

A Workshop of the Apalachicola City Commission was held on Monday, January 9, 2023, at 4:30 PM at the Apalachicola Community Center, 1 Bay Avenue.

Present: Mayor Pro-Tem Anita Grove, Commissioner Despina George, Commissioner Donna Duncan, City Manager Travis Wade, City Attorney Dan Hartman, Lee Mathes

Workshop opened by Mayor Pro-Tem Grove followed by Invocation and Pledge.

Mayor Pro-Tem Grove stated the City is workshopping creation of an ordinance regulating encroachments upon City property. Historically such encroachment has been dealt with on a case-by-case basis. The purpose of the ordinance would be to establish a uniform methodology to deal with encroachments upon City property. Such an ordinance could be limited or expansive and deal with encroachments on alleys, streets, easements, or any other public property owned by the City. Such an ordinance should also provide for conditions under which encroachment permits would be issued. An encroachment is typically defined as any structure or object, or improvement of any kind or character, including, but not limited to, building extensions, fences, retaining walls, landscaping, culverts, bridges, pipelines, or other structures or improvements located on City property. An encroachment can also include obtaining access over City property for permissible purposes.

Items discussed were grace periods to encourage voluntary compliance/elimination of existing encroachments, existing encroachments of historic and non-historic buildings of a certain age, permit fee amounts, and fine amounts for violation of ordinance.

Mayor Pro-Tem Grove stated another workshop will definitely be needed before an ordinance is drafted.

Commissioner George stated she recommends holding the workshop on a date when Bonnie Davis and John Alber can be attendance.

Motion to adjourn workshop made by Commissioner George, seconded by Commissioner Duncan. Motion carried 3 to 0.

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Anita Grove, Mayor Pro-Tem

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Lee Mathes