Minutes of Regular Meeting held April 12, 2010

Regular meeting with the following present: Mayor Mark Bowen; Aldermen Jerry Stone, Rudy Hernandez, Ward Sanders, Kevin Keith, Sam Cortez; City Secretary Josie Campa; Police Chief Richard Priest; Director of Public Works James McGrath; City Attorney Tom Cate; Fire Marshal Matt Dear; Library Director Cassandra Cortez.

Visitors: Shelle McMillan, Nan Boyd, Sam Parks, Chuck Bayne, Jack Harrington, Cynthia Stanukinos, Julio and Christina Inocencio, Ernie Kroeger, Betty Kroeger, Harry Rice, Bill Yoast, Wanda Yoast, Bobby Roberts, Bobbie Aguinaga, Mr. and Mrs. Bartholomew, Joshua McKatt.

APPROVE MINUTES AND APPROVE PAYMENT OF BILLS
City Secretary Josie Campa added bills from Tom Cate ($2,310.39), Lytle Heating and Air Conditioning ($162.00) and CPS ($1,900.10). Alderman Keith made the motion that Council approve the minutes of the regular meeting held March 8th and the special meeting held April 5th and payment of the bills, as presented. Seconded by Alderman Cortez. Passed unanimously.

HEAR FROM CITIZENS
Bobby Roberts told Council that in the next month or so, the old train depot will be brought into town. He said people raised enough money to get this building moved. Mr. Roberts told Council that the depot would be placed by the scales on Main Street and will be moved to its permanent location near the railroad tracks at a later date and will serve as a museum. Mr. Roberts told Council he would let them know when they will have the media to cover this move.

Harry Rice told Council that some of the property at Lake Shore Estates still does not drain properly. Mr. Rice said that since Mr. Mayhew took down a berm this problem has existed. Mr. Rice invited Council to go to Lake Shore Estates and look at this problem.

CONSIDER VARIANCE ON PROPOSED PARKING AND FIRE TRUCK TURN AROUND (FIRE LANE) FOR U.S. RENAL CARE'S NEW ADDITION
Jack Harrington, owner of U.S. Renal Care told Council they are doing a 1700 sq. ft. expansion and explained what it would be used for. He told Council that no new patient stations would be added and asked for less parking spaces to be required. He asked Council whether he would have to asphalt the entire parking lot or if chat would be used. Matt Dear, Lytle Volunteer Fire Chief told Council that the fire department prefers the fire lane to be asphalt. Mr. Harrington told Council if he can omit some parking spaces, he will use asphalt for the fire lane and parking lot. Alderman Hernandez made the motion that Council approve Mr. Harrington’s request for deleting some parking spaces as long as he used asphalt for the fire lane and turnaround in the parking lot. Seconded by Alderman Stone. Passed unanimously.
CONSIDER PROPOSAL FROM CPS ENERGY ON GAS OUTAGE SERVICES
City Secretary Josie Campa showed Council the proposal from CPS Energy ($2,500.00) for services during the gas outage in July. Alderman Hernandez made the motion that Council approve this proposal. Seconded by Alderman Cortez. Discussion. Council asked the City Secretary to check to see if this proposal will be pro-rated or changed if the testing takes less time. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER REQUEST FROM BLUEBONNET CHILDREN’S ADVOCACY CENTER
Cynthia Stanukinos from the Bluebonnet Children’s Advocacy Center presented an annual program report to Council and asked Council if they could receive the money the city had budgeted for the center. Chief Priest told Council that Sgt. Reyes works with this center and that they take children from all three of the counties Lytle is in. Mayor Bowen told Council that $1,000.00 had been budgeted for the center. Alderman Stone made the motion that Council give the Bluebonnet Children’s Advocacy Center $1,000.00 in consideration for their services. Seconded by Alderman Cortez. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER REQUEST FOR “NO PARKING” ZONE ON IH 35 ACCESS ROAD BY HARRIS PARK
City Secretary Josie Campa told Council that DPS had called about complaints they received from Lytle citizens about trucks parking on the access road by Harris Park. She said that TxDot will put up the signs if the Council adopts an ordinance to make that area a “no parking” zone. Bill Yoast told Council that at different times, different trucks have parked on the access road near their home in Harris Park and have kept them awake at night with all the noise. Chief Priest told Council he thought this section of town had already been approved for “no parking” areas. Alderman Hernandez made the motion that Council prohibit all vehicles parking on all access roads in the city. Seconded by Alderman Sanders. Passed unanimously.

LYTLE I.S.D. BOND ELECTION PRESENTATION
Nan Boyd and Shelle McMillan gave a power point presentation on Lytle I.S.D.’S bond election and explained that a committee had looked at academics and buildings needed. They also presented information sheets to Council members. The ladies urged everyone to vote on May 8th.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF CONTRACT WITH ATASCOSA COUNTY FOR ELECTION SERVICES
City Secretary Josie Campa told Council that the Election Service Contract with Atascosa County would total $3,924.49 for the May 8th election. Alderman Sanders made the motion that Council approve this contract upon the City Attorney’s approval. Seconded by Alderman Cortez. Passed unanimously.
CONSIDER ADOPTING PROCLAMATION AUTHORIZING APRIL AS FAIR HOUSING MONTH AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ACT AS THE CITY’S EXECUTIVE OFFICER AND AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE IN ALL MATTERS PERTAINING TO APRIL AS FAIR HOUSING MONTH
Alderman Cortez made the motion that Council adopt April as Fair Housing Month Proclamation. Seconded by Alderman Keith. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER ADOPTING ORDINANCE AS PER SECTION 2.053 OF THE ELECTION CODE ALLOWING CITY TO DECLARE EACH UNOPPOSED CANDIDATE FOR OFFICE ELECTED
Alderman Keith made the motion that Council adopt Ordinance No. 340. Seconded by Alderman Sanders. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER IMPROVEMENTS TO CR 6710 AND BALL ROAD
Mayor Bowen told Council that he wanted Council to approve getting Medina County to retop CR 6710 and the city pay for the materials. City Secretary Josie Campa told Council that $25,000.00 had been budgeted for CR 6710. After discussion, Alderman Stone made the motion that Council have Medina County retop CR 6710 and the city pay for materials up to $25,000.00. Seconded by Alderman Sanders.

Discussion. VOTE: For—Aldermen Stone, Sanders and Keith. Against—Aldermen Cortez and Hernandez. Motion carried.

Mayor Bowen told Council he had gone back to the engineer and had him look at Ball Road again. The Mayor told Council engineer’s fees for this project will be nearly $30,000.00. Council discussed whether all residents on Ball Road were in agreement on the paving of Ball Road. Bobby Roberts told Council he is not in favor of the Ball Road project. City Attorney Tom Cate told Council that if 100% of the property owners are not in favor of project, then Council shouldn’t do it since the city could incur a lot of legal expenses. Council discussed not being able to move forward on project as long as Bobby Roberts doesn’t move the spoils. Mayor Bowen told Council that since Ball Road is not a city road, the city has to have 100% cooperation from property owners. After more discussion, Alderman Hernandez made the motion that the improvements to Ball Road be put on hold until spoils are removed and agreements with all the property owners are received. Discussion. Motion was seconded by Alderman Stone. Discussion. Motion was passed unanimously.

Council took a short break at 7:55 p.m., and reconvened at 8:10 p.m.

CONSIDER PROPOSAL FROM TRC FOR ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR BALL ROAD RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT
No action was taken on this item at this time.
CONSIDER RECOMMENDATION OF LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD FOR APPOINTMENT TO SAID BOARD
City Secretary Josie Campa told Council that the Library Advisory Board had recommended that Michelle Grajeda be appointed to the board. Alderman Hernandez made the motion that Council appoint Michelle Grajeda to the Library Advisory Board. Seconded by Alderman Keith. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER ADOPTING PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING NATIONAL DONATE LIFE MONTH
Alderman Hernandez made the motion that Council adopt the proclamation for National Donate Life Month. Seconded by Alderman Stone. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER CALLING FOR PROPOSALS ON LAND BY SHELTER AND WATER WELL #3
Mayor Bowen told Council he has received calls from people interested in leasing the city’s land by the animal shelter for farming crops and asked Council to consider calling for proposals for this purpose. After discussion, Alderman Hernandez made the motion that Council advertise for proposals for leasing the city’s twenty-plus acres. Seconded by Alderman Cortez. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER HIRING POLICE OFFICER TO FILL VACANCY CREATED BY RESIGNATION OF CHRISTOPHER LOPEZ
Police Chief Richard Priest told Council that Christopher Lopez one of the new officers had resigned, but will continue on as a reserve. The Chief told Council he is not ready to hire anyone to fill that vacancy yet, and that they will probably readvertise after looking at different options. No action was taken on this item.

CONSIDER SPAY/NEUTER COST SHARE PROGRAM
Mayor Bowen told Council that they had agreed to look at this item again after sixty (60) days. Chief Priest gave Council a report on the animals that had been spayed and neutered over the past couple of months after vouchers were given to new owners when they were adopted. The Chief told Council there is still $285.00 left in account and they would like to continue with this program. After discussion, Alderman Hernandez made the motion that this program be uncapped and extended and vouchers for spaying and neutering be give to people in the Lytle area. Also, that a questionnaire be taken from adopting parties over the next 30 to 60 days to see if they would adopt an animal if it was mandatory that they have the adopted animal spayed or neutered. Seconded by Alderman Sanders. Passed unanimously.
CONSIDER PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO 2009-2010 BUDGET
City Secretary Josie Campa proposed the following amendments to the 2009-2010 budget:

GENERAL FUND
Ad Valorem-Current Taxes  -  +  6,000.00
Sales Tax  -  +  20,000.00
Transfer From General  -  +  45,000.00
Overtime Pay Public Works  -  +  3,000.00
Fringe Benefits  -  +  1,200.00
Animal Shelter  -  +  6,600.00
Museum Expense  -  +  500.00

WATER FUND
Repairs & Maintenance  -  -  <1,000.00>
Gasoline & Oil  -  -  <1,500.00>
Telephone  -  +  1,000.00
Dues & Associations  -  +  1,500.00

GAS FUND
Salaries & Wages  -  -  <3,000.00>
Standby Pay  -  -  <1,500.00>
Social Security  -  -  <2,200.00>
Group Insurance  -  -  <4,000.00>
Retirement  -  -  <2,000.00>
Uniforms  -  -  <900.00>
Overall Compensation  -  -  <150.00>
Engineer  -  -  <1,000.00>
CPS Gas System Maintenance  -  +  58,500.00
Materials & Supplies  -  -  <4,000.00>
Misc Equipment  -  -  <4,000.00>
Repairs & Maintenance-Equipment  -  -  <5,000.00>
Repairs & Maintenance-Vehicles  -  -  <500.00>
Gasoline & Oil  -  -  <3,000.00>
Insurance  -  +  100.00
Dues  -  -  <250.00>

Alderman Hernandez made the motion that Council approve these amendments, as proposed. Seconded by Alderman Keith. Passed unanimously.

LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S REPORT
Library Director Cassandra Cortez reviewed her written report with Council.
PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR'S REPORT
Public Works Director James McGrath reported the following:

1 - 187 work orders completed last month;
2 - 2 new water meters were installed;
3 - 10 water leaks fixed at customers’ meters;
4 - replaced one (1) water meter;
5 - 3 sewer main stoppages were unclogged;
6 - 1 customer sewer line unstopped;
7 - trimmed trees on CR 681;
8 - mowed along city right-of-ways;
9 - potholes were fixed;
10 - Railroad Commission will be conducting a safety evaluation;
11 - renewed sewer and water licenses;
12 - Edwards Aquifer people took samples at Well #1;
13 - crew helped with Easter Egg-travaganza;
14 - checked Lake Shore Estates phase 2 for drainage; and
15 - has concerns on 6" water line in new unit of Lake Shore Estates.

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

The Chief told Council the Volunteer Coordinator at the Animal Control Facility is averaging fifty (50) hours a week at the shelter.

CITY SECRETARY'S REPORT
City Secretary Josie Campa reviewed her written report with Council.

MAYOR'S REPORT
Mayor Bowen reported on the items below:

1 - gave Census caps and shirts to Council and urged everyone to return their census questionnaire;
2 - Best Western still not ready to meet with Council;
3 - will start work on 5-year plan for city;
4 - will be working on marketing Lytle;
5 - complimented volunteers at shelter for planting grass;
6 - thanked Alridge Nursery and Kye Mask for the donations of plants and trees and grass;
7 - thanked Ward Sanders for all his work;
8 - told Council that Public Works employee Robert Hernandez lost two of his children in an automobile accident on April 1st and that the city employees had helped to pay funeral expenses.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.