Minutes of Regular Meeting held April 13, 2015

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


CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
Mayor Bowen called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m. and led everyone in the pledge to the flag.

VISITORS' CITIZENS' COMMENTS
Alderman Sanders told Council that he received calls that City Hall was closed at noon and asked about the change. City Secretary Josie Campa told Council that she had discussed this matter with Mayor Bowen and City Attorney Tom Cate since the training for the new computer programs has caused problems. The City Secretary said that the City Attorney told her she could make this administrative decision and that other city offices close during the noon hour.

Beverly McCune asked if the Police Department could offer a CPR class once or twice a year or a weapons training class for women.

Chief Priest told Mrs. McCune he doesn’t have anyone on staff to do this training.

Fire Chief Matt Dear told Mrs. McCune that the Fire Department has offered this in the past and they have a qualified trainer to teach a CPR class.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND APPROVAL OF PAYMENT OF BILLS
Alderman Keith made the motion that Council approve the minutes of the March 9th meeting and the public hearing and payment of the bills, as presented. Seconded by Alderman Farmer.
Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER AND ACT UPON RECOMMENDATIONS FROM ZONING COMMISSION ON THE FOLLOWING REQUESTS: (1) - COAL MINE ADDITION; BLOCKS 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 AND 9 FROM R-1 TO R-1; AND (2) - RAILROAD ADDITION, BLOCK 12, LOT 1, BLOCK 12, SW QUARTER OF LOT 5 AND BLOCK 12, SOUTH HALF OF LOT 6 FROM R-1 TO R-2
After discussion, Alderman Jerry Stone made the motion that Council approve the recommendations from the Zoning Commission on both requests. Seconded by Alderman Keith unanimously.
CONSIDER AND ACT UPON REQUEST FROM DORA AND JOHN COOREMANS TO BE GIVEN EXTENDED AMOUNT OF TIME FOR WATER METERS
Dora Cooremans talked to Council about needing to add three (3) water meters to homes for her relatives and needing time to come up with the money. City Attorney Tom Cate and Code Compliance Officer Scott Traeger explained the situation to Council and recommended Mrs. Cooremans be given about thirty (30) days to pay for these meters. After more discussion, Alderman Stone made the motion to allow Mrs. Cooremans until June 13th (60 days) to come up with the money for the three meters. Seconded by Alderman Keith. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER AND ACT UPON ADOPTING 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 Keith made the motion that Council adopt the Proclamation Authorizing April as Fair Housing month. Seconded by Alderman Sanders. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER AND ACT UPON ENGINEERING REPORTS ON THE FOLLOWING ITEMS: (1) WATER WELL #3 IMPROVEMENTS, (2) POSSIBLE GRANT APPLICATION FOR WATER WELL #3 IMPROVEMENTS, (3) IMPACT FEE UPDATE, (4) WWTP PERMIT STATUS/UPDATE, (5) POLICE FACILITY ADA UPDATE
(1) Eddie Bogard talked to Council about Well #3 and turned the program over to Norman Scholes who introduced himself to Council. Mr. Scholes then reviewed his handout with Council and said the worst case scenario on the water well improvements would cost the city $94,000.00. Eddie Bogard told Council that they are 80-90% sure that this procedure will solve the well’s problem.

(2) Mr. Bogard turned the program over to Rudy Ruiz. Mr. Ruiz told Council that the city has the necessary items for a disaster emergency grant, but would have to act quick, and asked permission to talk to the State about this grant. Alderman Sanders made the motion that Council allow Mr. Ruiz to proceed with talking to the State about an emergency grant for well improvements. Seconded by Alderman Keith. Passed unanimously. Alderman Stone made the motion that the city proceed with the options proposed by Mr. Scholes and Mr. Bogard, if the grant is not approved. Seconded by Alderman Keith. Passed unanimously.

(3) Eddie Bogard told Council that the Impact Fee Study is nearly complete and said a public hearing is needed before completing this study. Mr. Bogard told Council the next step is to get population figures for this study.

(4) Mr. Bogard told Council that he has already received a draft permit from TCEQ for the wastewater facility. He told Council there are new requirements for testing the lines at the old ponds.
CONSIDER AND ACT UPON ENGINEERING REPORTS ON THE FOLLOWING ITEMS: (1) WATER WELL #3 IMPROVEMENTS, (2) POSSIBLE GRANT APPLICATION FOR WATER WELL #3 IMPROVEMENTS, (3) IMPACT FEE UPDATE, (4) WWTP PERMIT STATUS/UPDATE, (5) POLICE FACILITY ADA UPDATE (CONT.)

(5) Eddie Bogard gave Council an update on the police facility ADA violations. He said the contractor will redo some of the items and those that are cumbersome will be considered for variances.

Council took a short break at 7:40 p.m. and reconvened at 7:51 p.m.

CONSIDER AND ACT UPON PROPOSAL FOR ADDITIONAL HELP FOR ANIMAL CONTROL DEPARTMENT AND TRANSFER OF FUNDS FOR THIS PURPOSE

City Secretary Josie Campa told Council that Betty Kroeger is requesting additional hours for Rachel Faish and said that since the city saved $5,000.00 by not having an election, this money could be transferred to Animal Control to meet this request. The City Secretary told Council this will make Ms. Faish a full time employee and benefits will have to be paid. She explained that money from the police department’s insurance budget would pay for Ms. Faish’s insurance after three months since Officer Gamez resigned his position with the city. Alderman Sanders made the motion that Council accept this proposal. Seconded by Alderman Farmer. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER AND ACT UPON PROPOSAL FOR PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT FOR JOHN LOTT PARK

City Secretary Josie Campa told Council that Bryan Mask had gotten a proposal from Game Time for playground equipment for the park. The City Secretary told the Council that this proposal is for $35,795.81, which is much less than a previous estimate of $90,000.00. The City Secretary told Council that she and Mayor Bowen had discussed this matter and agreed that the city could hold off on the roof improvements for the Gidley house and since the Chamber isn’t having the Frenchie Burke Festival, the city will have additional tourism dollars that total about $40,000.00. She said that she and the Mayor had agreed to ask Council to approve the playground equipment proposal to be paid with the monies mentioned above. After discussion, Alderman Keith made the motion that Council approve this proposal. Seconded by Alderman Stone. Passed unanimously.

UPDATE ON PLANS AND GOALS

Alderman Sanders reminded everyone about the workshop being held April 27th. Chief Priest and City Secretary gave Council an update on things done for this workshop.

Alderman Sanders told Council that after this workshop Council needs to prioritize plans. Council agreed to hold a special meeting May 18th.
Minutes of Regular Meeting held April 13, 2015-page 4

UPDATE ON PLANS AND GOALS (CONT.)
City Secretary Josie Campa told Council she had copies of expenditure reports for Council for each department head.

Bryan Mask gave Council an update on the park improvements, and told them about the problems with the roof at the concession stand building. Alderman Keith asked Mr. Mask to get a price on another option for fixing the roof. Mr. Mask also told Council about some additional electrical work required by CPS that will need a change order.

Council discussed the problem of people driving in the park and giving people warnings for doing this. Mr. Mask told Council this problem should be eliminated when construction is completed.

The City Secretary gave an update on City Hall technology and remodeling.

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

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

CODE COMPLIANCE OFFICER’S REPORT
Code Compliance Officer Scott Traeger told Council a letter to the owner of the car wash will go out this week. Mr. Traeger told Council TxDOT will not help the city with this problem.

Mr. Traeger told Council that Waste Management is not doing a good job with bulky waste pick-up.

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR’S REPORT
Director of Public Works James McGrath reported the following:
1 - 165 work orders completed;
2 - 3 new water meters installed;
3 - 3 main breaks fixed;
4 - 1 water meter changed out;
5 - 1 water service line replaced;
6 - 2 customer leaks fixed;
7 - 1 water pressure check done;
9 - 1 water meter leak fixed;
10 - 1 sewer stoppage unlogged;
11 - check customer’s septic tank;
12 - CPS changed out some gas meters; and
13 - crew worked Trash-Off and set up tables for Taste of Downtown.
POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT
Police Chief Richard Priest reviewed his written report with Council.

The Chief told Council he would be on vacation for a week and a half.

CITY SECRETARY'S REPORT
City Secretary Josie Campa reviewed her written report with Council.

MAYOR'S REPORT
Mayor Bowen thanked Bryan Mask for the park update.

The Mayor told Council that the April 27th meeting will be a great event.

Mayor Bowen told Council that the new Beall’s will be an asset to the city and that other businesses are now interested in Lytle. He reminded Council of the Beall’s grand opening on Thursday and the VIP preview on Wednesday evening from 5 to 7 p.m.

The Mayor told Council the Trash-Off went well.

Mayor Bowen told Council that Municipal Court Judge Gerry Elias’ mother had passed away and that former Mayor Horace Fincher is very ill.

Meeting adjourned at 9:12 p.m.