

A Workshop and Special Meeting of the Apalachicola City Commission was held on Thursday, October 5, 2023, at 4PM at Holy Family Center located at 203 7th Street, Apalachicola, Florida.

Present: Mayor Brenda Ash, Commissioner Despina George, Commissioner Donna Duncan, Commissioner Anita Grove, Commissioner Adriane Elliott, City Manager Travis Wade, City Clerk Lee Mathes, City Attorney Dan Hartman, Grants Coordinator Kendall Falkner, Planner Bree Robinson, Code Enforcement Officer PJ Erwin

AGENDA ADOPTION

Motion to amend agenda to include City Manager Wade's presentation before public comment made by Commissioner Grove, seconded by Commissioner Elliott. Motion carried 5 to 0.

WORKSHOP – HILLSIDE SIDEWALK PROJECT

City Manager Wade stated the purpose of this workshop is to receive public comments from the community for a CDBG project for sidewalks to be installed on MKL Blvd from 7th Street to 10th Street, on 8th Street from Avenue G to Avenue L, and on 7th Street from Avenue F to Avenue M. The original scope of the sidewalk was for the above except that the sidewalk on 7th Street was to run from Avenue J to Avenue K only, not from Avenue F to Avenue M as the new scope has outlined. A decision needs to be made on whether the Commission would like to proceed with the new expanded scope or the original scope.

Mayor Ash introduced project representatives Chris Guris and Josh Gunter.

Chris Guris and Josh Gunter outlined project funding and project scope.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mayor Ash stated she has received numerous emails regarding the proposed sidewalk project.

Dennis Winterringer – commented on scope, lighting, tree removal, and budget.

Linda Buchanan – presented comments from Richard Dagenhart as he was unable to attend. Ms. Buchanan commented on C2 revitalization, rerouting sidewalk path, and trees.

Sheneidra Cummings – expressed support of sidewalk project in Hill Community.

Warrenetta Key – expressed support of sidewalk project.

Dolores Croom – expressed support of sidewalk project.

Grayson Shephard – commented on trees and possibility of rerouting sidewalk.

Myrtis Wynn – expressed support for sidewalk and lighting.

Willie Tolliver – commented on sidewalk route and stated the community has to come together for the project.

Jerry Hurley – withdrew comment card.

Leslie McWilliams – expressed concern about sidewalk route, trees, and water runoff.

Erin Rodriguez – expressed concern about sidewalk route.

LaRaela Lee-Coxwell – expressed concern about sidewalk route.

Martha Greene – expressed concern about water runoff and thanked Commission for proceeding with project for the Hill Community.

Anna Maria Cannatella – expressed concern about sidewalk route.

Elinor Mount Simmons – expressed concern about sidewalk route.

Bonnie Kellogg – expressed support for sidewalks however route should be readdressed.

Mayor Ash asked project representatives how complex it is to change the project scope or make material changes to the project.

Chris Gunter outlined process in changing project scope.

Discussion held concerning project scope, sidewalk route, budget, tree removal along route, and lighting.

Commission agreed to have project engineers revise scope based on comments received and hold another workshop before a decision is made.

SPECIAL MEETING -

No special meeting held.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn made by Commissioner Grove, seconded by Commissioner Elliott. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Brenda Ash, Mayor

Lee Mathes, City Clerk