Regular meeting with the following present: Mayor Horace Fincher; Aldermen Jerry Stone, Rudy Hernandez, Erik Dahler, Sam Cortez; City Secretary Josie Campa, Director of Public Works James McGrath; Police Chief Richard Priest; City Attorney Tom Cate. Alderman Mark Bowen was absent.

Visitors: Bobby Roberts, Atascosa County Commissioner Bill Torans, Matt Dear, Sam Parks, JoAnn Null, William Alonzo, Margaret Trouart, Bobbie Lassiter, Jean Aguinaga, Ernest Davila, Jamie Dahler, Jay Dahler, Lucas Whitaker and Luke Parker. Mayor Fincher opened the meeting at 6:33 p.m.

APPROVE MINUTES AND APPROVE PAYMENT OF BILLS
Alderman Hernandez made the motion that Council approve the minutes of the public hearing and regular meeting held March 12th and payment of the bills, as amended. Seconded by Alderman Dahler. Passed unanimously.

HEAR FROM CITIZENS
Sam Parks addressed Council concerning the school zone on N. Prairie Street. Mr. Parks gave Council information on ways to enhance the awareness of the school zone since he feels the signs in place are difficult to read. Mr. Parks told Council about a lighted sign that cost about $2,000.00. No action was taken on this item.

CONSIDER REQUEST FROM TONY RENDON TO ANNEX 20.2 ACRES INTO THE CITY
City Attorney Tom Cate told the Mayor and Council that a petition for voluntary annexation is needed from Mr. Rendon before Council can take action. Mr. Cate told Council field notes for the property are also needed. This item will be on the next agenda if Mr. Rendon files his petition.

CONSIDER INCENTIVE PROGRAM FOR WATER USERS TO CONSERVE WATER-OLGA SHARER
This item was scratched from the agenda.

CONSIDER REQUEST FROM LYTLE YOUTH PROGRAM TO USE CITY PARK BALL FIELDS FOR 2007 LITTLE LEAGUE SEASON
Ernest Davila, Lytle Youth Program Director requested permission from Council to use the baseball fields at the park for the Lytle Youth Program Little League season. Alderman Stone made the motion that Council grant Mr. Davila’s request and the city enter into an agreement with Lytle Youth Program as in past years. Seconded by Alderman Hernandez. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER REQUEST FROM POLICE OFFICER MATT DEAR TO SELL VACATION AND HOLIDAY LEAVE-MATT DEAR
Police officer Matt Dear told Council he had an accident two weeks ago and totaled his vehicle. He then asked Council if he could sell fifteen (15) days vacation and holiday leave to the city, so he can purchased a new vehicle. After discussion, Alderman Stone made the motion that Council grant officer Dear’s request. Seconded by Alderman Cortez. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER ADOPTING OF PROCLAMATION AUTHORIZING APRIL AS FAIR HOUSING MONTH AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ACT AS THE CITY’S EXECUTIVE OFFICER AND AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE IN ALL MATTERS PERTAINING TO APRIL AS FAIR HOUSING MONTH
Alderman Dahler made the motion that Council adopt the Fair Housing Proclamation. Seconded by Alderman Hernandez. Passed unanimously.
CONSIDER ADOPTING OF ORDINANCE AS PER SECTION 2.053 OF THE ELECTION CODE ALLOWING CITY TO DECLARE EACH UNOPPOSED CANDIDATE FOR OFFICE ELECTED AND CALLING OFF MAY 12TH ELECTION
Alderman Stone made the motion that Council adopt Ordinance No. 313. Seconded by Alderman Hernandez. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER HIRING FIRM TO CONDUCT RISK ASSESSMENT
City Secretary Josie Campa told Council that Alderman Dahler had talked to Phil Sagebiel about a risk assessment as called for in the annual audit and it would cost approximately $2,000.00. Alderman Dahler made the motion that Council hire Mr. Sagebiel’s firm to conduct a risk assessment. Seconded by Alderman Stone. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER PURCHASE OF SEWER MACHINE
Public Works Director James McGrath presented information on a sewer machine to Council. Kinloch Equipment and Supply gave the city a price of $42,148.00 for the said machine which is more than $7,000.00 less than the state bid to the COG. Alderman Cortez made the motion that Council purchase the sewer machine, as requested by Mr. McGrath. Seconded by Alderman Hernandez. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER PURCHASE OF EXTENDED SHREDDER AND TRACTOR
Mayor Fincher told Council that a tractor/shredder is available to the city for $8,500.00. He explained how this machine could be used at the sewer plant and on the railroad right-of-ways since it has a huge extended arm. Director of Public Works James McGrath gave Council more information on this machine. Council members asked questions about this machine and the need for it. Mr. McGrath told Council, the sewer machine is the most important item needed by his department. After more discussion, the Mayor asked Council to disregard this request for now. No action was taken.

CONSIDER PROPOSALS ON REWIRING MUSEUM BUILDING-BOBBY ROBERTS
Bobby Roberts, member of the Lytle Museum Board told Council that bids for the electrical rewiring of the museum building were obtained, and asked Council to consider accepting one of these bids.

Mayor Fincher told Council that he received a letter from Bill Gidley that morning and then read this letter aloud. Mayor Fincher questioned putting monies into an old building and looking at the financial aspect. Alderman Hernandez told Mr. Roberts and Margaret Trouart that Council needs the whole picture not just a piece of it in order to make a good decision. After a lengthy discussion, Alderman Dahler made the motion that Council reject all the electrical bids received for the museum building and that consideration for what to do with the current museum property be placed on the next agenda. Seconded by Alderman Hernandez. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER ADDITIONAL MONIES FOR UPDATING CIVIL DEFENSE DEPARTMENT
Mayor Fincher told Council that since the command post has been used over the past two weeks due to storms, he has noticed a need for some items for the emergency management program. He told Council a lap top computer is needed, along with a phone line for internet connection. The Mayor also expressed a need for six (6) handheld radios, additional flashlights, and a tape recorder. After discussion as estimated costs for these items, Alderman Hernandez made the motion that Council amend the budget by $4,000.00 to allow for the items listed above. Seconded by Alderman Cortez. Passed unanimously.

CLOSED MEETING PURSUANT TO SECTION 551.071 TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE-CONSULTATION WITH CITY ATTORNEY ABOUT PENDING LITIGATION AND CONSIDER ACTION ON PENDING LITIGATION
Mayor Fincher announced at 7:40 p.m. that Council would go into closed session as allowed in Chapter 551.071 Subchapter D of the Government Code. The meeting was reopened at 7:50 p.m. Mayor Fincher announced that Council had discussed pending litigation with the City Attorney during the closed session and no action was necessary.

CONSIDER EMPLOYMENT STATUS OF JESSICA GONZALES
City Secretary Josie Campa told Council that Jessica Gonzales’ probation period had ended and recommended Ms. Gonzales be hired as a regular employee and be given a $1.00 per hour salary increase and benefits. Alderman Hernandez made the motion that Council accept the City Secretary’s recommendation and Jessica Gonzales be hired as a regular employee with the $1.00 an hour salary increase and benefits. Seconded by Alderman Cortez. Passed unanimously.
Minutes of Regular Meeting held April 9, 2007 (cont.)

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS' REPORT
Director of Public Works James McGrath reported on the following items:

1-department completed 161 work orders in past month;
2-one water main break on FM 3175 was fixed;
3-two new water meters were installed;
4-sewer blockage on Gray Street was fixed;
5-still working on water and gas meter change out program;
6-one new employee has taken physical and drug screen and should be starting soon; and
7-the sewer line for the new pharmacy was started today.

POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT
Police Chief Richard Priest reviewed his written report with Council.

The Chief said the department had one of the busiest months over the past seven and one half years.

Chief Priest told Council ten (10) cases were filed last week.

The Chief gave Council a report on a car jacking incident that had happened that afternoon at the Pumphouse Car Wash.

CITY SECRETARY'S REPORT
City Secretary Josie Campa gave Council a written report and added that the new municipal court judge had completed his first full month which included four (4) court sessions. Ms. Campa told Council the Judge had turned in sixteen (16) hours for the month of March. The Secretary said the court dates would probably be cut back to two per month now that the case load has lessened.

The City Secretary told Council that a site visit from the Software Group had solved the problem with the city's tax computer, and that the PC she had bought a couple of years ago would be used by the tax office.

MAYOR'S REPORT
Mayor Fincher told Council he had gotten Rapid Communications to install more channels for the Senior Citizens Center.

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Mayor

City Secretary