Minutes of Regular meeting held November 8, 2004

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


Mayor Fincher opened the meeting at 6:30 p.m. and welcomed County Judge Diana Bautista and County Commissioner Leslie Mikolajczyk.

CONSIDER APPROVING MINUTES AND CONSIDER APPROVING PAYMENT OF BILLS
City Secretary Josie Campa added the bill from Tom Cate to the bill list. The bill for October legal fees totaled $1,402.11. Alderman Elias made the motion that Council approve the minutes from the public hearings and regular meeting held October 11th, and payment of the bills, as presented. Seconded by Alderman Bowen. Discussion. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER REQUEST FROM ROBERT AND LISA JUAREZ TO ALLOW THEM TO KEEP THEIR MOBILE HOME ON THEIR PROPERTY UNTIL THEIR HOME IS COMPLETED
Alderman Bowen made the motion that Council grant the request from Lisa and Robert Juarez to keep their mobile home on their property until their home is built. Seconded by Alderman Trouart. Council discussed the time period for the mobile home to be moved and agreed that seven (7) months should be granted. Motion passed unanimously.

CONSIDER REQUEST FROM ELIGIO CORTEZ FOR PRELIMINARY PLAT APPROVAL
City Secretary Josie Campa told Council that Eligio Cortez had submitted a plat for subdividing his property for his children. After discussion, Alderman Bowen made the motion that Council send the preliminary plat to Paul Boedeker to see if it meets the city code. Seconded by Alderman Trouart. Mr. Cortez asked Council for any help they can give him and his family with this matter. Motion passed unanimously.
CONSIDER APPROVAL OF CONTRACT WITH AMERICANA FOR E.M.S., AMBULANCE AND 9-1-1 SERVICE
Theresa Humphries from Americana told Council that she had no comments on the contract submitted to them. Mayor Fincher told Council that Aldermen Elias and Dahler had attended the Atascosa County Commissioners Court meeting to discuss the County relinquishing 9-1-1 service to Lytle, as a city. Aldermen Elias and Dahler gave Council a rundown on what had happened at this meeting. Alderman Dahler told Council that they explored a lot of solutions to the problem and since the County is not able to provide Lytle citizens with twenty-four hour coverage, the city has to provide the service for its citizens. After a lengthy discussion, Alderman Frausto made the motion that the City enter into a contract with Americana for ambulance service for a period of one year, and the terms previously discussed. Seconded by Alderman Bowen. Passed unanimously.

Mayor Fincher thanked Judge Bautista and Commissioner Mikalojczyk for their support and Aldermen Elias and Dahler for all their work at getting this matter resolved.

CONSIDER ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE ON REZONING REQUESTS FROM TOM AND SUSAN MCCLOSKEY, GASPAR AND BRANDY SIFUENTES AND CITY OF LYTLE
Alderman Dahler made the motion that Council adopt Ordinance No. 288. Seconded by Alderman Elias. Discussion. Motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDER ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE ON REPLACING YIELD SIGN WITH STOP SIGN AT INTERSECTION OF N. BENTON AND HOUSTON STREETS
Alderman Elias made the motion that Council adopt Ordinance No. 289. Seconded by Alderman Frausto. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER FEES FOR HANGING BANNERS ON CITY'S MAIN THOROUGHFARES
Mayor Fincher told Council that he had called Hondo, Castroville, LaCoste and Devine to ask them about fees for banners. He said Hondo charges $75.00 per month per banner and allows banners to be up for a maximum of sixty (60) days. He said Castroville charges $75.00 per banner for putting up and taking down banner and $25.00 per week per banner. LaCoste charges $25.00 per week, and Devine hasn't have a rate. The minimum height for a banner is 18 feet from the street. Alderman Dahler asked about regulations for these banners. Mayor Fincher and Alderman Mark Bowen will work on these regulations for the next regular meeting.

CONSIDER ADOPTING RESOLUTION ENDORSING THE RIVER OF TRADE CORRIDOR COALITION AND ITS INITIATIVE TO INSURE THE NAFTA TRADE INDUSTRY'S LONG-TERM USE OF THE HISTORIC TEXAS NAFTA TRADE CORRIDOR
Mayor Fincher recommended to Council that the resolution sent by the IH 35 Coalition be adopted. Alderman Elias made the motion that Council adopt this resolution. Seconded by Alderman Trouart. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER SERVICE CONTRACT WITH MICRO COMM FOR WATER SYSTEM'S RADIO CONTROLS
After discussion, Alderman Dahler made the motion that Council not approve the service contract with Micro Comm. Seconded by Alderman Elias. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER HIRING SOUTHWEST SECURITIES TO FILE CONTINUING DISCLOSURE DOCUMENTS AS PER SECURITIES EXCHANGE COMMISSION RULE 15C2-12
Alderman Bowen made the motion that Council hire Southwest Securities to file the continuing disclosure documents, as called for in Rule 15C2-12 of the Securities Exchange Commission. Seconded by Alderman Elias. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER HAVING ALL-PRO ROOTER AND PLUMBING COMPANY LOCATE SEWER LINES IN PARK PLACE
Mayor Fincher told Council this item was taken care of and therefore scratched it from the agenda.

CONSIDER EMPLOYMENT STATUS OF SANDY FEAGIN
Greg Presley recommended Sandy Peagin be hired as a regular employee upon completion of her probation on November 20th. Alderman Frausto made the motion that Council hire Sandy Peagin as a regular employee effective November 20th, and that she be given a $1.00 per hour salary increase and all city benefits. Seconded by Alderman Elias. Passed unanimously.
CONSIDER HIRING PUBLIC WORKS EMPLOYEE

Greg Presley recommended to Council that Daniel Hernandez be hired to fill the new position in the Public Works' Department. Alderman Bowen made the motion that Council hire Daniel Hernandez for the position in Public Works at $6.00 an hour and after tests are satisfactorily completed. Seconded by Alderman Trouart. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER RENEWAL OF PARK MAINTENANCE CONTRACTS

City Secretary Josie Campa told Council that the park maintenance contracts were expiring and needed to be renewed. She said the Coal Mine park maintenance man had asked for a $10.00 a month raise and that Arcadio Lopez is asking for an increase of $150.00 per month. Ms. Campa told Council that enough money had been budgeted to take care of these increases. After discussion, Alderman Elias made the motion that Council renew the park maintenance contracts with Juan Escareno and Arcadio Lopez for $60.00 per month and $550.00 per month, respectively. Seconded by Alderman Frausto. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER OVERALL COMPENSATION FOR CITY EMPLOYEES

After discussion, Alderman Bowen made the motion that Council approve the overall compensation budgeted for City Employees. Seconded by Alderman Trouart. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER ALLOWING CITY EMPLOYEES TO HAVE NEW YEAR'S EVE OFF INSTEAD OF JANUARY 3RD

City Secretary Josie Campa asked Council to consider letting the City employees take off on Friday, December 31st, for the New Year's holiday instead of Monday, January 3rd. After discussion, Alderman Trouart made the motion to approve this request and allow City employees to have December 31st off. Seconded by Alderman Frausto. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER CANCELLING DECEMBER REGULAR MEETING DUE TO HOLIDAYS AND ALLOWING BILLS TO BE PAID

Alderman Dahler made the motion that Council not take action on this item. Mayor Fincher called for a second to this motion three times. Motion died for lack of a second. Alderman Bowen made the motion that Council cancel the December regular meeting due to the holidays. Seconded by Alderman Trouart. VOTE-For motion-Alderman Bowen, Trouart, Elias and Frausto - Against motion- Alderman Dahler.

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS' REPORT

Director of Public Works' Greg Presley reviewed his written report with Council.

POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT

Police Chief Richard Priest reviewed his written report with Council.

The Chief told Council that the department is in the best shape it has been in on criminal investigations being completed.

Chief Priest told Council that the department had received its laser and the department personnel would be trained on it the next day.

The Chief said the department would be part of the 'Click It, or Ticket' campaign during the holidays when he will have a lot of the officers working.

Minutes of Regular meeting held November 8, 2002-page 5

POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT (CONT.)

Chief Priest told Council that the new police car has been ordered and could possibly be delivered next week. He said 90% of the car equipment is already in house waiting for the car to arrive.

CITY SECRETARY'S REPORT

City Secretary Josie Campa reviewed her written report with Council. Items covered in the report were:

1-gave amounts of various taxes collected in October;
2-engineer says paint on aeration tank does not contain lead;
3-FM 2790 sewer line project on hold until engineer studies it further;
4-audits will be done; and
5-have established an evaluation grading system for future use.
Minutes of Regular meeting held November 8, 2004 (cont.)

MAYOR'S REPORT
Mayor Fincher reported on the following items:

1. will wait till spring break to do drainage project;
2. will look into parking problem on FM 2790 E by hair salon;
3. Santa's hayride will be held November 27th and more trailers are needed;
4. Gidley family will be discussing water rights in January;
5. Margaret Trouart's term is up on Economic Development Committee and he will reappoint her;
6. asked Council to go by park to see the storage area added at pavilion;
7. will be putting in a loft when Christmas decorations are put out on street;
8. he will meet with Alderman Frausto to discuss other items for the park;
9. asked Council to keep his wife in their prayers since she will be having surgery in December;
10. wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and Merry Christmas and thanked Council for their hard work this past year.

Meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.