Minutes of Regular Meeting held February 11, 2008

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


APPROVE MINUTES AND APPROVE PAYMENT OF BILLS
Alderman Hernandez made the motion that Council approve minutes of January 14th regular meeting and the January 28th workshop and payment of the bills, as presented. Seconded by Alderman Stone. Passed unanimously.

PRESENTATION OF ANNUAL DANIEL J. MCGRATH, D.V.M. CITIZENSHIP AWARD
Mayor Fincher presented the 2007 Daniel J. McGrath Citizenship Award to Nora Garcia, widow of the posthumous award winner Juan J. Garcia, Sr. Mayor Fincher told everyone that Mr. Garcia's dedication to this city was the reason for this award.

CONSIDER PROPOSAL FROM WET ROCK GROUND WATER SERVICES, L.L.C. FOR COMPLETING A WATER RESOURCES STUDY AND CONSIDER REPORT FROM WATER COMMITTEE
Alderman Erik Dahler, member of the water committee gave a report to Council. He said the committee is looking at three things—the proposal from Wet Rock; a larger picture to determine the need for more water; and what other options are available to the city. Mr. Dahler also told Council that the committee is waiting to hear from an individual on a proposal he has for the city that may involve annexation. Council discussed the items mentioned by Alderman Dahler. Mr. Dahler clarified that a Carrizo well is not a short-term solution and the city's need for water at this time doesn't justify this expense. After more discussion, Alderman Bowen made the motion that Council take no action on the proposal from Wet Rock at this time and wait to hear on the other proposal. Seconded by Alderman Cortez. Discussion. Motion was passed unanimously.
CONSIDER REQUEST FROM LYTLE YOUTH PROGRAM FOR USE OF CITY’S BASEBALL FIELDS IN JOHN LOTT MUNICIPAL PARK FOR 2008 SEASON
Alderman Bowen made the motion that Council enter into a contract with the Lytle Youth Program for the use of the baseball field at John Lott Municipal Park. Seconded by Alderman Stone. Passed unanimously.

PRESENTATION ON BLUEBONNET CHILDREN’S CENTER–LISA BALLESTERO
This item was scratched from the agenda since Mrs. Ballesteros was not present.

CONSIDER ADDITIONAL STREET LIGHTS AT OR NEAR SOUTH TEXAS SUZUKI–KEN HANEY
Ken Haney, the new owner of the Suzuki place, requested street light be placed near his business on the access road. Mayor Fincher told Mr. Haney that Alderman Stone could go by and look at this location since he was doing a street light survey. Mr. Haney thanked Council for any consideration they would give his request. No action was taken, since Alderman Stone agreed to look at this location and include a street light for this location, if necessary.

CONSIDER SPECIAL PERMIT FOR COTTAGE STREET APARTMENTS
Mark Fisher was not present, so this item was scratched from the agenda.

CONSIDER EMPLOYMENT STATUS OF MARK MONTGOMERY, NON-PAID RESERVE OFFICER
Police Chief Richard Priest asked Council to promote Mark Montgomery, a non-paid reserve to corporal. The Chief said there is money involved and that this would help with the command structure. Alderman Stone made the motion that Council promote Mark Montgomery to Corporal, as recommended by Chief Priest. Seconded by Alderman Dahler. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER CONTRIBUTION TO AACOG’S TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM
Mayor Fincher recommended to Council that the city pay the $344.58 requested by AACOG for its Transportation Program. Alderman Bowen made the motion that Council approve this payment of this fee. Seconded by Alderman Cortez. City Attorney Tom Cate told Council this fee is not a donation, it is payment for services. Motion passed unanimously.

CONSIDER EMPLOYMENT STATUS OF LAURA SANCHEZ
City Secretary Josie Campa told Council that since the resignation of Jessica Gonzales, the new employee Laura Sanchez had taken on additional duties and asked that Council consider an increase in Mrs. Sanchez hourly rate of pay. Alderman Cortez made the motion that Council give Laura Sanchez a fifty (50) cents per hour increase in salary. Seconded by Alderman Stone. 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 required by the Securities Exchange Commission. Seconded by Alderman Stone. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER CALLING FOR ELECTION
Alderman Hernandez made the motion that Council order an election to be held May 10th to elect a Mayor and Aldermen for Districts 4 and 5. Seconded by Alderman Cortez. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER CHANGING CITY’S SUBDIVISION ORDINANCE TO COMPLY WITH STATE LAW
City Attorney Tom Cate recommended to Council that they change the present subdivision ordinance to comply with current State law and to use the same wording used in the States’ statue No. 212.004. Alderman Bowen made the motion that follow Mr. Cate’s recommendation and adopt an ordinance amending the present subdivision ordinance to comply with State law and that the same wording use in the State statute No. 212.004 requiring plats. Seconded by Alderman Dahler. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER STREET LIGHT SURVEY AND ADDITIONAL STREET LIGHTS
Alderman Jerry Stone told Council he had conducted a survey for additional street lights and listed the following locations for additional street lights:
1-15011 Adams Street;
2-14849 Adams Street;
3-Pine Street across from Scotty Whites’ residence;
4-19955 IH 35 South access road by Harris Trailer Park;
5-15024 Mesquite Street;
6-18810 Wisdom Road;
7-18714 Wisdom Road;
8-on pole by Alfaro residence on Wisdom Road;
9-18059 Ball Road by fire plug;
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CONSIDER STREET LIGHT SURVEY AND ADDITIONAL STREET LIGHTS (cont.)
10-19001 Live Oak Street;
11-on pole #406 on N. Somerset Street;
12-on IH 35 N. access road by Leonard Lewis’ residence; and
13-on IH 35 N. access road by Suzuki dealership.

After discussion, Alderman Bowen made the motion that Council approve the above mentioned street lights. Seconded by Alderman Cortez. Passed unanimously.

PRESENTATION OF 2007 RACIAL PROFILING REPORT—POLICE CHIEF RICHARD PRIEST
Police Chief Richard Priest reviewed the 2007 Racial Profiling Report with Council. Chief Priest told Council after this review that he doesn’t feel there is a problem with racial profiling and that there have been no complaints.

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS’ REPORT
Director of Public Work’s James McGrath reported the following to Council:
1-172 work orders completed in month;
2-five (5) new water meters were installed;
3-two (2) minor water leaks were fixed;
4-library utilities have been installed.
5-four (4) sewer stoppages unclogged;
6-five (5) gas leaks fixed;
7-working on drainage on Railroad Street;
8-road material has been delivered at sewer plant;
9-working on pond #1 at sewer plant to elevate water so it will evaporate;
10-of the two (2) new employees hired—one didn’t bring in a background check and the other one failed his physical;
11-received nine (9) new applications; and
12-attended a meeting of the Evergreen Water District on January 23rd.

POLICE CHIEF’S REPORT
Chief Priest reviewed his written report with Council
The Chief told Council that the new pawn shop is requiring about 3 to 5 hours of work by his department every week.

Chief Priest told Council that the new trucks had arrived and are being detailed before being placed on line.

The Chief reported that Charles Ramsey has been hired as a non-paid reserve officer.

Chief Priest told Council he would be working on a citizen patrol group.

CITY SECRETARY’S REPORT
City Secretary Josie Campa added the following items to her report:
1-sales tax allocation for February is $46,034.89, which is about $2,700.00 more than last February’s allocation;
2-Mark McLiney from Southwest Securities would like to talk to Council about present bonds to see if they would like to restructure payments at a new interest rate and try to save city some money;
3-Ball Road survey completed;
4-would like Council to set special meeting to discuss Ball Road, impact fee, taxable tangible property in transit and fireworks.

Council agreed to meet on February 25th at Ball Road to discuss survey findings. Council set a meeting for the Impact Fee Advisory Committee for February 25th at 7 p.m. Council agreed to public hearing on taxable tangible property in transit in March prior to regular meeting.

MAYOR’S REPORT
Mayor Fincher told Council that there was about 250 people at the Blackwood concert on Saturday night.

Meeting adjourned at 7:44 p.m.