Regular meeting with the following present: Mayor Horace Fincher; Aldermen Mark Bowen, Jerry Stone, Erik Dahler, Rudy Hernandez, Sam Cortez; City Secretary Josie Campa; Police Chief Richard Priest; City Attorney Tom Cate; Director of Public Works James McGrath.

Visitors: Craig Bell, Philip Ruiz, Jesse Blanchard, Johnathan Bowen, Wayne Herl, Julio Inocencio, Mr. & Mrs. Mark Fisher, Lydia McGrath, Amanda Rodriguez, Mary Rodriguez, Bobbie Lassiter, Luis Villanueva, Bobbie Roberts, Sam Parks.

APPROVE MINUTES AND APPROVE PAYMENT OF BILLS
City Secretary Josie Campa added two bills to the list already presented to Council. These bills were as follows: Troy Martin-$2900.00 for building inspections and AACOG-$130.00-police training. The Secretary also told Council the bill from ACCD should be deleted as the training courses were cancelled. Alderman Dahler made the motion that Council approve the minutes from the October 8th public hearing and regular meeting, and payment of the bills, as presented. Seconded by Alderman Bowen. Passed unanimously.
Minutes of Regular Meeting held November 12, 2007 (cont.)

HEAR FROM CITIZENS
Wayne Herl talked to Council about dogs on Ball Road. Mr. Herl told Council that he has already filed complaints and a dog has been caught, but owner still allows dogs to run loose. Mayor Fincher explained how the ordinance works. Mr. Herl told Council that they need to put some teeth into this ordinance, since dogs are messing up streets in city.

Bobbie Roberts commended the Public Works Department for the park looking so nice and the police department for the way they assisted Bexar County in an accident just outside the city.

CONSIDER BID (S) RECEIVED ON GROUND STORAGE TANK GRANT PROJECT
Craig Bell gave Council a history of the ground storage tank and said maintenance costs are high because it is a specialized service. Mr. Bell told Council that because of this only one bid was received on the tank project. The bid received was from Texas Aquastore for $337,750.00. Philip Ruiz told Council that the city had been awarded a grant for $250,000.00 for this project, but the city would have to pay the balance on this project. After discussion, Alderman Hernandez made the motion that Council award the bid to Texas Aquastore for $337,750.00 and that the budget be amended. Seconded by Alderman Bowen. Discussion. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER RECOMMENDATION FROM MOBILE HOME COMMISSION ON REQUEST FROM AMANDA RODRIGUEZ
Mayor Fincher recommended to Council that they accept the recommendation from the Mobile Home Commission. Alderman Hernandez made the motion that Council accept the recommendation from the Mobile Home Commission on the request from Amanda Rodriguez. Seconded by Alderman Stone. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER REQUEST FROM SUPER DRUG MART FOR VARIANCE ON SIGN SIZE-LUIS VILLANUEVA
Luis Villanueva asked Council for a variance for the Super Drug Mart sign size. He explained the plans they had for this sign and gave Council a picture of the sign and how it will look when placed at the Medical Clinic location. Alderman Dahler made the motion that Council grant this variance. Seconded by Alderman Cortez. Passed unanimously.

MARK C. FISHER-REINTRODUCE COTTAGE STREET APARTMENTS AND MAKE REQUESTS TO COUNCIL FOR VARIANCES
Mark Fisher talked to Council about the apartment complex to be built on Cottage Street. City Secretary Josie Campa reminded Council that they had voted to grant a special permit for these apartments instead of rezoning the property. Mr. Fisher told Council the property is under contract and he is needing to discuss a few matters with Council concerning the apartments and the property. Mr. Fisher told Council that the plans are to build just over forty (40) units. Mr. Fisher told Council that trees on the property are posing a problem and he thinks a pecan tree would need to be cut down. He said he would plant several trees in other locations to replace the pecan tree. Mr. Fisher asked Council about the city vacating part of Houston Street and capping off a gas line. Mr. Fisher described his plans for the apartment complex in detail and requested the City improve part of Houston Street. After lengthy discussion Council agreed to hold a workshop on November 26th to discuss the apartment complex with Mr. Fisher.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF PLAT FOR WISDOM ROAD ESTATES SUBDIVISION-CHARLES KERR
City Secretary Josie Campa told Council that the engineer had reviewed the Wisdom Road Estates Subdivision plat after corrections were made and that he says this plat is in compliance with the city code. Alderman Stone made the motion that Council approve this plat as per the engineer's recommendation. Seconded by Alderman Dahler. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER SERVICES AND REMOVAL FROM CITY LIMITS-JULIO INOCENCIO
Julio Inocencio asked Council what had been done since he came to the meeting the last time. City Attorney Tom Cate told Council he had not taken care of the matter as discussed at a prior meeting. Mr. Inocencio asked about potholes being repaired on Ball Road and a fire hydrant leak being fixed. The Mayor told Mr. Inocencio work orders would be written to get this work done. Mr. Inocencio said he would wait to see what happens.

CONSIDER AMENDING ZONING ORDINANCE CONCERNING ZONING ALLOWING MOBILE HOME PARKS
After discussion, Alderman Hernandez made the motion that Council have the zoning ordinance amended to allow mobile home parks in only a special district and excluding them from all other districts. Seconded by Alderman Stone. Passed unanimously.
Minutes of Regular Meeting held November 12, 2007 (cont.)

CONSIDER FILLING VACANCY ON ATASCOSA COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS

After discussion, and Mayor Fincher recommending the city wait until January to see what the School does, Alderman Bowen made the motion Council take no action on this item. Seconded by Alderman Stone. VOTE-FOR motion: Aldermen Bowen, Stone, Cortez and Hernandez. AGAINST motion: Alderman Dahler. Motion carried.

Council took a short break at 7:30 p.m. and reconvened at 7:42 p.m.

CONSIDER INCENTIVES FOR WATER CUSTOMERS-RUDY HERNANDEZ

City Secretary Josie Campa explained to Council that Alderman Hernandez had asked for this item to be placed on the agenda. Alderman Hernandez told Council that since the city encourages shallow water wells and since these wells cost about $3,000.00 to drill that maybe the city could consider paying the property owner for part of this to use as an incentive for people to drill more shallow wells to help the city save more Edwards' water. Council discussed this suggestion and agreed to take no action on this item. Alderman Hernandez told Council he would look into this matter some more and have it on another agenda.

CONSIDER OPTIONS REGARDING HOLIDAY PAY FOR POLICE OFFICERS-CHIEF RICHARD PRIEST

Police Chief Richard Priest told Council that the police officers work on city holidays and receive holiday leave added to vacation. The Chief told Council that since there is not a turnover in the department some of the officers have accrued a lot of days. The Chief proposed that in the future holidays be paid or the officers be given the option to use the leave within 180 days. City Secretary Josie Campa told Council she had calculated holiday pay for the police officers and if they want, the monies are available to pay the officers for their accumulated holiday leave. Alderman Hernandez made the motion that Council immediately stop the accruing of holiday leave and offer the option to pay for accrued leave. Seconded by Alderman Bowen. Discussion. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER HIRING FULL-TIME POLICE OFFICER TO FILL VACANCY-CHIEF RICHARD PRIEST

Police Chief Richard Priest recommended to Council that Joe Torres be hired to fill the vacancy in the police department created by the resignation of Erick Reed. The Chief told Council that Mr. Torres has worked as a non-paid officer for 3 1/2 years. The Chief recommended Mr. Torres starting salary be $25,000.00 a year after he successfully completes physical and psychological tests. Alderman Stone made the motion that Council hire Joe Torres to fill the vacancy in the police department as recommended by Chief Priest.

CONSIDER RENEWAL OF GALICIA PARK MAINTENANCE CONTRACT

City Secretary Josie Campa told Council that Juan Escareno had agreed to continue the maintenance at Galicia Park for $75.00 per month. Alderman Cortez made the motion that Council renew the Galicia Park maintenance contract with Juan Escareno. Seconded by Alderman Stone. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER REQUEST FOR HONORING FORMER COUNCIL MEMBER JUAN J. GARCIA, SR. FOR HIS YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE CITY

Mayor Fincher told Council he had been contacted by a few citizens about doing something in honor of former Councilman Juan Garcia. The Mayor suggested naming the park pavilion in honor of Mr. Garcia, since he was so involved with the park when he was on the Council. Alderman Hernandez made the motion that Council name the park pavilion after former Councilman Juan Garcia. Seconded by Alderman Stone. Passed unanimously.

After more discussion, Alderman Hernandez made the motion that Council award the Daniel J. McGrath, D.V.M. Annual Citizenship Award posthumously to Juan J. Garcia, Sr. Seconded by Alderman Cortez. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER OVERALL COMPENSATION FOR CITY EMPLOYEES

Alderman Bowen made the motion that Council approve the overall compensation for the city employees as budgeted. Seconded by Alderman Cortez. Passed unanimously.

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

Alderman Bowen made the motion that Council cancel the December regular meeting and allow the bills to be paid. Seconded by Alderman Stone. VOTE: FOR motion: Aldermen Bowen, Stone, Cortez and Hernandez. AGAINST motion: Alderman Dahler. Motion carried.
CONSIDER SALARY INCREASES FOR CITY EMPLOYEES
Mayor Fincher announced at 8:18 p.m. that Council would go into closed session as allowed in Chapter 551.074 of the Government Code. The meeting was reopened at 9:25 p.m. Mayor Fincher announced that Council had discussed salaries in the closed session but no action had been taken. Alderman Hernandez made the motion that Council approve the salary increases for the employees as considered in the closed session. Seconded by Alderman Dahler. Passed unanimously.

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR’S REPORT
Public Works’ Director James McGrath reported the following to Council:
1-255 work orders completed in past month;
2-1 new water meter was installed;
3-9 small water leaks were fixed;
4-2 major sewer stoppages were taken care of;
5-1 gas leak was fixed;
6-Railroad Commission completed gas system evaluation and city received four (4) write ups, but only one (1) concerned the field works; the other three are corrections needed is the Operations and Maintenance Manual; and
7-completed a 20-hour course for CEU credit for water license.

POLICE CHIEF’S REPORT
Police Chief Richard Priest reviewed his written report with Council.
The Chief told Council that David Gardner had been hired by Pleasanton Police Department and would no longer be able to work as a reserve or part-time officer for Lytle. He also said that since Joe Torres was hired as a full-time officer, the department is now two (2) short on reserve officers. He said he would be working at building up the number of reserve officers.

Chief Priest told Council that the department is now giving “e-mail alerts” to inform the public.

The Chief told Council that Reserve Officer Mark Montgomery has received a promotion at his regular job.

Chief Priest said Joe Torres start date will be either December 1st or January 1st after Mr. Torres takes care of some business.

The Chief told Council that the vehicles were ordered and the department should have them in about two weeks.

CITY SECRETARY’S REPORT
City Secretary Josie Campa told Council she didn’t have anything to add to her written report.

MAYOR’S REPORT
Mayor Fincher reported the following to Council:
1-Hayride will be held November 24th;
2-the Blackwoods will be back in Lytle on February 9th, donations and ticket sales should cover expenses for this event;
3-the master service agreement with TRC Engineers needs to be completed;
4-the water issue is terrible since the price of water is so high;
5-meeting is being held to work on a water rural plan; and
6-city is able to hook up to Benton City water in the event of an emergency.

Meeting adjourned at 9:38 p.m.

[Signatures]