Minutes of Regular Meeting held February 9, 2009

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


APPROVE MINUTES AND APPROVE PAYMENT OF BILLS

Alderman Rudy Hernandez made the motion that Council approve the minutes of the regular meeting on January 12th, the emergency meeting on January 14th and payment of the bills, as presented. Seconded by Alderman Stone. Passed unanimously.

HEAR FROM CITIZENS

Mayor Bowen called attention to the painting of the Benton City Institute that was painted and donated by Gladys Glover.

PRESENTATION OF ANNUAL DANIEL J. MCGRATH, D.V.M. CITIZENSHIP AWARD

Mayor Mark Bowen presented the 2008 Daniel J. McGrath, D.V.M. Citizenship Award to Ann Van Winkle for all her work on the Library Board and new library addition and to Josie Campa for the work she did on Gabe Day.

PRESENTATION ON SNAP-PAM HARRIS

Pam Harris and Jim Weedon of SNAP told Council about their program for spaying and neutering animals. They told Council that the SNAP mobile clinic will be at the Lytle HEB on Monday, February 16th and will be a first come, first serve basis. Ms. Harris gave the history of SNAP, and said they would like to get a working relationship with the city and school. Alderman Ward Sanders thanked the SNAP representatives for their presentation and thanked Nan Boyd for bringing Lytle to SNAP's attention.

HASMUKH R. BHAKTA-SUBDIVISION PLAT ESTABLISHING 1.76 ACRES OUT OF 104.32 ACRE TRACT

Hasu Bhakta and George Weron, presented a plat of 1.76 acres out of the 104 acre tract that will be used for a Best Western. Mr. Weron asked Council to allow the city's engineer review the replat and the storm water plans for this property, so they can proceed with the building of a Best Western motel. After discussion, Alderman Stone made the motion that Council have the city's engineer review the plats submitted by Mr. Weron and that this review be paid by the developer. Seconded by Alderman Sanders. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER REQUEST FROM MIGUEL AGUILAR TO ALLOW MORE THAN ONE (1) HOUSING UNIT PER LOT IN R-1 DISTRICT DUE TO OWNER SELLING PORTION OF LOT

Miguel Aguilar requested Council's permission to place a double wide mobile home on half of a lot he wants to purchase from Mrs. Mata. City Secretary Josie Campa told Council that this would mean there are two houses on one lot unless the property is replatted. After discussion, Alderman Sanders made the motion that Council grant Mr. Aguilar's request to replat the property and then go to the Mobile Home Commission for permission to move his double-wide to said property. Seconded by Alderman Cortez. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER NOISE ORDINANCE-OLGA SHARER

Olga and Richard Sharer talked to Council about updating the city's noise ordinance. The Sharers told Council about the problem they are having with a neighbor on Blume Drive and explained the city's present noise ordinance is not working to prevent this from continuing. The Sharers gave Council examples and decibel levels and ordinances from other cities. Chief Priest told Council he has talked to both parties and he doesn't see a solution since the decibel levels are not high enough according to the present ordinance. Council discussed the problem with the Sharers and after a lengthy discussion, no action was taken.
CONSIDER USE OF SENIOR CITIZENS CENTER (ANNEX) BUILDING BY LYTLE GARDEN CLUB - OLGA SHARER AND CONSIDER USE OF CENTER GROUNDS FOR COMMUNITY GARDEN

Olga Sharer asked Council's permission to use the Annex Building for the Lytle Garden Club meetings. Mrs. Sharer also asked Council for use of the city's property by the annex storage room for a community garden. Mrs. Sharer gave Council members a handout that tells what a community garden will provide for the city and also what is needed for a community garden. After lengthy discussion, Alderman Stone made the motion that Council allow the Garden Club to have non-exclusive use of the annex building for its meetings and having a community garden, and that the Garden Club does not have the right to assign rights of use to anyone. Seconded by Alderman Sanders. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER "NO PARKING" ZONE IN FRONT OF LYTLE PRIMARY SCHOOL - DAVID MULLINAX

David Mullinax told Council about a traffic problem they have at the Lytle Primary School and asked if a "no parking" zone could be established to alleviate this problem. Police Chief Priest told Council that he has been looking at this problem and proposed going 415 ft. north of Poco Street with this no parking zone. After discussion, Alderman Dahler made the motion that Council approve a "No Parking" zone at the Primary School as per Chief's recommendation. Seconded by Alderman Sanders. Discussion. Passed unanimously.

Council took a short break at 8:10 p.m. The meeting was reopened at 8:25 p.m.

CONSIDER REQUEST FROM GREATER LYTLE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE FOR $1,000.00 FOR PRINTING OF VISITOR GUIDE - REAGON CLAMON

Regan Clamon asked Council if the city would contribute to the Visitors' Guide project once again. Mr. Clamon told Council that this year the cover will be Gabe Garcia. Council asked a few questions about the distribution of the visitor guide. After discussion, Alderman Sanders made the motion that the City give $1,000.00 for the printing of the Visitors' Guide. Seconded by Alderman Cortez. Discussion. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER REQUEST FROM LYTLE YOUTH PROGRAM FOR USE OF CITY'S BASEBALL FIELD IN JOHN LOTT MUNICIPAL PARK FOR 2009 SEASON

Pat Diver, President of the Lytle Youth Program, asked Council to consider allowing this program to use the ball fields at the park once again. Mr. Diver told Council about some items at the fields that are in need of attention. After discussion, Alderman Hernandez made the motion that Council grant Mr. Diver's request. Seconded by Alderman Cortez. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER HIRING SOUTHWEST SECURITIES TO FILE CONTINUING DISCLOSURE DOCUMENTS AS PER SECURITIES EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Alderman Dahler made the motion that Council hire Southwest Securities to file the continuing disclosure documents as per the Securities Exchange Commission. Seconded by Alderman Stone. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER CALLING FOR AN ELECTION/CONSIDERAR LLAMAR PARA UNA ELECCION

Alderman Dahler made the motion that Council call for an election. Seconded by Alderman Hernandez. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER APPOINTMENT OF ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER

City Secretary Josie Campa told Council that Bill Dixon attended a Basic Animal Control course and had passed his tests. The City recommended to Council that Mr. Dixon be named Animal Control Officer and be given a $.50 cents per hour salary increase. After discussion, Alderman Stone made the motion that Council hire Bill Dixon as the city's Animal Control Officer and that he be given a $.75 cents per hour increase in salary. Seconded by Alderman Dahler. Discussion. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER ADDING ARCHIVES CENTER MODULE OPTION TO CITY'S WEBSITE PACKAGE

City Secretary Josie Campa told Council about the archives package for the website. After discussion, Alderman Dahler made the motion that Council authorize the archives package but not the monthly maintenance fees until the Council is shown what these fees do for City and it be considered separately. Seconded by Alderman Stone. Discussion. Passed unanimously.
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CONSIDER APPOINTING COMMITTEE TO OVERSEE CITY’S DECORATIONS FOR NEXT CHRISTMAS
Alderman Hernandez explained to Council why he is wanting to set up a committee to develop a plan for annual Christmas decorations. He said this committee would report to Council and would be responsible for fundraisers and sub-committees. Alderman Hernandez made the motion that Council appoint the persons who volunteered with Pam Fintel serving as chairperson. Seconded by Alderman Cortez. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER APPOINTMENT COMMITTEE FOR CITY’S SPORTS COMPLEX/RECREATION FACILITY
Mayor Bowen told Council that approximately five years ago a committee was appointed to try and get a sports complex. He said he would like Council’s permission to appoint a new committee to look into this project again since he knows of a few people that are willing to work on it. After discussion, Alderman Cortez made the motion that Council allow Mayor Bowen to appoint a committee to look into a sports complex/recreation facility for the city. Seconded by Alderman Sanders. Passed unanimously.

PRESENTATION OF 2008 RACIAL PROFILING REPORT-POLICE CHIEF RICHARD PRIEST

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS’ REPORT
Director of Public Works James McGrath reported the following:

1-152 work orders completed;
2-1 water main break fixed;
3-4 water customer leaks fixed;
4-replaced 2 services;
5-fixed 2 gas leaks;
6-fixed 2 gas regulators;
7-fixed 1 sewer stoppage;
8-2 angle stops replaced;
9-1 gas stop replaced;
10-moved 1 gas meter;
11-6 compression couplings changed out;
12-pump at lift station went out; and
13-valve will be installed on February 11th.

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 and told them about the problems encountered with the gas system and what is being done to resolve them.

MAYOR’S REPORT
Mayor reminded Council of the ground breaking for the Animal Shelter on Saturday, February 14th at 10:00 a.m.; and said he is reviewing options for the gas system.

Meeting adjourned at 9:36 p.m.

[Signatures]
Mayor
City Secretary