Minutes of Regular Meeting, June 8, 1998

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


APPROVE MINUTES

APPROVE PAYMENT OF BILLS

Alderman Garcia asked that the minutes of the regular meeting on May 11th be corrected by having all of his statement from the April meeting in the minutes instead of just the word change. There his statement from the April 11th meeting should read, "Alderman Juan Garcia told Council and the Mayor that Mayor Pro-tem Gerry Elias had done a "great" job representing the City at the M.H.M.R. facility's grand opening." After discussion, Alderman Bowen made the motion that the minutes of the public hearings on May 11th be approved, as presented; the minutes of the regular meeting be approved, as corrected; and the list of bills be approved for payment, as presented. Seconded by Alderman Elias. Passed unanimously.

HEAR FROM CITIZENS

Mayor Fincher welcomed everyone in attendance.
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HEAR FROM CITIZENS (CONT.)
Ann Williams told Council and the audience that the article in the Medina Valley Times about the meeting the senior citizens had with the Mayor wasn't accurate and that it made the senior citizens look bad.

CONSIDER REQUEST FROM SENIOR CITIZENS CONCERNING NUTRITION CENTER – WANDA YOAST
Wanda Yoast, spokesman for the Senior Citizens, addressed the Council with concerns about the moving of the Nutrition Center. Mrs. Yoast requested the use of the Lytle Community Center from July 1st until more suitable accommodations are made for the Senior Citizens. After discussion, Mayor Fincher said he was appointing two councilmen to serve on a committee with the Senior Citizens to try and resolve this situation. Mayor Fincher asked Aldermen Mark Bowen and Juan Garcia to serve on this committee. Mrs. Yoast then presented a petition with 150 signatures to the Mayor. Mayor Fincher said he would have copies made for the Council. There was discussion on acquiring land and the building of a new center for senior citizens and youth. Mrs. Yoast then asked Council that the Senior Citizens monthly meeting held on the first Thursday of each month be included in her above mentioned request for the use of the community center. After more discussion, City Secretary Josie Campa asked the Senior Citizens if they would consider staying where they are until the City remodels, instead of moving to the community center. The majority of the Senior Citizens agreed that they want to remain in the City Hall building. After more discussion on options, it was agreed that the committee would discuss these, therefore, no action was taken.

CONSIDER AMOUNT OF OVER 65 EXEMPTION – ORAN CHAMPLIN
This item was scratched since Mr. Champlin did not attend.

CONSIDER RECOMMENDATION FROM MOBILE HOME COMMISSION ON REQUEST FROM JOE CUellar, SR.
Alderman Trouart made the motion that the Council accept the recommendation of the Mobile Home Commission on the request from Joe Cuellar. Seconded by Alderman Garcia. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER CITY HALL IMPROVEMENTS
Mayor Fincher told Council that he had gotten a price from an area builder for remodeling the City Hall building. He said the price given was $3,863.00 which does not include carpeting and the Council Chamber/Court Room. He said it would cost over $5,000.00 with the additional work and that Council could consider this at budget time. No action taken.

CONSIDER RESOLUTION TO EDWARDS AQUIFER AUTHORITY PROTESTING WATER BASELINES SET FOR SMALL CITIES
Mayor Fincher read the resolution adopting the local position against the Edwards Aquifer Pumping limitations aloud. Alderman Elias made the motion that the resolution be adopted. Seconded by Alderman Trouart. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER ADOPTING ORDINANCE ADOPTING PRUDENT SPEED LIMITS ON FM 2790 BEAST AS DETERMINED BY TRAFFIC INVESTIGATION
Mayor Fincher read the ordinance for changing the speed limits on FM 2790, as recommended by the Texas Department of Transportation. Alderman Trouart made the motion that Council adopt Ordinance No. 228. Seconded by Alderman Bowen. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER OFFER OF SETTLEMENT FROM THE RAILROAD COMMISSION ON ALLEGED VIOLATIONS
City Attorney Tom Cate told Council that the Railroad Commission had lowered the offer of settlement offered to the City for alleged violations. He said that he and the City Secretary had worked with TMC's gas consultant and that the RRC had agreed to lower the settlement offer from $5,000 to $500. Mr. Cate recommended Council accept this settlement offer, and said this is not an admission of guilt. Alderman Bowen made the motion that Council approve the Railroad Commission's settlement offer as explained by the City Attorney. Seconded by Alderman Elias. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER HAVING DELINQUENT TAX ROLL PRINTED IN CITY'S OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER
Mayor Fincher told Council that the City has had the delinquent tax roll printed in the newspaper for the past several years and it has paid off. Alderman Elias made the motion that Council approve having the delinquent tax roll printed in the City's official newspaper again this year. Seconded by Alderman Trouart. Passed unanimously.
CONSIDER COMPLAINT AGAINST POLICE DEPARTMENT - JESUS MORENO
Jesus Moreno told Council he wanted his daughter, Elizabeth, to translate for him, when he talked to them about his complaint against the police department. Mayor Fincher advised Mr. Moreno that if he had a complaint against police officers, he must put it in writing. Mr. Moreno told Council he had a right to protest and express himself. City Attorney Tom Cate told Mr. Moreno that he needs to go through the proper channels and a complaint against police officers must be in writing. Council members tried to explain to Mr. Moreno the reasons for following procedures. Elizabeth Moreno said that they had the complaint in writing already, but wanted to read it to Council. She was advised to give the complaint to the Police Chief and then it would be reviewed and after the Chief's findings, if Mr. Moreno wants to come to the Council, he can. A copy of the complaint was made for the Morenos, and the original complaint was given to Chief Ray for review.

Council took a short break at 7:25 p.m. and reconvened at 7:35 p.m.

CONSIDER EMPLOYMENT STATUS OF HENRY SOTO
Director of Public Works Alfredo Aguinaga told Council that Henry Soto had completed his 90-day probation, and recommended that Mr. Soto be given the title of Foreman and a $.50 per hour salary increase. Alderman Bowen made the motion that Council appoint Henry Soto, Foreman and that he be given a $.50 per hour salary increase as recommended by the Director of Public Works. Seconded by Alderman Elias. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER APPOINTMENT OF LIAISONS
Council discussed the appointment of department liaisons. Council agreed to the following liaisons:

- Sewer & Park: Juan Garcia
- Office & EMS: Gerry Elias
- Water & Fire Dept.: Louis Trouart
- Police Dept.: Mayor Fincher
- Streets: Mark Bowen
- Gas Dept.: Bennie Evans

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

1 - now has a full crew in Public Works dept.;
2 - sewer samples good this week;
3 - water samples good this month;
4 - Well #3 is being run, as needed;
5 - trees have been trimmed along streets;
6 - have watered down some streets, due to dust;
7 - two employees tried to test for water license, but didn't get to due to forgetting checks;
8 - gas pressure has been dropped on main line;
9 - have had some sewer problems at Harris Park;
10 - book box at library repainted;
11 - put up banners on City Hall and Main Street; and
12 - Case backhoe is being repaired.

POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT
Police Chief Kathy Ray reviewed her written report with Council.

Chief Ray told Council she is looking at applications to fill two positions and a special meeting may need to be called for interviewing these applicants.

CITY SECRETARY'S REPORT
City Secretary Josie Campa told Council that the preliminary sales tax for June is $19,876.21, which is 55% higher than the June, 1997 total.

MAYOR'S REPORT
Mayor Fincher told Council that he would be meeting with Paul Boedeker on Monday, June 15th, concerning the water tower elevation project. He said he would talk to Mr. Boedeker about the problems with Well #3 aerator.

The Mayor told Council a new business is going in across from H.E.B. and that the sign indicates a car wash.

Mayor Fincher told Council that the banners the Tourism Committee had made are being put on businesses in the City.
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MAYOR'S REPORT (CONT.)

The Mayor reported that the siren has been ordered and will be delivered the latter part of this month.

The Mayor reminded Council that budget sessions will be held in August.

Mayor Fincher reported that the Emergency Plan is available for inspection.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

[Signatures]

Mayor
City Secretary