

June 8, 2021

Regular Commission Meeting

The Regular Commission meeting met June 8, 2021 in the Commission Chambers with the following commissioners present. Walter Olds, Arthur Obar, Walter Douglas, Curtis Pinkard and Tim Welborn, John McClendon

Also present were Eugene Adams, Michelle Watkins, and Frank Bondurant by phone, Josephine Curry, Ricky Williams, Tommy Dennis, Joan Troutman, Dorothy Padgett, Chester Padgett, Hilda McClendon, Jon Sims, Tony Watkins, and Connie Mitchell

Obar adjourned the meeting and turned the meeting over to Frank Bondurant for the reorganizational portion of the meeting. Bondurant stated that he was not there in person that evening; he asked that Michelle Watkins administer the oath, as notary and city clerk to the newly seated commissioners.

Watkins requested that Mr. McClendon come forward and Mr. Pinkard stand raising their right hands and administered the oath of office. Bondurant thanked Watkins. John McClendon took his place at commission seat.

Bondurant stated that the next item on the agenda was nominations and appointment of Mayor and Mayor pro tem. Bondurant called for said nominations.

Olds nominated Obar for mayor. Bondurant asked if there were any further nominations for mayor. There were no further nominations. Bondurant called for a vote from the commission on Obar being appointed mayor. All commissioners voted in favor. Bondurant stated that Mr. Obar would serve as mayor for the coming year.

Bondurant called for nominations for the office of Mayor pro tem. Pinkard stated that he nominated Mr. Olds. Bondurant stated we had a nomination for Mr. Olds asked if there were any further nominations for the office of Mayor pro tem. There were no further nominations for Mayor pro tem. Bondurant called for a vote on Walter Olds serving as Mayor pro tem for the coming year. All commissioners voted in favor of Walter Olds serving as Mayor pro tem. Bondurant stated that Mr. Olds would service Mayor pro tem for the coming year.

Bondurant stated at that time he would turn the meeting back over to Mayor Obar.

Obar moved forward with departmental assignments to commissioners. Obar stated that Commissioner McClendon would be over Parks and Recreation and Sanitation. Obar stated he would continue with administration, Obar stated that Commissioner Davis would have water sewer and streets, Commissioner Pinkard would have fire, and Commissioner Olds would have Police Department.

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Obar asked if we had any modifications to the agenda. Welborn stated he would like to modify the agenda by adding the agenda that he had submitted earlier to the mayor. Obar asked for wishes of the commission.

Josephine Blandenburg addressed the Commission sharing the mission of the Jackson County Senior Citizens summarizing that it allowed for meals and opportunity for recreation and socialization. Blandenburg stated they were in the process of getting reopening. Blandenburg stated that they were hiring and stated packets were available. Blandenburg stated that they were specifically requesting a volunteer to drive the transportation van. Blandenburg thanked the Commission for the opportunity to share with the community.

Adam presented resolution 21-0608 requesting advertising closing portions of certain alleys and street related specifically to the former Graceville Elementary school. Adams stated that the current owners were requesting that city close certain unopened alley and streets to clean up the title of the property. Olds made a motion to approve. Davis seconded. All voted in favor.

Adams presented an inter local agreement with Jackson County related to the 6th Cents Local Option Fuel Tax. Adams stated that this would continue to provide revenues from fuel sales beginning. January 1, 2022.

Bondurant stated that under the statute it was a 10 year levy. Bondurant stated that all of the Cities share in the revenues based on population.

Olds made a motion to approve the inter local agreement continuing the Fuel tax. Pinkard seconded. All voted in favor.

Adams presented the services agreement between City of Graceville and Jackson County Economic Development Committee. Adams presented the Agreement stating that the cost of such agreement was equivalent to \$4,448 annually. Davis asked how long this organization had been working within Jackson County. Adams stated that prior to EDC there was an organization named Jackson County Economic Council which was funded by the county and city of Marianna. Adams stated that organization was involved in Rex Lumber development, and incentive package. Obar cited other projects in other areas of Jackson County. Olds made a motion until such time that the

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Economic Development Committee could present further information. Davis seconded. All voted in favor.

Adams stated that there was a second round of CARES act funding coming directly to the City rather than through the County. Adams stated that it was a significant amount and he was requesting authorization to open a separate Bank account to place said funds into. Watkins stated that the Federal Government had not passed a final review. Watkins stated that she felt over the next 60 to 90 days more information would be forthcoming. Watkins stated that there was a great deal of emphasis on Water and Sewer. Olds made a motion to authorize opening of the bank account. Davis seconded. All voted in favor.

Adams presented the managers' report indicating that the CDBG project for the main lift station at the WWTP was experiencing delays due to manufacturing delays due to COVID. Adams stated that the contract was not at fault but they had been unable to get the parts needed. Adams stated that the time table was unknown at time of meeting.

Jon Sims stated that contract had timely placed the order for needed equipment but it was simply not available. Sims stated that there are anticipated additional delays that were beyond anyone's control.

Davis requested if there would be a problem with extending. Adams clarified that we might potentially miss a cycle due to requirement to close out current grants prior to applying for new grants.

Adams stated that Olds Mill Creek was being advertised and proposals for engineering services will be back on June 22, 2021. Recommendation would be forthcoming.

Welborn addressed the Commission and Requested that Adams clarify if the road was going to be open to heavy truck traffic challenging that the road needed to be limited on weight.

Adams stated that the city preferred that trucks stayed on State Roads.

Welborn continued to challenge truck in residential areas.

T. Watkins asked if this was citizen comments. Welborn addressed Watkins in a hostile manner related to him addressing the commission.

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Bondurant addressed the Commission stating that there was a three minute public address limit.

Pollock asked if school supplies were going to be distributed to Graceville School. Watkins stated yes.

Pollock asked about plans related to Vanity Fair property. Adams stated a private company had made an offer on the property and he felt that they would be successful.

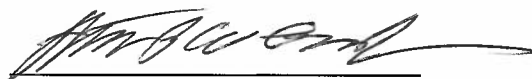
Welborn addressed Bondurant asking for a copy of the rule related to three minute limit on public comment.

Obar called the meeting to order and called for commissioner comments.

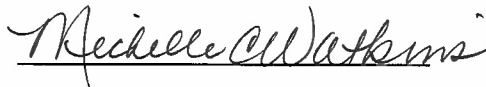
The Commissioners thanked all for coming out commending the individuals that had been elected.

McClendon addressed the public thanking them for their support during the recent election. McClendon stated that he wanted to represent everyone and stated that he wanted everyone to get along and work together.

Obar adjourned the meeting.



Arthur P W Obar, Mayor



Michelle C. Watkins, Attest