Minutes of Regular Meeting held January 11, 2021

Regular meeting held with the following present: Mayor Ruben Gonzalez; Aldermen Sam Cortez, Charles Cate, Laura Reyna, Lupe Castro; City Secretary Josie Campa; Police Chief Richard Priest; Director of Public Works James McGrath; Police Officer David Lopez; Animal Control Director Santiago Morantez; City Attorney Tom Cate.


CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
Mayor Gonzalez called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m. and led everyone in the pledge to the flag.

VISITORS'CITIZENS' COMMENTS
Police Chief Richard Priest recognized Police Officer David Lopez for the ten (10) years of service to the City of Lytle, 3 years in the Public Works Department and 7 years in the Police Department.

Mayor Gonzalez recognized City Secretary Josie Campa for her forty-five (45) years of service to the city. The City Secretary was presented with yellow roses, a desk clock and gift card and refreshments were provided for everyone.

PRESENTATION OF CHECKS TO WINNERS OF CHRISTMAS DECORATING CONTESTS
Mayor Gonzalez presented Sam Cortez with a check for St. Andrews’ Catholic Church winning 1st place in the Christmas Decorating Contest. Since none of the other winners of the Christmas Decorating Contests were present, Mayor Gonzalez had the City Secretary read the names of the winners. They were as follows:

Residential Contest winners:
1st place-Robert Carranco
2nd place-Lance & Kristi Sollohub
3rd place-Leonard & Cheryl Vaughan

Business Category Winners:
2nd place-Tots to Teens Pediatric Dentistry
3rd place-Patriot Gas.
CONSIDER APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND CONSIDER APPROVAL OF PAYMENT OF BILLS
Mayor Gonzalez asked that the first line that read “Alderman Cate told Council he had filed his office Conflicts Disclosure Statement with City Secretary” under approval of minutes and bills be left off. Alderman Reyna asked that the word “licensed” be added to the Public Works’ position that is to be filled. Alderwoman Reyna asked that the line, “Alderwoman Reyna recommended amending the language to track the local government code,” and that Mr. Stone’s motion include, “with the amended language”. Alderwoman Reyna made the motion that the minutes of the December 14th regular meeting be approved, as amended and bills be approved as presented. Seconded by Alderman Cortez. Alderman Cate told Council he would like the motion for bills to be two separate motions to allow him to vote on the minutes and bills. Alderwoman Reyna amended her motion to read, “approve the December 14th regular minutes, as amended and all of the bills without Mr. Cate’s bill for legal services. Alderman Cortez seconded that motion. Passed unanimously. Alderwoman Reyna made the motion that Council approve payment of the bill from the Law Office of Thomas P. Cate for legal fees. Seconded by Alderman Cortez. Vote: FOR motion-Aldermen Reyna, Cortez, Castro. Alderman Cate abstained. Motion carried.

CONSIDER AND ACT UPON REQUEST FROM SOUTHWEST ISD FOR JOINT ELECTION ON MAY 1, 2021 WITH THE CITY OF LYTLE
Brandon Crisp with Southwest School District asked Council for permission to conduct a joint election with the City of Lytle for the May 1, 2021 election. Alderman Cortez made the motion that Council grant this request. Seconded by Alderman Cate. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER AND ACT UPON ZONING COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION (S) FOR:
1. APPROVING MINOR CHANGES TO PLAT FOR SADDLE RIDGE ESTATES SUBDIVISION
City Secretary Josie Campa told Council that the Zoning Commission had reviewed the minor changes to the electric easements for Saddle Ridge along with the proposed public right-of-way easement for future development of adjacent property owner’s land. Alderman Cate made the motion that Council accept the Zoning Commission’s recommendation. Seconded by Alderman Cortez. Passed unanimously.

2. APPROVING MASTER DEVELOPMENT PLAN AND PRELIMINARY PLAT FOR PHASE 1 FOR ROSEWOOD ESTATES
City Secretary Josie Campa told Council that the Zoning Commission had reviewed the Rosewood Estates master development plan and preliminary plat for Unit #1 and were recommending they both be approved. After discussion, Alderman Cortez made the motion that Council approve the Zoning Commission’s recommendation to approve Rosewood Estates master development plan and the preliminary plat for Unit #1. Seconded by Alderman Castro. Passed unanimously.
Minutes of Regular Meeting held January 11, 2021-page 3

CONSIDER AND ACT UPON APPROVAL OF FUNDING FOR CITY TO HAVE PRODUCTION TESTS COMPLETED ON WELL #4
Jeff Dahm, engineer from TRC, spoke to Council on the phone about the need to have a 36 hour production test done on the well to meet TCEQ requirements. He told Council that Peerless Equipment had given a quote of $28,600.00 to do these tests. After further discussion, Alderman Cate made the motion that Council approve the quote from Peerless Equipment ($28,600.00) to conduct production tests on Well #4. Seconded by Alderman Castro. Discussion on funding for this item. City Secretary told Council a budget amendment would be required. Motion passed unanimously.

CONSIDER AND ACT UPON PROPOSAL FROM TRC FOR PLAT REVIEW OF RE-PLAT FOR WILLIAM PERKINS
City Secretary Josie Campa presented the proposal from TRC to review the Perkins’ re-plat. Alderwoman Reyna made the motion that Council approve this proposal. Seconded by Alderman Cortez. Passed unanimously.

UPDATE ON COVID-19
Mayor Gonzalez gave Council an update on COVID-19. He told Council that it was a generic update and will have this on future agendas. The Mayor told Council he is getting calls about the vaccine and the only place he knows of is H.E.B. and it is only for health care employees. He said the next tier is for people over 65 years of age. The Mayor said there may also be the possibility of other places in Lytle. The Mayor told Council of what San Antonio is doing to get people vaccinated. He said there would be a meeting with the Governor and Mayors to discuss COVID-19.

CONSIDER AND ACT UPON A COVID-19 LEAVE POLICY FOR EMPLOYEES
The Mayor told Council that the act had expired at the end of December that addressed leave for employees and that Council needs to consider a COVID-19 leave policy for city employees. City Attorney Tom Cate told Council that they can adopt a policy to extend the one that expired. Council discussed this policy and Alderwoman Reyna made the motion that Council have the City Attorney draw up a COVID-19 leave policy for city employees based on government’s policy and that it be retroactive. Seconded by Alderman Castro. Vote-FOR motion-Aldermen Reyna, Castro and Cortez. Alderman Cate abstained. Motion carried.

UPDATE ON TDEM CARE FUNDING UPDATE
City Attorney Tom Cate told Council that Ted Harrington told him the city’s grant app for TDEM CRF funding is still being processed. He said we were told it would take 4 to 6 weeks and we are at 4 weeks now.
CONSIDER AND ACT UPON SETTING UP WORKSHOP FOR CONSIDERING DISTRIBUTION OF CARES FUNDING MONIES
Mayor Gonzalez told Council that the city needs to be prepared for the monies it will be getting from TDEM. After discussion, Alderwoman Reyna made the motion that Council set up a workshop for when the money comes in and invite the committee to attend. Seconded by Alderman Castro. Discussion. Alderwoman Reyna amended her motion to read “workshop be held on January 25th”. Seconded by Alderman Castro. Passed unanimously.

DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF NECESSARY ON LYNDA’S ISLAND-ALDERMAN CATE
Alderman Cate read a prepared statement concerning Lynda’s Island being singled out for alleged city code violations. Mayor Gonzalez gave Council clarification after Mr. Cate read his statement. After a lengthy discussion, Alderman Cate made the motion that no action be taken on Lynda’s Island. There was a discussion on whether to table this item or not take action. Alderman Cate told Council he would not amend his motion. Motion died for lack of a second. Alderwoman Reyna made the motion to table this item indefinitely. Discussion. Seconded by Alderman Castro. Vote-FOR motion-Alderwoman Reyna, Castro and Cortez. AGAINST motion-Alderman Cate. Motion carried.

Council took a break at 8:25 p.m. and reconvened at 8:39 p.m.

CONSIDER AND ACT UPON BIDS RECEIVED FOR MAINTENANCE OF CITY PROPERTIES
City Secretary Josie Campa reviewed the bids received for maintenance of city properties. They were as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LOCATION</th>
<th>GOD'S COUNTRY LAWN SERVICE</th>
<th>CUBRIEL, LLC</th>
<th>RIPPS LAND SERVICES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LYTTLE CITY HALL</td>
<td>$100.00</td>
<td>$325.00</td>
<td>$50.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LYTTLE POLICE STATION</td>
<td>$150.00</td>
<td>$325.60</td>
<td>$100.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LYTTLE PUBLIC LIBRARY</td>
<td>$200.00</td>
<td>$325.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>LYTTLE COMMUNITY CENTER</td>
<td>$300.00</td>
<td>$325.00</td>
<td>$220.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LYTTLE ANIMAL CONTROL FACILITY</td>
<td>$500.00</td>
<td>$433.33</td>
<td>$250.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GIDLEY PROPERTY</td>
<td>$200.00</td>
<td>$350.00</td>
<td>$150.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MATIAS GALICIA PARK</td>
<td>$150.00</td>
<td>$350.00</td>
<td>$90.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VETERANS’ MEMORIAL PARK</td>
<td>$150.00</td>
<td>$350.00</td>
<td>$100.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JOHN LOTT MUNICIPAL PARK</td>
<td>$2,800.00 PER MONTH</td>
<td>$1,341.67</td>
<td>$900.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL PER MONTH</td>
<td>$4,600.00 PER MONTH</td>
<td>$4,125.00 PER MONTH</td>
<td>$2,050.00 PER MONTH</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Alderman Cortez made the motion that Council accept the bids from Ripps Land Services that total $2,050.00 per month. Seconded by Alderman Castro. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER AND ACT UPON CALLING FOR AN ELECTION (CONSIDERAR LlamaR PARA UNA ELECCION)
Alderman Cortez made the motion that Council order an election for the purpose of electing Aldermen for Districts 1,2 and 3, to be held on Saturday, May 1st. Seconded by Alderwoman
CONSIDER AND ACT UPON COMMITTEE’S RECOMMENDATION FOR HIRING OF AUDITOR
Alderman Castro told Council that the committee had reviewed the RFQs received from four (4) auditing firms and is recommending Council hire Armstrong, Vaughan & Associates. Alderman Castro told Council the committee was very impressed with this company. Alderman Cortez made the motion that Council have Armstrong, Vaughan & Associates appear before Council at a special meeting on January 25th to discuss timeline and price for audit. Seconded by Alderwoman Reyna. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER AND ACT UPON COMMITTEE’S RECOMMENDATION FOR HIRING FINANCE DIRECTOR (EXECUTIVE SESSION UNDER TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE 551.074)
Mayor Gonzalez announced at 9:03 p.m. that Council would go into closed session as allowed by Chapter 551.074 of the Texas Government Code. The meeting was reopened at 10:17 p.m. Mayor Gonzalez announced that Council had taken no action on this item.

UPDATE ON SMART METERS BY DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS
Public Works Director James McGrath gave Council an update on the smart meters. He told Council he will set up a meeting with three (3) water meter companies and then they can hold a workshop with Council.

CONSIDER AND ACT UPON ADOPTING ORDINANCE REQUIRING SMART METERS BEING REQUIRED FOR FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS AND REPLACEMENT OF EXISTING METERS
City Attorney Tom Cate explained the ordinance he wrote requiring “smart” meters and said they are now called “advanced” meters. Alderman Cortez made the motion that Council adopt the ordinance requiring “advanced” water meters be installed in the future. Seconded by Alderman Castro. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER AND ACT UPON HIRING OFFICE CLERK TO FILL VACANCY
Alderman Cortez made the motion that this item be heard at the January 25th special meeting. Seconded by Alderman Castro. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER AND ACT UPON APPOINTMENTS TO LIBRARY BOARD
Council discussed appointments to the Library Board due to expired terms. Alderman Stone nominated Amanda Morrow to fill one of the vacancies on the board. Alderman Cate nominated Jeanie Sanders. Alderman Cortez told Council that his appointee has a year left on her term and she wants off this board. After discussion, Alderman Castro made the motion that this item be tabled. Seconded by Alderman Cortez. Passed unanimously.
CONSIDER AND ACT UPON APPOINTMENTS TO REVITALIZATION /BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE
Alderman Cate nominated Jeannie Simmons to the Revitalization/Beautification Committee. Alderman Cortez nominated Cheryl Vaughan for a 2-year term. Alderwoman Reyna made the motion that Council appoint these nominees for 2-year terms. Seconded by Alderman Cortez. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER AND ACT UPON RENEWAL OF DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTION CONTRACT
Alderman Charles Cate abstained from the discussion on the renewal of the delinquent tax collection contract. City Secretary Josie Campa told Council that Tom Cate’s office has done a good job for the city and recommended Council renew this contract. Alderman Cortez made the motion that Council renew the delinquent tax collection contract with the Law Office of Thomas P. Cate. Seconded by Alderman Castro. Discussion. Vote: FOR motion-Aldermen Cortez, Castro and Reyna. Alderman Cate abstained. Motion carried.

CONSIDER AND ACT UPON QUOTES RECEIVED ON PUBLIC WORKS TRUCKS
Public Works Director James McGrath told Council of the quotes Matt Dear had gotten on the truck for the Public Works Department. They were as follows:
2021 Ford Super Cab - $29,225.00 and
2 - 2021 F250 Ford Regular Cab - $70,099.20.

The City Secretary told Council that $82,000.00 had been budgeted for these trucks, so the budget would need to be amended. Alderman Cortez made the motion that Council approve the purchase of these trucks be approved as quoted and the budget be amended. Seconded by Alderman Castro. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER AND ACT UPON STARTING WORK ON STREET IMPROVEMENTS’ PROJECT
Mayor Gonzalez told Council that they should start looking at city streets and that Alderman Cate is the liaison for streets. Alderman Cate asked Council’s permission to proceed with this project and asked that each Council member identify the worse streets in their district. Council discussed some of the streets needing improvements and then Alderman Cortez made the motion that Council start work and have a sample RFP. Seconded by Alderman Castro. Discussion. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER AND ACT UPON APPOINTING COMMITTEE TO RESEARCH GRANTS AVAILABLE FOR SIDEWALKS
Mayor Gonzalez asked Alderman Cate about the need for sidewalks. Alderman Cate told Council about this need and the possibility of getting a grant. He asked Council to allow him to walk with Alderwoman Reyna. Alderman Cate made the motion that Council allow
Alderwoman Reyna to walk with Alderman Cate to research sidewalks. Seconded by Alderwoman Reyna. Passed unanimously.

Minutes of Regular Meeting held January 11, 2021-page 7

UPDATE ON APPROVED KENNEL IMPROVEMENTS
Animal Control Director Santiago Morantez gave Council an update on the kennel improvements and said that Shor-line was telling him it would take 23-25 weeks before they can get the kennels done. Since this item was not listed as an action on the agenda, no action was taken.

CONSIDER AND ACT UPON AWARDING 2020 DANIEL J. MCGRATH, D.V.M. CITIZENSHIP AWARD
Mayor Gonzalez asked for nominations for the Annual Citizenship Award. Alderman Castro told Council he did not have a nominee. Alderman Cortez nominated Mark Bowen for his 26 plus years of service to the city. Alderman Stone also had sent word that he wanted to nominate Mark Bowen. Alderwoman Reyna nominated Larry Sanders and Polly Gonzalez and VFW Post #12041 and read their accomplishments. Alderman Cate said he would go along with Mark Bowen’s nomination. Mayor Gonzalez nominated Mark Lovelace and read his accomplishments to Council. After discussion, Alderwoman Reyna made the motion that Council award the Citizenship Award to VFW Post #12041, Larry Sanders and Polly Gonzalez. Motion died for lack of a second. Alderman Cortez made the motion that Council award the Annual Citizenship Award to Mark Bowen. Seconded by Alderman Castro. Vote: FOR motion-Aldermen Cortez, Castro and Cate; AGAINST motion-Alderwoman Reyna. Motion carried.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS
Alderwoman Reyna told Council she would like to look at the criteria for the Citizenship Award at the next Council meeting.

Mayor Gonzalez informed Council that the appraise of the office building purchased for the Medina CAD was that high because it was owned by the county and was off the tax roll for years.

The Mayor told Council that Martin Gonzalez of the Atascosa County Historical Commission is looking for info.

The Mayor told Council to keep track of the boys and girls basketball teams, as they are having great season.

Alderwoman Reyna made the motion that the meeting be adjourned at 11:45 p.m. Seconded by Alderman Castro. Passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 11:45 p.m.