

***City of Chipley***  
**Regular Council Meeting**  
**Minutes**  
**February 8, 2022 at 6:00 p.m.**

**Attendees:**

Ms. Tracy Andrews, Mayor  
Mr. Brett Butler, Council Member  
Mrs. Linda Cain, Council Member

Mr. Kevin Russell, Mayor Pro-Tem  
Mr. Tommy Sasser, Council Member

**Others Present Were:**

Mr. Dan Miner, City Administrator  
Mr. Michael Richter, Police Lieutenant

Mrs. Patrice Tanner, Asst. City Admin./City Clerk  
Mrs. Michelle Jordan, City Attorney

The data reflected in these proceedings constitute an extrapolation of information elicited from notes, observations, recording tapes, photographs, and/or videotapes. Comments reflected herein are sometimes paraphrased, condensed, and/or have been edited to reflect essential subject matter addressed during the meeting. Parties interested in receiving a verbatim account of the proceedings are responsible for coordinating with the City Administrator and providing their own representative and equipment pursuant to Chapters 119 and 283, Florida Statutes.

- A. **Call to Order.** The meeting was called to order by Mayor Andrews at 6:00 p.m.
- B. **Prayer and Pledge.** Prayer was given by Mr. Sasser and Mayor Andrews led the pledge to the American Flag.
- C. **Approval of Agenda.**

**A motion was made by Council Member Russell and seconded by Council Member Sasser to approve the agenda as presented. The motion passed unanimously.**

**D. Citizens Request.**

The City of Chipley welcomes you to this meeting. This is time set aside for the Citizens of Chipley to address the City Council. This is not a question and answer period, it is not a political forum, nor is it a time for personal accusations and derogatory remarks to/or about city personnel. If you would like to address the City Council please raise your hand to speak, state your name and address for the record and limit your comments to no more than three (3) minutes per Florida Statute 286.0114. To ask a question via phone; dial \*9 and wait to be recognized/unmuted. If you are attending via webinar, there will be an onscreen option to ask a question during the public comment portion of the meeting. Your participation is welcomed and appreciated.

No citizen requests. No further discussion.

**E. Agenda Items.**

- 1. **Approval of Ordinance No. 972 (Public Hearing)** – Amendment to Chapter 30 – Signs. Mr. Miner explained this ordinance will amend Chapter 30 – Signs as reviewed by the Planning & Zoning Commission for approval by the City Council. Discussion ensued. Mayor Andrews closed the regular meeting and opened the public hearing at 6:03 p.m. Mr. Miner read Ordinance No. 972 by title:

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF CHIPLEY, FLORIDA,**

**AMENDING CHAPTER 30 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES RELATED TO SIGNS; ADDING CLARIFYING LANGUAGE REGARDING TYPES OF REGULATED SIGNS; ADDING PROHIBITIONS TO REGULATED SIGNS; PROVIDING FOR ADDITIONAL TYPES OF PERMITTED SIGNS UNDER CERTAIN CONDITIONS; PROVIDING FOR REVISED PERMIT REGULATIONS; PROVIDING FOR REMOVAL OF SIGNS AFTER CLOSURE OF A BUSINESS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR REPEALER; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

Regina Wolfgang – 672 Main Street, Chipley. Ms. Wolfgang explained that as a sign professional and concerned citizen, she is not in agreement with the changes being made to the sign code. Examples are taking signs in and out may not be feasible; and only allowing 2 or 3 signs. She stated she sees cherry picking and she wants to see fairness. Ms. Wolfgang further explained that the citizens and business owners are not made aware of the requirements of the Code, and she would like to see this addressed.

Mayor Andrews stated there are some permitted signs that business owners can have under Section 30-4b. Are those signs the type of signs Ms. Wolfgang is referencing. Attorney Jordan stated to her knowledge they would be. She also stated there will always be uninformed people in the community and that is why this has to be handled from the enforcement side. We can put out promotional information, information on social media, local newspapers, notices in the utility bills, but people do not read that stuff. The best thing we can do is have regulations that we can enforce. Unfortunately, it is very difficult from a government standpoint to be proactive; we generally have to be reactive. Attorney Jordan stated she believes the ordinance is drafted the best way. The Council has had multiple discussions on this topic, and we are not getting a lot of feedback on it. Ms. Wolfgang made a good suggestion to remove signs from businesses that have closed, and we did incorporate that into the ordinance, and we welcome her contributions. Mr. Russell asked if this ordinance addresses signs in the right-of-way and Attorney Jordan stated that is the State. Mayor Andrews explained that after several discussions on this topic we hope this will outline and correct some of the things that might have been done in the past. If it is approved tonight then it should eliminate some of the concerns and issues. Discussion ensued.

Mayor Andrews closed the public hearing and opened the regular meeting at 6:27 p.m.

**A motion was made by Council Member Sasser and seconded by Council Member Butler to approve the final reading of Ordinance No. 972. The motion passed unanimously.**

2. **Ordinance for Amusement Centers and Game Rooms** – Discussion. Attorney Jordan explained this is a very rough draft ordinance which takes the existing definitions and strikes those out and incorporates the definitions from the state statute governing these amusement centers. Under this ordinance, a family amusement arcade establishment would be something like a Chuck E. Cheese or Dave & Buster's. This ordinance addresses businesses whose primary activity is gaming; it does not address pool halls. The pool halls are addressed in other parts of our code. She further explained that whether these regulations apply to a business is a very subjective analysis and we need to look at what the majority of their business is, in order to properly classify them. One of the things our code does not address and may need to be considered is the fact that the county has gone wet; and is the city okay with the sale of alcohol at these places. Dave and Buster's does sell alcohol, but they are included in the family amusement games act, so they are allowed to exist and operate. If the City does not want to allow the sale of

alcohol at these types of establishments, then we will never get that type of business here in Chipley. If we are going to allow alcoholic beverage sales at family amusement arcade centers, then we should add them to the definition of “entertainment establishment” under Chapter 4 of the Code. She stated that currently the definition of an entertainment establishment is a pool hall, bowling alley or night club. If you want to specifically prohibit alcohol sales at family amusement arcade centers then that can be added to the ordinance, as well as any other restrictions the Council would like to see placed on these establishments. Mayor Andrews stated the Council would like to hold a separate workshop and would like a copy of the alcohol ordinance with Attorney Jordan’s markup showing what will need to be changed due to the changes with Washington County now allowing the sale of alcohol. Discussion ensued.

3. **Approval of Resolution No. 22-12** – FDEO Agreement No. M0014 – Northwest Stormwater System Restoration & Flood Resiliency Improvement Project. Mr. Miner read Resolution No. 22-12 by title and explained this resolution will approve the FDEO Agreement No. M0014 in the amount of \$2,916,118.79, for the Northwest Stormwater System Restoration & Flood Resiliency Improvement Project. Discussion ensued.

**A motion was made by Council Member Russell and seconded by Council Member Butler to approve Resolution No. 22-12. The motion passed unanimously.**

4. **Approval of Award of RFQ No. 2022-01 for Professional Engineering Services Continuing Contract.** Mr. Miner explained this will award the Professional Engineering Services Continuing Contract to David H. Melvin, Inc. and Mott MacDonald, based on the scoring of the Selection Committee. This will allow us to alternate between the two firms and bring a Task Order to Council for approval, instead of having to advertise for each project separately because that process takes at least a couple of months to do each time and is costly. Discussion ensued.

**A motion was made by Council Member Cain and seconded by Council Member Butler to approve the Award of RFQ No. 2022-01 for Professional Engineering Services Continuing Contract to David H. Melvin, Inc. and Mott MacDonald. The motion passed unanimously.**

#### **Other Matters:**

Mr. Russell stated people are parking on 2<sup>nd</sup> Street instead of in the parking lot for ballgames at the gym, and this is very dangerous. Mr. Miner explained side street parking is allowed unless we sign it “No Parking”. Mr. Miner stated he will get Mr. Tate to speak with the parents about it due to safety concerns. Discussion ensued.

The meeting was adjourned by Mayor Andrews at 7:13 p.m.

City of Chipley

Attest:

Tracy L. Andrews, Mayor

Patrice A. Tanner,  
Assistant City Administrator/City Clerk