Minutes of Regular Meeting held February 14, 2005

Regular meeting with the following present: Mayor Horace Fincher; Aldermen A.Jay Frausto, Gerry Elias, Erik Dahler; City Secretary Josie Campa; City Attorney Tom Cate; Police Chief Richard Priest. Alderman Bowen was absent.


APPROVE MINUTES AND APPROVE PAYMENT OF BILLS

Alderman Dahler asked that the minutes be amended to show that the paragraph concerning pending litigation with Paula Construction include Council’s ratification of all actions by the City Attorney and Mayor. Alderman Elias made the motion that Council approve payment of bills, as presented and approve the minutes of the January 10th meeting, as amended. Seconded by Alderman Frausto. Passed unanimously.
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HEAR FROM CITIZENS
Brad Boyd asked if the impact fees had been acted yet. Mayor Fincher told Mr. Boyd it would probably be the middle of this year before the impact fees are adopted.

PRESENTATION OF CITIZENSHIP AWARD
Mayor Fincher announced that Louis Trouart is the recipient of the annual citizenship award for 2004. Mayor Fincher told everyone of Mr. Trouart's dedication to the city. There was no one present from the Trouart family to receive the award.

CONSIDER AUDIT REPORT FOR 2003-2004 FISCAL YEAR
Wayne Beyer of Beyer and Company presented the audit report for 2003-2004 fiscal year. Mr. Beyer told Council that was the first year under all the new changes. Mr. Beyer gave the city an unqualified opinion which is the highest opinion that can be given. Alderman Elias made the motion that Council approve payment for the audit report of $8,500.00. Seconded by Alderman Dahler. Passed unanimously. Alderman Frausto made the motion that Council approve the audit report as presented. Seconded by Alderman Elias. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER REQUEST FROM MIGUEL AGUILAR TO ALLOW MOBILE HOME TO REMAIN ON PROPERTY UNTIL HOUSE IS BUILT
Miguel Aguilar asked Council to consider allowing him to keep his double-wide mobile home on his property while his home is being constructed. He said his home should be started in a couple of months. Alderman Elias made the motion that Council grant the request from Miguel Aguilar. Seconded by Alderman Frausto. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER REQUEST FROM GASPER AND BRANDY SIFUENTES TO RESCIND ORDINANCE NO. 290
Gasper Sifuentes told Council that Ordinance No. 290 may limit his new business and asked Council to rethink this ordinance. Mr. Sifuentes asked if Council would consider putting in no parking zone at the end of his property back to City Hall. The Mayor and Council discussed the problem with the parking and agreed to look at a solution for this problem. Mayor Fincher appointed a committee to look into Mr. Sifuentes request. Committee members include the Mayor and Aldermen Elias and Frausto. Alderman Elias made the motion that Council take no action on this item. Seconded by Alderman Frausto. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER REQUEST FROM JAMES YOUNG FOR CITY TO SELL A 50' X 100' STRIP OF HOUSTON STREET ADJOINING THE APARTMENT COMPLEX PROPERTY
Brad Boyd told Council he was representing Jim Young. He told Council that Mr. Young is asking Council to consider selling the 50' X 100' strip of Houston Street that is unimproved for the appraised value. City Attorney Tom Cate told Council that the statute calls for the city to offer selling the property to other property owners adjacent to the said property. Council discussed whether the city has utility lines in this area. Alderman Frausto made the motion that Council sell the said property to Mr. Young with the stipulation that is will be sold as per Statues' requirements and only if no utilities in area. Seconded by Alderman Elias. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER PROPOSAL FROM JUAN G. FLORES PORTABLE WELDING ON REPLACING FENCE AND GATES AT BALL FIELD #2
Alderman Frausto told Council that he had gotten several people to give him estimates for the fence at ballfield #2 in the park. He told Council the bid from Mr. Flores was the best. He said the bid included everything to be the same quality or a better grade and welded. Aldermen Elias and Dahler said this bid did not include the fencing material and that would probably be an addition to price quote. After more discussion, Alderman Elias made the motion that Council have fence at ballfield #2 fixed by Mr. Flores and set a price cap of $9,000.00 on this project. Seconded by Alderman Dahler. Passed unanimously.

Council took a short break and reconvened at 7:55 p.m.
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CONSIDER REQUEST FROM LYTLE YOUTH PROGRAM TO RENEW LICENSE AGREEMENT FOR USE OF BALL FIELDS AT CITY PARK

Brent Magnusson, President of the Lytle Youth Program told Council that the baseball fields in the park are needed from March 1st through August 1st for their program. Alderman Dahler made the motion that Council renew the license agreement with Lytle Youth Program. Seconded by Alderman Frausto. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER ADOPTING RESOLUTION CONCERNING THE PROCUREMENT OF PROFESSIONAL SERVICES FOR 2005/2006 TCDP PROJECTS

Alderman Elias made the motion that Council adopt the resolution procuring professional services for 2005/2006 TCDP projects. Seconded by Alderman Frausto. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER HIRING EMPLOYEES TO FILL VACANCIES IN PUBLIC WORKS’ DEPARTMENT

Mayor told Council he is not ready on this item. Alderman Elias made the motion that no action be taken on this item. Seconded by Alderman Frausto. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER BIDS RECEIVED ON OLD POLICE CAR

No bids were received on the old police car. Council agreed to try the Sheriff’s auction for selling this vehicle and that in the meantime the Mayor use this vehicle.

PRESENTATION OF 2004 RACIAL PROFILING REPORT—POLICE CHIEF RICHARD PRIEST


CONSIDER APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER TO ATASCOSA COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT’S BOARD OF DIRECTORS

After discussion, Alderman Elias made the motion that Council appoint Margaret Trouart to the ACEDC Board of Directors. Seconded by Alderman Frausto. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER HIRING DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS

Mayor Fincher told Council about the work the Assistant Interim Director of Public Works is doing and told of problems that have been worked out over the past month. The Mayor told Council that Henry Soto is interested in the Director’s job and he would like to see the Council give him ninety (90) days or till the end of May to allow personnel to get at least a “D” license. The Mayor said he would give a progress report every month if Council allows this. After discussion, Alderman Elias made the motion that Council table this item for ninety (90) days. Seconded by Alderman Dahler. Passed unanimously.

POLICE CHIEF’S REPORT

Police Chief Richard Priest reviewed his written report with Council.

The Chief told Council that he was out a week when his baby was born.

CITY SECRETARY’S REPORT

City Secretary Josie Campa added information on the sales tax to her written report. She told Council that the allocation for this month was $44,325.40, which is about $3,100.00 more than the February, 2004 total.

MAYOR’S REPORT

Mayor Fincher reported on the following items:

1-auto-dialer at sewer plant has been reconnected;
2-both fans at plant were offline;
3-chlorination bed at sewer plant had only one tank instead of two, and this has been corrected;
4-had two drains installed in chlorination ditch at sewer plant for $490.00;
5-aeration tank has been repainted for $1,172.50; and
6-will hold meeting in two weeks for disaster procedure duties

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Mayor

Josie Campa
City Secretary