Minutes of Regular Meeting held March 11, 2002

Regular meeting with the following present: Mayor Horace Fincher; Aldermen Mark Bowen, Gerry Elias, Erik Dahler, Juan J. Garcia; City Secretary Josie Campa; City Attorney Tom Cate; Director of Public Works Alfredo Aguinaga. Alderman Louis Trouart and Police Chief Richard Priest were absent.

Visitors: Jerry Benavides, Julie Dunnavant, Johnny Stewart, Libby Stewart, Karen Bragg, Steven Mann, Veronica Guerrero, Johnny Jass, Sylvia Carrizales.

APPROVE MINUTES & APPROVE PAYMENT OF BILLS
Alderman Elias made the motion that Council approve the minutes of regular meeting held February 11, 2002 and payment of the bills, as presented. Seconded by Alderman Bowen. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER ANNEXATION OF 8.33 ACRES ON FM 2790 E. FOR DEVELOPMENT OF GATED SUBDIVISION & UTILITIES FOR SAID PROJECT-JERRY BENAVIDES
Veronica Guerrero, realtor with Remax told council she was representing Jerry Benavides and requested Mr. Benavides' property be annexed into the city so that he could receive underground utilities for a gated subdivision. Mayor Fincher asked if a study had been made to see if the land would make grade for city sewer. Mayor Fincher suggested Mr. Benavides and the realtor get more facts. Mr. Benavides agreed to do more research on project. No action was taken.

CONSIDER REQUESTS FROM LytLE YOUTH PROGRAM
Johnny Stewart, President of the Lytle Youth Program spoke to Council about the program being in the red after last year and needing the city's help with preparing the ball fields for the season. After a lengthy presentation, Mayor Fincher asked Mr. Stewart to make a list of things needed at the park and said the city would provide the materials, if available. Alderman Bowen made the motion that the City provide the materials needed for making the repairs at the park for the baseball season. Seconded by Alderman Elias. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER EMERGENCY EXIT FOR COAL MINE
Aldermen Gerry Elias and Juan Garcia told Council that they had talked to Mr. Estrada about the use of his property for the emergency exit out of Coal Mine. After discussion, Alderman Bowen made the motion that Aldermen Elias and Garcia work up the agreement with Mr. Estrada and then get the information to the City Attorney. Seconded by Alderman Dahler. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER TO LIBRARY BOARD
Alderman Garcia made the motion that Council Appoint Becky Camp as a member to the Library Board. Seconded by Alderman Elias. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER APPOINTMENT TO MOBILE HOME COMMISSION
This item was scratched from the agenda.

CONSIDER EMPLOYMENT STATUS OF ROBERTO HERNANDEZ
Director of Public Works Alfredo Aguinaga recommended to Council that Roberto Hernandez be hired as a regular employee and be given full benefits and a $1.00 per hour increase. Alderman Elias made the motion that Roberto Hernandez be hired as a regular employee and be given a $1.00 per hour salary increase and full benefits. Seconded by Alderman Dahler. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER EMPLOYMENT STATUS OF VIRGINIA MEDINA
City Secretary Josie Campa recommended to Council that Virginia Medina be given a $1.00 per hour increase since she has successfully completed training for data entry clerk. Alderman Garcia made the motion that Virginia Medina be given a salary increase of $1.00 per hour. Seconded by Alderman Dahler. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER HIRING EMPLOYEES FOR PUBLIC WORKS' DEPARTMENT
Director of Public Works Alfredo Aguinaga told Council that fifteen applications were received for the positions in his department. He then recommended Council hire Joey Segura. Alderman Elias made the motion that Council hire Joey Segura for the Public Works's department at $6.00 per hour. Seconded by Alderman Bowen. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER ADOPTING ORDINANCE FOR "NO PARKING" ZONE IN FRONT OF BILL MILLER BARBEQUE
Alderman Dahler made the motion Ordinance No. 266 be adopted. Seconded by Alderman Elias. Passed unanimously.
CONSIDER ADOPTING ORDINANCE ON LITTER ABATEMENT
City Attorney Tom Cate told Council that the litter abatement ordinance is not ready and said several ordinances are needed to modify the present ordinances. Alderman Dahler suggested that Council handle these ordinances by prioritizing the items.

After discussion, Alderman Elias made the motion that Council consider ordinances on junk cars and tires first. Seconded by Alderman Bowen. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER SPRING CLEAN UP PROGRAM
Council discussed holding a spring clean-up for tires in early spring. Council discussed hold the tire cleanup and set the following criteria:
1. have dumpsters at sewer plant;
2. no businesses be allowed to bring tires;
3. people must call in and give the number of tires they have and where they are presently located.

After more discussion, Alderman Elias made the motion that the City have a Tire Clean-up Day on April 27th, rain date May 11th, with the criteria above mentioned. Seconded by Alderman Dahler. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER LEASE AGREEMENT WITH REX MAYHEW ON SEWER PLANT & WELL SITE PROPERTIES
Council discussed the lease agreement with Rex Mayhew for the sewer plant and well site properties. Alderman Dahler suggested the lease renew annually for three years or so and had questions on TNRCC requirements needing to be included, and that Mr. Mayhew be aware that the city is using this property for sludge disposal. Mayor Fincher said he will have Mr. Mayhew look at the contract. No action taken.

CONSIDER SETTING SEWER & WATER TAPPING FEES FOR TEXAS CAPITAL FUND PROJECT ON UTILITY LINES
Mayor Fincher recommended to Council that the water tapping fees and sewer taps on the south side of IH 35 South be set at $1250.00 each. Alderman Garcia made the motion that Council set the tapping fees for water and sewer on the south side of IH 35 at $1250.00 each. Seconded by Alderman Elias. Passed unanimously.

Council took a short break at 7:42 p.m. and reconvened at 7:50 p.m.

CONSIDER APPOINTMENT OF ELECTION JUDGE
Alderman Elias made the motion that Council put of this item until the special meeting on March 25th. Seconded by Alderman Garcia. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER NOT SUBMITTING GRANT APPLICATION FOR NEXT GRANT CYCLE
Mayor Fincher recommended to Council that the city not apply for a grant in this cycle, since it has so many projects going on at this time. Alderman Dahler made the motion that the City skip this grant cycle. Seconded by Alderman Elias. Passed unanimously.

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS' REPORT
Director of Public Works Alfredo Aguinaga reported on the following items:
1. new park playground equipment had to be anchored by city crew;
2. had to replace 2X2's at park gazebo;
3. new locks put at concession stand;
4. Roland Gutierrez returned to work last week;
5. crews have been patching streets and working sewer stoppages and water leaks;
6. new sewer plant should be on-line March 26th;
7. clarifier #2 at new plant is off-center and will be fixed;
8. had first sample from new plant last week;
9. taking sewer samples from old plant, too, for now;
10. Pollution Control personnel will provide training of new sewer plant equipment;
11. drying beds will be completed soon;
12. new equipment for sewer plant has not been picked up yet;
13. new sewer plant is averaging 170,000 gallons per day;

CITY SECRETARY'S REPORT
City Secretary Josie Campa reviewed her written report with Council and reminded them that the Easter Eggs-travaganza will be held March 30th and that the warrant round-up will be held March 16th.

MAYOR'S REPORT
Mayor Fincher reported the following items to Council:
1. Mr. Worthey came out and looked at streets and gave estimate for project;
2. Alderman Dahler had asked if Council wanted to check on well drilled by Highway Department on IH 35 South and would they like to view video at special meeting;
3. Easter Eggs-travaganza will be held Saturday, March 30th.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.
Mayor: [Signature]

City Secretary: [Signature]