

City of Chipley
Special Council Workshop
Minutes
August 19, 2019 at 6:00 p.m.

Attendees:

Mr. Brett Butler, Mayor Pro-Tem
Mrs. Linda Cain, Council Member

Mr. Tommy Sasser, Council Member
Mr. Kevin Russell, Council Member

Attending By Phone:

Ms. Tracy Andrews, Mayor

Others Present Were:

Mr. Dan Miner, City Administrator
Mr. Scott Thompson, Police Chief
Mr. Brock Tate, Recreation Director
Mr. Jimmy Cook, Water Utilities Director

Ms. Sherry Snell, Administrative Assistant
Mr. Floyd Aycock, Fire Chief
Mr. Guy Lane, Public Works Director

The data reflected in these proceedings constitute an extrapolation of information elicited from notes, observations, recording tapes, photographs, and or videotapes. Comments reflected herein are sometimes paraphrased, condensed, and/or have been edited to reflect essential subject matter addressed during the meeting. Parties interested in receiving a verbatim account of the proceedings are responsible for coordinating with the City Administrator and providing their own representative and equipment pursuant to Chapters 119 and 283, Florida Statutes.

- A. Call to Order.** The meeting was called to order by Mayor Pro-Tem Butler at 5:00 p.m.
- B. Prayer and Pledge.** Prayer was given by Mr. Sasser and Mr. Russell led the pledge to the American Flag.
- C. Citizens Request.**
The City of Chipley welcomes you to this meeting. This is time set aside for the Citizens of Chipley to address the City Council. This is not a question and answer period, it is not a political forum, nor is it a time for personal accusations and derogatory remarks to or about city personnel. If you would like to address the City Council please come to the podium, state your name and address for the record and limit your comments to no more than three (3) minutes per Florida Statute 286.0114. Your participation is welcomed and appreciated.
- No citizen requests. No further discussion.
- D. Approval of Agenda.**
- E. Agenda Items**

1. Disaster Recovery Funding Information.

Mrs. Ada Clark, Emerald Coast Regional Planning Disaster Recovery Coordinator and Grants Coordinator stated she was working with Washington County and other municipalities taking information and trying to help them prioritize projects so we can forward them to Department of Emergency Management and Department of Economic Development. There are several pots of money and each project can be identified as to which category it should be submitted based on how it relates to whether it is for hurricane recovery or for building resilience in the community. The Department of Commerce announced the availability of funds for economic development projects.

Mr. Sasser stated he sees the inflow and infiltration issues and feels like they were made worse by the downed trees during the hurricane. Mrs. Clark stated there are three types of funding: mitigation with Department of Emergency Management, Department of Environmental Protection and CDBG Disaster Recovery. The type of funding will be determined by the specific problem.

Mr. Butler asked if the Council would be able to get a list of the possible grants and what they cover so as we think of new projects we can figure out if they fit into one of the categories. Mr. Miner stated we already have some projects identified and the number one project and the number one need is the new sprayfield and transmission lines. Our system was overwhelmed by the storm water and we had a lot of rain and flooding during the hurricane. We do have FDEP funds for the design and it should be complete real soon. Mr. Miner explained it is a capacity issue and when we are having to turn down commercial customers due to our capacity issues it becomes an economic development issue. The inflow and infiltration is not an easy thing to identify. Mrs. Cain stated it is causing our overflow in our system. She stated she would like the SCADA system upgraded. She would also like to make sure the Police and Fire Departments have good communication to work with. She added that Shivers Park had flooding and trees down and the walking trail was damaged. We also had roads and streets that flooded; we have a problem with storm water runoff that we cannot handle when it is a lot. Mr. Butler stated he would like to see something more long term than digging retention ponds all over the city. Mayor Andrews asked if there is some type of a study that can be done to identify what we can do to help with these issues and, if so, is there money available for a study.

Mr. Miner stated Mr. Kevan Parker has been working with Water Utilities and Police on SCADA and they already have made repairs along with some improvements which have been paid for by FEMA. He explained that even though the departments use different forms of communication, they share the same tower. He added that generators for tower sites have been discussed as well. Mr. Miner explained that the communications tower came down during the hurricane, not due to it blowing down, but due to trees coming down on the guide wires. We are working with Kevan Parker and FEMA to try and get mitigation funding approved to place a free-standing tower instead of going back with a guided tower. It is being worked on but it is a rigorous process. The county is looking at a

county-wide communications system so everyone can communicate because during Hurricane Michael we lost all communications with each other.

Mrs. Cain asked about generators. Mr. Miner stated you have to look at the maintenance aspect of that because we do not have the manpower to maintain these generators. He added that a pump system might work better in making our system more resilient. Mrs. Clark stated there are no guarantees but the projects need to be prioritized and ready.

Mr. Miner stated the number one project is the sprayfield that has a gap of around \$4 million to complete so we need to help cover that cost. The number two project would be inflow and infiltration. He also added that generators, communications and a shelter were projects identified county-wide.

Ms. Andrews asked about the need for a fire truck with an extended ladder. Mrs. Clark stated the regular CDBG allocation would be best for that. Mr. Miner stated that Mr. Aycock was working with the county on that already.

Mr. Russell stated there was a need for a generator at the public works facility for lighting to be able to get supplies. There was discussion on portable generators versus pad mounted generators and which sites need what type.

Mr. Russell asked if there was anything that would benefit the gas department that had to go to each house to cut off the service. Mr. Miner stated they are required by law to do that and the city has inter-local agreements in place with others to assist in times of need.

Mrs. Clark stated the projects need to be shelf ready. Mr. Miner stated this means the cost is needed in order to submit for funding. Ms. Andrews asked Mr. Miner to identify the top priorities for the city. Mr. Miner stated the number one project is the sprayfield transmission line. The number two project is inflow and infiltration. The number three project is SCADA and communications. The number four project is generators. Mr. Miner stated the county also has the sprayfield and inflow and infiltration projects listed as their priority as well.

Mrs. Clark stated that they need to be mindful because some of the funds could require local funding as a match on projects. She added that state money might be able to be used as that match.

Mr. Kevan Parker stated the LMS has a long range plan in place for next year. There are seven drainage projects in it now and they have been tracking it since the hurricane. He added that Washington County has \$6.5 million and they are going back and forth to try and get a higher amount. This additional funding that we need to look at will come from other agencies.

The meeting was adjourned by Mayor Pro-Tem Butler at 6:00 p.m.

City of Chipley

Tracy L. Andrews, Mayor

Attest:

Patrice A. Tanner,
Assistant City Administrator/City Clerk