

Councilwoman Haffner aye
Councilman Farris: aye
Councilwoman Brannon: aye
Councilman Dickey: aye
Councilman Day: aye

Carried.

Billing Supervisor King informed the Council that the approved collection agency for delinquent accounts is no longer in business. After reaching out to several collection agencies, she only received two quotes, which she presented to the Council. After a brief discussion, City Attorney Adkinson advised to select an agenda with a comparable rate to what the city previously had. Councilwoman Haffner questioned if the Council could vote on the matter due to this subject not being on the agenda. City Attorney Adkinson said the matter would be added to the next regular meeting in the consent agenda.

h. Planning

1. Planning Director Hughes-Neel provided the Council with an update on Senate Bill 102 related the affordable housing and predicted the bill would become law. She summarized the bill but emphasized the bill would preempt any local government requirement surrounding zoning, density, and height to allow for streamlined development. This bill removes local government's ability to approve affordable housing on residential parcels. She indicated that the land development code would need to be updated if the bill became law in July 2023.

Councilwoman Haffner asked if a property were zoned as commercial or mixed use, would the owner be able to build affordable housing if they wanted on it even if it is not zoned correctly, to which Planning Director Hughes-Neel and City Attorney Adkinson replied yes.

i. Legal

j. Engineering

1. Change Order #3 / Engineering Agreement Amendment #2 - 1.5 MGD WWTF Expansion

City Engineer Knauer handed out an information package to the Council. He provided an overview of the package and asked if there were any questions. Philip Jones of Dewberry and Mark Hickinbotham of Sawcross, Inc. were available to answer questions. He let the Council know there are monthly meetings with USDA, DEP, the Contractors, Inspectors, and other staff. He said on a given day there are 30-60 people working onsite.

He explained the challenges of availability of materials and outlined how employees worked around the challenge to remain efficient.

The change order presented is asking for 310 extra days for substantial completion and 370 days until the final. Councilwoman Haffner asked about the completion date, to which City Engineer Knauer replied that the projected completion date is somewhere around March 2024. Councilwoman Haffner asked for an update for the generator, to which she was told June is still the project delivery date.

Philip Jones of Dewberry Engineering gave the Council an update on capacity. Councilwoman Haffner asked when the plant would be at 0.9 and Mr. Jones said September.

City Engineer Knauer told the Council the monies for this change order would come entirely from grant money for the project.

Moved by: Councilwoman Haffner

Seconded by: Councilman Day

Mayor Barley called for further Council discussion and public comment and there was none.

To approve the 1.5 MGD WWTF Expansion Change Order #3 subject to USDA approval.

A roll call vote was ordered, and the vote was as follows:

Councilwoman Haffner	aye
Councilman Farris:	aye
Councilwoman Brannon:	aye
Councilman Dickey:	aye
Councilman Day:	aye

Carried.

City Engineer Knauer asked the Council for a motion to approve the proposed Engineering Agreement Amendment #2 for the 1.5 MGD WWTF Expansion in the amount of \$214,680.00. He provided an overview of the changes requested and noted the monies for this change would also be funded entirely with grant money. Finance Officer Bowers asked that the motion state the approval was subject to USDA approval.

Moved by: Councilman Farris

Seconded by: Councilman Dickey

Mayor Barley called for further Council discussion and public comment and there was none.

To approve the Engineering Agreement Amendment #2 subject to USDA approval.

A roll call vote was ordered, and the vote was as follows:

Councilwoman Haffner	aye
Councilman Farris:	aye
Councilwoman Brannon:	aye
Councilman Dickey:	aye
Councilman Day:	aye

Carried.

10. Agenda Addition Request

Crystal Harrison of the Okaloosa Walton Homeless Continuum of Care gave the Council a presentation of her organization and the importance of supporting their cause. Mayor Barley and the Council thanked her for attending.

11. Old Business

12. New Business

- a. Mayor Barley
- b. Councilwoman Brannon
- c. Councilman Farris

1. Freeport Elementary School Mural

Councilman Farris presented a drawing and briefed the Council on a project the gifted children at Freeport Elementary School wanted to put together. He described a wall mural they wanted to create in the school with the phrase, "Anchor Here, Grow Here" included. He said Mrs. Lewis, the gifted program teacher, approached him and wanted to have Council approval. He spoke with City Attorney Adkinson who stated it was not a commercial event and he did not see an issue with it. Mayor Barley asked if a motion was needed, to which City Attorney Adkinson said to go ahead and formalize the approval.

Moved by: Councilman Farris
Seconded by: Councilman Day

Mayor Barley called for further Council discussion and public comment and there was none.

To approve Freeport Elementary School to use "Anchor Here, Grow Here" on a school wall mural.

A roll call vote was ordered, and the vote was as follows:

Councilwoman Haffner	aye
Councilman Farris:	aye
Councilwoman Brannon:	aye
Councilman Dickey:	aye
Councilman Day:	aye

Carried.

- d. Councilwoman Haffner
- e. Councilman Dickey
- f. Councilman Day

12. Public Comment

Mayor Barley called for public comment.

Kristine Bacon asked if the Affordable Housing was still being based on all of Walton County, so the income is based on \$80,000.00, to which Planning Director Hughes-Neel replied that it is based on the average median income and the rule is set by Florida Statute. Councilwoman Haffner said she believed it was \$78,000.00.

13. Adjournment

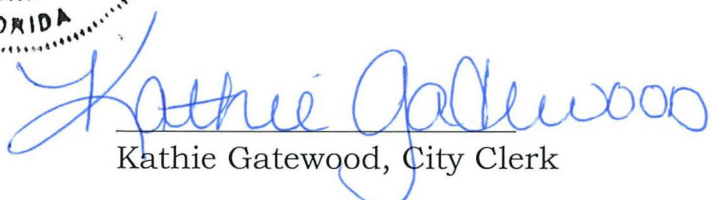
With no other business, Mayor Barley motioned to adjourn at 7:27 p.m.

Minutes were prepared by City Clerk Gatewood and approved by the City Council on April 27, 2023.



Russ Barley, Mayor

ATTEST:



Kathie Gatewood, City Clerk