’s going on. COVID is a problem for everybody. It’s not just us, it’s everybody. But, the officers are still keeping their heads up. They’re doing the best they can. They’re amazing. If anyone has not come out and ridden with them, I ask you all. You don’t even need to ask me. Just come out. If you see one of our patrol cars, they know who you are. Jump in, especially on the night shift.

Mayor Pro Tem Henkel and Attorney Powell thanked the Chief and his department for their hard work.

Fire Department – Update

Chief Mayville stated that during the month of June we responded to 99 calls; 95 of those were within City limits. Four were mutual aid calls outside of City limits, highway accidents and assisting other agencies. We had one building fire, one cooking fire, two excessive heat, 56 medical calls for vehicle accidents with injury. We EMS transported four patients to the hospital. We had a Niceville gas leak, two power lines down due to a storm, two illegal burns, seven service calls to residents, 13 good intent calls, and ten business alarm activations.

He further stated that everybody wants to know what’s going on with the virus. It’s serious. Do not play it down. If you have a temperature of 100.4, you need to be concerned. If you have flu-like symptoms, you need to be concerned. But, the big one is, if you have difficulty breathing, then we’re really concerned. Then we want you to go to the hospital and get checked out. There are a lot of false positives. There are a lot of positive cases. We are keeping up with all of the flu-like symptoms cases in town, not just us, but also the County and Health Department.

We meet with Mr. Corbin and staff that he’s put together to meet on the virus and the issues that we go through. I’m pretty sure he’ll fill you in on that. We constantly are monitoring what’s going on in the City. So, we know where all of the positive cases are.
And, these people have been very good at staying home and not getting out and about. We have had some firefighters get tested. The results aren't back yet. So, we may have to deal with some of that. By all means, take precautionary measures. Wash your hands. Do what you need to do. Stay on top of it. But I don't want you to panic either, because you can get over it. We're seeing a lot of positive signs with everybody staying healthy, and it's affecting the ones with weak immune systems. So, get healthy and stay healthy.

We finished our Insurance Services Office (ISO) inspection. We're waiting on that. We combined both cities for our inspection. It is a lengthy process. It's something that takes us about eight months. We'll be getting that back in eight months. How does that affect you? It affects you on your premiums. It really affects business hours. Right now, we have an ISO classification of three. You get a pretty good break on that. I pat my guys on the back out there because they do an outstanding job. To have an ISO rating of three, there's not too many departments in the whole country that have an ISO rating of three. It is really extremely hard to get a two or a one. So, we are in the top percentage with three. Outstanding work for our fire department.

The trucks have been tested and certified. The pumps are all good on our trucks. We are working with Mr. Corbin and staff on our budget. We are undergoing negotiations on labor contracts with the union. Also, we've done numerous drive-by parades, from a lot of folks that are staying home and don't want their kids out. You know, don't get sick. Keep it safe.

The fireworks went off without any problem. We had a lot of people complaining that there were people popping fireworks. Well, you can pop fireworks in the State of Florida on certain days, and that's the 4th of July and New Year's Day. So, that law has changed. So, all of those folks entering over to Alabama getting those fireworks and coming back. I guess it's okay, said Chief Mayville.

We had a lightning strike on our boat down there. We had to fix the boat lift. It got into one of our poles and we got that fixed. It was an emergency fix. That cost us about six hundred dollars. They came in and did it really quickly and we were back in service. Does anybody have anything for Chief Mayville? Chief let me just say that what you guys do is also very admirable. We appreciate what you guys do and we appreciate all of those who have made sacrifices to make sure that we're all safe. Pass it on to the guys.

Mr. Corbin stated that we are working with Ruckel Properties and still working with them on the re-use water. The County, as I reported during the last two Council meetings, they are funded to put in the re-use line back to here. We are working on an agreement with the County on an agreement on how much re-use we will get from the County. It is probably going to take another month or two to figure all of that out. But, it's going well.
Councilwoman Alley stated that we started moving forward with the walkable City again. We were kind of on hold for two or three months and the sign is designed and we’re moving forward. I’m excited for it to start happening. Phase one is the signs. Then, part of the redevelopment of the Turkey Creek area will be where the billboard is going and we have submissions coming in for the billboard. We saw one the other day and it was pretty nice. Anyway, I’m excited about that, said Councilwoman Alley. Discussion followed.

How many signs do you have asked Councilwoman Boudreaux? Do you remember the total count, Councilwoman Alley asked Mr. Corbin? There’s going to be about seven in seven different locations, replied Mr. Corbin. I think there may be more than that said Councilwoman Alley; there’s several. Yes, agreed Mr. Corbin, and they point you in the direction of the library, and City Hall and it’s a very nice site. It takes you down Bayshore Drive, and then over to Palm, and then back to the City and then down to Turkey Creek, said Councilwoman Alley. Right, said Mr. Corbin; and, helping her is Amanda Grandy. Greg Pope is working with us from Accent Signs.

We do have a new park. We got it from the County about two months ago and people are anxious on what we’re going to do with it. We have cleared it. We’re going to put grass in there, an irrigation system, and we’re going to have a walkable-type park. We’re going to have trails around it, some benches, but not a lot of playground equipment and that type of thing. It’s going to be from the corner of Rocky Bayou Road a little past Forest Road. We had a lot of questions about it, said Mr. Corbin. I came up with a name for it, said Councilwoman Alley. What do you want to name it asked Mr. Corbin? Airstrip Park said Councilwoman Alley.

We are trying to get the PD repair and maintenance work out of the way so we can start back with the Senior Center. Hopefully the repair and maintenance will be finished on that project really quickly.

Valparaiso Realty is reporting that most of their businesses, like I reported last time, are back working. If you haven’t tried the new Peppers, I tried it yesterday for lunch. It’s very good. That’s over there by the Holiday Inn Express. Ms. Hanson has already told you about what we’re getting as far as a grant. There’s a lot to do and as Robert Frost said, miles to go before we sleep.

There’s a blood drive on July 23rd. Chief Mayville has informed you about why you should wear a mask. That’s all I have.
Chief Mayville said, Mr. Corbin if I might add, the fireworks show was absolutely outstanding, the citizens of Niceville said. I got a complaint that the music was too loud; but it is only one time per year, said Mr. Corbin.

**Technology - Update**

Chad Morris briefed the Council regarding the resolution that was tabled in March on the award of the water and sewer bid for Benton and Nutmeg. If you remember at that meeting, we discussed the fact that the bid had come in quite a bit above budget. I believe, and my numbers are not exact here, we had budgeted in the neighborhood of $300,000 and it was $330,000 or $340,000. The average was in the area of the water project on Benton. So, the Council had requested that I go back and work on breaking that down into just the sewer, because the sewer project on Nutmeg was under budget. I worked with Poly Engineering a little bit. We got with Construction Services, who was the low bidder. They came back and gave us the price which I gave you the paperwork tonight. It’s 146 thousand dollars and some change there. That is just for the sewer project. So, I’m assuming that we’ll be budgeting to do the water project next year with the higher budget amount. So, my request is that you approve this award to Construction Services. The original resolution had a not-to-exceed amount of 331 thousand and some dollars. I’d like to change that to $146,179, said Mr. Morris.

Well, the original resolution was 20-03-02. It was not to exceed $331,199. So, what you’re requesting right now is an alteration to this. We’re going to only do the sewer project and it’s going to be not to exceed $146,179. Is that correct asked Mayor Pro Tem Henkel? That is correct said Mr. Morris; and when we did the bid it was a unit-price bid, so this is just basically just taking the unit prices that they gave us for that project. The only difference would be in the mobilization charges and a couple of the legal things, where it applied to both projects before, they reduced that a little bit for a single project. I did go back in and compare that latest quote, $146,179, those unit lines and amounts and quantities, to the other bidder that had bid originally. I did not get a total on it, but I was over $232 thousand when I stopped. So, definitely Construction Services still would have won by a substantial amount, even if we had only bid the unit prices for the sewer lines, said Mr. Morris.

Do we need to amend the motion or make a completely new motion from the previous resolution, asked Mayor Pro Tem Henkel? This has already been advertised and we tabled it, so all we have to do is submit a revised resolution with the same number, the number to be assigned tonight. Dan would give us a number said Mr. Powell. Then just amend the resolution to include the sewer bid of $146,179. So, we would submit that.
You all just need to approve that resolution as amended, said Mr. Powell. Okay; so, the amendment is to basically change the $331,199 to $146,179 for sewer services only, said Mayor Pro Tem Henkel.

Before we make a motion, I’d like to ask a question said Councilman Schaetzle. So, if we do sewer only, are we planning on coming back for the water portion of it? Mr. Morris replied, next fiscal year we’re budgeting for that. The amount we budgeted for this year was not enough to cover this, and that’s what the Council had requested that I do. Okay; so, is there any economy of scale? If we’re going to go dig a trench and do something underground to lay a sewer line, are we contemplating coming back next year, and digging that trench back up to do water construction? Or are they doing things concurrently in anticipation of the water project that we’re going to have to do, asked Councilman Schaetzle? No; these are two separate projects. The water project is on Benton Avenue and the sewer project is on Nutmeg. So, we’re not going to do the water project on Benton right now. The difference would be a slight additional few thousand dollars additional costs, and that’s the mobilization charges. They’re reducing the mobilization charges because we’re only doing one project, but it’s not half. It’s still more than half of the amount that they had quoted originally, because they were going to move from one project to another with their equipment that was already here. So, it will probably need to be rebid next year for the water project. So, I can’t guarantee that there won’t be any increase in construction cost and things like that. But, as far as the cost of us breaking it down and doing this project by itself, that’s not going to add additional cost. The additional cost, if any, will be because we wait until next year, said Mr. Morris. Thank you, said Councilman Schaetzle. Are there any other questions, asked Mr. Morris? Mayor Pro Tem Henkel asked do I hear a motion to amend the previous resolution? Councilwoman Boudreaux moved to amend. Alright, and the amendment would be again to delete the water project, reduce the amount, and put in the new amount of $146,179. Councilwoman Alley seconded. There was no further discussion. Council Vote: Henkel-yes; Schaetzle-yes; Boudreaux-yes; Nodjomian-yes; Alley-yes. Motion passed.

Chad said he had one other item; I gave you a quote from Thompson-Cat. This is a purchase that we are requesting. This current fiscal year, the water and sewer department had budgeted $286,000 for a new vac truck. Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, production was shut down. We weren’t able to get it ordered because they weren’t open for business. Once they opened back up and started production again, it will be well after the end of September before we would be able to receive this truck, so we are moving that into the next year’s budget, because it will obviously be next year before we can get it. We can’t buy it out of this year’s money.
That being said, one thing that we were going to put into the budget for next year was a mini-excavator. The one that we’re currently using is 15 or 16 years old. It has been having some fairly major problems. It has been in the shop several times over the past couple of years and at several thousand dollars per trip to the shop. Mr. Laird and Mr. Mathews were requesting that we put one into the budget for next year, because we have that $286,000 that had been budgeted for the vac truck that we’re not going to be able to spend this year, rather than putting this $43,390 for the mini-excavator in next year’s budget, we thought we would request that we go ahead and purchase it out of this year’s budget, out of the water and sewer department. There would be $43,390 less that we would be requesting in next year’s budget. This is a Sourcewell contract. It is a pre-bid national cooperative contract. There is no problem. It is an item that is over $25,000 was not approved previously by the Council, so we would have to bring it to the Council and have your approval before we can do it.

Any questions for Chad, asked Mayor Pro Tem Henkel. Mr. Corbin asked Johnathan to come up and explain what we used the mini-excavator for on mostly a daily basis. Johnathan said we use the mini-excavator every day, on a day-to-day basis, laying water lines, sewer lines, small laterals going to homes, everything that you can possibly think of. It’s a 2005 Caterpillar. So, it’s 15 years old. It’s in and out of the shop in Pensacola. And, we’re really having a lot of problems with it, said Mr. Laird. Mayor Pro Tem Henkel asked if there were any questions and there being none, asked for a motion that we approve this expense for an excavator. Councilwoman Boudreaux moved approval. Councilwoman Alley seconded the motion. Any discussion by the Council, asked Mayor Pro Tem Henkel? Councilman Schaezle asked, if we approve this, and you place the order, are you still going to get this during this fiscal year? Mr. Morris replied yes, we can get the mini-excavator this fiscal year, but the truck we could not get this fiscal year. Council Vote: Henkel-yes; Schaezle-yes; Boudreaux-yes; Nodjoman-yes; Alley-yes. Motion passed

Mr. Morris said the only other thing I have to tell you is we finished up, yesterday, the movement of the exchange server, our email server, over to the new network system. There have been some little hiccups and issues. I know Councilwoman Alley mentioned that she was having problems on her computer checking web mail. That’s the first I’ve heard of an issue with web mail, so I will be checking on that first thing in the morning. If you have any problems with email or anything, make sure you let us know because it’s moving really well so far. But there have been some hiccups, and we had another issue this morning where we were not getting mail for several hours from outside the network and that’s part of the fun of installing a new network. Thanks Chad, said Mr. Corbin.
Mayor Pro Tem Henkel asked Mr. Fray if he had anything he wanted to say tonight. No; I think the work is done, said Mr. Fray; the banks gave very good rates. If you look at the bond buy index, which is an index of tax-exempt rates in the market, they decreased one and a quarter percent over the past year, and your rates today reflect that. They were very competitive. You had a 1.95 percent which won the day. You had a 1.96 percent and the other four were clustered above that. So, I think the success of the generator and the purchase of the CRA land will serve the City well. Thank you, said Mr. Fray. Thank you Mr. Fray I appreciate it. Good news, said Mayor Pro Tem Henkel.

**Bills Payable:**

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

Councilman Schaetzle said I think it appropriate to give thanks to everyone who works for our City, for all of the work that they have been doing, especially through the trying times with COVID-19. A lot of times it’s not recognized; not outright appreciated. But the fact is, people who see it happening do appreciate it and we thank you.

Councilwoman Boudreaux said I’m so proud of our City employees. They did an excellent job. I also wanted to say something about the fireworks. I’m right there with Tommy. I was very impressed with the fireworks and the music. Once again, I watch it by the Citgo place and when the national anthem comes on just before the fireworks start, everybody stood up. It was just such a good feeling like we are all united as one team as Americans. I really enjoyed that evening. Thank you so much!

Mr. Nodjomian said two quick comments. Just a quick update for the Council. We have continued to have negotiations with the Fire Department on the collective bargaining agreement. It is going extremely well. We don’t have a report out yet, but I think we’re down to one article to work through and we had a total of 48 articles, so credit to Mr. Corbin and Dan and Steve and Danielle and Tommy, as well as all the folks on the collective bargaining unit. Everyone is bargaining in good faith. I’m really pleased so far.

Then, on a much lighter note, our Youth Advisory Council submitted a nice package for an award at the end of June. Dan Doucet, I don’t believe we have results yet, do we? No sir; not yet, replied Mr. Doucet. Okay; I really hope this becomes another winning submission for the group. I look forward to ushering a new group here this August, at the
August meeting. It will be there first Youth Advisory Council meeting for the next group. So, thanks for the time.

Councilwoman Alley said tomorrow night is Niceville High School graduation. Families are given four tickets only to hand out to family so they can go. Luckily, we will be able to go to see our granddaughter graduate and walk across the stage.

Do not forget, Councilwoman Alley added, next Tuesday, if you live within City limits to come and vote. It will be in the Community Center, 7 am to 7 pm next Tuesday night. Everybody is very confused between the Niceville election and the August 18th election. But, next Tuesday is the Niceville election.

And then, I'd like to say something really nice about Judy and Dan (Councilwoman Boudreaux and Mayor Pro Tem Henkel) because one of you will not be here next month. I have totally enjoyed my short term here on the Board of a year almost, serving with both of you. Thank you very much. I've been honored to work with both of you, and unfortunately one of you will not be back here next month. Thank you for all that you have done for the City. Thank you, Cathy. (Councilwoman Alley). That's sweet, said Councilwoman Boudreaux.

Mayor Pro Tem Henkel said, let me pass on just a few items. As you know tonight we recognized our cheerleader State Champions. We are planning on, at some point in time, recognizing our boy's High School Soccer team who also won the State Championship. We hope that when that occurs you come out and you give them a great welcome just like you did our cheerleaders tonight. Because, again, to be called the State Champions is very exceptional. And, that's huge, and we're proud of them! They work hard.

The other thing is I got a call today from Living Faith Church. They are going to be distributing fruits and vegetables again this Saturday. For those of you that may or may not be aware of that you can go and pick up stuff. The City tries to do some distribution stuff and I have already talked briefly to a couple folks tonight. I wanted to talk to you a little bit more offline to see if we want to pick up a number of boxes again and distribute them from over in the Senior Center area there. We can chat some more about it. I can tell you what I've got already, said Mayor Pro Tem Henkel.

I would like to open it up to citizens. Please come forward and state your name and address for the record. Good evening. I'm Sue Ann Wilson and I live at 2403 Rocky Shores Drive. I'm here tonight about the overrun park area, and I just wanted to thank the City for doing this. It's all cleared out now and at least a few times, I've been walking my
dog past there and we’ve seen Mr. Coyote and we could avoid him, so that was nice. And also, with Smoky running around the neighborhood, we could avoid him as well. So, I would like some more information about when the contracts for the sod. What’s the timeline for sodding the new park? Mr. Corbin said it’s a good question and we just finished with the clearing of it. It’s going to take about $40,000 to irrigate it, sod it, and put the walkway around it. But, we’ve got the money in this year’s recreational budget for it. So hopefully we can get started on it pretty quickly and take advantage of the hot weather so we can grow some grass, said Mr. Corbin. Yes; that would be very nice. There are people asking me about it. We should start that pretty soon, right Mr. Laird? Yes sir, replied Mr. Laird. It might have been a runway overrun asked Ms. Wilson? We should name it Overrun Park she suggested. That implies that we’re never doing any maintenance there. I don’t think we should call it Overrun Park, said Councilman Nodjomian. That’s true said Ms. Wilson. I appreciate very much your comments, said Mr. Corbin. You’re welcome replied Ms. Wilson.

Anyone else want to come forward to the Council; state your name and address for the record, said Mayor Pro Tem Henkel. City Council and Mr. Corbin, my name is Charles Jelliffe, I live at 121 Winding Waters Way. I lived in Niceville about three years. I have a wife and three little kids. We love it here. We want to make this our home. We’re always at the Children’s Park and Turkey Creek. We’re super happy with what you guys are doing and what’s going on with the City. My concern is just in the entrance way to Swift Creek and Winding Waters Way and over a creek, the sidewalk project and trying to get those sidewalks implemented there, I’ve been working with a team of homeowners there and I’ve been working with Mr. Corbin. I think we were very close and then COVID hit, so I just wanted to see if you had an update sir on that, said Mr. Jelliffe. I do; there are a lot of places that have been around longer than Swift Creek, that we are obligated to put sidewalks there, but we might be able to make it before the end of this year to put sidewalks there. If not, we can do it in the beginning of next fiscal year. The fiscal year starts in October. We asked the company that’s going to be putting in the sidewalks for us today, and they should be starting on three sidewalks before the end of this month. Am I right Johnathan? They are supposed to start in three weeks, said Mr. Laird. But, your area has been targeted and we will do that, Mr. Corbin said to Mr. Jelliffe. Thank you; I really appreciate that, said Mr. Jelliffe.

Councilman Schaetzle asked if the sidewalks will be asphalt or concrete. Mr. Corbin replied that they would be concrete because that’s what we have there and it would tie in nicely with what we have. Councilwoman Alley said it is not actually in Swift Creek, it is actually down Winding Waters Way, which is actually the North entrance from Highway
285 to Coldwater Creek Circle. Right now, there is no sidewalk and everybody walks there trying to go to Rocky Bayou School and there is no sidewalk on Winding Waters Way. Mr. Laird said everything we looked at to pave will be all concrete. Alright, said Mayor Pro Tem Henkel, it's all concrete for all sidewalks this phase.

Well let me thank you for coming in tonight. I appreciate your participation. Do we have any special guest that were here that were maybe working on some special project? Here comes our official historian. State your name and address.

Ms. Elisa Michener introduced herself saying she lives on 6023 Strong River Lane, and for six years I have been coming here for our Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) statue and where going to get it. The only problem now is because of COVID, the art gallery that is constructing it for us says that instead of three months, it must take up to five months for us to get it. Niceville had the first CCC camp in the State of Florida and it's taken us this long to get it. I'm just elated. You know this is just one person working really hard and then lots of help. Thank you, Cathy, (Councilwoman Alley). Thank you Lannie (Mr. Corbin). It's done. We're going to have it. It's ordered and that's what's important said Councilwoman Alley. Where's it going to be located asked Councilwoman Boudreaux? Turkey Creek said Mr. Corbin. Yes, near the pavilion at Turkey Creek said Ms. Michener. So, I guess you'll see it while driving down the road, as well as in the park itself, said Ms. Michener. That's great. Great news. Thanks, said Mayor Pro Tem Henkel. Good job said Councilwoman Boudreaux!

There being no further discussion the meeting adjourned at 8:49 PM.

Daniel Proctor
CITY CLERK

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