

January 12, 2016  
Council Workshop  
12191 Magnolia Springs Hwy.  
Magnolia Springs, Al.  
5:00 P.M.

**1. Call to Order**

Mayor Underwood called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

**2. Roll Call**

Members present – Mayor Ken Underwood - Council Members: Dotty Johnson, Jim May, Bob Holk, Donna Esslinger and Ben Dykema. Also present: Town Clerk - Karen S. Biel and Legal Counsel - Brad Hicks.

**3. Invocation and Pledge** – Mayor Underwood

**4. Discussion of Minutes – December**

Workshop Meeting – 12/01/15

Regular Council Meeting – 12/15/15

There were no changes or corrections discussed

**5. Discussion of Financials and Expenditures – December**

The Mayor reported: Balances as of 12/31/15 - General Fund - \$100,920.28. Income - \$40,032.25, Expenses - \$53,518.91. Money Market – \$232,882.74. CD - \$54,178.14. Special Revenue 4, 5, & 7¢ Gas Tax – Income \$345.80 – Balance \$19,584.71. The clerk also provided the council with a three month budget vs actual report for review.

**6. Deputy Smith – Monthly report**

Deputy Smith reported:

163 traffic stops – 68 written warnings – 63 verbal warnings - 32 citations

**7. Public Comment**

**Charles McClary** discussed with the council the drainage problem that he is having in his yard. He also wanted to encourage the council to consider paving Bay Street and he would like to see two speed bumps added.

**Frances Cleverdon** questioned the council if they were going to dump more water on her property. She stated that she has added sod to her property three times this year.

**Ed Stone** stated that he has been looking forward to the paving of Bay Street for a long time. He reminded the council that in the comprehensive plan it stated that when the town starts paving roads they should keep the road width at its original width. He does not want to see a super highway in front of his house and asked that they please keep that in mind.

**8. Discussion – Contract renewal with United Way**

Mayor Underwood stated that the contract with United Way has been renewed in the past years and it is time to renew again. There were no comments.

**9. Discussion – Arbor Day Proclamation**

The clerk stated that the council would be approving the proclamation and the expenditure for the purchase of the trees to be given away.

**10. Discussion – Library Resignations and Appointments**

Mayor Underwood stated that two library board positions will be open January 1, 2016. Mary Emmett and William Given have resigned their appointments. The library board is recommending Berengher Brechtel and Alida Given to fill those unexpired terms.

**11. Discussion – Council Compensation**

Mayor Underwood stated that the compensation would be for the incoming council in November (2016). There was no discussion.

**12. Discussion – Upper Bay Street Drainage and Paving**

Councilmember Holk stated the proposal from R&S paving is to reshape and grade ditches on each side of north Bay Street, extend the metal pipe under Oak Street and add a head wall. The proposal will also pave Bay Street and add two speed humps. Councilmember Holk is suggesting paving the



road at 14 feet width. Paving at 14' wide is \$31,150.00, 15' wide is \$34,150.00 and 16' wide is \$38,950.00.

### **13. Discussion – Lower Bay Street Drainage**

Mayor Underwood said that the proposal from HMR is to replace culverts on Bay Street all the way down to the river and ditch work along there as needed and replace the pipe under Oak Street. The estimated construction cost is \$56,315.00 and the engineering cost to update the specifications and to put the project out for bid would be an additional \$6,000.00 for a total cost of \$62,000.00. Mayor Underwood added that there is a problem, the town has the money and he would like to see the town solve as many drainage problems as they can.

**Councilmember Dykema** stated that the town just spent money doing improvements and digging out the ditch by Bob Zeanah and he is happy and has not had a problem. Mayor Underwood stated that it solved part of the problem. Councilmember Dykema asked if it would make any sense to wait and see what the upper Bay Street project would do. Mayor Underwood added that with any drainage projects you start at the lower end.

**Councilmember Holk** said that he has been watching that area and has not seen any water standing. He does agree that something needs to be done with the culvert under Oak Street on the north side.

**Councilmember Esslinger** added that both projects need to be done, but with the people in the audience at the meeting, we are hearing specific questions about the upper Bay Street situation. She added that engineering wise maybe you do start at the bottom, but if we did the top portion it would help eliminate some of the concerns of the people who have been expressing the loudest their concerns. It would not make a difference in the engineering end of it but just doing one half before the other.

**Mayor Underwood** added that we had the resources to do both projects. **Councilmember Johnson** asked if we have the resources, why not fix the streets that need repair. She agreed with Councilmember Dykema that the town has solved the lower Bay Street problem. **Mayor Underwood** stated that it was a partial solution. He added that if we wanted to ignore common engineering standards and practices that's fine. He would like to solve the problem and move onto the next problem. He added that no government entity has the right to pond water on an individual's private property. **Councilmember Holk** suggested having R&S Paving add the culvert work at Oak Street onto his estimate according to the lower Bay Street specifications.

### **11. Committee/Commission reports**

**Finance** – No report

**Public Works/Public Safety** – Councilmember Holk stated that they are working towards the cleanup of the drainage easement behind the Wesleyan Church up to Highway 98. He also added that he requested a quote for two speed tables on County Road 49 and the estimate is about \$6,000 to \$7,000 per speed table.

**Tree & Streetscape** – No report.

**Planning Commission** – No report.

**Historic Preservation** – Mayor Underwood informed the council that during the summer there will be a national conference for Historic Preservation Commissions in Mobile. He added that during the conference they will be doing some field trips. The National Historic Commission has asked that Magnolia Springs sponsor one of the trips and have a lunch at the community hall. More information on the event will be forthcoming.


### **12. Council, Legal Counsel and Staff Comments**

The clerk informed the council that she was contacted about a franchise agreement with Century Link and she has asked Brad to review the paperwork. Brad stated that the company that contacted the clerk deals specifically with telephone companies and helping cities all across the state obtain the franchise agreement. Brad said the upfront cost for the town is \$750.00 and recommends looking into it. The company projects about \$2,200 extra income a year for the town. The clerk will contact the company and get more specifics on it.


**Motion by Councilmember Johnson, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilmember May to adjourn the workshop. All in favor. Motion carried.**

Workshop ended at 6:20 pm

Approved this the 25<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2016

  
Kenneth D. Underwood – Mayor

ATTEST:

  
Karen S. Biel – Town Clerk