



Waste Pro

May 3 – Garbage, Recycle, Yard Trash
May 10 – Garbage, Recycle
May 17 – Garbage, Recycle, Yard Trash
May 24 – Garbage, Recycle
June 1 – Garbage, Recycle, Yard Trash

Please call Waste Pro if you have any questions at 328-5445.

Public Meetings

May 11, Tues – Code Enforcement 5:00 pm.; Zoning Board 5:30 pm, Town Council 6:30 pm at Town Hall. For more information call Town Hall @ 386-467-9800
May 13, Thurs – Fire Board Meeting @ 7:00 pm at the Fire Station.

May Meter Readings



May meter readings will begin: Wednesday, May 19, 2010

Commodities will be May 19, 2010 @ the Welaka Methodist Church from 9 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. “This church is an equal opportunity provider”

PLEASE HELP CONSERVE WATER!



Remember: Water bill payments can be made anytime of the day or night, even on weekends, by using the “Utility Payment” drop box at the top of the stairs at Town Hall.

Clip This



The Town of Welaka Utility Department is available for water and sewer problems 24 hours a day at 467-8677.

Special Days This Month:
Sunday, May 9th – Mother’s Day
Monday, May 31st – Memorial Day
(The Town Hall will be closed Monday, May 31st in observance of Memorial Day)



FROM THE MAYOR.....

SURPRISE GRANDEUR!!!

Last month we were concerned about our azaleas, orange, grapefruit, and ferns. Lo and behold April was blessed with the finest display of azaleas that anyone could remember. They did not last as long as they would have in March but they certainly made up a luster that they all showed. Our orange trees seem to be in blossom and even some of our Palms are coming back. Give thanks to where it is deserved.

A MATTER OF CONCERN

Recently, a 7 year old girl died in an ATV crash in West Putnam. The young lady was wearing a helmet, but as so many of us think accidents will find you at the worst times. The young lady was thrown from the vehicle and a tragic loss to the family. **Why are we concerned?** In 2002 we had situations in Town where many people used their golf carts to traverse around Town. The police department brought to our attention that this was illegal. With assistance from citizens, Council, Attorney, and various people in Tallahassee, we were able to create Ordinance 2002-07 which created, with conditions, a golf cart community without a golf course. At that time everyone with a golf cart felt that this was one of the things that helped make Welaka the community that it is. The rules are very simple; you must license it and provide proof of insurance every year in October. You must have a driver’s license to operate it. You must cross HWY 309 and 308B at restricted crossings. Other than that while not traveling over 25 mph, you pretty much have the roam of Town. At the time the ordinance was created we knew that those with golf carts living outside of Town in County areas, were not operating favorably under the County regulations. Nevertheless, we have sought to provide an umbrella over these golf cart owners and sold them licenses to operate within the Town limits of Welaka. Still to this day, we basically attempt to follow these regulations which are in the ordinance. As time passes, new people in the area may not realize what the situation was before 2002-07. As a

result they seem to stretch the limits of the Ordinance. With the rude awakening of this poor child’s loss of life, our Police Department is taking a very accurate stance as follows: NO CHILDREN or unlicensed operators of a golf cart or vehicle may be operated on the streets of Welaka. Additionally; all unlicensed golf carts will be issued a citation and courtesy notice to immediately secure an up to date license. This is not too much to ask when we do have the ability for the use of our golf carts in this Municipality.

SMOKE DETECTION TESTS

During the month of May the maintenance force will be conducting smoke tests throughout the entire Town. This is necessary in order that we determine any intrusion into the sewer system. The ordinance of the Utility System dictates that no storm water will be discharged into the sewer system. Further no rough drainage system will be allowed to dump water. It is necessary that these tests be done at least once a year in order that we identify any area of intrusion. We can spend vast amounts of money in attempting to resolve the solvency of the sewer system, but it ends up with the fact that we do not allow the sewer system to be used as a means of draining your personal property or streets of the Town. You will notice, if there are leaks, that there will be a smoke detection. The smoke is not harmful. It is only an identifier of the situation at each property that is creating intrusion. We ask that you cooperate with us. We will work with you to resolve any matters that are discovered during these tests. Remember it will happen during the month of May.

ANNUAL WATER REPORT

Most of our newsletter is taken up this month by the Consumer Confidence Report concerning your potable water provided by the Town of Welaka. If you have questions after reading the report, please bring them to the attention of the supervisor or utility personnel in the office. This is a mandatory report prepared annually so that you might know the condition of the water that you drink and use.

WELAKA FISHING RODEO

For 16 years, since Allan Brown has been the manager of the Welaka Fish Hatchery, we have had an Annual Fishing Rodeo in Welaka. It has been held at various times of the year but it seems that recently we have settled into the springtime. It is a day that parents can bring their children and allow them the joy of learning how to fish. We had an excellent crowd this year and we have pictures supplied by the Police Chief. If you really want to see more of this then go online to the Welaka Webpage and you may view the newsletter in color. www.welaka-fl.gov. With voluminous minutes and other items we will bring our column to a short conclusion this month. Next month we anticipate less reports

and more information as to what good times we are having around Town.

**TOWN OF WELAKA
CODE ENFORCEMENT MEETING
TUESDAY, APRIL 13, 2010 @ 5:00 P.M.
WELAKA TOWN HALL**

1. The meeting was called to order by Page at 5:00 p.m.
2. Roll Call: Kevin Finch – absent, Lexyne Page – present, Rand Speas – present, Clint Swartz – present, Allen Rusek – present, Alternate James Haskell – arrived at 5:02 p.m. and Town Attorney, Allen Scott – present.
3. Approval of Minutes of Meeting of March 9, 2010. Page asked if any deletions, corrections or additions – there were none. Rusek made a motion to accept Minutes of Meeting of March 9, 2010 as written, second by Speas. Motion carried 4-0.
4. Old Business:
CV10-0002, 409 7th Avenue – McDaniel stated that board decided last month to table until this month to see if come into compliance. McDaniel stated that they have come into compliance and no further action is required.
5. New Business: None
McDaniel stated that she has 12 active courtesy notices at present.
6. Swartz made a motion to adjourn, second by Rusek. Motion carried 5-0.

**TOWN OF WELAKA
ZONING BOARD MEETING
TUESDAY, APRIL 13, 2010 @ 5:30 P.M.
WELAKA TOWN HALL**

1. The meeting was called to order by Page at 5:30 p.m.
2. Roll Call: Kevin Finch – absent, Lexyne Page – present, Rand Speas – present, Clint Swartz – present, Allen Rusek – present, Alternate James Haskell - present and Town Attorney, Allen Scott – present.
3. Approval of Minutes of Meeting of March 9, 2010. Page asked if any deletions, corrections or additions – there were none. Speas made a motion to accept Minutes of Meeting of March 9, 2010 as written, second by Rusek. Motion carried 5-0.
4. Old Business –
Annexation Plevik: Page asked board and audience if there were any objections to this annexation – there were none. Swartz made a motion to forward to Council with recommendation for approval, second by Speas. Motion carried 5-0.
Zoning Change Runk Property: Page asked board and audience if there were any objections to this zoning change – there were none. Rusek made a motion to forward to Council with recommendation for approval, second by Speas. Motion carried 5-0.
Zoning Change Stringer Property: Page asked board and audience if there were any objections to this zoning change – there were none. Speas made a motion to forward to Council with recommendation for Approval, second by Speas. Motion carried 5-0.
5. New Business – Lenore Toole from 804 Front Street, Welaka, FL stated that she has concerns regarding what C1 allows for properties in residential areas and that the zoning of what is allowed is very broad in that some businesses allowed in commercial is not conducive to the neighborhood and would ask that the Zoning Board look at what is allowed and consider modifying. Page stated that they will look at it

and discuss further next month and possibly forward to Council to make changes in Zoning Ordinance.

6. Haskell made a motion to adjourn, second by Swartz. Motion carried 5-0.

**TOWN OF WELAKA
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, APRIL 13, 2010 @ 6:30 P.M.
WELAKA TOWN HALL**

1. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Gordon Sands at 6:30 p.m.
2. Invocation was given by Eltervoog.
3. Pledge of Allegiance led by Washington.
4. Roll Call: Mayor Gordon Sands – present, Brian Eltervoog – present, Sam McGauley – present, Willie Washington – present Jamie Watts - present and Town Attorney, Allen Scott – present.
5. Approval of Minutes of Meeting of March 9, 2010 and Special Meeting of March 23, 2010. Sands asked if any additions, deletions or corrections, there were none. McGauley made a motion to accept Minutes of Meeting of March 9, 2010 and Special Meeting of March 23, 2010 as written, second by Eltervoog. Motion carried 5-0.
6. Bid Award Preparation of Financial Statements – Sands stated that during audit presentation an audit finding was noted and he read audit finding to Council. He then stated that the Town advertised for someone to do the preparation of financial statements for the Town and that we have received two bids. Jones then opened the bids and gave to Council to review. Sands read bid from Thomas Ward and then read bid from John Jones. McGauley asked if we were cited the finding due to having the audit firm do both audit and financial statements and Sands replied that we were cited for not having someone with credentials available to do the financial statements for GASB 34 compliance. Eltervoog asked what the criteria was for awarding bid is it bid amount or qualifications and Sands replied that it is on qualifications and experience. McGauley asked if the Town has ever worked with either of the parties before and Sands replied that he has worked with Jones before as he was the lead party with Davis Monk and helped during the State Audit and that he knows of Jones work and this will eliminate the finding. Eltervoog asked if we knew any history on Ward and Sands replied no. McGauley then stated that Ward's bid is for \$3000 and Jones' bid is for \$90.00 per hour not to exceed \$3600 per year. McGauley then asked Sands what is the amount of hours it takes to do this and Sands replied maybe a couple of hours per month, then quarterly and possibly only 12 - 15 hours per year. Scott stated that Jones' statutory criteria goes well beyond pricing along with past working experience and professional affiliations. McGauley asked Scott if he saw this as a conflict since married to Town Clerk and Scott replied no. McGauley made a motion to award bid to John Jones, second by Watts. Motion carried 5-0.
7. Guy Parola with North East Florida Regional Council – Sands stated that Town needs to start process to go through EAR amendment and that the Town's Budget has \$5,000 allocated for this. Parola stated that the valuation and appraisal report is required by the State and the major areas are getting comprehensive plan up to date and the availability of infrastructure accommodations. Parola then stated that they will draft evaluation and appraisal report, send draft to DEP for comments and then prepare final report for the Town to adopt. He stated that the State will then

find if report is sufficient or not and that the due date is March or May of 2011. And that it takes a year to process. Watts asked if Town goes through second approach on submittal to agencies, will this keep it from being kicked back and Parola stated yes. Scott asked on the amount without EAR total, what do we get for our money? Parola stated proposed amount is for them doing draft, revising and then submitting to Department of Community Affairs and other agencies to adopt and that the amount without proposed is for submission only. Sands stated that the Budget has allocated only \$5,000 this year but that they can move items in the budget if they desire. Sands then stated that it is easier for NEFRC to do the work rather than the Council. McGauley asked if they need to make a motion to award and Sands stated they need to acknowledge work to be done and cost but that they can take a month to review and come back next month with final motion for contract. McGauley made a motion to table to next month, second by Washington. Motion carried 5-0.

8. Zoning recommendations –
8 Hockey Drive Annexation – Sands stated that Zoning has forwarded their recommendation for approval on Annexation of 8 Hockey Drive. Sands read Ordinance 2010-01 first reading and stated that this will advertise for second reading next month if passed on first reading. Sands then stated that property is currently zoned medium residential and that will not change. McGauley made a motion to accept Ordinance 2010-01 first reading, second by Watts. Sands asked if there was any public comment – there was none. Motion carried 5-0.

Runk Property Rezoning to C1 – Sands stated that Zoning has forwarded their recommendation for approval on Rezoning of Runk Property to C1. Sands asked Mr. Runk how the property was operated and he stated that at time property was bought it was tourist commercial but that somehow the center block of property was zoned single family residential and the surrounding property is now zoned commercial. Sands read Ordinance 2010-02 and asked if any public comments – there was none. Eltervoog made a motion to accept Ordinance 2010-02 first reading, second by Washington. Motion carried 5-0.

Stringer Property Rezoning to C1 – Sands stated that Zoning has forwarded their recommendation for approval on Rezoning of Stringer Property to C1. Sands stated that the back half of lot is residential and the front half of lot is commercial and that the owner has requested the whole lot be consistent and zoned commercial. Sands read Ordinance 2010-03 and asked if any public questions. Scott stated that this change and the other two had no contesting from board or audience in the Zoning meeting. Gary Harmstead asked what the property is going to be used for and Sands stated parking and occasional flea market. McGauley made a motion to accept Ordinance 2010-03 first reading, second by Watts. Motion carried 5-0.

9. Historical moments – Pharmacies. John Caldwell did presentation on Pharmacies. John stated that in 1995 Franklin Reeder came to Town and he owned the Drug Store on Front Street and at that time there was 7 steam boat line running up and down the river and 5 major railroads coming in and out of Palatka. In 1889 the population of Welaka was 200 and the things that were listed in the newspaper in 1889 were oranges, vegetables, plumber, tin smith, a saw and shingle mill, general merchandise, hotels, a builder, a physician O. E. Welsh and a Welaka pharmacy that became

known as the Welsh and Reeder Pharmacy. In 1906 the population became 275, we had an ice factory, a moss factory, a bowling alley and E. Reeder is listed as proprietor of Welaka Pharmacy and hardware store. He showed pictures of pharmacy and hardware store on corner of Palmetto and Front Street. In 1933 after Mr. Reeder's death in 1927, this pharmacy died. Then, 30 years ago, Buster (Warren) Fletcher founded Welaka Pharmacy, a bit north and on the opposite side of 309 (where Aqua Nets is today). In 1980 in the year of the founding of that pharmacy there were 479 residents. Tom Ball, who was a pharmacist in St. Augustine, joined Fletcher just a few months after the pharmacy opened in 1980. The present building has been hardware, gas station and baits shop and is now where you can go and get over the counter medicine, good advice on products and where you can get your prescriptions filled. Sands stated that next month history will on the Southern Methodist Church and in June we will review the river traffic.

10. Audience Participation – Ron Sells of 103 Village Drive stated that he attended meeting last month and that since he has moved here he has been having problems with his water usage being extreme using 4,500 to 6,000 gallons per month when he never used over 3,200 gallons per month. He then stated that his researching revealed the problem is that his RPZ has a continuous flow rate of 300 gallons per day and that the rest of his neighbors RPZ's don't flow. Henderson stated that they are not to run. Sells stated that he would like to get meter replaced and the RPZ replaced or repaired. Henderson stated that the RPZ belongs to him. Sells then asked if RPZ could be removed and Henderson stated that this is a dilemma since they are required to be there. Sands asked Henderson if meter could be switched out and Henderson said he would take care of. Sands then stated that council will revisit RPZ's next month

11. Utility Matters – Henderson stated that the State is mandating us to go to RPZ's but that he wanted to know who is going to enforce, check, repair and replace and not sure how far to push but that the State hasn't backed off of them being required. McGauley stated that the problem arises in understanding what agency protects what and that DEP protects water systems. McGauley stated that the Council needs to have a workshop to become better acquainted with the does and don'ts and not to inflict damage on our customers. Sands stated that they will have a workshop on this and everyone needs to go look at preventers, get public involved and look at situations. Sands stated that in this month's newsletter will be the annual water report and in May's newsletter they will have education on the RPZ and that they will be doing smoke tests.

12. Town Matter: Jason King of 4408 Seabreeze Drive, Jacksonville. King stated that he wanted to give Council update and stated that last month the fence was completed and the neighbor was happy with work done. He then stated that house is finished and CO has been issued and contract will close on the 19th. King then stated that he would like to ask for more time to blacktop road and get quotes.

13. Mayor Report – Sands stated that during the Fire meeting it was discussed about the new fire house and that it is now in the hands of the County since the Town is not going to purchase the property until the County has the funding to build the fire house and an Interlocal agreement has been signed. Sands then stated that an ISO inspection for the Town of Welaka will be done

between December and January. Sands then stated that the Town has records and flows for the hydrants and that they will be performing inspections again in August. Sands then stated to Council that there are 7 homes worth approximately 3 million dollars on First Ave that can't get better than a 9 on an ISO classification due to an easement being closed. Sands then stated that back on June 12, 2007 with legal advice but no public advertisement Mayor Wilson stated that Mr. Hyer wrote a letter to the Town asking that the road be closed from First Ave. and Palmetto running easterly parallel with Palmetto to Second Ave southerly along Second Avenue, westerly parallel with Palmetto to First Avenue then north along First Avenue to point of beginning a 20 foot roadway due to traffic driving on private property to avoid trees in road. Sands then stated that Wilson further went on to state that upon further examination, easement does make street impossible for traffic to pass and that Councilman Johnson made a motion to close stated easement, second by Councilman Haskell with motion carrying 5-0. Scott stated that this is not legal and that disposal of municipal rights would have to be by legislative, advertising and an Ordinance vacating easement and that in this case only record of transactions is the minutes and the effort to vacate was neither in compliance with the law nor the objections of landowners. Sands showed Council picture and ask Council do we remedy easement. Scott stated that this falls under our public health and safety ordinance and the appropriate finding would be to remove obstruction. Sands asked Scott to research and he said he would get with Mayor to remove obstruction. McGauley stated that we need to notify property owner first of our decision. Sands stated that the grant of the dyke on 4th behind the Women's Club is looking good and an Interlocal agreement has been signed. Sands then stated that next month Fred Fox will be here and discuss CDBG application on the water plant. He then stated that the fence has been ordered and received on the Downtown Park and that we are going to be seeking asphalt bids for basketball and tennis courts but that 40 Acre Park is still tied up with the CDBG grant. Sands then stated that in 2005 when Frances and Jeanne hit the Town we had \$400,000 allocated for some work to be done but have not solved problem and have \$272,000 left and that he and Judy have sent pictures to FEMA and they have advised that we should be granted an extension. He then stated that during NE Flooding Tropical Store Fay we have \$80,583 set aside for the drying beds. Sands then informed Council that he wrote a letter to DEP on Sewer Phase III to get permission to complete and authorize Engineering Firm to go ahead with plans. Sands stated that the Mill Street Fishing dock will be finished this week or next. Sands gave Council update on Better place loan stating spent \$360,000 paving 1.8 miles of road and now have a \$150,000 loan renewed paying off \$30,000 per year with a balance of \$120,000 and our next payment due in October and after that a balance of \$90,000 plus interest left owed. He stated that after loan paid off we will have approximately 184,000 left to spend in the plan for roads until 2018.

14. Councilman McGauley Report – McGauley stated that he will be having a Cemetery meeting tomorrow to finalize and bring to Council next month.

15. Councilman Watts Report – Watts stated that the flowers around Town in various spots are beautiful and they add improvement to the Town.

16. Councilman Washington Report – Washington asked how far the Town goes out on Old Welaka Road and Sands stated 5480 feet from Bryant to gate but that we never claimed before and that he would like to place a sign out there stating Welcome to Welaka.

17. Councilman Eltervoog Report – Eltervoog stated that the room we have reserved for the Coast Guard needs to be utilized as a storage room and he would like to make a motion to revoke the agreement allowing the Coast Guard use of room. He also stated that he would like to purchase shed to store items and keep the climate controlled room as dedicated records storage site rather than multipurpose and that we have capital improvement money in the budget to purchase a shed for storage. Eltervoog then asked if the Town could revoke the Coast Guard agreement and Scott stated yes it was a simple resolution. Sands stated that we need to get the Coast Guard here in front of us and stated that the space is no longer available. Sands also stated that we can use the space behind the kitchen to store items that need to be climate controlled. Eltervoog then stated that Town Hall building needs to have work done on the crawl spaces and he will get costs and bring up next meeting.

18. Anderson Dismissal – Darrin Anderson stated that he was terminated for the Town due to a letter stating that he did not notify office of leaving for appointment. He then stated that the Doctor's office stated that someone from Town office called to confirm his appointment and that he was not aware he had to call office when leaving work. Sands stated that when he came in noon time that day he was planning on having a meeting with regarding his 30 day probation but that he never returned to work. Sands stated that during the last 6 months they have spoken and he feels Darrin's attitude is insolent toward his job even though we found out he talked to Greg. Sands then stated that same day another employee went to same doctor and made arrangements to be out but that no one knew where you were and that you did not come back to work but the next morning you called in at 6:15 sick. Sands asked Henderson if Anderson has damaged anything and Henderson replied yes the Bushog and the DR and that we have had past employees say he was hard on Gator. Anderson asked Clemons if he was abusive on equipment and Clemons stated that he can work with him and supervise and sign off on when work done correctly. McGauley stated that he read entire file and asked him if he did not believe they were going to terminate him and Anderson replied that he did his best. McGauley then stated that it shouldn't be a mystery, brought in 10 times to discuss job performance and feels you should have changed and that he doesn't see evidence he changed and asked if there was a reason for that. Anderson stated that Henderson does. Washington stated that he thinks this is personal picking on and asked if the callers that complained gave names. Watts stated that he hears a lot of he said, she said and he reviewed file and found no allegations of equipment abuse in the file. Haskell stated that while he was on Council he thought it was the Council's place to spend money wisely and that he saw this employee sitting and not working. Washington stated that he doesn't think anyone has right to spy on employees and were all other employees working. Washington then asked if Anderson signed complaints and Sands stated that we have tapes. Sands then stated to Council that he fired Anderson and now they have to decide if they want to motion to rescind or not. McGauley

stated that he is not reversing his decision. Sands stated that since no motion, decision stands.

19. CATF Committee – Sands stated that next month there will be a meeting in regards to CDBG and that Linda McClarney would like to be added to the committee. Washington made a motion to appoint her to CATF committee, second by McGauley. Motion carried 5-0.

20. Police Matters – Sands asked Chief Charlie to tighten up on golf carts as to who is driving. Chief stated that in the stimulus grant he can purchase a vehicle for the Police Department and he submitted 3 proposals for vehicles to be paid for by grant. One was a 2008 Mercury Grand Marquis fully equipped for \$17,995 a 2008 Dodge Magnum for \$19,410 and a 2008 Dodge Charger for \$18,699 and that he was asking for a motion to purchase under the grant. Washington made motion to accept bid on the Mercury for \$17,995, second by Watts. Sands asked for discussion and Scott asked if he checked with other dealers and was bid advertised and Chief stated that Beck has Chevrolet dealership and Chrysler dealership along with used car dealership and that he didn't go to any other dealers. Chief stated that the Fishing Tournament is this Saturday starting at 7:00 a.m., starts at 7:a.m. Sands stated that we received today under the cops hiring program a letter stating that we need to submit updates to our application.

21. Attorney Matters: none

22. Watts made a motion to adjourn, second by Washington. Motion carried 5-0.

**TOWN OF WELAKA
TOWN COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING
APRIL 20, 2010 @ 6:30 P.M.
WELAKA TOWN HALL**

1. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Gordon Sands at 6:30 p.m.

2. Invocation was given by Eltervoog.

3. Pledge of Allegiance was led by Washington.

4. Roll Call: Mayor Gordon Sands – present, Brian Eltervoog – present, Sam McGauley – present, Willie Washington - present Jamie Watts – present and Town Attorney, Allen Scott - present.

5. Coast Guard Proposal - Sands stated this proposal has been going on for over a year and that it was recently noted that we have accumulated items that need to be stored in the space we allocated for them. Eltervoog stated that he personally viewed the storage areas we currently have and that they are full with technical records, evidence and computer equipment and that we need space to store them in one room. Sands stated that it would be possible to renovate the room behind the pavilion since we have air conditioners, from the medical clinic that we are not using now. Eltervoog stated that we need a secure room for the Town records room. Sands stated that we have the representatives here from the Coast Guard and he asked them why it took so long to get proposal in order. Tom Condit with the Coast Guard stated it had to go through their attorneys to review and make changes and that the \$1.00 rent caused problems but that he does appreciate our patience. McGauley stated that since don't have office space available but still have dock and compound available is this going to create a problem. Bob with the Coast Guard stated that they only need a room to store electronic safety gear and give men a room to rest overnight if needed so they don't need a room that has windows. Watts made a motion to convert room behind pavilion and place a window air conditioning unit in it, second by Eltervoog.

Sands then asked Coast Guard if agreement has to be amended and Bob with Coast Guard stated no since the same address just different office, as long as there is the understanding of the space to be used. Motion carried 5-0.

6. Police Car Purchase – Sands stated that through the BYRNE Grant there is \$18,000 set aside to be used in purchasing a vehicle. He then stated that through a memorandum we can move money around in the grant to cover and be able to purchase a new vehicle through the state bid. Sands then stated that the Town has additional money available from law salary not used since Chief out on worker's comp. Eltervoog stated that he feels Town will get more use out of new vehicle and McGauley stated if grant pay for new vehicle we should utilize it. Chief Charlie stated that Garber Ford has 500 police cars ready and we can get one for \$26,807 with lights. Chief then stated that he, Judy and the Mayor have made the money available and can have new vehicle if they wish. Scott asked if grant required a used car and Chief Charlie stated that originally told could only get used vehicle but when talked to Cindy in Tallahassee, was told that was not the case and a new vehicle could be purchased by amending the grant. McGauley made a motion to authorize Chief Charlie and Judy to look into purchasing new car provided grant pays for vehicle, second by Watts. Washington stated that we need to get new lights on vehicle instead of using old lights. Motion carried 5-0.

7. Legal Opinion Letter: Sands stated that at last meeting they discussed Hyer's road closing and he stated that he has the attorney opinion letter on the stated 20 foot right of way known as Walnut between Second and First and unless anyone has a motion against it, it will be handled tomorrow. Watts stated that he doesn't have a motion but does have a question. Have we contacted him and is he aware of this. Sands stated that for the last 20 years he has been aware of this and Watts stated that he understands that we are legally in the right but trying to do things right and making him aware of it before we start pulling things down. Sands stated that he is in Tampa and this is a very simple process and will take only about 30 seconds to take down.

8. RPZ's – Sands stated that since last meeting they have talked to DEP, Town engineers, Florida Rural Water and that we are going to have to do something about this, need to discuss tonight but it will take a 6 month sincere education to public. Sands also stated that we will need to come to an Interlocal agreement with county since we are supplying water service in the county. Sands stated that he has talked to the Building Official and ISO Department. They demand a certain level of building code compliance and that they are going to be here a week from tomorrow, to discuss further. McGauley stated that DEP is straight forward, they say that we own the water system and we are providing water to the public and as such we are responsible for implementing these procedures. They give us some latitudes but they still say we have to do it. Our Ordinance says everyone has to have a back flow preventer, but DEP says this is option if you want to do that, but only people who have an auxiliary water system are subject having to have a back flow preventer. You can have the supply available through the river, pond or well as long as you don't have the system involved and that is what is said by DEP. McGauley then stated that they are giving us 5 years to get in place so we are going to have to get started. They give options that you can have different types. Sands stated that the

City of Jacksonville lists the approved devices and the approved list of people who can install them. McGauley stated that we can do that also but not everyone has to have one unless we tell them. Henderson stated that we have to follow our Ordinance but our Ordinance says that everyone will have some type of back flow preventer and McGauley stated that the Ordinance needs to be changed. Henderson then stated that this is not the operator responsibility, it is the Councils. McGauley stated that first thing they need to do is to look at and to redo Ordinance to comply. Scott asked who does the survey to determine who needs and doesn't need a back flow preventer, which properties that have auxiliary system and who is going to police this? McGauley stated that the owner signs off that they will not cross connect. Sands asked Council if they would like to give Henderson direction and McGauley stated that everyone here has a copy of the material and that they can better direct Henderson when all information received.

9. Anderson – McGauley stated that he requested the Anderson matter be put back on the agenda for tonight. He stated that after last meeting, he felt board had reservations and questions on how this matter was resolved. McGauley then stated that the policy manual states under discipline it says we have a continual procedure from oral to written reprimand, suspension or demotion then discharge. McGauley stated that he feels oral and written reprimand procedures were followed but his only concern was the reason given for dismissal of failure to report going to doctor and doesn't know how everyone else feels and that the utilization of unpaid suspension is the only thing not followed. I feel the very act used to dismiss him probably in most cases would not have warranted dismissal by itself. McGauley stated that was his concern and that he didn't hear a whole lot from anybody. Watts stated that he agrees with McGauley and that he read notes in file, story changed from originally told and then corrected. Originally Greg was not aware of him leaving, then in another portion Greg was aware he was leaving prior to time left and don't feel that was a proper way or not best for the dismissal. McGauley stated that he doesn't feel it should go unpunished and Watts agreed. McGauley stated that he was just wondering what everyone else on the board was feeling about it. Eltervoog stated that he felt the occurrence of the violation that Darrin did warrant a hearing and maybe a reprimand of some kind but it didn't seem to be as grievous as the dismissal or firing. Maybe we could cool off. Eltervoog then asked Anderson when did this dismissal occur and Anderson stated that his doctor appointment was on Tuesday and he was dismissed that same day. Eltervoog then stated that maybe this was a knee jerk kind of thing, like an opportunity that maybe went to fast. Sands stated that you missed the whole point, you folks told me to handle it and I gave him 15 days and then when it seemed he was coming along, I gave him 30 days and I wanted to meet with him that day because his 30 days were up. He never reported back from the doctor and I wanted to know where he was. It wasn't the fact he was at the doctor or not. We had to call the doctor to find out he had already left before noon according to the doctor's office. We never heard another word from him until 6:15 the next morning stating he was sick and won't be in. Sands then asked if he was avoiding us, being the office, why didn't we hear from him that afternoon. Sands stated that if we don't contest his unemployment, Anderson is going to get

unemployment benefits that the Town has to pay the taxes on. McGauley stated that Sands handled it and that he has no problem with that, but the procedure in here gives the man the opportunity to file an appeal and gives the board a chance to listen. My concern is that I don't see we need to reprimand him again or write him up again since this is already done but my concern was that we went on past the suspension without pay, which I thought was a fairly appropriate type of thing to a dismissal and if we did that we won't get him back to square one. He has only got one more thing before he goes to dismissal. Sands asked if we give him a period of time suspended without pay, is he eligible for unemployment? McGauley stated that he doesn't feel that should play into it at all. I know we have to pay it, but what is right is right and that doesn't have anything to do with whether he costs us money. Sands then asked if we suspend him, do we then turn around to unemployment and tell them he is ineligible for unemployment because he is suspended without pay and McGauley stated he doesn't know how that works. Scott stated that the employee policy does not require unpaid suspension as a prerequisite to discharge; it is an alternative form of punishment. The policy says you may do this. It is clear that Anderson did come before Council at the last meeting and I am assuming that was a result that he had a right to appeal and Sands replied yes, he brought that to his attention. The intervening factor that gave me some cause, not necessarily concern or wanting to revisit what Council has done, but there is an intervening factor and that is Mr. Anderson did as he has a right to do and that is he filed whether right or wrong or indifferent on the part of either the Mayor or this Council he filed a claim for unemployment compensation. Scott stated that based on the notice given, the restriction that the unemployment officer follows, they are looking at the stated basis for which Mr. Anderson was discharged and they have concluded that he was discharged without good cause simply on the basis of the notice he was given. Scott stated that the Town has a financial impact; the employer has the right to do an administrative appeal which amounts to a phone conversation where everyone on phone with unemployment compensation hearing officer that hears the appeal to reconsider whether the initial review and decision was legally justifiable. This is very informal and they most likely are not going to look beyond the face of the stated reason and the surrounding circumstances in terms of the discharge. Scott then stated that no employee is entitled to a job; an employee can be laid off for any reason, economic or other reason. The only thing that the Town is dealing with here is the impact of paying the unemployment compensation paid to Anderson. Scott then stated do I think as a legal matter that you could in effect reverse the decision and turn it into a suspension, think could be done on reconsideration if that was the majority decision of the Council and assuming Mr. Anderson states he wants the job back and that he would rather take a suspension than be laid off and get unemployment compensation. We can't undo what has been done and that is his basis and feels that is the point that McGauley was making in that we can't look at the impact done to the Town as a reason to go back and reinstate, not good cause. Scott then stated that if McGauley has real reservations on how the procedure came down and whether or not there should have been an intervening type of discipline, don't think there is any legal reason

that could not be reconsidered, but again I think it would be erroneous to consider because we may end up losing an unemployment compensation appeal. Also think it would be wrong if the employee himself is not actually still petitioning, he may be satisfied with the unemployment compensation result. McGauley stated that he doesn't think that is an issue until we decide to change something and I don't know that we are, it generally becomes an issue as to what he would like to do before the board decides. McGauley stated that he doesn't see anybody doing anything wrong here, I am looking for whether the Town employees feel comfortable that the administration here will make sure they get every protection they can in the job, now that won't stop people that are determined not to perform, but sooner or later they are going to be here. Sands stated that Darrin and everyone else know that he went above and beyond for him. Sands then stated that he spoke to some senior citizens that he spoke to since the last meeting and asked them to come forth, you asked me never to ever please other than the problem, to tell it and stated that they are in fear and are intimidated. Sands then stated to Washington that Anderson doesn't intimidate him but you take a 110 pound, 80 year old lady or old man; and an old gentlemen said to me I would be afraid to come down there and say anything, my house would be burned down. McGauley stated that he doesn't intimidate him and that has nothing to do with what they are dealing with here. Scott stated that he doesn't think there is any question based on record of this employee that he could have been discharged on the basis of his entire record period. As a lawyer based on the totality of his record, there is no question he could have been rightfully terminated, complication comes in because the notice is not based on the entirety of his record, but as opposed to one isolated event, which is the basis upon which the unemployment compensation bureau makes their judgment. He will now be entitled to unemployment compensation but we cannot go back and change. Scott then stated that he doesn't even know if they are here on a request from him to be reinstated, there is no decision. McGauley stated that he was the one that requested that the board revisit it because it just died last meeting, it didn't get any action on it, and I thought there were some concerns of the board. Had they walked in here with the reason of insubordination or had unsatisfactory performance, or embezzled something or had done a lot of thing then there wouldn't of been any problem here, the problem I was having and still have is the same thing that the unemployment office if having is the reason we stated that we terminated didn't seem to be consistent with that type of action and that is all I am going to say about the matter, I don't find any fault with anybody about it this is just the review process and I am stating my concerns. Scott stated that there is a limitation on the account to which you can action at this point, the discharge is over. The appeal came and I recall there was a vote and was in effect final but I don't think that keeps you from reconsidering. McGauley and Watts stated that there wasn't even a motion. Scott then stated that in any event he thinks the extent of the action you can take if choose to do so is to is on his appeal is to say we at this point agree to an alternate form of discipline, point is he can accept or not but make very clearly if you are going to make a decision, the decision at this point is going to be if you want to come back to work number 1 here are the conditions, have this discipline, remain on probation, whatever you

decide it is but he may say he is satisfied with his unemployment compensation. Can't make any decision to compel him to come back and the ball is in his court. Watts stated that we are up here discussing this and then he asked Anderson if he wants his job back and Anderson replied that he was not at liberty to say he would have to speak to his lawyer about that. Anderson then stated that mainly about his appeal is he would like everyone to know that when you are called in for a meeting and being accused of something be able to get information. I was told that I broke things and when asked what, I was told to basically sit down and shut up, need answer of what being accused of. Anderson then stated whether he was a bad employee or not he would just like them to see some of the things that was told to him by Henderson that they don't see since it was not on paper and in the future if employee gets in trouble, it should be wrote down and on a reprimand they should sign, refused, approved and a comment space. Henderson got up and stated to Anderson that he is the biggest and youngest employee and you do the least work of anybody in this Town and that he will have the whole crew in here if you want them in here. Watts stated that this is getting out of control, having argument in crowd and they are not being addressed, the board is being addressed of this matter. Scott stated that if Mr. Anderson needs to talk to his lawyer to decide whether he is still appealing his discharge then he needs to talk to his lawyer and the board has nothing to rule on he didn't come here to ask for job back. McGauley stated that he was merely presenting nothing asking for board to vote. Sands asked if there was any motion of the Council and Eltervoog motioned to close the matter, second by McGauley. Motion carried 5-0.

10. Sands stated that Sam and Judy have done a fantastic amount of work on the cemetery and that he knows of the problems and that he has talked to Snyder regarding the boundaries of the cemetery and that the Town has the money in the cemetery fund to look at survey. McGauley stated that he will address in next meeting about single spots in one section for single plots to be sold. He also stated that we have some issues with people being buried with no record of purchase and some people being buried on plots purchased by others but will discuss further next meeting.

11. Watts stated that he would like to do formal recognition of appreciation at next council meeting for the work done by the Fish Hatchery Rodeo this last weekend. Sands stated to Jones to get with Allen and see if in town on next meeting.

12. McGauley made a motion to adjourn, second by Watts. Motion carried 5-0.



Elections went smoothly

I found this town, Welaka, to be one of the most hospitable and friendly towns that I have ever worked in.

During the election times I have the opportunity to work for one of the best oiled machines I have ever been associated with. That machine is operated by Susan McCool and her staff at the Putnam County Elections Office.

The hospitality by Mayor Sands, his entire office staff, and the voting public was, by far, beyond reproach.

I often hear people say less than favorable comments concerning Putnam County. I suggest to those folks to make a visit Welaka, Crescent City, Pomona Park, to name three, and get to know these wonderful and proud residents.

I am looking forward to the opportunity to meet and work for the wonderful residents during all local and national elections in Putnam County

residents I met, during the latest town election in Welaka were wonderful and their pride said it all in their smiles.

It is a pleasure to work in Welaka and for that well oiled machine and her staff.

Thanks, Welaka, and hope to work for you soon.

JERRY D. HORNER
Crescent City



**SUMMER LUNCH PROGRAM
FOR CHILDREN
18 AND UNDER
JUNE 16TH – AUGUST 4TH
MONDAY – FRIDAY
(except July 5th)
12 noon – 1:30 p.m.**

**The Putnam County
District School Board will
be sponsoring a Summer
Feeding Program for all
children 18 and
under...we will provide
Sandwiches, Cookies,
Fruit, and Milk. Contact
Ron Aycock, Food Service
Specialist @
386-329-0652 for more
information.**



FISHING RODEO

2009 Annual Drinking Water Report for the Town of Welaka

We're pleased to present to you this year's Annual Water Quality Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality water and services we deliver to you every day. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water. Our water sources are ground water from wells and then chlorinated and aerated for disinfection purposes. The wells draw from the Floridian Aquifer.

→ The Department of Environmental Protection has performed a Source Water Assessment on our system and a search of the data sources indicated no potential sources of contamination near our wells. The assessment results are available on the FDEP Source Water Assessment and Protection Program website at www.dep.state.fl.us/swapp.

→ This report shows our water quality results and what they mean.

→ If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Charlie Henderson at (386) 467-9800. We encourage our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings. They are held on **the second Tuesday of each month at 6:30pm, Town Hall 400 Fourth Ave.**

→ The Town of Welaka routinely monitors for contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws, rules, and regulations. Except where indicated otherwise, this report is based on the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1 to December 31, 2009.

→ In the table below, you may find unfamiliar terms and abbreviations. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following definitions:

≈ Maximum Contaminant Level or MCL: The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

≈ Maximum Contaminant Level Goal or MCLG: The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

≈ Action Level (AL): The concentration of a contaminant that, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.

≈ Maximum residual disinfectant level or MRDL: The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

≈ Maximum residual disinfectant level goal or MRDLG: The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

≈ Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l) – one part by weight of analyte to 1 million parts by weight of the water sample.

≈ Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter (µg/l) – one part by weight of analyte to 1 billion parts by weight of the water sample.

Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of sampling (mo./yr.)	MCL Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Range of Results	MCL G	MC L	Likely Source of Contamination
Inorganic Contaminants							
Barium (ppm)	4/2009	N	0.0051	N/A	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Selenium (ppb)	4/2009	N	3.7	N/A	50	50	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from mines
Sodium (ppm)	4/2009	N	46	N/A	N/A	160	Salt water intrusion, leaching from soil

Stage 1 Disinfectants and Disinfection By-Products							
Disinfectant or Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of sampling (mo./yr.)	MCL or MRDL Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Range of Results	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL or MRDL	Likely Source of Contamination
Chlorine (ppm)	1/2009-12/2009	N	0.72	0.65-0.8	MRDLG = 4	MRDL = 4.0	Water additive used to control microbes

Haloacetic Acids (five) (HAA5) (ppb)	7/2007	N	7.63	N/A	NA	MCL = 60	By-product of drinking water disinfection
TTHM [Total trihalomethanes] (ppb)	7/2007	N	25.75	N/A	NA	MCL = 80	By-product of drinking water disinfection

Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of sampling (mo./yr.)	AL Violation Y/N	90th Percentile Result	No. of sampling sites exceeding the AL	MCL G	AL (Action Level)	Likely Source of Contamination
Lead and Copper (Tap Water)							
Copper (tap water) (ppm)	6/2009	N	0.10	0	1.3	1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead (tap water) (ppb)	6/2009	N	8.9	1	0	15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- (A) Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
- (B) Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.
- (C) Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses.
- (D) Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.
- (E) Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the EPA prescribes regulations, which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

→ Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.
 → In our continuing efforts to maintain a safe and dependable water supply it may be necessary to make improvements in your water system. The costs of these improvements may be reflected in the rate structure. Rate adjustments may be necessary in order to address these improvements.

→ Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Lead-specific informational statement: If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. Town of Welaka is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

We at Town of Welaka would like you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to insuring the quality of your water. If you have any questions or concerns about the information provided, please feel free to call any of the numbers listed.