**Lee**

**Town Council**

**Regular Meeting Minutes**

**May 2, 2023**

Mayor: James Ruzicka

Council President: Joyce Bethea

Council: Edwin McMullen, Erika Robinson, Dianne Beck, Ronnie Bass

Town Manager/Clerk: Sona Hayslett

Attorney: Rhett Bullard

County Commissioner: 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 Councilwoman Beck. Councilman Bass seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously.

The Minutes for the April 4, 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 April 4, 2023 Regular Council Meeting was made by Councilwoman Robinson. Councilman McMullen seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously.

**Public Comments:**

1. Tim Murphy, a resident of Lee, would like to see if the town can help clean up Ramz Produce building and property.

**Old Business:**

1. The Council reviewed the updated list of Past Due accounts.

2. The discussion on another option for Planning and Zoning services from North Central Florida Regional Planning Council was tabled until more information can be provided.

**Mayor asked for a vote:**

**Action Item**:

A motion to table discussion on the option for Planning and Zoning Consultant from North Central Florida Regional Planning Council was made by Councilman McMullen. Councilwoman Beck seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously.

3. Renee Demps, Lee Planning Consultant, provided her monthly reports. Discussion was made on the revision of her contract with the Town as the Planning and Zoning Consultant. This item is to be tabled until we have more information on item # 2.

**Mayor asked for a vote:**

**Action Item**:

A motion to table the discussion on the revision to the contract, for Planning and Zoning Consultant with Renee Demps, until we have more information on item # 2 under “Old Business” was made by Councilman McMullen. Councilwoman Robinson seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously.

**New Business:**

1. Discussion was made on the process of closing or repairing SE Ragans Ave between SE Seaboard and US Hwy 90, Seaboard and 90 (point), and Kent Lane. Tony Ruff and Tim Demotsis, residents of Lee, attended to voice their concerns.

**Mayor asked for a vote:**

**Action Item**:

A motion to table the discussion on the process of closing or repairing SE Ragans Ave between SE Seaboard and US Hwy 90, Seaboard and 90 (point), and Kent Lane, was made by Councilman McMullen. Councilwoman Robinson seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously.

2. Discussion was made on revising Ordinance 99-18 (Alcohol Ordinance) to state 350 ft. instead of 1,000 ft. from a church or school.

**Mayor asked for a vote:**

**Action Item**:

A motion to keep Ordinance 99-18 (Alcohol Ordinance) as is was made by Councilman Bass. Council President Bethea seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously.

3. Discussion was made on adopting a Procurement Policy for the Town. A sample was provided by DSI.

**Mayor asked for a vote:**

**Action Item**:

A motion to table discussion on adopting a Procurement Policy until we provide our own draft was made by Councilwoman Beck. Councilwoman Robinson seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously.

**Fire Department:**

Steven Breckenridge presented the Lee Volunteer Fire Department monthly report.

**Town Manager:**

1. The Financial Disclosures have been general information. If the governor signs the new law that passed, the Financial Disclosures will require more extensive information.

2. We will need to discuss setting the 2023 tax rate for this year’s budget at our next meeting.

3. The next ethics online class is July 12, 2023 from 10:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. through the Florida League of Cities.

4. We would like to upgrade the Welcome to Lee signs.

Bills:

Utility: **#3447 - 3463; ACH #612 - 615; EFT #0401U - 0403U**

Utility Deposit Account: **#1626 - 1627**

Debt Service Account: **No Activity**

General: **#9521 - 9540; ACH #1575 - 1586; EFT#0401 - 0406**

**Mayor asked for a vote:**

**Action Item**:

A motion to pay the bills was made by Councilwoman Robinson. Councilwoman Beck seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously.

**Attorney Rhett Bullard:** None

**County Commissioner Brian Williams:** Absent

**Council Member Comment**

Councilman Bass: Had an inquiry about having a contractor in case of an emergency, due to the Public Works department being shorthanded. It was stated that we do use CM Brandies for emergencies.

Councilwoman Beck: None

Councilwoman Robinson: None

Council President Bethea: None

Councilman McMullen: None

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

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James Ruzicka, Mayor

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

Trisha Burke, Deputy Clerk