Minutes of Regular Meeting, October 12, 1998

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

Visitors: Jerry Davidson, Mary Rodriguez, Julie Dunnavant.

APPROVE MINUTES
APPROVE PAYMENT OF BILLS

Alderman Evans made the motion that Council approve the minutes of the regular meeting held September 14th and the special meetings held on September 21st and 28th, as written and approve payment of the bills listed. Seconded by Alderman Trouart. Passed unanimously.

HEAR FROM CITIZENS

Alderman Juan Garcia commended the Mayor and fellow Council members for the hard work done over the last couple of months and apologized for his absence at one of the special meetings. He told Council he would not be present at the November regular meeting due to his trip to Kansas City.

UPDATE ON PROPOSED COMMUNITY COLLEGE FOR ATASCOSA COUNTY - JERRY DAVIDSON

Jerry Davidson, Executive Director for the Atascosa County Economic Development Corporation addressed the Council to inform them of good news. Mr. Davidson told Council that the lawsuit between Atascosa County and Jourdanton I.S.D. against Tri-City Hospital and Atascosa Appraisal District has been negotiated and settled and that now the loan has been approved for the South Texas Regional Medical Center. He said this hospital will have fifty (50) beds, a cancer unit and an OB-GYN unit.

Mr. Davidson also told Council about the work being done to bring a junior college to Atascosa County and invited them to attend a meeting at Pleasanton on this topic. Mr. Davidson told Council that a resolution supporting this college would probably be requested from the Council at a later date. Mr. Davidson gave Council more information on this project and answered questions from the Council about this junior college.
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PINCOPRELIMINARY PLANS FOR COMMERCIAL USE OF PROPERTY AT THE CORNER OF FM 3175 & IH 35 ACCESS ROAD - JOAN SPEER
This item was scratched from the agenda by Joan Speer.

CONSIDER PURCHASE OF RADIOS FOR CIVIL DEFENSE
Mayor Finchertold Council that new handheld radios are needed to aid the new siren emergency system. Alderman Trouart said three radios would be needed at approximately $650.00 per radio. Council discussed whether these new radios would be compatible with the Sheriff's office new radio system. No action was taken on this item until more information is obtained on the type of radios needed.

CONSIDER APPOINTMENTS TO LIBRARY BOARD
City Secretary Josie Campatold Council that the terms of Ruble Farmer, Jeannie Habarka and Susan McCloskey on the Library Board have expired; and that they all are willing to serve another term. Alderman Trouart made the motion that Council appoint Ruble Farmer, Jeannie Habarka and Susan McCloskey to another term on the Library Board. Seconded by Alderman Bowen. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER ADOPTING EXCESSIVE FORCE RESOLUTION
Alderman Evans made the motion to adopt the Excessive Force Resolution. Seconded by Alderman Garcia. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER RENEWAL OF FARM LEASE AGREEMENT
Alderman Bowen made the motion that Council enter into the farm lease agreement with Alfred Carroll again this year. Seconded by Alderman Trouart. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER
Alderman Evans made the motion that Council select the Medina Valley Times as the City's official newspaper. Seconded by Alderman Garcia. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER ADOPTION OF WATER CONSERVATION ORDINANCE
City Attorney Tom Cate presented a water conservation ordinance and told Council that this is a model ordinance from the Edwards Aquifer Authority and is a working copy. He asked that Council review this ordinance for the November meeting.

CONSIDER REQUEST FROM ELIZABETH JASS TO WORK EXTRA JOB ON WEEKENDS BETWEEN NOW & CHRISTMAS AS PER SECTION 2.04 OF PERSONNEL POLICY
Alderman Trouart made the motion that Council grant Liz Jass' request to work an extra job between now and Christmas. Seconded by Alderman Garcia. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER ADVERTISING FOR OFFICE EMPLOYEE TO FILL VACANCY CREATED BY RETIREMENT OF RUBY BURNS
After discussion, Alderman Trouart made the motion that Council allow the City Secretary to advertise for the position to be vacated by Ruby Burns' retirement. Seconded by Alderman Bowen. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER ALLOWING CITY SECRETARY TO ATTEND ELECTION SEMINAR
Alderman Garcia made the motion that Council grant the City Secretary's request to attend this year's election seminar. Seconded by Alderman Trouart. Passed unanimously.

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

1 - Hector Muniz received "D" license in water;
2 - have had four (4) water main breaks due to crews putting in fiber optic cable;
3 - new pipe locator bought and old one repaired;
4 - Case backhoe in shop for repairs;
5 - crews will be out tomorrow to take soil samples at Tower #1 for the grant project;
6 - ordered new pump for fountain at Community Center;
7 - have been putting in base on Elisa Street;
8 - will be starting work on Newton Drive;
9 - have had a number of water leaks due to poly pipe, 40% of water system is done with this pipe; will need to replace it sooner or later;
10 - James McGrath has done extension of sewer line for Bill McDonald and will be doing water, too;
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DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS' REPORT (CONT.)

11 - Unit #16 is being repaired at Brown Chevrolet; 12 - have been running Well #3 off and on; 13 - cleaned park for Homecoming Festival; 14 - had blowout on Unit #7; and 15 - water and sewer samples have been good.

Mayor Fincher commented that the wastewater samples have been the best he's seen for the last quarter.

POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT

Chief Ray reviewed her written report with Council and told Council that the 1993 police unit is in the shop and is needed a new engine. Chief Ray told Council that the dunking booth at the festival went over very well with the public.

CITY SECRETARY'S REPORT

The City Secretary reviewed her written report with Council and called attention to good ad valorem tax collection for 98 fiscal year and great sales tax allocations.

Ms. Campa also told Council that the computer for the municipal court system has been purchased and that at the last minute, the police department's computer had to be replaced and funds were available to pay them out of the last fiscal year's budget.

The City Secretary called attention to the annual court report and its comparison to the previous year.

Ms. Campa gave the Council a budget overview for last fiscal year and reported that the City had a very good year in all the funds.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Fincher told Council he has talked to the engineer about phases for the City's capital improvements due to the impact study.

The Mayor reported that the Fire Department will be installing the new siren that this will be done in phases.

Mayor Fincher told Council that he had called KENS-TV about the reports of Benton City Water Corporation's water and that Lytle had gotten mentioned when they said Benton City Water Corporation was in Lytle.

The Mayor told Council that he will probably attend the State Highway Department's TIP meeting on November 9th and that Gerry Elias will preside over the November council meeting due to this conflict. He said he will be asking for an exit ramp and to connect with I-35 past the Trinity Church.

Mayor Fincher reported that work will be starting on the tower project in the morning.

The Mayor told Council he had taken a City street sign into town to check to see how much it would cost the City to just have them repainted. He said this sign was stolen out of the back of his truck.

Mayor Fincher told Council that the Dollar General store had opened on October 1st and is doing well.

The Mayor told Council that the paperwork on the community center annex was given to the architect on October 1st and we should have something ready this week.

Mayor Fincher asked Council's feelings about a 24'x14' gazebo or covered stage for the park and said the City and tourism would share the expense of this structure. Council agreed this would be a nice addition to the park.

The Mayor told Council we have started a new fiscal year and that he anticipates more sales tax for the City.

Meeting adjourned at 7:59 p.m.

Mayor

City Secretary