Minutes of Regular Meeting, March 8, 1999

Regular meeting with the following present: Mayor Horace Fincher; Aldermen Mark Bowen, Louis Trouart, Bennie Evans, Juan Garcia and Gerry Elias; City Secretary Josie Campa; Director of Public Works Alfredo Aguinaga; City Attorney Tom Cate.


APPROVE MINUTES
APPROVE PAYMENT OF BILLS

City Secretary Josie Campa added a bill from City Attorney Tom Cate for $559.30.

Alderman Bowen made the motion that Council approve the minutes of the public hearing held on February 8th, and the public hearing and special meeting held February 22nd, as presented; the regular meeting February 8th as corrected and the bills as amended. Seconded by Alderman Trouart. Passed unanimously.

PRESENTATION OF CITIZENSHIP AWARD PLAQUES

Mayor Fincher presented plaques to the 1998 Citizenship award winners, Jeanie Habarka and Ann Van Winkle, and thanked them for all that they do for the library.

CONSIDER RECOMMENDATION FROM MOBILE HOME COMMISSION CONCERNING REQUESTS FROM ACIANO ESCALANTE, JR. & CARRIE WHITEHEAD

Alderman Trouart made the motion that Council accept the recommendations from the Mobile Home Commission on the requests from Aciano Escalante, Jr. and Carrie Whitehead. Seconded by Alderman Elias. Passed unanimously.
CONSIDER BID(S) RECEIVED ON ELEVATED WATER TANK GRANT PROJECT

Paul Boedeker explained the bid from Pittsburgh Tank Company on the elevating of the City's water storage tank. He told Council that all bidding requirements were met and that the original bid was $179,600 and the alternate bid was $159,600. He explained the letter from the contractor that would reduce the bid price to $130,888.00 and discussed what the City would be required to do and the supplies needed for this. He told Council if the City hired someone to do said work, it would run another $14,425.00 and then it was discussed for Pittsburgh Tank to do this work. After discussion, Alderman Elias made the motion that Council award the bid to Pittsburgh Tank Company for $145,313.00. Seconded by Alderman Bowen. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER PROJECT FOR APPLICATION OF GRANT FUNDS FOR THIS GRANT CYCLE

Phillip Ruiz told Council that the City has to choose a project to apply for in the next grant cycle. He said he thought that the consensus of the Council was leaning towards a new sewer plant. After discussion, Alderman Garcia made the motion that the City apply for grant funds for a wastewater treatment facility. Seconded by Alderman Bowen. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER PROPOSAL FROM M C DISTRIBUTING TO PROVIDE OIL CHANGES & LUBRICATION FOR CITY VEHICLES

Council discussed the proposal from M C Distributing to change the oil on City vehicles and the cost to the City when personnel do this work, and warranties on the police vehicles. After discussion, Alderman Elias made the motion that the City continue to take care of oil changes on vehicles as they have been. Seconded by Alderman Garcia. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER LEASE AGREEMENT ON WATER RIGHTS WITH ALFRED CARROLL

City Attorney Tom Cate told Council that the last time this item was on the agenda, we were still waiting on the Edwards Aquifer Authority to set rules and that Council had agreed to enter into a lease agreement with Mr. Carroll contingent on the rules adopted by the Edwards Authority, however, nothing was put in writing. Mr. Cate told Council that Mr. Carroll had requested this agreement be put in writing. After discussion, Alderman Elias made the motion that Council have Mr. Cate draw up a lease agreement with Mr. Carroll contingent upon EAA rules. Seconded by Alderman Evans. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER EMPLOYMENT STATUS OF HECTOR MUNIZ

Mayor Fincher announced at 7:20 p.m. that Council would go into closed session as allowed in Chapter 551.074, Subchapter D of the Government Code. The meeting was reopened at 7:35 p.m. Mayor Fincher announced that Council had discussed the employment status of Hector Muniz with Mr. Muniz and his supervisors. No action was taken.

CONSIDER FEE FOR USE OF PARK GAZEBO

After discussion, Alderman Elias made the motion that the City charge $10.00 for the use of the gazebo at the City park and that the electricity and restrooms be included in this fee. Seconded by Alderman Bowen. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER ADOPTION OF REVISED PIPELINE ALCOHOL/DRUG POLICY

City Attorney Tom Cate told Council that Drug-Free Consortium will be sending a copy of the newly revised drug and alcohol policy that show the changes and this should be ready for the April meeting.

CONSIDER APPOINTMENT TO LIBRARY BOARD

Alderman Bowen made the motion that Council appoint Lucy Luker to the Library Board to fill the vacancy. Seconded by Alderman Trouard. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION SUPPORTING INCREASED FUNDING OF SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION PROGRAM BY TEXAS LEGISLATURE

Alderman Bowen made the motion that Council adopt the resolution supporting increased funding for the Soil & Water Conservation Program. Seconded by Alderman Garcia. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER HIRING PUBLIC WORKS EMPLOYEES TO FILL VACANCY

Minutes of Regular Meeting, March 8, 1999 (cont.)

CONSIDER PURCHASE/LEASE OF GENERATORS FOR RESOLVING Y2K
Mayor Fincher gave Council a copy of a letter from City Public Service concerning Y2K compliance and discussed leasing two generators should CPS not be Y2K compliant. Mayor Fincher agreed this item could wait until a later date. No action taken.

CONSIDER APPOINTING SIGNATORY AGENT TO REPLACE RUBY BURNS
City Secretary Josie Campa recommended that Council appoint Rebecca Estrada as another signatory agent for the City of Lytle since Ruby Burns has retired. Alderman Trouart made the motion that Council appoint Rebecca Estrada as a signatory agent for the City to replace Ruby Burns. Seconded by Alderman Elias. Passed unanimously.

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS' REPORT
Director of Public Works' Alfredo Aguinaga reported on the following items:
1 - TNRCC inspected City's water system and now requires City to take four water samples per month and daily chlorine residual readings;
2 - will be sending guys to water and sewer schools;
3 - Railroad Commission inspected City's gas system on March 3rd and 4th; will be receiving letter from them on areas that need work;
4 - Houston Street water line has been completed;
5 - Newton Drive water line has been started;
6 - all bushes at park have been removed and transplanted at Priest Blvd.;
7 - three water services have been installed;
8 - have had sewer line stoppages off Gray Street along creek; may have to call All-Pro;
9 - Ford 2000 tractor is in shop for repairs to brakes and hydraulic lift;
10 - have been watering streets; and
11 - are patching streets.

POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT
Chief Ray was not present.

CITY SECRETARY'S REPORT
City Secretary Josie Campa reported on the following items:
1 - preliminary amount for March sales tax is $19,972.47, a 65.12% increase over last March's total;
2 - City received $976.65 for peace officers' allocation, which is a little less than last year's total and is to be used for training; and
3 - questioned Council about enforcement of the junk vehicle ordinance and got input.

MAYOR'S REPORT
Mayor Fincher reported on the following items:
1 - have spent $24,533.00 on Community Center annex, to date, and project is going well;
2 - glad to see City working on water line on Newton Drive; and
3 - read letter from Boy Scout asking for lights on ball fields at City Park and asked Council to think about this.

Meeting adjourned at 8:43 p.m.