Minutes of Regular Meeting held July 14, 2014

Regular meeting held with the following present: Mayor Mark Bowen; Aldermen Ruble Farmer, Ward Sanders, Jerry Stone, Sam Cortez; City Secretary Josie Campa; Director of Public Works James McGrath; Assistant City Attorney Chris Schuchart; Animal Control Director Betty Kroege; Police Chief Richard Priest; Fire Marshal Matt Dear; Code Compliance Officer Scott Traeger; Library Director Cassandra Cortez. Alderman Kevin Keith was absent.


CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
Mayor Bowen opened the regular meeting at 6:30 p.m. and led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

VISITORS/CITIZENS' COMMENTS
Sam Parks told Council that Fitness For Life has relocated to 14439 Main Street and the grand opening will be held soon. Mr. Parks told us of the classes that will be held at this new facility.

CONSENT AGENDA
A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING HELD JUNE 9, 2014
 AND PUBLIC HEARING AND WORKSHOP HELD JUNE 30, 2014
B. APPROVAL OF PAYMENT OF BILLS
City Secretary Josie Campa added a bill from Thomas P. Cate for legal services in June that totalled $1,887.50. Alderman Farmer made the motion that Council approve the minutes of the June 9th regular meeting and the June 30th public hearing and workshop, and the payment of the bills, as presented. Seconded by Alderman Cortez. Passed unanimously.

ACTION ITEMS
A. CONSIDER AND ACT UPON REQUEST FROM DAVID VAUGHAN FOR
 VARIANCE OF SUBDIVISION ORDINANCE
City Secretary Josie Campa told Council this item was scratched off the agenda as a title search revealed this property was already split.

B. CONSIDER AND ACT UPON STREETS TO BE RETOPPED AND ADVERTISING
 FOR BIDS FOR THIS PROJECT
Council discussed the streets to be considered for this year’s paving project. Alderman Cortez made the motion that Houston Street between Somerset and N. Benton; Hester Street from Florence to Martin Street; and N. Benton Street from Hwy 132 to Railroad and from Railroad to Houston Street be the streets that are put out for bids in this year’s retopping project. Seconded by Alderman Stone. Passed unanimously.
ACTION ITEMS (CONT.)
C. CONSIDER AND ACT UPON IMPROVEMENTS TO BE MADE TO JOHN LOTT MUNICIPAL PARK
Mayor Bowen told Council that he had met with Bryan Mask and there are some changes that will need to be made to the renovations for John Lott Park, so we don’t need approval tonight. Landscape Architect Bryan Mask explained some of the changes that will be made to the original plan and said this item will be on next month’s agenda.

D. CONSIDER AND ACT UPON PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO 2013-2014 BUDGET
City Secretary Josie Campa reviewed proposed amendments to the 2013-2014 budget with Council. The City Secretary requested that the thirty-six (36) proposed amendments to the budget be approved by Council. Alderman Sanders made the motion that Council approve the proposed amendments to the budget. Seconded by Alderman Farmer. Passed unanimously.

Council took a short break at 7:21 p.m., and reconvened at 7:38 p.m.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS
A. UPDATE ON PLANS AND GOALS
Alderman Sanders asked about the rezoning for the Coal Mine area and Council said once the comprehensive plan is adopted this matter will be addressed.

Alderman Sanders also asked about people using the ball fields at the park. Council agreed the fields can be opened for public use now that they are rested.

Alderman Sanders told Council that a Museum Committee member had asked about the museum and asked about the committee meeting to outline a plan.

City Secretary Josie Campa told Council that the crew that will work on well #3 is scheduled to be in Lytle the week of July 21st.

The City Secretary told Council she has not received the electronic copy of the city’s Comprehensive Plan from Halff & Associates.

B. REPORT FROM BARRETT HOUSE ON CITY’S ON GOING PROJECTS
Barrett House presented a power point presentation on the work being done at the Gidley property, and told Council this project might be completed by the end of August or first part of September.
DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

A. ANIMAL CONTROL DIRECTOR’S REPORT
Animal Control Director Betty Kroeger reviewed her written report with Council.

Mrs. Kroeger showed Council a portrait of Bella and said she would be on vacation from July 28th through August 5th.

B. LIBRARY DIRECTOR’S REPORT
Library Director Cassandra Cortez reviewed her written report with Council.

C. CODE COMPLIANCE OFFICER’S REPORT
Code Compliance Officer Scott Traeger told Council it has been a quiet month and there is a lot of brush around the city.

Mr. Traeger told Council that the city is about three (3) feet away from Stage 4 water restrictions.

Mr. Traeger told Council nothing has happened on the tar paper building, and said he would talk to Attorney Chris Schuchart about this problem.

D. PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR’S REPORT
Public Works’ Director James McGrath reported the following to Council:

1 - 174 work orders were completed in June;
2 - 2 new water meters were installed;
3 - 2 water meter were replaced;
4 - 1 service line leak was fixed;
5 - 6 angle stops were repaired;
6 - 5 customer leaks were found;
7 - 2 sewer stoppages were unclogged; and
8 - lost an expensive bearing at the sewer plant and should be fixed in about 2 ½ weeks.

Mayor Bowen told Council that he has talked to Mr. McGrath about getting water lines in at the park and they will be put in as soon as possible.

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

F. CITY SECRETARY’S REPORT
City Secretary Josie Campa reviewed her written report with Council.
DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS (CONT.)
F. CITY SECRETARY’S REPORT (CONT.)
The City Secretary told Council she had been selected to be on the current grand jury, so she will have to post the agendas for September and November a day earlier. The City Secretary told Council that while serving on the grand jury, the DA’s had complimented Lytle P.D. for their thoroughness in filing cases.

G. MAYOR’S REPORT
Mayor Bowen told Council he went over to Castroville to see their fireworks display on July 4th, and said Lytle’s fireworks on July 5th were almost as good.

The Mayor told Council he wants to talk to the property owner next to Best Western about his plans and to try and prod him along.

Mayor Bowen told Council that the revitalization grant deadline got past him and Barrett House.

The Mayor told Council the Gidley property is really moving along.

Meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.