Minutes of Special Meeting held October 21, 2019

Special meeting with the following present: Mayor Mark Bowen; Alderpersons Jerry Stone, Laura Reyna, Ruben Gonzalez, Sam Cortez; City Secretary Josie Campa; Director of Public Works James McGrath; Fire Marshal Matt Dear; Animal Control Director Santiago Morantez; City Attorney Tom Cate.

Visitors: Rudy and Philip Ruiz, Jerry Shepherd, Alex Sawicki, Christopher Bowen, Brad Boyd, Ralph Minard, Kenneth Zamzow, Daniel Medina, Franklin Wanjura, Jr., Gail Johnson, Jeff Dahm, Jesse Camarillo, Steven Santana.

Mayor Bowen opened the special meeting at 6:30 p.m. and led everyone in the pledge to the flag.

**CONSIDER AND ACT UPON OPTIONS FOR CHANGE ORDER FOR THE BMA STRUCTURE UNDERCROSSING NOT IN ORIGINAL TRANSMISSION LINE CONTRACT WITH RAM II AND CONSIDER AND ACT UPON CHANGE ORDER REQUEST FOR THE BMA STRUCTURE UNDERCROSSING**

Engineer Jerry Shepherd explained the three options for a change order for the BMA structure undercrossing that was not in the original contract. Alderman Gonzalez asked the engineer why this crossing was missed in the original project plans and specs. Mr. Shepherd said they didn’t know since there were no signs posted and BMA is not a part of the 8-1-1 program. Alderman Gonzalez asked how this would be avoided in the future and if the engineering firm could pick up part of the added cost. Mr. Shepherd said that he was not the engineer that handled this project in the beginning, but they went through the normal process and there were no signs he didn’t feel that the firm would pay for the added cost. City Attorney Tom Cate told Council that this crossing would have had to be bid on anyway. Alderwoman Reyna told Mr. Shepherd that because they didn’t research this properly, now the city has added cost. City Attorney Tom Cate told Council the city would have had to pay for the crossing if it had been in the original bid documents. Public Works Director James McGrath asked Mr. Shepherd about the difference between options #1 and #3 and Mr. Shepherd said that the first option was very preliminary, and the third one was about 80 feet shorter. Mr. Shepherd said option #2 will work but should there be a water leak there might be a problem to fix since this line will be thirteen (13) feet deep. Mr. Minard told Council that option #2 would cost over $15,000 and he had talked to the city’s inspector about this option. Mr. Minard then gave handouts to Council on the pipe needed for this project. Mr. Minard told Council there would be a 1 year warranty, so if there was a leak in that time period he would come out and fix it.

After more discussion, Alderman Gonzalez made the motion that Council approve option #2 for the change order as long as it does not cost more than the $15,000.00 quoted by Mr. Minard. Seconded by Alderman Cortez. Time line for the project was estimated at one week. Passed unanimously.

Engineer Jerry Shepherd told Council that the change order he had prepared was not right and he would draft one for the option Council had approved.
CONSIDER AND ACT UPON AWARDING BID FOR ACIDIZING WELL#4
Engineer Jerry Shepherd told Council that bids for acidizing Well #4 were opened on October 9th and were as follows:

Advanced Water Well Technologies - $235,762.25;  
Alsay Incorporated - $219,174.00;  
Layne Christensen Company - $253,530.00; and  
McKinley Drilling/Peerless Equipment - $137,581.00.

He said the low bidder was Peerless Equipment for $137,581.00, and recommended their bid be accepted. Alderman Gonzalez asked about the timeline for this project and was told it would depend on contract documents being signed, but once started about two weeks. Alderman Stone made the motion Council accept the bid from Peerless Equipment for the well acidizing project. Seconded by Alderman Gonzalez. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER AND ACT UPON REQUEST FROM CHAMBER OF COMMERCE FOR VARIANCE ON NOISE ORDINANCE FOR STREET DANCE AFTER HOMECOMING FOOTBALL GAME
Alderman Cortez made the motion that Council grant the noise variance for the street dance being held November 1st. Seconded by Alderman Gonzalez. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER AND ACT UPON AMENDED PROPOSAL FROM GEOCRETE CONCRETE COATINGS FOR ADDING TOP COAT ON FLOOR AT ANIMAL CONTROL FACILITY
Alderman Gonzalez made the motion that Council approve the revised proposal from GEOCRETE for $10,373.00. Seconded by Alderman Stone. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER AND ACT UPON HIRING TEMPORARY HELP FOR ASSISTING WITH AUDIT PREPARATIONS
City Secretary Josie Campa told Council that the lady suggested by the auditor to assist the city with audit preparations had talked to her and Mayor Bowen and that she had given the Mayor a list of items that the city would be responsible for such as mileage, $75.00 per hour fee, paying for the hotel room. The City Attorney said a contract agreement could be drawn up and suggested a per diem be added to the terms. Alderman Gonzalez made the motion that Council hire Bebe Henneke to assist with audit preparations and a timeline be established for both needed audits as per the items listed by Mrs. Henneke and adding a per diem. Seconded by Alderman Cortez. Alderwoman Reyna asked if invoices would be given by this lady and Mayor Bowen said she probably would submit invoices. Motion was passed unanimously.

Before the meeting was adjourned Gail Johnson told Council about early voting being held October 21st thru November 1st. The City Secretary agreed to place this on the city’s marquee if Mrs. Johnson would get her the info.

Meeting adjourned at 7:23 p.m.