

Minutes
November 9, 2023
Regular Meeting

Commissioners Present:
Commissioner Steve Remke
Commissioner Paula Bell
Commissioner Sharon Rudd

Commissioners Not Present:
Commissioner Paul Sheddán, Mayor
Commissioner Dan Albers

A quorum being present, the meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm.

Pledge of Allegiance and invocation led by Commissioner Remke.

Motion to adopt minutes of October 12, 2023, regular meeting made by Commissioner Sharon Rudd. Seconded by Commissioner Paula Bell. All voted in favor, 3-0.

Guest Shadrach Hines provided an update on the activities of the Waterfronts Florida Partnership.

Commissioner Steve Remke noted the absence from the meeting of City Manager Zoe Mansfield and Administrative Assistant Ethel Jefferson, remarking that agenda items noted under the City Manager portion of the meeting agenda would have to be addressed at the next regular Commission meeting in December.

Attorney Bill Garner reported to the Commission that Commissioner Paul Sheddán had communicated that afternoon by e-mail that he would not be present at the meeting due to being called away for a family health emergency out of town. Attorney Garner passed along Commissioner Sheddán's request that his requested agenda items be moved to the agenda for the next regular Commission meeting in December, and that City Hall schedule and advertise a planning and zoning meeting for 5:30 pm on November 30, 2023, or other date that works for the Commissioners present. Based on availability, Commissioners selected December 14, 2023, the date of the next regular Commission meeting to schedule the requested planning and zoning meeting.

Commissioner Sharon Rudd asked to be recognized, whereupon she made a motion to remove Commissioner Sheddán from his role as Mayor effective immediately, stating her reasons for making the motion. Commissioner Steve Remke seconded the motion, and opened the matter for discussion among the Commissioners, and then took public comment. During public comment, a presenter shared with the Commission a petition being circulated among the electors of the City for the recall of Commissioner Sheddán from his office as Commissioner. Following discussion and public comment, the Commissioners voted 3-0 in favor of the motion.

Commissioner Sharon Rudd then moved to name Commissioner Steve Remke as the new Mayor. Commissioner Paula Bell seconded the motion. Commissioners discussed the motion and public comment was taken. Commissioners voted 3-0 in favor of the motion.

Commissioner Steve Remke, having accepted the new role as Mayor vacated his prior role as Treasurer and moved to name Commissioner Paula Bell as the new Commission Treasurer. Commissioner Sharon Rudd seconded the motion. Following discussion, the Commissioners voted 3-0 in favor of the motion.

Commissioner Steve Remke proposed that the City adopt the same practices as Wakulla County in requiring applicants seeking an accessory use on their property contiguous to property with the primary use to assure that the two properties have a “unity of title”. Attorney Garner stated that adoption of the practice by the City would require an amendment to the City’s code. The Commission directed Attorney Garner to begin work drafting language for an Ordinance and to schedule a workshop on the matter in conjunction with the next regular Commission meeting in December.

During the open public comment period, numerous residents indicated their support for Zoe Mansfield to continue in her current role as City Manager. Commissioners discussed the need for continuity should any situation arise in the future where both the City Manager and Administrative Assistant are not available for any extended period to open and operate City Hall. Commissioners suggested the need for a written procedures manual and requested Attorney Garner to communicate their request that the City Manager and Administrative Assistant begin preparing such a document, and to communicate their desire that a report be made of its status at the next regular Commission meeting in December.

Commissioner Paula Bell moved to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by Commissioner Sharon Rudd. All in favor, 3-0.

Adjourned at 7:05 pm.