

Chairman Durwood Stewart called this meeting to order with Council-members Ellen Lewis, Brigham Shuler, John Ritter, and Vice-chairman Tom Clemons present. Mayor Steven Cutshaw, City Clerk Robin Hatcher, and Attorney Summers were also present.

Councilwoman Lewis offered the opening prayer. Kevin Williams led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Councilwoman Lewis moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Councilman Ritter, carried by all.

Councilman Shuler moved to approve the prior month's minutes, seconded by Councilman Clemons, all voted in favor.

Councilman Shuler moved to approve the monthly bills for payment, seconded by Councilwoman Lewis, approved by all.

In response to the Council's request, Kevin Williams, representing the Liberty County School District, discussed and answered questions regarding anticipated impacts that the new Liberty County High School will have on the City of Bristol.

PUBLIC LIBRARY SITE PLAN HEARING

Chairman Stewart opened a Site Plan Hearing to consider approval of a Site Plan submitted by the Liberty County Board of County Commissioners proposing to relocate the Maxwell Harrell Public Library to a lot located on the South East corner of the intersection of CR12 South and Michaux Road in Bristol, lying in Section 6, Township 1 South, Range 7 West, on a 2.18 acre parcel that is currently vacant/pasture land and is currently designated Rural Village Land Use, which allows public buildings and grounds. Chairman Stewart turned the floor over to City Planner Tony Arrant for comments and to assist in facilitating the Site Plan Hearing.

Mr. Arrant established that the Public Library is an allowable use and that the site plan does meet or exceed the City's Land Development Code requirements. He also indicated that with this site plan proposal, one issue before the council was to consider whether to allow access to a city street (Michaux Rd.).

Chairman Stewart attempted to receive comments by the applicant. Clerk of Court Kathy Brown was present, but indicated that she was only there to listen, and was not present as a representative of the LCBCC. The LCBCC did not have a representative present at this Public Site Plan Hearing.

Chairman Stewart opened the Public Comment Period. Public Comments were received as follows:

- 1) Mr. Chris Vowell voiced concerns about 24 hr Wi-Fi availability which encourages people to hang out at all hours of the night; concerns regarding storm water runoff from the parking lot affecting his property; concerns about unwritten family agreements regarding the use of the land; concerns about possible parking lot setback encroachments

2) Mrs. Stacy Vowell voiced concerns about whether a privacy fence or other buffer would be placed between the library and her residence to shield from lighting and noise intrusion.

3) Ms. Pamela McDaniel, Assistant Librarian, informed the Public and Council that the Wi-fi was not controlled locally, but was controlled by Bay County.

4) Stacy Creamer stated that lights and noise during all hours of the night has been an ongoing problem at the current library site, stated that she had been informed that the Wi-fi was a public service and would not be cut off under any circumstance, and also acknowledged that the “partying” existed prior to the 24 hour Wi-Fi.

5) Lesa Armstrong commented that with the proposed site located so close to a school, she was confused how this could be an issue, suggesting that fencing or gates might resolve potential issues.

6) Cari Smith suggested that other land/better location without an adjacent residence might be available and should be sought first.

7) Carolyn Copeland voiced concern about this creating problems within her family, stating this has been family land for over 100 years, and requested that the Council look for a better location.

8) Michael Wahlquist, speaking on behalf of his mother, Kay Wahlquist, stated that she was against the library being placed adjacent to her property.

9) Coy Collins voiced disapproval of the library being relocated to a site that is so close to private residences where it affects families, with his primary concern being family privacy.

There being no further public comments, Chairman Stewart closed the Public Comment Period at 7:06 p.m.

Chairman Stewart reiterated Mr. Arrant’s prior comments, stating that the placement of the Library is under the jurisdiction of the County. The City’s function regarding this is whether or not to approve a Site Plan based upon whether it meets the City’s Land Development Codes, and to address public concerns to the extent that the City can legally do so. Chairman Stewart received comments from each Council-member and Mayor Cutshaw. In order to allow Mr. Arrant and Attorney Summers the opportunity to research what types of remedies/conditions might be legally imposed to satisfy the concerns of the adjoining property owners, Councilman Shuler moved to continue the Site Plan Hearing at a time & date certain, to be continued on Monday, Feb. 19, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. ET, requesting that a representative of the LCBCC be present to speak to issues and concerns brought to the Council’s attention during the Public Comment Period. Councilman Clemons seconded this motion, all voted in favor. Councilman Clemons requested that someone from the Bay County Library System also be present to address the Wi-fi concerns.

Councilman Shuler moved to donate \$100.00 towards the cost of a dumpster to be placed at Veteran’s Memorial Railroad/Train Depot for volunteer clean-up efforts during the month of February, seconded by Councilman Ritter, all voted in favor.

Noah Byler of Dewberry Engineering advised the Council that the FY 2020 FDOT SCOP Application Cycle is now open. He discussed potential resurfacing projects with the Council. The Council agreed that Harvell Street is in need of resurfacing. They also requested that the City’s Maintenance employees pay particular attention when riding the city’s streets in order to

make additional recommendations to the engineers to be considered for inclusion in the FY 2020 SCOP Application.

Based upon a preliminary, worst scenario repair estimate, Councilman Clemons moved to approve taking the City's CAT416D tractor to Ring Power for repairs, recognizing it as a sole source repair shop, seconded by Councilman Shuler, approved by all.

Councilman Shuler moved to appoint Chairman Stewart to serve as the City's representative on the Apalachee Regional Planning Council for CY 2018, seconded by Councilman Clemons, all voted in favor.

There being no further business, Councilman Clemons moved to adjourn, seconded by Councilman Shuler, all voted in favor. Meeting adjourned at 8:18 p.m.

Chairman: Durwood Stewart

City Clerk: Robin M. Hatcher

