

On Monday, January 9, 2023 at 6:00 p.m., the City of Wauchula Commission met for its regular meeting in the Commission Chambers at 225 East Main Street, Suite 105, Wauchula.

**Nadaskay called the meeting to order.**

Commissioners present were Mayor Pro-Tem Neda Cobb, Commissioner Russell Smith, Mayor Keith Nadaskay, Commissioner Gary Smith and Sherri Albritton.

Also, present were City Manager Terry Atchley, Deputy City Manager Olivia Minshew, Assistant City Manager/Finance Director Sandee Braxton, Assistant Police Chief Brandon Ball, Director of Project Management and Procurement Ward Grimes, Community Development Director Kyle Long, CRA Director Jessica Newman, City Attorney Kristie Hatcher-Bolin and City Clerk Holly Smith.

**Nadaskay declared a quorum.**

**Approval of Agenda**

Albritton motioned to approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Cobb. With no discussion, Nadaskay asked for all in favor, all responded aye. Motion carried.

**Approval of Minutes from December 12, 2022 Meeting**

Cobb motioned to approve all minutes as presented, seconded by G. Smith. With no discussion, Nadaskay asked for all in favor, all responded aye. Motion carried.

This meeting is also being held virtually.

All virtual attendees will be muted upon entry to the meeting. If you wish to participate during public comment, please raise your hand and you will be unmuted.

- To raise your hand from a computer, select "Participants" then select "Raise Hand"
- To raise your hand from a smart device, select "Participants", then select yourself, then select "Raise Hand"

To raise your hand by phone press \* 9

**ORDINANCES/PUBLIC HEARINGS**

**Ordinance 2022-08 - Public Hearing - 2nd Reading - Extending the Suspension and Waiver of Water and Wastewater Impact Fees**

Nadaskay announced the Public Hearing and asked anyone who wished to speak to identify themselves for the record and address the Commission.

Hearing no comment from the public, Nadaskay closed the Public Hearing.

Hatcher-Bolin read Ordinance 2022-08 by title only.

G. Smith motioned to approve Ordinance 2022-08, seconded by Albritton.

Albritton asked was she corrected that the city had not collected impact fees since the ordinance had been passed. Minshew stated that was correct the city adopted an ordinance in 2006 to have the fees waived and they have not been collected since then. The first set of impact fees was adopted by resolution in 1982.

With no further discussion, Nadaskay called for all in favor, all responded aye.

For those opposed like sign, no response. Motion carried.

## **CITY MANAGER/NON-CONSENT**

### **Announce Power Cost Adjustment**

Atchley announced the PCA for November was \$0.043, the same as the prior month. The tax-exempt portion should be \$0.026, the same as the prior month.

### **Bulk Power Supply Recommendation – Bill Herrington**

Minsheu addressed the Commission and advised them that Bill Herrington was attending the meeting virtually.

Herrington addressed the Commission and began his presentation.

Herrington stated he was very pleased with the presentation. Herrington explained power gets to Wauchula through FPL Generation, FPL Transmission System and Duke Energy Transmission System. Bulk Power Supply represents about 40-50 percent of electric costs. Competitive Bulk Power Supply prices are fundamental to maintaining low electric rates. The current power supply contract was with FPL and expires in December 2023. Herrington explained the solicitation began a year before the expiration because the filing of all the documents were lengthy. Herrington stated the solicitation process was for both Wauchula and Bartow with Wauchula picking up 18% of the cost and Bartow with the remaining 82%. Herrington explained the Invitation to Negotiate was issued September 9, 2022 and numerous proposals were received. Herrington stated he only completed an evaluation of the PPA type proposals. The PPA type proposals received were from Duke Energy Florida, Florida Municipal Power Agency, Florida Power and Light and Orlando Utilities Commission. After evaluating the proposals Herrington concluded that the FPL proposal was superior. Herrington explained the breakdown of charges to the Commission. Herrington stated this is why he wanted to attend the meeting in person. The proposed contract will lower the bulk power supply cost in 2024 by \$1.75 per MW-hr relative to the existing contract in price in 2023 (about 3 percent). Herrington presented his recommendation to the Commission.

Albritton asked if the customers would see the reduction in 2024. Herrington stated the city would see the reduction in 2024.

Tim Gerrish – FPL

Gerrish addressed the Commission and explained that FPL was making renewal energy and by 2045 would be carbon free.

Atchley stated the City of Wauchula has been with FPL since 2011 and staff agreed with Herrington's recommendation.

Albritton asked the length of the contract. Herrington stated 2024-2030.

Albritton motioned to accept the recommendation for Bulk Power Supply and authorize Bill Herrington to commence contract negotiations with FPL and authorize City Manager to sign contract pending Bill Herrington and City Attorney review, seconded by Cobb.

With no further discussion, Nadaskay asked for all in favor, all responded aye.

Motion carried.

### **Avail Benefits**

Derren Bryan – Avail Benefits

Bryan addressed the Commission and explained in June 2022 Albritton Insurance was acquired by Acentria Insurance. Bryan stated Avail Benefits LLC was separate from Acentria. Acentria remains the City's agent of record. Bryan stated Nicole and he would like to continue working with the city as an oversight of the insurance program from the Avail Benefit perspective. Avail Benefit is benefit consultants. Bryan stated they want to establish a contract at no cost. Bryan advised that United

Healthcare had given the city a premium holiday of \$25,000, which was Avail's basic service fee. Bryan stated that is how it would be no cost to the city. Bryan explained Avail Benefits helps its clients gain context and control of their employee benefits program, with strategies that are driven by analytics, and program oversight that brings about best practices, statutory compliance and transparency. Avail's job is to make sure all the players of the insurance program are doing what the strategy says they are supposed to be doing. Albritton commented in the past the city has not had a consultant on their side. Bryan replied correct. Bryan stated Avail will work with the city with getting insurance quotes whether it is for carrier or agent. Avail will assist with anything pertaining to insurance. Nadaskay stated he felt the city someone to do this for us. Albritton asked if the city would have to go out for bid. Atchley stated Avail was a single source provider and no. Atchley added the first year would not cost the city a dime. Albritton asked when would the year begin. Atchley replied whenever a contract was executed. Albritton asked why would United Healthcare pay the city to retain Avail Benefits. Bryan stated UHC's reasoning was to try and hold consistency and to retain the city's business as well. Bryan added they do not want any disruption and wants the City of Wauchula to stay with them. Nadaskay stated Avail's role was similar to Bill Herrington's. R. Smith asked if it was an annual contract. Bryan replied yes currently it was written as an annual contract with a renewal clause. Albritton asked to clarify the \$25,000 credit, the first year is a freebee/vacation and do you anticipate \$25,000 next year. Bryan replied yes that was their base contract price. Albritton asked how would the city pay for the services the second year, would it be in the budget Bryan stated he hoped the city would be please with their services and continue the contract. Albritton asked if the presentation was something for the Commission to ponder or vote upon tonight. Atchley replied tonight there was nothing official and staff recommendation the Commission to direct staff to work with Avail Benefits to bring back a contract at next month's meeting.

G. Smith motioned to approve for staff to work with Avail Benefits to bring back a contract at next month's meeting, seconded by R. Smith.

Albritton stated she would like to remind city leadership when insurance decisions are made that staff below them are included in the discussion.

With no further discussion, Nadaskay asked for all in favor, all responded aye.

Motion carried.

#### **Resolution 2023-02 – Bid Recommendation – Water System Main Line**

Minshew addressed the Commission and explained Resolution 2023-02. Minshew noted three bids were received and the engineers are recommending the city enter into contract with Cathcart Construction in the amount of \$5,053,725.50. Minshew noted the resolution did refer to it as a tentative award because it still had to go to FDEP for their blessing. Minshew stated this project had three different funding sources.

Albritton motioned to approve Resolution 2023-02 seconded by Cobb.

With no further discussion, Nadaskay asked for all in favor, all responded aye.

Motion carried.

#### **Resolution 2023-03 – Bid Recommendation – Wastewater Biosolids Treatment**

Minshew addressed the Commission and explained Resolution 2023-03. Minshew noted four bids were received and the engineers are recommending the city enter into contract with Poole & Kent in the amount of \$5,724,000. Minshew noted the resolution did refer to it as a tentative award because it still had to go to FDEP for their blessing. Minshew stated this project had two different funding sources.

G. Smith motioned to approve Resolution 2023-03 seconded by Albritton.

With no further discussion, Nadaskay asked for all in favor, all responded aye.

Motion carried.

**Special Event Application – Hometown Happy Hour**

New addressed the Commission and explained the special event application.

Cobb motioned to approve the special event application for Hometown Happy Hour , seconded by Albritton.

With no further discussion, Nadaskay asked for all in favor, all responded aye.

Motion carried.

**Bad Debt Write-off**

Braxton addressed the Commission and explained the annual bad debt write-off. Braxton stated the amount was \$25,285.14 and was for 105 accounts.

Cobb motioned to approve the bad debt write-off, seconded by Albritton.

With no further discussion, Nadaskay asked for all in favor, all responded aye.

Motion carried.

**Project Update**

Braxton gave a brief update on city projects.

**Resolution 2023-01 – Supporting the 2023 FLC Legislative Platform**

Atchley addressed the Commission and explained Resolution 2023-01.

Albritton motioned to approve Resolution 2023-01 seconded by Cobb.

With no further discussion, Nadaskay asked for all in favor, all responded aye.

Motion carried.

**COMMENTS FROM CITY ATTORNEY, COMMISSIONERS, OTHER ELECTED OFFICIALS AND CITIZENS**

Cobb gave RLC and CFRPC updates.

Minsheu informed the Commission that city staff had met with the FEMA representative and some of the properties that had flood damage that was not insured, staff was making repairs to get everyone back in their offices.

**With no further business to discuss, Nadaskay adjourned the Commission Workshop at 7:41 p.m.**

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Mayor Richard K. Nadaskay, Jr.

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City Clerk Holly Smith