

Historical Commission Minutes

City of Foley Council Chambers 407 E.

Laurel Ave.

Foley, Alabama

January 7, 2025

1:00 p.m.

I. Call to order

Chairman JaNay Dawson called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

II. Roll call

Members present were: Jerry Morrison, JaNay Dawson, Kathie LeDrew and Kim Ward. Absent members were: Chad Watkins and Bill Swanson. Staff present were: Wayne Dyess, Director of Infrastructure and Development; Mike Thompson, City Administrator; Jeff Phillips, Construction Project Manager; Miriam Boone, City Planner; Eden Lapham, Planner 1; Nathan Smith, Building Inspector; Amanda Cole, Planning and Zoning Assistant and Melissa Ringler, Recording Secretary.

III. Approval of Minutes

- Approve December 3, 2024 minutes as published

Commissioner LeDrew made a motion to approve the December 3, 2024 meeting minutes. Commissioner Ward seconded the motion. All members voted aye.

Motion to approve the December 3, 2024 meeting minutes passes.

IV. Staff Approvals

- Schaff Holmes Wright Bldg.
Bill Swanson
111 W. Laurel Ave.
National District- Contributing
- a. Request to replace roof

Mr. Nathan Smith explained a staff approval was issued for a roof replacement. He explained the roof needed replacing due to damage from a hail storm.

- Camelia Dermatology
Watkins Construction Inc./Michael Dier
200 E. Laurel Ave.
Local District- Non Contributing
- a. Request for roof repairs

Mr. Smith explained a staff approval was issued for roof repairs which were considered maintenance.

VII. New Business

- At the Table, LLC.
Taylor Lane
358 N. Alston St.
National District-Contributing

a. Request to install shed in rear of property

Chairman Dawson stated the applicant is requesting to place a shed on the property behind the main building.

Commissioner Morrison stated the building is being referenced as an accessory building. He asked the applicant if the building would be heated and cooled.

Mr. Taylor Lane stated the building would be heated and cooled by a mini split unit.

Commissioner Morrison asked how the mini split would be connected and if any approval was needed by the electrical company. He stated a plan was received which had an expired structural engineers stamp. He asked if the building would be on a foundation and anchored. He explained the engineered plans referenced the wind speed. He asked if the structure will accommodate the current wind speed requirements.

Mrs. Eden Lapham explained due to the size of the building plans are not required for the structure due to it being exempt from permitting.

Mr. Lane stated the electrical work was done by Green Electric. He explained the building is anchored and he was unaware of the expired stamp on the plans.

Commissioner Morrison stated he had some confusion determining if the structure was an accessory or a temporary structure based on the definitions in the guidelines.

Mrs. Boone explained the application is before them for design criteria due to the structure being visible from a public street. She stated her understanding is the structure would not be habitable and the health department is requiring it to be heated and cooled for the storage of items.

Mr. Lane explained the building would be used for storage and the heating and cooling is a requirement of the Health Department.

Commissioner LeDrew made a motion to approve the requested certificate of appropriateness. Commissioner Ward seconded the motion. All members voted aye.

Motion to approve the requested certificate of appropriateness passes.

- City of Foley
 - Jeff Phillips
 - Multiple Downtown Buildings
 - Local & National District- Contributing and Non-Contributing
- a. Request to install Edison style warm white string lights on the tops of the buildings

Mr. Jeff Phillips explained the City is requesting to install Edison bulb style ambient lighting atop the parapet walls of select downtown buildings. He stated the proposed lighting will subtly illuminate and enhance the architectural features of the parapet rooflines and intricate brick corbeling and creates a warm, ambient glow. He explained the installation does not require any alteration to the building façade, as lights will not be permanently affixed to the buildings.

Mr. Wayne Dyess stated the added lighting will bring vibrancy downtown. He explained the lighting will highlight the unique corbelling of the brick and rooflines. He stated the selected style of lighting is period appropriate.

Commissioner LeDrew asked about the wiring.

Commissioner Morrison asked if the lighting project will be overseen by the City.

Mr. Phillips stated he is coordinating with the tenants and meeting the electricians before installation takes place. He explained the lighting is affixed to the buildings with plastic clips.

Mr. Mike Thompson stated the city is providing the lights to the tenants. He explained the tenant will hire an electrician to handle the installation.

Mrs. Frances Holk-Jones stated she would like to apologize to the Commission for not bringing the item to them before the installation started. She explained it was an oversight. She stated the lighting idea came up when she was visiting Fort Payne which had similar lighting in their downtown area.

Commissioner LeDrew stated she thinks of this type of lighting as removable and not permanent.

Mrs. Holk-Jones stated the city has done a great job organizing and coordination with downtown tenants and the electricians.

Commissioner Dawson stated she has visited several Historical areas with similar lighting installed which brings a lot of ambience to the downtown areas.

Mrs. Darrelyn Dunmore stated the project will be done in phases. She explained she is still working on getting commitment from some of the downtown property owners.

Mr. Dyess stated the lighting will also add safety to the downtown area at night.

Mrs. Dunmore stated one of Main Streets goals is to light up the down town area so events can be held at night.

Commissioner Ward asked if the lights would be on a timer.

Mr. Jeff stated the lights are on a photocell.

Mrs. Dunmore stated all lights and sensors are being provided to the participants.

Mr. Thompson stated the approval could be issued as the City lighting plan instead of by individual property addresses due to the project being done in phases. He stated the city with work \with the participants regarding installation.

Mrs. Boone explained not all of the properties fall within the Historical District. She agreed the approval could be issued for the entire project.

Mr. Jeff Phillips stated the product used will be the same for all properties.

Commissioner LeDrew made a motion to approve the City lighting project as defined in the letter

provided by the Mayor. Commissioner Ward second the motion. All Commissioners voted aye.

Motion to approve the city lighting project as defined in the letter provided by the Mayor passes.

VIII. Monthly Discussion

Chairman Dawson stated she would like to have a training work.

Mr. Dyess stated the City will happy to hold a training work shop within the next couple of months.

IX. Adjournment

Commissioner LeDrew adjourned the meeting at 1:54 p.m. Commissioner Ward seconded the motion. All Commissioners voted aye.

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 1:54 p.m. passes.