Minutes of Special Meeting held June 17, 2019

Special meeting held with the following present: Mayor Mark Bowen; Aldermen Ruble Farmer, Ruben Gonzalez, Sam Cortez, Laura Reyna; City Secretary Josie Campa; Public Works’ Director James McGrath; Police Chief Richard Priest; Fire Marshal Matt Dear; Police Officer Danny Robison; City Attorney Tom Cate.

Visitor: Craig Bell

Mayor opened the special meeting at 6:30 p.m. and led everyone in the pledge to the flag. The Mayor then turned over the meeting to TRC engineer Craig Bell.

**DISCUSSION AND REVIEW OF ENGINEER’S DRAINAGE STUDY FOR EASY-DAWSON STREET AREA**

Craig Bell talked to Council about the Dawson Street-Easy Street area drainage situation. He explained their original plan for diverting all the water in that area to the bar ditch on the railroad right-of-way that would cost nearly $150,000.00 to construct. He told Council that a bar ditch could be put in to drain off across the road to the railroad bar ditch and this could be Phase 1. He said this would probably cost the city tens of thousands of dollars instead of the $150,000.00 for the entire project. Mr. Bell answered questions from Council. Alderman Gonzalez asked if the city does a Phase 1 can the engineer draw up something Council can see is going to be done in this phase and what needs to be done in the next phase. Craig Bell told Council he could draw something up and get it to the City Secretary along with cost estimate. Alderwoman Reyna asked how long this would take and Mr. Bell told Council it would take two to three (2-3) months once the design is drawn up.

**REVIEW LYTEL UTILITY CAPACITY REPORT FROM TRC**

Craig Bell reviewed the draft Utility Infrastructure Capacity report he had prepared with Council. Mr. Bell told Council that since the city is looking at two large subdivisions being built in the city, the need for this report on the city’s water and sewer systems is needed. He said this report calls for speculation on when these houses are going to be built. Mr. Bell told Council that if these two new developments go in Lytle’s population in about (13) years could be 7500. Mr. Bell reviewed TCEQ’s rules for construction of a new waste-water plant and that according to plans for these subdivisions the new plant should be built in four to six (4-6) years. Mr. Bell told Council that if these developments go forth, as expected, the city is looking at needing a new elevated tank on the southside of town by 2023, another water well by 2025 and another booster pump station by 2027.

Mr. Bell reviewed the Capital Improvements Summary and recommendations in the report with Council, and the cost estimates for these improvements. Total estimated capital improvements estimate was $15,132,000.00. Mr. Bell said depending on the timing of the growth most of the proposed improvements would need to be completed within a four year span (2024-2027), and said the city needs to monitor the housing growth over the next few years. Mr. Bell told Council he also included the cost for looping the 12-inch water line on the access road since this will help with supplying growth. Council discussed acidizing the new well to keep from having to drill
REVIEW LYTLE UTILITY CAPACITY REPORT FROM TRC (CONT.)

another well so soon. Alderman Gonzalez told Council and Mr. Bell that installing valves at critical points in the water system is also necessary.

Mayor Bowen asked about the sewer plant permit since TRC designed the original plant. Mr. Bell said they were starting in the plant renewal permit and recommending including the new plant with the renewal permit and told Council the added cost for this permit would be about $20,000.00. Mr. Bell discussed things he has already included in the cost estimate to upgrade the current sewer plant since the Public Works Director wants to change the drying beds at the plant by adding a belt press. Mr. Bell said this press can also be included as a modification in the renewal permit.

Mayor Bowen told Mr. Bell his capacity report gives Council a chance to look at the future to know what to budget. The Mayor told Council there is interest from manufacturers too, not just homes.

Alderman Gonzalez said it will be good to be ahead of the curb if city starts early to look at all funding options to help all the citizens not just the new residents.

Alderwoman Reyna suggested all service and permit fees be looked to stay in line for the future. She also said other things in the city would need to be looked at besides water and sewer such as streets and other city services. She said streets around the school really need to be considered. Council discussed the need to get a good dialogue going with the school since they will also be impacted by this projected growth.

After lengthy discussion on things that may need to be addressed down the road, Mayor Bowen thanked Mr. Bell for his report and said the city will stay in contact with TRC as things progress.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.