Minutes of Regular Meeting held September 10, 2012

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


APPROVE MINUTES & APPROVE PAYMENT OF BILLS

Alderman Sanders made the motion that Council approve the minutes of the regular meeting and the public hearing held August 13th, the special meeting and budget workshop held August 20th and the budget workshop held August 27th and payment of the bills, as presented. Seconded by Alderman Keith. Passed unanimously.

HEAR FROM CITIZENS

Donna Delaney talked to Council about purchasing tickets for “Casino Night”, benefiting the Lytle Education Foundation. She told Council the event is being held on Saturday, October 13th at the Community Center. Mrs. Delaney told Council that tickets are $50.00 each and include food, drinks and $1,000.00 in casino chips. Mrs. Delaney also told Council that a silent auction would be held and named some of the prizes.

Atascosa County Commissioner Bill Torans told Council that the County is completing its budget and that the tax rate is going down. The Commissioner told Council that the new sheriff will probably start a county animal control program.

Larry Sanders, VFW Post 12041 Commander thanked Council for the city’s help with the Freedom Walk & Festival and presented a plaque to Mayor Bowen to show their appreciation.

CONSIDER RENEWAL OF DEPOSITORY CONTRACT WITH LYTLE STATE BANK

Alderman Cortez made the motion that Council approve the depository contract with Lytle State Bank. Seconded by Alderman Stone. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER RATIFYING PROPERTY TAX REVENUE INCREASE REFLECTED IN PROPOSED 2012-2013 BUDGET

After discussion, Alderman Stone made the motion that Council ratify the property tax revenue increase reflected in the proposed 2012-2013 budget. Seconded by Alderman Farmer. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER ADOPTION OF 2012-2013 BUDGET

Alderman Cortez made the motion that Council adopt the proposed budget for 2012-2013. Seconded by Alderman Stone. Passed unanimously.
CONSIDER ADOPTION OF 2012 TAX RATE
Alderman Stone made the motion that Council adopt Ordinance No. 359, setting the 2012 tax rate at $.3125 per $100.00 valuation. Seconded by Alderman Keith. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER ALLOWING PAYMENT OF INCOMING BILLS FROM THIS FISCAL YEAR'S BUDGET
Alderman Sanders made the motion that Council allow payment of incoming bills from this year's budget, if there are funds available. Seconded by Alderman Cortez. Passed unanimously.

UPDATE ON PLANS AND GOALS
Council agreed to hold a special meeting on September 17th to talk about plans and goals.

CODE COMPLIANCE OFFICER'S REPORT
Code Compliance Officer Skip Traeger told Council he has been driving around town and the biggest problems seem to be overgrown lots and watering violations. Mr. Traeger reported three (3) junk vehicles had been removed over the past month. He also told Council he had found two (2) open sewer clean outs and that these were covered this past month. Mr. Traeger told Council he is talking to people about water restrictions and that a lot of people are unaware of the restrictions.

LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S REPORT
Library Director Cassandra Cortez reviewed her written report with Council.

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

1 - 227 work orders completed last month;
2 - 2 water PVC main breaks were fixed;
3 - 3 water service line leaks were fixed;
4 - 2 angle stops were replaced;
5 - leak on 1 ½ "galvanized line was fixed;
6 - 1 sewer stoppage was unclogged;
7 - 2 gas meters were replaced by CPS;
8 - school crossings were repainted;
9 - Clark paved streets on August 31st;
10 - crew worked at Freedom Walk & Freedom Festival and bagged ice and cleaned park for festival; and
11 - drainage project is at a standstill, but should be completed very soon.

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.

MAYOR’S REPORT
Mayor Bowen told Council that they had adopted a great budget for next year and that it looks like a lot of things will be accomplished.

The Mayor told Council that the Freedom Walk & Festival were both great, and that there was great participation from the school band and kids.

The Mayor told Council that a lot of troops and their families visited Lytle and the Freedom Festival on September 8th and felt very welcomed, and said it was a great event.

Meeting adjourned at 7:44 p.m.