**Lee Town Council**

**Regular Meeting Minutes**

**February 6, 2024**

Mayor: James Ruzicka

Council President: Joyce Bethea

Council: Edwin McMullen, Lloyd Burke, Ken Szostek, & Ronnie Bass

Town Manager/Clerk: Sona Hayslett

Attorney: Rhett Bullard

County Commissioner: Brian Williams - Absent

Absent:

Mayor Ruzicka called the meeting to order.

**Amend or Update Agenda**

Council reviewed the agenda.

**Mayor asked for a vote:**

**Action Item**:

A motion to accept the agenda was made by Council President Bethea. Councilman Szostek seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously.

The Minutes for the December 5, 2023 Regular Council Meeting were reviewed by the Council.

**Mayor asked for a vote:**

**Action Item**:

A motion to accept the minutes as printed for the December 5, 2023 Regular Council Meeting was made by Councilman McMullen. Councilman Szostek seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously.

The Minutes for the January 5, 2024 Emergency Special Meeting were reviewed by the Council.

**Mayor asked for a vote:**

**Action Item**:

A motion to accept the minutes as printed for the January 5, 2024 Regular Council Meeting was made by Councilman Burke. Council President Bethea seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously.

**Public Comments:**

Ken Kirk spoke to the Council to inform them of the toxins in the dust clouds on Farm Road

Kathy Bass, a resident that lives on Peachtree, had a complaint about how loud the bands are at the Edge of Town.

**Old Business:**

1. The Council reviewed the updated list of Past Due accounts. There was discussion on writing off the balance of $195.89 for account number 910117.

**Mayor asked for a vote:**

**Action Item**:

A motion to write off the balance of $195.89 for account number 910117 was made by Councilman Bass. Councilman Szostek seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously.

2. Renee Demps, Lee Planning Consultant, monthly reports were reviewed.

3. Discussion was made on keeping the monthly rent charge at the Business Complex for FastPack Packaging like it is until next year.

**Mayor asked for a vote:**

**Action Item**:

A motion to keep FastPack Packaging rent the same until it can be looked at again next year was made by Councilman Szostek. Councilman Burke seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously.

4. Discussion was made on the updated quotes on lawnmowers and tractor quotes. Councilman Bass recommended the finishing mower to be used on the tractor at the parks instead of the lawnmowers.

**Mayor asked for a vote:**

**Action Item**:

A motion for the Town Manager, Sona Hayslett, to shop for the best deal and purchase a lawnmower was made by Councilman McMullen. Councilman Szostek seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously.

**New Business:**

1. Lee Basford, Director of Madison County Emergency Management, presented the Florida Division of Emergency Management Statewide Mutual Aid Agreement. Madison County Emergency Management is asking us to sign the agreement for the Mutual Aid Agreement. We will have to schedule a Special Meeting to adopt the Ordinance.

2. Renee Demps, Lee Planning Consultant, discussed Keith Thompson’s Site Plan for consideration of approving RV Sites for Mobile Home Park on Carney Way. Councilman Bass recommended the property be cleaned up first, and then he can reapply.

3. **The First Public Hearing for Funding Year 2023-2024 CDBG Program Year was opened.** Andy Easton of Andy Easton & Associates had discussion on the Unity Development Block Grant application. He explained the procedures and policies for the funding of the CDBG. There was a meeting with the Citizens Advisory Task Force. The CATF determined it was good to apply for the Neighborhood Revitalization Water Systems and to run water lines to the interchange for the new development.

a) **Public Comments:** Discussion was made on improvements that could be made.

b) The First Public Hearing for the Funding Year 2023-2024 CDBG Program was concluded.

4. Discussion was made on adopting the CDBG policies.

**Mayor asked for a vote:**

**Action Item**:

A motion to adopt the CDBG policies was made by Councilman McMullen. Councilman Szostek seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously.

5. **The Public Hearing for discussion of Ordinances 2024-01 and 2024-02 regarding Code Enforcement was opened.**

a ) **Public Comments:** Discussion was made on who and how the compliance with the Ordinances are enforced.

b) The First Public Hearing for discussion of Ordinance 2024-01 and 2024-02 regarding Code Enforcement was concluded.

6. The final reading and discussion was made on adopting Ordinances 2024-01 and 2024-02 regarding Code Enforcement.

**Mayor asked for a vote:**

**Action Item**:

A motion to adopt Ordinances 2024-01 and 2024-02 regarding Code Enforcement was made by Councilman Bass. Councilman Szostek seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously.

7. **The Public Hearing for Resolution 2024-01 Vacating and Abandoning Certain Roads was opened.**

a ) **Public Comments:** None

b) The First Public Hearing for discussion of Resolution 2024-01 Vacating and Abandoning Certain Roads was concluded.

8. The Final Reading and discussion was made on adopting Resolution 2024-01 Vacating and Abandoning Certain Roads.

**Mayor asked for a vote:**

**Action Item**:

A motion to adopt Resolution 2024-01 Vacating and Abandoning Certain Roads was made by Councilman Bass. Councilman Szostek seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously. Councilman McMullen abstained from the vote, due to a conflict of interest.

9. Discussion was made to table discussion on the accessory buildings around the McMullen House, due to the amount of items on the agenda.

**Mayor asked for a vote:**

**Action Item**:

A motion to table discussion on the accessory buildings around the McMullen House until next Regular Council Meeting was made by Councilman Szostek. Councilman Burke seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously.

10. Appointment was made of the Council President for 2024.

**Mayor asked for a vote:**

**Action Item**:

A motion to appoint Councilman Bass as Council President was made by Councilman McMullen. Councilman Szostek seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously.

**Fire Department:**

Steven Breckenridge gave a report for the Lee Volunteer Fire Department. Breckenridge stated that more volunteers are needed.

**Town Manager:**

1. We will need to schedule a special meeting for quotes on work due to the hurricane. FEMA is expecting the work to be completed by the end of the month.

Bills:

Utility: **#3578 – 3591; ACH #653 - 656; EFT #0103U**

Utility Deposit Account: **NONE**

Debt Service Account: **EFT-16**

General: **#9704 - 9726; ACH #1691 - 1694; EFT#0101 - 0112**

**Mayor asked for a vote:**

**Action Item**:

A motion to pay the bills was made by Council President Bethea. Councilman McMullen seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously.

**Attorney Rhett Bullard:** None

**County Commissioner Brian Williams:** Absent

**Council Member Comments**:

Councilman Bass: Winter is the down time for the town. We need to spruce up the town during this time. Made an inquiry for an update on Ramz Produce. Also stated, the light is out on the tower.

Councilman Burke: None

Councilman Szostek: None

Council President Bethea: Inquired on the quotes for the Town of Lee signs.

Councilman McMullen: None

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

James Ruzicka, Mayor

Attested: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Trisha Burke, Deputy Clerk