

**TOWN OF FORT WHITE, FLORIDA
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES**

DATE: MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2020
TIME: 6:00 P.M.
PLACE: FORT WHITE TOWN HALL (TELEPHONIC MEETING)
118 SW WILSON SPRINGS RD.
FORT WHITE, FL 32038-0129

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mayor Ronnie Frazier
Councilman Donald Cook
Councilman James Richardson
Councilwoman Mary Fleming
Councilman Bill Koon

OTHERS PRESENT:

Town Clerk Connie Brecheen
Town Attorney Koberlein Law Office
(Fred Koberlein, Jr.)
Dale Williams, Consultant
Karl Plenge, IT---absent

ITEM – 1 – ADDITIONS, DELETIONS, CHANGES AND APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

A motion was made by Councilwoman Fleming with a second by Councilman Richardson to move item #4. 1. A. B. C. and D. to the end of the agenda. Motion approved unanimously.

ITEM -2-MINUTE APPROVAL

A motion was made by Councilwoman Fleming with a second by Councilman Cook to approve the minutes of the August 10, 2020 meeting. Motion approved unanimously.

ITEM – 3 –PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

ITEM – 4– NEW BUSINESS

2. Connie Brecheen, Interim Town Clerk

- A. **Public Hearing**---First reading of Operating and Enterprise budgets for fiscal year 2020/2021. motion made by Councilman Cook and a second by councilwoman Fleming to approve for the second reading the proposed Operating and Enterprise budgets for fiscal year 2020/2021 for the second reading.
- B. Request for the Town of Fort White to pay \$1,237.70 to Arthur Coker for car repairs caused by falling tree. No action taken by the Council.

- C. Funding for SW Jordan Street Project approved by FDOT-----Information for Council.
- D. CDBG Grant---request for project suggestions and return of income verification forms. Councilmen Richardson and Koon stated they have not received forms. Councilman Richardson will come to Town Hall to pickup and Councilman Koon will call with an email address.
- E. USDA Solar Program---Information for Council.
- F. Approval of Professional Services Agreement between North Florida Professional Services and the Town of Fort White. Motion to approve made by Councilman Cook and a second made by Councilman Richardson. Motion approved unanimously.
- G. Ordinance 199-2019 requires a 3% increase in water rates for residential and a 1% increase for commercial effective October 1, 2020. Council requested to discuss further in a budget workshop to be scheduled.
- H. Permission to purchase coconut filters for water system in the amount of \$7,995. Mayor Frazier questioned the timing and the necessity for the purchase. Town Clerk advised to contact Two Fold Engineering and obtain information.
- I. Permission to enter into a service contract with PowerSecure in the amount of \$1,335.00 annually for water plant generator maintenance. Motion to approve made by Councilman Cook and a second by Councilwoman Fleming. Motion passed unanimously.
- J. Approval of Resolution #2020-210 extending the State of Emergency arising from the Covid-19 pandemic. Motion to approve made by Councilman Richardson and a second by Councilman Cook. Motion passed unanimously.
- K. Mandatory ethics training for elected officials scheduled for October 14, 2020. Town Clerk was instructed to contact Florida Ethics Commission and obtain information.
- L. Schedule for Covid-19 testing in Columbia County---Information for Council.
- M. Recommendation to hire Town Clerk. Councilman Richardson made a motion to hire Connie Brecheen. A second was made by Councilman Cook. Motion passed unanimously.
- N. Recommendation to call a Special Meeting for September 22, 2020 at 6pm to discuss the proposed budget for fiscal year 2020/2021, the second reading of the proposed budget for fiscal year 2020/2021, and to allow Richard Powell, Powell and Jones to present the fiscal year 2018/2019 audit. Motion to approve made by Councilwoman Fleming. A second was made by Councilman Koon.

1. Fred Koberlein, Town Attorney

- A. **Public Hearing** (first reading of Ordinance 2020-208 amending Ordinance #217 changing Town Council meeting date and time to the 4th Monday of each month at 6pm. Motion to approve made by Councilman Cook. A second was made by Councilwoman Fleming. Motion passed unanimously.

Lowell Garrett-eda

- B/C. **Public Hearing** (first reading) of Ordinance #2020-209 Future Land Use Map Amendment from Commercial to Industrial (CPA 20-01) and (first reading) Ordinance #2020-210 Official Zoning Atlas Amendment from Commercial General to Industrial (LDR 20-01). After much discussion between Mr. Flanders, Mr. Garrett, Council members, and Attorney Koberlein it was agreed to continue to the next meeting.

- D. **Public Hearing** (first reading of Ordinance #2020-211 concerning Voluntary Annexation of approximately 97.39 acres of parcel #04063-001. Motion to approve for second reading made by Councilman Richardson and a second made by Councilman Koon. Motion passed unanimously.

ITEM - 5 -Adjournment

Motion was made to adjourn by Councilman Cook with a second by Councilwoman Fleming. Motion carried unanimously.

Minutes of the Town Council meeting may be obtained from the Town Clerk's office. The minutes are recorded, but not transcribed verbatim. Persons requiring a verbatim transcript may make arrangements with the Town Clerk to duplicate the recordings or arrange to have a court reporter present at the meeting. The cost of duplication and/or court reporter will be borne by the requesting party.

In accordance with Section 286.0105, Florida Statutes, notice is given that if a person wishes to appeal a decision made by the Town Council with respect to any matter considered at this meeting they will need a record of the proceedings, and for such purpose may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceeding is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is based.