Minutes of Regular Meeting held October 13, 2020

Regular meeting with the following present: Mayor Mark Bowen; Aldermen Erik Dahler, Jerry Stone, Sam Cortez, Laura Reyna, Ruben Gonzalez; City Secretary Josie Campa; Director of Public Works James McGrath; Police Lieutenant Matt Dear; City Attorney Tom Cate.


CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
Mayor Bowen opened the regular meeting at 6:35 p.m. and led everyone in the pledge to the flag.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND CONSIDER APPROVAL OF PAYMENT OF BILLS
City Secretary Josie Campa added the bill from Troy Martin for $1,450.00 for building inspections. Alderwoman Reyna asked for corrections to be made to the minutes of September 14th: The City Secretary has asked for these corrections in writing since she was unable to hear the Alderwoman’s comments and the tape did not pick up her comments.

The City Secretary answered questions on the bills from Alderman Gonzalez and Alderwoman Reyna. Alderman Stone made the motion that the minutes of regular meeting held September 14th and special meeting held September 29th be approved, as corrected and payment of the bills be approved as presented. Seconded by Alderman Cortez. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER AND ACT UPON MOBILE HOME COMMISSION RECOMMENDATIONS FOR EDWARD AND TERESA SOTO AND FOR MARGARITO CARRILLO
Alderman Stone made the motion that Council approve the recommendations from the Mobile Home Commission on the requests from Edward and Teresa Soto and Margarito Carrillo. Seconded by Alderman Cortez. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER AND ACT UPON REQUEST FROM EDWARD AND TERESA SOTO TO KEEP CURRENT HOME ON PROPERTY UNTIL AFTER NEW MOBILE HOME IS PLACED ON PROPERTY
Alderman Gonzalez made the motion that Council allow Edward and Teresa Soto to keep their current home on the property until their new home has been placed and give them ninety (90) days to tear down their old house after they move into their new home. Seconded by Alderman Stone. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER AND ACT UPON REQUEST FROM V.K. KNOWLTON TO USE FIRE HYDRANT FOR SITESWORK FOR SADDLE RIDGE ESTATES
Jim Welch from Pape-Dawson Engineers told Council that he was at the meeting on behalf of V.K. Knowlton who is needing a meter on a fire hydrant to start doing site work on Saddle Ridge Subdivision. Mr. Welch told Council they are needing this meter through May of 2021. He said
CONSIDER AND ACT UPON REQUEST FROM V.K. KNOWLTON TO USE FIRE HYDRANT FOR SITEWORK FOR SADDLE RIDGE ESTATES (CONT.)
they estimate needing 350,000 gallons in October and November and 60,000 gallons from December to April and about 200,000 gallons in the last month. After discussion, Alderman Gonzalez made the motion that Council allow V.K. Knowlton to have a meter placed on a fire hydrant for the work being done at Saddle Ridge Subdivision. Alderwoman Reyna suggested the motion be amended to include the Council give V.K. Knowlton a variance to allow them to have a meter placed on a fire hydrant. Alderman Gonzalez agreed. Seconded by Alderman Dahler. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER AND ACT UPON LYTLE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE HALLOWEEN FESTIVITIES
Mark Lovelace and Simon Garcia told Council of the Chamber of Commerce plans for their next Farmers’ Market which will be held on October 31st. They briefly explained the changes which were to hold the market in the afternoon, not morning and to have vendors decorate their booths for Halloween. They said there would be more vendors and the vendors will sell items other than foods. Mr. Lovelace told Council they would follow Covid-19 safety rules. Alderman Gonzalez made the motion that Council approve the Chamber’s plans for the October Farmers’ Market. Seconded by Alderman Cortez. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER AND ACT UPON REQUEST FROM LANE HANSEN TO USE TRAVEL TRAILER AS LIVING SPACE DURING HOME REMODEL
Lane Hansen asked Council for permission to live in an RV while he is remodeling his home on Live Oak Street. After discussion, Alderman Stone made the motion that Council allow Mr. Hansen to live in an RV for six (6) months while he is remodeling his home. Seconded by Alderman Cortez. Passed unanimously.

PID POLICY UPDATE-CLAY BINFORD AND CONSIDER AND ACT UPON LYTLE’S PID POLICY
Clay Binford talked to Council about his proposed PID policy and said he had drawn up the policy from the concepts that had been discussed. Since Council did not receive the proposed policy, no action was taken on this item. Mayor Bowen asked Mr. Binford to forward the PID policy to the City for Council to review.

CONSIDER AND ACT UPON CONTRACT WITH AT & T FOR PHONE AND INTERNET SERVICE
Juan Garza from Frontera Concepts and Scott Soot from AT & T talked to Council about AT & T’s two options for the new contract. Since the Council did not receive copies of these options for review, Alderwoman Reyna made the motion that Council table this item. Seconded by Alderman Gonzalez. Passed unanimously.
CONSIDER AND ACT UPON BIDS RECEIVED FOR BRUSH PICK-UP
City Secretary Josie Campa told Council only one bid was received for brush pick-up. The bid was from Hector Barrera for $4,750.00 per month, which is the same as last year’s bid. Alderman Cortez made the motion that Council accept the bid from Hector Barrera for $4,750.00 per month for brush pick-up service. Seconded by Alderman Stone. Passed unanimously.

DISCUSS AND CONSIDER CHANGES IN ROADS FOR HALLOWEEN
Mayor Bowen told Council this item was brought up at last meeting. After lengthy discussion, Alderman Gonzalez made the motion that Council allow the police department to monitor the amount of traffic on city streets on Halloween night and prepare to close streets, if necessary. Seconded by Alderman Cortez. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER AND ACT UPON RENEWAL OF CONTRACT WITH LYTHE FIRE DEPARTMENT
Alderman Stone made the motion that Council renew the contract with the Lytle Fire Department for $84,000.00 a year. Seconded by Alderman Cortez. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER AND ACT UPON PROPOSAL FROM TRC FOR NEXT PHASE OF WELL PROJECT
No action was taken since a proposal was not received from TRC.

CONSIDER AND ACT UPON PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO CHAPTER 20-FLOODS AND CHAPTER 36-SUBDIVISIONS AND PLATS OF THE CITY OF LYTHE’S CODE OF ORDINANCES
Alderman Dahler made the motion that Council approve and adopt the proposed amendments by the city’s engineer on Chapters 20 & 36 of the city’s Code of Ordinances. Seconded by Alderwoman Reyna. Passed unanimously.

DISCUSS AND CONSIDER CITY’S VACCINATION POLICY FOR FIRST RESPONDERS
City Attorney Tom Cate told Council that a vaccination policy for first responders had been discussed at the last Emergency Management Team’s meeting after receiving an e-mail from Bexar County. Police Chief Richard Priest told Council he would like to get some guidance from Council. Alderman Gonzalez made the motion that Council leave the matter of vaccinations up to the department heads. Seconded by Alderman Cortez. Discussion. Chief Priest told Council he would rather Council provide the guidance. Alderman Gonzalez amended his motion to read “that Council allow department heads to advise their personnel of the vaccinations availability and then allow each individual in the department to make up the decision as to whether they have the vaccination or not. Alderman Cortez also seconded the amended motion. Passed unanimously.
CONSIDER AND ACT UPON REQUEST FROM ATASCOSA COUNTY ELECTIONS ADMINISTRATOR TO APPROVE ELECTION JUDGES FOR THE NOVEMBER 3RD ELECTION
City Secretary Josie Campa presented the list of Election Judges for Atascosa County polling places provided by Atascosa County Elections Administrator Janice Ruple. She told Council the Elections Administrator has asked for Council’s approval of the list of judges for the November 3rd election. Alderman Stone made the motion that Council approve this list of judges for the November 3rd election for Atascosa County. Seconded by Alderwoman Reyna. Passed unanimously.

Council took a short break at 7:57 p.m. and reconvened at 8:14 p.m.

CONSIDER AND ACT UPON PROPOSAL FROM SAPPHIRE GAS SOLUTIONS FOR GAS OUTAGE FEES
City Secretary Josie Campa presented the proposal from Sapphire Gas Solutions for $53,740.00 for providing natural gas to the city during the November gas outage. Alderman Gonzalez made the motion that Council approve the proposal totaling $53,740.00 from Sapphire Gas Solutions. Seconded by Alderman Stone. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER AND ACT UPON RECOMMENDATION FOR CRF/TDEM ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND OTHER MATTERS INCIDENT THERETO
Alderwoman Reyna told Council that the CRF/TDEM Advisory Committee had met and that three of the committee members, Mark Lovelace, Simon Garcia and Cumorah Eldredge were present to make a recommendation to Council. The Committee members told Council that they would like to see the 25% of CRF funds split between the small businesses and school. City Attorney Tom Cate told Council that the two agenda items are together with the supplemental item. He told Council he has been talking to TML and lawyers to figure out how to get the most money from this program. Council agreed to go to supplemental item before acting on Item 5P. City Attorney Tom Cate explained what TML had suggested and what the lawyer had told him about submitting the police payroll from March thru December of 2020 to get 100% of funding allotted for Lytle. He said the law firm he talked to is asking for $10,000.00 to submit Lytle’s application for funding, but he thinks he can negotiate with them and bring the price down.

CONSIDER AND ACT UPON CRF FUNDING FOR OPERATION CONNECTIVITY THROUGH THE TEXAS EDUCATION AGENCY IN PARTNERSHIP WITH LYTLE ISD AND ANY OTHER MATTERS INCIDENT THERETO
Alderwoman Reyna recommended to Council that the city give the school the CRF funds (20%) already received. Cumorah Eldredge explained to Council about Operation Connectivity that was started up in August. She told Council that the school had already spent upwards of $520,000.00 before August and therefore do not qualify for this program. She told Council that any help the school can get in funding will be to recoup what has been paid out. She answered questions concerning the funding the school has gotten from Atascosa and Medina Counties. Council and the City Attorney discussed legalities concerning the city donating these monies to the school.
DISCUSS AND CONSIDER HIRING THE LAW FIRM OF CARRINGTON COLEMAN TO ASSIST THE CITY IN APPLYING TO THE TEXAS DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT FOR REIMBURSEMENT OF FUNDS FROM THE CRF PROGRAM AND ANY MATTERS INCIDENT THERETO
Alderwoman Reyna made the motion that Council authorize the City Attorney to negotiate with the law firm on the price for submitting the city's application for reimbursement from CRF program up to $10,000.00 and reserve the 20% already received for discussion at a later date. Seconded by Alderman Gonzalez. Discussion. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER AND ACT UPON RECOMMENDATION FOR CRF/TDEM ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND OTHER MATTERS INCIDENT THERETO AND CONSIDER AND ACT UPON CRF FUNDING FOR OPERATION CONNECTIVITY THROUGH THE TEXAS EDUCATION AGENCY IN PARTNERSHIP WITH LYTLE ISD AND ANY OTHER MATTERS INCIDENT THERETO
Alderman Cortez made the motion that Council table these items. Seconded by Alderman Stone. Discussion. Passed unanimously.

INFORMATION ITEMS
City Attorney Tom Cate told Council that the Emergency Management team met with the Chamber of Commerce reps and they have postponed the fitness clinic until spring.

Mr. Cate told Council that Lytle I.S.D. is asking about working with Emergency Management Team.

The City Attorney told Council that Atascosa County is receiving a $300,000.00 grant for businesses affected by Covid-19.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:16 p.m.