

January 26, 2016
Regular Council Meeting
12191 Magnolia Springs Hwy.
Magnolia Springs, Al.
5:00 P.M.

1. Call to Order

Mayor Underwood called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Members present – Mayor Ken Underwood - Council Members: Jim May, Bob Holk, Donna Esslinger and Ben Dykema. Not present: Dotty Johnson. Also present: Town Clerk - Karen S. Biel

3. Invocation and Pledge – Mayor Underwood

4. Approval of Minutes – December 2015

Workshop Meeting – 12/01/15

Regular Council Meeting – 12/15/15

Motion by Councilmember May, 2nd by Councilmember Esslinger to approve the minutes as presented. All in favor. Motion carried.

5. Approval of Financials and Expenditures – December 2015

The Mayor reported: Balances as of 12/31/15 - General Fund - \$100,920.28. Income - \$40,116.98, Expenses - \$53,518.91. Money Market – \$232,904.92. CD - \$54,178.14. Special Revenue 4, 5, & 7¢ Gas Tax – Income \$345.80 – Balance \$19,904.38.

Motion by Councilmember Esslinger, 2nd by Councilmember Dykema to approve the financials. All in favor. Motion carried.

6. Public Comment

Brett Gaar discussed with the council the Watershed Management Plan that Mobile Bay NEP has been working on. They discussed projects and properties that might be of a particular importance from an ecology stand point, which could make restore funds available. Mayor Underwood stated that he is on the steering committee for Magnolia Springs.

7. Resolution 2016-01 - Contract renewal with United Way.

Motion by Councilmember Esslinger, 2nd by Councilmember May to approve Resolution 2016-01. All in favor. Motion carried.

8. Arbor Day Proclamation

Mayor Underwood stated that the approval is for the Arbor Day Proclamation and the expenditure for the purchase of the trees.

Motion by Councilmember Esslinger, 2nd by Councilmember May to approve the Arbor Day Proclamation and expenditure. All in favor. Motion carried.

9. Library Resignations and Appointments

Mayor Underwood stated that Mary Emmett and William Given have resigned from the board.

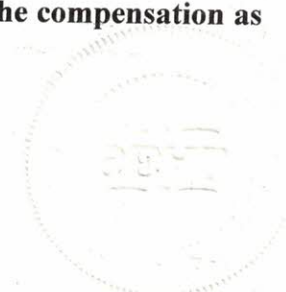
Motion by Councilmember Dykema, 2nd by Councilmember May to accept the resignations of Mary Emmett and William Given. All in favor. Motion carried.

Motion by Councilmember May, 2nd by Councilmember Dykema to appoint Alida Given to fill the unexpired term of William Given (07/31/2018) and to appoint Berengher Brechtel to fill the unexpired term of Mary Emmett (07/31/2019). All in favor. Motion carried.

10. Council Compensation

Mayor Underwood explained that the compensation will be for the newly elected council members in November 2016. The clerk added that if there were to be a change then it would have to be voted on at this meeting because it must be approved six months before the election.

Motion by Councilmember Holk, 2nd by Councilmember Esslinger to leave the compensation as it stands. All in favor. Motion carried.



11. Upper Bay Street Drainage and Paving Project

Motion by Councilmember Holk, 2nd by Councilmember May to approve the work to be completed by R&S Paving & Grading in the amount of \$35,325.00. Discussion: Mayor Underwood asked if other estimates were solicited. Councilmember Holk stated there were not other estimates solicited. The project amount was under the limit for bidding out the project (\$50,000.00). Councilmember Holk stated that there was some crossover work at Oak Street with the two proposed projects. Councilmember Holk asked R&S to refigure their estimate to add the culvert work at Oak Street. The additional price for the work is \$4,175.00. He added that he checked on HMR's estimate and the work would be about \$8,300. Councilmember Holk said that he did not include the removal of Cindy Robles culvert since it is a little larger culvert than what is below Bay Street and we just spent money cleaning it out. He said that if in the future it needs to be replaced then it can be done.

Mayor Underwood called for a roll call vote: Councilmember May – Yea, Mayor Underwood – Nay, Councilmember Holk – Yea, Councilmember Esslinger – Yea, Councilmember Dykema – Yea. Four Yeas' – One Nay. Motion carried.

12. Lower Bay Street Drainage Project

Mayor Underwood reviewed with the council the town's financial status in 2014 and the present. He stated that the town is ahead about \$106,000 - \$108,000.00 compared to this time last year. Mayor Underwood presented the council with an estimate from HMR Engineers for the upper Bay Street project. Mayor Underwood stated that taking off the work at Oak Street would reduce the estimate for construction cost about \$8,000 - \$10,000 from the original cost of \$56,315.00. Councilmember Holk asked that it be tabled at this time to see how the upper part does. He added that he has talked to a few residents in that area and they are interested in doing something on their property. Mayor Underwood stated that he had given an evaluation of that corner property 10-15 years ago right after it was given a wetlands delineation survey. Whether you can go in and drain a wetland is up to the Corp of Engineers and would require a permit. Councilmember Dykema stated that within the last twelve months we spent money digging out the ditches from Zeanah's all the way down to Island Avenue and put in the riprap. He added that when he goes by there it seems to be working and he has concerns on why the town should spend money where we spent it twelve months ago. Councilmember May stated that he has two concerns: one being that some of this work might be able to be included in the Watershed Management Plan restoration that Brett Garr spoke about earlier; second, he stated that he knows we have the money to do both projects but we don't need to spend it all. Councilmember May added that we would be paying down to the point where we don't have the money to deal with some urgent situation that might be created in six months or a year from now. This could be before we can recoup the money that we've spent on these drainage projects. He stated that we need to pause and see what happens with both the drainage on north Bay Street and with the money we have. Councilmember Esslinger stated that she would like to see a quote that accurately reflects what will be done on lower Bay Street before we approve it. She added that she would feel better moving forward with the previously approved project and get an more accurate quote for the next meeting for the lower Bay Street project. Mayor Underwood stated that if he had known that Councilmember Holk had added the Oak Street work to his project that he would have asked HMR to revise their quote. Mayor Underwood will have the new quote for the next meeting.

Motion by Councilmember Esslinger, 2nd by Councilmember May to table Bay Street project till the next meeting pending more information. All in favor. Motion carried.

13. Council, Legal Counsel and Staff Comments


Councilmember Holk stated that he receive an estimate from R& S Paving to add two speed tables on County Road 49 and it will be between \$6,000 - \$8,000 per speed table. He suggested discussing the speed tables at a workshop.

Mayor Underwood said that the Historic Commission is working on the kiosk for Magnolia Landing. Materials for the structure are about \$700.00 and the display cases are about \$430.00 each.

Motion by Councilmember May, 2nd by Councilmember Esslinger to adjourn the workshop. All in favor. Motion carried.

Meeting ended at 5:55 pm

Approved this the 25th day of February, 2016


Kenneth D. Underwood – Mayor

ATTEST:


Karen S. Biel – Town Clerk