Minutes of Regular Meeting held August 8, 2011

Regular meeting with the following present: Mayor Mark Bowen; Aldermen Jerry Stone, Ruble Farmer, Ward Sanders, Sam Cortez, Kevin Keith; City Secretary Josie Campa; Police Chief Richard Priest; City Attorney Tom Cate; Director of Public Works James McGrath; Library Director Cassandra Cortez; Police Officer Daniel Gamez.


APPROVE MINUTES AND APPROVE PAYMENT OF BILLS
Alderman Sanders made the motion that Council approve the minutes of the public hearing and regular meeting held July 11th, the special meeting held July 18th and the planning workshop held July 18th, and payment of the bills, as presented. Seconded by Alderman Farmer. Passed unanimously.

HEAR FROM CITIZENS
Chuck Bayne asked Council to consider adding report from the Code Compliance Officer on the regular meeting agenda.

Police Chief Richard Priest and Animal Shelter Volunteer Coordinator Betty Kroeger presented a certificate of appreciation to Miriam Garcia for all of the work she did on the Paws of Summer, as well as the Bake Sale at the bank.

Mayor Bowen presented a plaque to City Attorney Tom Cate for his thirty (30) years of service to the city. The City Attorney was surprised with a cake and gifts to celebrate this anniversary.

CONSIDER RECOMMENDATIONS FROM ZONING COMMISSION
Alderman Stone made the motion that Council approve the recommendations from the Zoning Commission with the stipulation noted by the City Attorney at the Public Hearing. Seconded by Alderman Cortez. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER BIDS RECEIVED ON STREET IMPROVEMENTS
City Secretary Josie Campa gave Council a bid tabulation sheet on the bids received for street improvements. The bids were as follows:

For all streets
Neal Worthey Contracting - $74,400.00

Streets covered by budgeted amount-first five streets
Neal Worthey Contracting - $45,900.00

For all streets
Clark Construction - $87,468.64
CONSIDER BIDS RECEIVED ON STREET IMPROVEMENTS (CONT.)

Streets covered by budgeted amount-first five streets
Clark Construction - $ 52,887.82

For all streets
Westhill Paving, Inc. - $102,492.38

Streets covered by budgeted amount-first five streets
Westhill Paving, Inc. - $ 64,206.14

For all streets
J & T Construction - $117,145.50

Streets covered by budgeted amount-first five streets
J & T Construction - $ 70,831.50

Alderman Sanders made the motion that Council approve the bid from Neal Worthey Contracting for the first five (5) streets. Seconded by Alderman Stone. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER PURCHASE OF LAND FOR NEW WELL

Mayor Bowen announced at 7:13 p.m. that Council would go into closed session as allowed in Chapter 551.072 Subchapter D of the Government Code.

The meeting was reopened at 7:22 p.m.

Mayor Bowen announced that Council had discussed this item with the City Attorney but no action was taken.

Alderman Stone made the motion that Council allow the City Attorney to negotiate for land. Seconded by Alderman Sanders. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER REPAIRS TO SEWER PLANT ROAD

Mayor Bowen told Council that they had discussed the sewer plant road before and had talked about getting people to look at it. They asked Public Works Director James McGrath if the road needs to be moved and Mr. McGrath said the road is best where it is now. After discussion Alderman Keith made the motion that Council have people look at the road and have the Director tell Council what he feels is the best way to go. Seconded by Alderman Stone. Passed unanimously.
CONSIDER EMPLOYMENT STATUS OF ANGELA PERDUE
City Secretary Josie Campa told Council that Angela Perdue had completed a court clerk training school and recommended she be given a salary increase of $.50 cents per hour. Alderman Cortez made the motion that Council approve this recommendation. Seconded by Alderman Keith. Discussion. Angela Perdue told Council she remembered a higher increase in salary had been discussed. The City Secretary said the added monies would come when she attends tax school. Council agreed to have this item on the special meeting agenda on the 13th. No action was taken on this item.

CONSIDER EMPLOYMENT STATUS OF BILL DIXON
Police Chief Richard Priest told Council Bill Dixon had attended a euthanasia course and that in the future euthanasias would be done in house and would save city money. He recommended Mr. Dixon be given a $.50 cents per hour salary increase. Alderman Stone made the motion that Bill Dixon be given a $.50 cents per hour increase in salary. Seconded by Alderman Farmer. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER EMPLOYMENT STATUS OF SANTIAGO MORANTEZ
Chief Priest told Council that Santiago Morantez had obtained a Basic Animal Control Officer license and recommended he be given a $1.00 per hour increase in salary. Alderman Sanders made the motion that Santiago Morantez be given a salary increase of $1.00 per hour. Seconded by Alderman Cortez. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER EMPLOYMENT STATUS OF JOSE GUZMAN
Chief Priest told Council that Jose Guzman had completed his probation satisfactorily and recommended he be given a salary increase of $100.00 per month. Alderman Stone made the motion that Council approve the Chief’s recommendation and Jose Guzman receive a raise of $100.00 per month and full benefits. Seconded by Alderman Cortez. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER RENEWING INTERLOCAL COOPERATION CONTRACT WITH TX DPS FOR PURCHASING SUPPLIES
Police Chief Priest explained to Council that the interlocal contract with TX DPS is up for renewal and it is the same as before. He said this agreement is needed to get supplies from DPS. Alderman Farmer made the motion that Council approve this interlocal contract. Seconded by Alderman Sanders. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER BRUSH PICK-UP FOR NEXT FISCAL YEAR
Mayor Bowen told Council that the year is up on the brush pick-up contract and asked for Council’s thoughts on this. Alderman Sanders said he is happy with the service and said the city needs to check with the contract to see if all is the same. No action was taken on this item at this time.
CONSIDER APPOINTING MEMBERS TO BEAUTIFICATION/REVITALIZATION COMMITTEE

Mayor Bowen asked Council for appointments to the Beautification/Revitalization Committee. Alderman Sanders recommended Roy Garza and AJ Frausto. Alderman Keith told Council the Chamber of Commerce needs to be contacted about this item. Mayor Bowen suggested this be placed on the city website and give it a month to see if people volunteer.

No action was taken on this item.

UPDATE ON PLANS AND GOALS

No action was taken on this item.

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 - 151 work orders where completed last month;
2 - 1 new water meter installed;
3 - 2 water leaks were fixed;
4 - 6 leaks on customer side were repaired;
5 - 1 sewer stoppage was unclogged;
6 - 1 water main break was repaired;
7 - 3 service line leaks were fixed;
8 - 3 water meters were replaced;
9 - TCEQ took more water samples;
10 - inspections for water and sewer at the Lytle I.S.D. were done;
11 - CPS will be sleeving gas line at Best Western;
12 - completed 20 hour Wastewater Course;
13 - service on Wisdom Road has to be installed and bored;
14 - told Council five hydrants at Community Center have not been fixed yet.

POLICE CHIEF’S REPORT

Police Chief Richard Priest reviewed his written report with Council.

CITY SECRETARY’S REPORT

City Secretary Josie Campa reviewed her written report with Council.

The City Secretary reminded Council that a special meeting and budget workshop would be held August 15th.

She also said the salary review committee would be meeting with the department heads prior to the budget workshop.
MAYOR’S REPORT
Mayor Bowen thanked everyone that worked on the Paws of Summer.

The Mayor told council the gas line project is ready to roll.

Mayor Bowen urged everyone to keep a close eye on people, especially the elderly with the severe heat we are having.

Betty Kroeger thanked Council for the A/C at the Animal Shelter.

Mayor Bowen and Council members wished Alderman Farmer well on his upcoming surgery.

Mayor Bowen thanked City Attorney Tom Cate for his thirty (30) years of service.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.