Minutes of Regular Meeting held May 11, 2009

Regular meeting with the following present: Mayor Mark Bowen; Aldermen Ward Sanders, Jerry Stone, Rudy Hernandez, Erik Dahler; City Secretary Josie Campa; Director of Public Works James McGrath; Police Chief Richard Priest; City Attorney Tom Cate. Alderman Sam Cortez was absent.

Visitors: Reggie Thompson, Kevin and Michelle Keith, Kelley Haney, Chuck Bayne, Gerry Elias, Jose Montes, Pam Fintel, Julio Inocencio, Paola Rios, Bobbie Aguinaga, Sam Parks, Hector Barrera, Sofia Moreno, Ismael Carrillo, Olga and Richard Sharer, Linda Martin.

APPROVE MINUTES AND APPROVE PAYMENT OF BILLS
City Secretary Josie Campa added the following bills to be paid:

- Police Bike Store - $331.94
- Troy Martin - $1,440.00
- Tom Cate - $1,600.00

Alderman Hernandez made the motion that Council approve the minutes of the April 20th regular meeting and payment of the bills, as presented. Seconded by Alderman Stone. Passed unanimously.

HEAR FROM CITIZENS
Julio Inocencio asked Council if Lytle had received a stimulus package. Mayor Bowen told Mr. Inocencio that the city had received a package and is trying to get some of this funding.

CONSIDER SEWER PROBLEMS-JOSE MONTES
Jose Montes told Council that he had talked to Alderman Stone about his sewer problem. Alderman Stone told Council he had gone to Mr. Montes’ residence with Director of Public Works James McGrath and had discussed the problem with Mr. Montes. Alderman Stone told Council that Mr. Montes had made a request for maintenance once a month with the sewer machine. Alderman Stone made the motion that Council have the Public Works department go out every thirty (30) days and use the sewer pressure machine on the sewer line by Mr. Montes’ residence. Seconded by Alderman Dahler. Discussion. Passed unanimously.

PRESENTATION CONCERNING 2010 CENSUS-SOFIA MORENO
Sofia Moreno, Partnership Specialist with the Census Bureau gave members of the Council novelty items from the Census Bureau. She told Council the reason she was at the Council meeting was to make everyone aware of the upcoming census, and Census Day which is April 1, 2010. Ms. Moreno told Council that the 2010 Census questionnaire will be a lot shorter with only ten questions to answer. Ms. Moreno also told Council that the Lytle response for the 2000
Minutes of Regular Meeting held May 11, 2009 (cont.)

PRESENTATION CONCERNING 2010 CENSUS-SOFIA MORENO (cont.)

Census was 60% and encouraged Council to appoint someone to partnership with Atascosa County to help increase the percentage for next year's census. Mayor Bowen told Ms. Moreno that the city will be able to use the website to encourage people in Lytle to participate in the 2010 Census. Council discussed appointing someone to oversee this project. Mayor Bowen told Ms. Moreno and Council he would come up with someone to oversee the 2010 Census for Lytle.

CONSIDER PAYING BAILIFF (S) FROM COURT SECURITY MONIES-MUNICIPAL COURT JUDGE GERRY ELIAS

City Municipal Court Judge Gerry Elias told Council that the bailiff for Municipal Court comes all the way from San Antonio and is not paid. The Judge told Council that the security fund for court could be used to pay bailiff(s). Council discussed paying the bailiff an hourly rate. The Judge told Council that normally court lasts two to three (2 to 3) hours and recommended $20.00 per hour. City Secretary Josie Campa told Council there is over $20,000.00 in security fund and that officers get paid a minimum of $25.00 per hour to work security. After more discussion, Alderman Stone made the motion that Council approve the bailiff(s) be paid $25.00 per hour with a two (2) hour minimum from the security fund. Discussion. Seconded by Alderman Dahler. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER REPORT FROM CHRISTMAS DECORATING COMMITTEE-PAM FINTEL

Christmas Decorating Committee members Pam Fintel and Kelly Haney, reported to Council that the committee had earned $500.00 in booth fees at the Easter Extravaganza. They also told Council that an unused cell phone drive is being held to bring in funds and that the committee will have a face painting booth at the Frenchie Burke Music Festival. Chairperson Pam Fintel told Council that Gabe Garcia's family had donated some bumper stickers to the committee that are now being sold to bring in funds. Mayor Bowen contributed an old cell phone to the committee for their fundraiser.

CONSIDER EMPLOYMENT STATUS OF PAOLA RIOS

City Secretary Josie Campa told Council that Paola Rios had completed her six months probationary period satisfactorily, and recommended Ms. Rios be given a $1.00 an hour salary increase and full benefits. Alderman Hernandez made the motion that Council hire Paola Rios as a regular employee and she be given a $1.00 per hour increase in salary and full benefits. Seconded by Alderman Sanders. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER PROPOSALS FROM NATURAL GAS SUPPLIERS

Council discussed the recommendation from gas consultant Simon Pena to take the option 1 proposal from West Texas Gas of the HSE price plus $.90 cents each month (includes fuel charges). After discussion, Alderman Hernandez made the motion that Council accept the recommendation from the gas consultant, contingent upon the price not being a substantial increase over current prices. Seconded by Alderman Dahler. Discussion. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER ADOPTING AMENDED "UNATTENDED CHILDREN" POLICY FOR LIBRARY

Alderman Hernandez made the motion that Council adopt the "Unattended Children" policy for the library, as amended. Seconded by Alderman Stone. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER ORDINANCE ADOPTING FIRE CODE APPROVED BY COUNCIL

Alderman Dahler made the motion that Council adopt Ordinance #329, as presented by the city attorney. Seconded by Alderman Hernandez. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER REPORT ON ANIMAL SHELTER-WARD SANDERS

Alderman Ward Sanders reported to Council that the slab at the animal shelter had been poured and framing was being completed and is ready for roofing, doors and windows. Alderman Sanders told Council the work being done by Hector Barrera Construction Company is being done at cost. Mayor Bowen told Council that the work being done is first rate according to the inspector. The Mayor introduced Mr. Barrera to everyone and asked him to say a few words. Hector Barrera told everyone he has been in the area for eight (8) years and he had bought the Lytle Oil Exchange a few years ago. Mr. Barrera said he has fallen in love with Lytle and wants to give back to the community and so when he heard about the shelter, he thought building it for the city, at cost would help. Alderman Sanders told Council the electrical work is being done free of charge by Alan Rader and his wife, Kim, that the plumbing is being done by
Minutes of Regular Meeting held May 11, 2009 (cont.)

CONSIDER REPORT ON ANIMAL SHELTER-WARD SANDERS (cont.)
James McGrath and told of some of the things that will be done in the next few weeks. Mr. Sanders told Council he expects the shelter to be completed in a month or a month and a half. Mayor Bowen told Council that due to state requirements and ADA, the shelter more than doubled in size from its original design. The Mayor thanked everyone for their help and said he feels the shelter will be something that we can be very proud of. Mayor Bowen told everyone that Alderman Sanders and Hector Barrera have been doing a great job on this project and thanked each of them for all their hard work.

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR'S REPORT
Director of Public Works James McGrath reported the following:

1-104 work orders completed last month;
2-1 new water meter was installed;
3-2 angle stops replaced;
4-2 water service leaks were fixed;
5-1 main line leak was repaired;
6-2 sewer stoppages were unblocked;
7-1 sewer line problem worked on;
8-2 compression couplings were removed and 1 more coupling is left that needs to be removed;
9-1 gas leak was fixed;
10-working on animal shelter plumbing; and
11-getting reading for Frenchie Burke Festival on Saturday.

Mr. McGrath then answered some questions from Council members.

POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT
Police Chief Richard Priest reviewed his written report with Council.

CITY SECRETARY'S REPORT
City Secretary Josie Campa told Council that the election had been held on Saturday, May 9th and a total of 59 votes had been cast. The City Secretary reported that Christi Vaughn had received 17 votes and Kevin Keith-42 votes, and that a special meeting would be held on May 18th to canvass the election and swear in newly-elected Aldermen.

The City Secretary told Council of the expense for the election due to the use of the voting machines and said she feels Council should consider passing a resolution concerning the use of the expensive machines.

The City Secretary told Council that the new Public Works employee had started work that day.

The City Secretary passed around a copy of the city’s new website and said work is still being done on the website.

MAYOR'S REPORT
Mayor Bowen told Council that he will be appointing a committee for a sports complex and that Brad Boyd and Steve Habarka have agreed to serve on this committee.

Mayor Bowen told Council that the HEB manager will be making a presentation to Council in the near future.

The Mayor reported that the City Secretary had purchased a projector for the Council chamber.

Mayor Bowen reminded everyone of the Frenchie Burke Festival being held on Saturday, May 16th.

Meeting adjourned at 7:51 p.m.