

**Town of LaCrosse
Town Council
Regular Meeting
Minutes
November 14, 2016**

Meeting Time: 7 p.m.

Notice: *If a person decides to appeal a decision made with respect to any matter at this meeting or hearing, he will need a record of the proceedings and may need to ensure that a verbatim record is made.*

Call meeting to order

Pledge of Allegiance

Present: Mayor Dianne Dubberly, Councilman Tommy Ewing; Councilman Barbara Thomas; Councilman Johnny Ho; Councilman Jennifer Mclendon; Attorney John Maines; Interim Fire Chief Buddy Harris; Accountant Choi Choi and Town Clerk Lee Forzly. Councilman Giselle Z.Gopaul joined the council after the vote and swearing in by Town Clerk for her to temporary fill Council Seat 5

Approval of Minutes Regular Meeting October 10, 2016

Councilman Mclendon made a motion to approve the minutes. Councilman Ewing seconded the motion
Motion carries

Budget Report - Choi Choi

For the month of October we were consistent with budget

General Fund: The receipt of a \$25,000 loan from Capital City Bank and the payoff of the \$8,828 loan from Center State.

Fire Fund: \$629.00 in overtime due to additional staff for Hurricane Hermie and \$500 PTOC

Street Fund: \$1,750.00 to clean up tree debris from hurricanes .

Cash Balances: The cash balances as of October 31, 2016, September 31,2016 and this time last year were as follows: Total cash 10/31/2015 \$337,047; 9/30/16 \$279,75 and 1/31/3016 \$290,404.

In October 2016, we made an emergency transfer of \$11,000 from the general to the fire fund to cover payroll and insurance payment at the end of September. I plan to transfer the money back to the General Fund this month.

The drop in the savings account reflects our \$57,000 pull from reserves to fund the fire department roof (\$24,650) and operating deficit in the last fiscal year.

New Business:

1. Councilman Ewing made a motion to temporarily fill Council Seat 5 until March 2017 election.

Councilman Thomas seconded the motion. Discussion. Councilman Mclendon wanted to wait to fill the seat until the regularly scheduled March election. Vote 3-1 Councilman Mclendon dissenting.

a. The applications from Giselle Z. Gopaul and Gerry Forbes were reviewed. Each candidate made a statement as to why they were interested in being on the council. Sealed ballots were cast and Giselle Z.Gopaul was unanimously appointed.

b. Giselle Z.Gopaul was sworn in and took her seat on the council.

2. Bid proposal to remove damaged tree from Town Hall. There were two bids submitted. S & S Tree Service- \$1,500 and Frierson and Sons- \$1,575. Councilman Ewing made a motion to accept the bid from S & S. Tree Service. Councilman Mclendon seconded the motion. Motion carries.

3. Bid proposal to install fencing enclosure for the well at the park. Councilman Thomas made a motion to accept the only bid from Sunshine Fence, Inc. for \$2,097.80. Councilman Ho seconded the motion. The bid was accepted contingent on proof of insurance and the completion within 60 days. Motion carries.

4. Councilman Thomas made a motion to accept the audit contract from Reddish and White not to exceed \$7,800. Councilman Ewing seconded the motion. Motion carries. Mr. Maines suggested putting the contract up for bid next year.

Old Business: There was no old business

Public Comments:

Reports:

1. Attorney Report - John Maines - nothing to report

2. Fire Department - Councilman Tommy Ewing

- a.** Councilman Ewing presented the bids for replacing the gas line at the fire station from Ferrell Gas - \$1,564.00 and L.P.G. Mechanical - \$4,568.30 .Councilman Thomas made the motion to accept the bid from Ferrell Gas for \$1,564 Councilman Ewing seconded the motion. Motion carries. **b.** Councilman Ewing made a motion for Councilman Mclendon to submit the A.F.G grant contingent on not being subject to paying full price for the truck and not waiting for reimbursement. Councilman Thomas seconded the motion. Motion carries.

c. Personnel rules - nothing to report **d.** Inventory- to be completed in a couple of weeks. **e.** Call report: Total calls for station - 48 Total calls in LaCrosse town limits 6 (including 1 walk up to station) total fire related calls 13 , of those fire related calls: in town limits 1- in Alachua 3- in High Springs 1 - (on I-75 North of High Springs). In District 22 but not in town limits 8. Of those fire related calls in District 22 and will be counted toward ISO rating with 4 responders - 3

d. Interim Fire Chief Harris brought us up to date on activities in the fire department and mentioned that John Cook will be going to Jacksonville fire department in January. He also told us he had ordered a “jet pack” which is a wireless unit that allows us to utilize the Verizon Network to access the Alachua County Fire Rescue dispatch system

3. Mayor - nothing to report

4. Streets /Streetlights -Councilman Johnny Ho - Turned in his outage report

5. Mowing- Re-assigned to the Town Hall

6. Buildings and Grounds - Mayor Dubberly discussed the cleanup of our property over to the property line and the use of the Walter's Viburnum leftover from our Town Hall landscaping project. Bids to be requested if over \$500.00

7. Parks/Recreation - Town Hall/Councilman Barbara Thomas- nothing to report

8. Library - Councilman Barbara Thomas - nothing to report.

9. Grants -Councilman Mclendon made her remarks in Fire Department section.

Councilman Ewing made a motion to approve the bills Councilman Ho seconded the motion. Motion carries.

Councilman Thomas made a motion to adjourn. Councilman Mclendon seconded the motion. Motion carries. Time: 8:20pm

C.D. Dubberly - Mayor

Lee Forzly - Town Clerk