Minutes of Regular Meeting held March 14, 2005

Regular meeting held with the following present: Mayor Horace Fincher; Aldermen Mark Bowen, Gerry Elias, A.Jay Frausto, Erik Dahler; City Secretary Josie Campa; City Attorney Tom Cate; Police Chief Richard Priest; Public Works' Workers Henry Soto, Pete Billalobos, Jeff Tillman, Robert Hernandez.

Visitors: Sandra Feagin, Julio Inocencio, Merna May, Bruce Gomez, Jorge Saucedo, Jesse Olgalde, Thomas Orotta, Shanna Lewis, Brandie and Gasper Sifuentes, Tammy Soto, Alice Perez, Antonio Rendon, Andrew Rendon. Ken Persyn, Delaney Bruce, Charles Rothe, Jay Dahler, and Carrie Jones.

APPROVE MINUTES AND APPROVE PAYMENT OF BILLS

Alderman Gerry Elias made the motion that Council approve the minutes of regular meeting held February 14th and payment of the bills, as presented. Seconded by Alderman Fausto. Passed unanimously.

LAKE VIEW ESTATES-SUBDIVISION DEVELOPMENT-TONY RENDON

Tony Rendon and son Andrew told Council of their plans for developing the Keller property into ninety-eight (98) lots on FM 463. Mr. Rendon asked Council for variances on the subdivision ordinances on curbing streets, sidewalks and looping water lines. After lengthy discussion, Alderman Elias made the motion that Council grant the variances requested by Mr. Rendon. Seconded by Alderman Frausto. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER REQUEST FOR FUNDING FOR ATASCOSA COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION-FRANKLIN WANJURA, JR.

Tom Cate told Council that Franklin Wanjura, Jr. had a conflict in scheduling and that ACEDC is requesting an additional $1,000.00 this year. After discussion, Alderman Elias made the motion that the city contribute $2,000.00 to ACEDC, as requested. Seconded by Alderman Bowen. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER REQUEST FOR SKATEBOARDING/BIKE AREA-BRUCE GOMEZ AND JORGE SAUCEDO

Bruce Gomez and Jorge Saucedo told Council they had talked to the Mayor about a skateboarding area. Mayor Fincher told Council that the skateboarders get run off from every where they go and that he has checked on the liability and prices for a 20' X 60' area with a dip and prices run from $3,000.00 to $3,500.00, however, funds for the park have been spent. Mayor Fincher asked the boys to come by and talk to him. No action was taken.

CONSIDER PROPOSAL TO ALLEVIATE PARKING PROBLEM ON FM 2790 E. BEHIND CITY HALL

Mayor Fincher told Council that he and Aldermen Elias and Frausto had met and discussed the parking situation behind City Hall and recommended the City lease four parking spaces to the Sifuentes for $100.00 a year. Merna May told Council that she is not in agreement with allowing parking along FM 2790 East and read a statement saying the ordinance should remain in effect. Mrs. Sifuentes told Council that a 30-day notice in the lease agreement is not sufficient, and asked for a year's notice. After lengthy discussion, Alderman Elias made the motion that Council accept the committee's report to lease four (4) parking spaces to Brandy and Gasper Sifuentes for $100.00 a year and have the City Attorney draw up the lease that includes one year's notice, lease non-exclusive and first come, first service basis. Seconded by Alderman Bowen. VOTE: FOR motion- Aldermen Elias, Bowen and Frausto. AGAINST-Alderman Dahler. Motion carried.

CONSIDER REQUEST FROM GASPER AND BRANDY SIFUENTES TO RESCIND ORDINANCE NO. 290


CONSIDER THE MATTER WITH SANDY FEAGIN QUITTING JOB BECAUSE OF HENRY SOTO-SANDY FEAGIN

Mayor Fincher asked Henry Soto if he wanted the session open or closed. Mr. Soto said open. Sandy Peagin told Council that on the advice of her attorney she was not going to speak, however she was reserving the right to speak at a later date.
Minutes of Regular Meeting held March 14, 2005 (cont.)

CONSIDER ENGINEERING SERVICE CONTRACT WITH HUNTER ASSOCIATES TEXAS, LTD.

After discussion, Alderman Bowen made the motion that Council have City Attorney Tom Cate and Alderman Dahler look at the said contract with Hunter Associates. Seconded by Alderman Frausto. Passed unanimously.

Council took a short break at 7:45 p.m. and reconvened at 7:57 p.m.

CONSIDER HIRING PUBLIC WORKS' EMPLOYEES

Mayor Fincher told Council that six applicants had been interviewed and recommended Council hire Derrick Wilson, Ernest Del Toro and Salvador Navarro Lopez contingent upon completion of background checks and physical and drug tests. Alderman Elias made the motion that Council hire the above mentioned applicants as per Mayor’s recommendation. Seconded by Alderman Frausto. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER HIRING DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS

Mayor Fincher told Council that he would like them to go ahead and discuss the hiring of a Public Works’ Director in April. Alderman Elias made the motion that Council have the hiring of a Public Works’ Director on the April agenda. Seconded by Alderman Bowen. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER APPOINTMENT OF FIRE MARSHAL

Mayor Fincher told Council that the city’s Fire Marshal had resigned and that he appointed Chief Priest as Interim Fire Marshal temporarily, and that Council needs to start looking for a Fire Marshal. Alderman Bowen made the motion that Council put this item on the next agenda for consideration. Seconded by Alderman Elias. Passed unanimously.

POLICE CHIEF’S REPORT

Police Chief Richard Priest reviewed his written report with Council.

The Chief also told Council about vandalism in the park.

Chief Priest told Council he will probably have two officers receive their bicycle certification in May.

The Chief told Council that Joe Torres will serve as a reserve officer again and Adrian Rincon will resign temporarily.

Chief Priest told Council that the Constable is making calls in the Lytle area.

CITY SECRETARY’S REPORT

The City Secretary added the following items to go with her written report:

1-Easter Egg-travaganza will be held March 26th at 1:00 p.m. at park;
2-City received $983.95 in peace officers’ allocation this year;
3-Abel Yracheta has filed for unemployment and city may have to pay $2,744.49 in unemployment;
4-City Attorney contacted other property owner adjacent to Houston Street to see if he is interested in purchasing this property, and he has not received an answer; and
5-waiting on worked from Medina County to see if they are right about Twin Lakes and that city may need to disannex property if Medina County officials are right.

MAYOR’S REPORT

Mayor Fincher acting as Interim Director of Public Works’ reported on the following items:

1-Sandy Feagin resigned;
2-half through with FM 2790 sewer project;
3-chlorination bin at sewer plant should be completed tomorrow;
4-lift station at sewer plant hit by lighting;
5-booster pump went out over weekend, but has been repaired and is back on line;
6-department short handed, but hope to get to mowing soon;
7-talked to school about Railroad Commission requirements;
8-had several washouts due to rain that will have to be fixed;
9-backhoe has been repaired; and
10-Pete’s truck is in shop for repairs to body due to accident.
Minutes of Regular Meeting held March 14, 2005 (cont.)

MAYOR'S REPORT (CONT.)
Mayor Fincher also reported the following:

1-major accident in front of City Hall due to left turn signal not being put in by TXDOT;
2-will be getting more fill dirt from TXDOT after EPA looks at project;
3-emergency response plan is ready;
4-Dialysis center having grand opening on March 22nd from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.;
5-asked Council for clarification of use of city's vehicle; and
6-will ask TXDOT to consider lowering speed limit on FM 2790 East.

Meeting adjourned at 8:29 p.m.

[Signatures]

Mayor

City Secretary