Minutes of Regular Meeting held June 14, 2004

Regular meeting with the following present: Mayor Horace Fincher; Aldermen Mark Bowen, A.Jay Frausto, Louis Trouart, Gerry Elias, Erik Dahler; City Secretary Josie Campa; Police Chief Richard Priest; City Attorney Tom Cate; Director of Public Works Greg Presley.

Visitors: Mitzi Hill, Albert Villegas, Shawna Lewis.

APPROVE MINUTES & APPROVE PAYMENT OF BILLS
Alderman Elias made the motion that Council approve the minutes of the May 10th regular meeting and the May 24th special meeting and payment of the bills, as presented. Seconded by Alderman Trouart. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER REQUEST FROM BLUEBONNET CHILDREN’S ADVOCACY CENTER FOR FUNDING—MITZY HILL
Mitzi Hill told Council about the Bluebonnet Children's Advocacy Center and its function. She explained to Council that it is quicker to get something done in Hondo than in the San Antonio office. Alderman Frausto made the motion that Council support and donate to the Bluebonnet Children's Advocacy Center. Seconded by Alderman Bowen. Passed unanimously. After discussion, Alderman Frausto made the motion that Lytle pay $1,000.00 to the Bluebonnet Children’s Advocacy Center for the services they provide to the city. Seconded by Alderman Trouart. Passed unanimously.

APPOINT MAYOR PRO-TEM
Alderman Trouart made the motion that Council appoint Gerry Elias Mayor Pro-tem. Seconded by Alderman Bowen. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER ADOPTING RESOLUTION TO THE ATASCOSA COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT’S BOARD OF DIRECTORS
After discussion, Alderman Dahler made the motion that Council adopt the resolution to the Atascosa County Appraisal District’s Board of Directors excluding the second and third paragraphs on page two. Seconded by Alderman Elias. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER WAIVING PENALTIES ON SUPPLEMENTAL TAX STATEMENTS DUE TO APPRAISAL DISTRICT’S FAILURE TO SEND THESE SUPPLEMENTAL STATEMENTS IN A TIMELY FASHION
City Secretary Josie Campa asked Council to waive penalties on supplemental tax statements due to these statements not being sent to the taxpayers in a timely fashion. After discussion, Alderman Bowen made the motion that Council waive the penalties on the supplemental tax statements sent to taxpayers in May. Seconded by Alderman Trouart. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER PRIORITIZING CITY’S NEEDS FOR NEXT GRANT CYCLE
Mayor Fincher asked the Council to prioritize the city’s needs for the next grant cycle. He discussed some items that the city needs to have done to its water system and recommended water be the top priority. Council discussed other needs such as drainage and Mayor Fincher told them that drainage was considered low priority for a grant and would not bring the points needed for obtaining a grant. After more discussion, Alderman Elias made the motion that Council name water and sewer as the city's top two priorities. Seconded by Alderman Trouart. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE CALLING FOR INSTALLATION OF STOP SIGNS AT THE INTERSECTIONS OF HOUSTON AND EASY STREETS AND D’HANIS AND HOUSTON STREETS
Alderman Elias made the motion that Council adopt ordinance #281 calling for stop signs at the specified locations. Seconded by Alderman Frausto. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER RENEWING CONTRACT WITH EL PASO REATA ENERGY, L.P. WITH AMENDMENT
After discussion, Alderman Bowen made the motion that the city renew its contract with El Paso Reata with the amendment on pricing. Seconded by Alderman Elias. Passed unanimously.
CONSIDER STREETS TO BE REPAVED
Mayor Fincher told Council that he had a paving contractor come out and look at Lytle-Somerset from Lazy J to Somerset Street; N. Prairie Street from Laredo to FM 2790; and Laredo Street from Somerset Street to FM 2790 North and that the square footage was approximately 90,000 square feet and therefore it would cost about $90,000.00 to repave these streets. He told Council the reason he chose these three streets was because he feels they are the ones that need the work done the most. He told Council that the Public Works department is working on the streets in Coal Mine and this should correct the problems. Alderman Dahler told Council he feels the city should use some of its reserve for paving the streets that Council had listed. He also recommended the city take proposals for the said streets. After more discussion, Alderman Elias made the motion that Council call for proposals on all the streets. Seconded by Alderman Dahler. Passed unanimously.

Council took a short break at 7:42 p.m. and reconvened at 7:55 p.m.

CONSIDER EMPLOYMENT STATUS OF JESSE GUIJARDO
Director of Public Works Greg Presley told Council that Jesse Guajardo had completed his six months probation and recommended Mr. Guajardo's probation be extended for another ninety (90) days. Alderman Bowen made the motion that Jesse Guajardo's probation be extended ninety (90) days, as recommended by his supervisor. Seconded by Alderman Trouart. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER HIRING PUBLIC WORKS' EMPLOYEE TO FILL VACANCY
Director of Public Works Greg Presley recommended to Council that Alan MacGonegal be hired to fill the vacancy in the Public Works' department. Alderman Trouart made the motion that Council hire Alan MacGonegal at $6.00 per hour with six-month probation after he completes physical and drug test satisfactorily. Seconded by Alderman Elias. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER ORDINANCE TO UPDATE ALL SCHOOL ZONES
Chief Priest told Council that he had researched the laws concerning school zones and made recommendations for extending the existing school zones. Council discussed the Chief's proposal on school zones. Alderman Elias recommended Houston Street be added, as well as Cottage Street from Benton Street to Somerset Street. D'Hanis Street from Cottage to Adams was also suggested to leave a school zone. After more discussion, Alderman Elias made the motion that Council approve the Chief's proposal for school zones with the added three streets named above. Seconded by Alderman Frausto. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER APPOINTMENT OF DEPARTMENT LIASONs
Council discussed the appointing of department liaisons and agreed to let the liaisons stay the same as the year before. Alderman Elias made the motion that the department liaisons stay the same as last year. Seconded by Alderman Trouart. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER PRINTING DELINQUENT TAX ROLL IN CITY'S OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER
Alderman Dahler made the motion that Council have the City's Delinquent Tax Roll printed in the City's official newspaper. Seconded by Alderman Frausto. Passed unanimously.

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS' REPORT
Director of Public Works Greg Presley reviewed his written report with Council. The Director reported that lightning had hit the sewer plant meter and had knocked out power, so pond #1 was used as a backup until power was restored.

POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT
Chief Priest reviewed his written report with Council. Mayor Fincher commended the Chief for his work in controlling the situation that transpired when the truck exploded on the interstate.
Minutes of Regular Meeting held June 14, 2004 (cont.)

CITY SECRETARY’S REPORT
City Secretary Josie Campa reviewed her written report with Council and added the following items:

1. Sales tax allocation for June will be $51,760.57. This amount is nearly 70% higher than last June. Comptroller’s office said a tele communication company that did business in Lytle and paid $19,000.00; and

2. A couple of Public Works employees attending a water and wastewater training course

MAYOR’S REPORT
Mayor Fincher reported to Council on the following items:

1. DPS has approved the reconfiguration for N. Prairie Street;
2. Turn signal on Main Street will be installed as will a left turn lane;
3. Illumination lights at FM 3175 and FM 2790 have been approved;
4. Explained the siren situation and said sirens should all be installed soon;
5. Won a “First Tee” Sweepstake sponsored by HEB and Big Red; and
6. Commended Public Works employees for the work they’ve done and said they are working a 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. schedule

Meeting adjourned at 8:37 p.m.

Mayor

City Secretary