Minutes of Regular Meeting held on November 8, 2021

Regular meeting with the following present: Mayor Ruben Gonzalez; Aldermen Joseph Morrow, Sam Cortez, David Emery, Charles Cate; City Secretary Josie Campa; Public Works Director James McGrath; Police Captain Frank Reyes; Police Officer David Lopez; Animal Control Director Santiago Morantéz; Library Director Cassandra Cortez; City Attorney Tom Cate.


CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
Mayor Gonzalez opened the meeting at 6:30 p.m. and led everyone in the pledge to the flag.

VISITORS’/CITIZENS’ COMMENTS
Jarrod Tomassi from Lake Shore Drive told Council he moved to Lytle in July and questioned what the city is doing about the National Border Crisis. Mayor Gonzalez told Mr. Tomassi that the city is keeping an eye on this situation and that Emergency Management is working with the police department. Police Captain Reyes told Mr. Tomassi that there have been only three (3) incidents in Lytle.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF MINUTES
Alderman Morrow asked that the comment made about Vic’s Cocina be added to the October 12th minutes. Alderman Cate made the motion that Council approve the minutes of the October 4th workshop, the October 25th regular meeting and October 28th emergency meeting be approved, as presented, and the October 12th regular meeting minutes be approved, as amended. Seconded by Alderman Emery. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF CITY ATTORNEY’S MONTHLY BILL
Alderman Cortez made the motion that Council approve the City Attorney’s bill for October, 2021. Seconded by Alderman Morrow. VOTE: For motion Alderman Cortez, Morrow and Emery. Alderman Cate abstained. Motion carried.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF PAYMENT OF BILLS
Alderman Emery made the motion that Council approve payment of the bills presented. Seconded by Alderman Cortez. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER AND ACT UPON VARIANCE FOR VISTA BELLA SUBDIVISION PLAT REQUIREMENT THAT LOTS FRONT ON PUBLIC STREET
Alderman Morrow made the motion that Council grant the variance requested by Mr. Keller. Seconded by Alderman Cortez. Passed unanimously.
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CONSIDER AND ACT UPON VARIANCES REQUESTED BY PAPE-DAWSON ENGINERS FOR ROSEWOOD ESTATES FOR SECTIONS 36.104 (A) (LOT SIZES) OF THE CITY’S CODE OF ORDINANCES
Alderman Cate made the motion that Council accept the recommendation from the Zoning Commission and grant the variance requested by Pape-Dawson for Rosewood Estates. Seconded by Alderman Emery. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER AND ACT UPON APPOINTMENT TO THE MEDINA COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT’S BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Alderman Cortez made the motion that Council give all of the city’s votes to Cindy Segovia for the Medina County Appraisal’s Board of Directors. Seconded by Alderman Morrow. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER AND ACT UPON ADDRESSING WATER DISTRIBUTION LINE ON WISDOM ROAD-ALDERMAN CATE
Alderman Cate made the motion that this item needs to be considered since the bid exceeds the $20,000.00 and requires an engineer to draw up specs. Seconded by Alderman Morrow. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER AND ACT UPON ADOPTING NEW USE OF FORCE POLICY FOR LYTLE POLICE DEPARTMENT
Alderman Cortez made the motion that Council approve the new “Use of Force” policy presented by Police Captain Reyes. Seconded by Alderman Emery. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER AND ACT UPON WHETHER TO HOLD SECOND MEETING IN NOVEMBER AND MEETINGS IN DECEMBER DUE TO HOLIDAYS
Alderman Emery made the motion that the Council not schedule the second meeting in November and December but leave option for special called meetings. Seconded by Alderman Morrow. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER AND ACT UPON PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO 2021-2022 FY BUDGET
Alderman Morrow made the motion that Council approve the proposed amendments to the 2021-2022 FY budget as presented by the City Secretary. Seconded by Alderman Cortez. Passed unanimously.

UPDATE ON STREET PAVING PROJECT
City Secretary Josie Campa told Council that Public Works Director James McGrath had gotten the streets measured and that she would be preparing the ad for calling for bids on the street improvement project.

UPDATE ON INSTALLATION OF 25 MPH SIGNS
Public Works Director James McGrath told Council that they have put up one sign near the Taco Bell, and that he is waiting for material to be delivered so he can proceed with this project.
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UPDATE ON LAWSUIT FILED AGAINST CITY
Mayor Gonzalez announced at 7:40 p.m. that Council would go into closed session as allowed by Chapter 551.071 of the Government Code. The meeting was reopened at 7:49 p.m. and Mayor Gonzalez announced that no action had been taken by Council.

Council took a short break at 7:49 p.m. and reconvened at 8:01 p.m.

UPDATE ON COAL MINE EXIT
City Attorney Tom Cate gave Council an update on the Coal Mine exit project; and said the next step is to have the engineer take a look at it, as well as talking to the people about First Street and Hernandez Lane.

UPDATE AND DISCUSSION ON 2021 TxDOT TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES SIDEWALK GRANT-ALDERMAN CATE
Alderman Cate told Council that the city has been awarded grants from TxDOT totaling $1,534,837.00. He said the City would have to come up with a 20% match for these grants. He suggested in the Council meeting with the city’s financial consultants to discuss certificates of obligation. Alderman Cate told Council this project has to be done by June, 2024. Alderman Cate made the motion that this item be tabled until the city’s financial consultant can meet with Council to discuss matching funds. Seconded by Alderman Emery. Passed unanimously.

UPDATE ON WELL #4 CONSTRUCTION-ALDERMAN CATE
Alderman Cate asked for an update of the preconstruction conference for Well #4. Public Works Director James McGrath told Council that the contractor has 240 days and it will take approximately 180 days to get the material. He said the contractor will ask for 240 days if needed. Mr. McGrath said Peerless will do their work in 4 to 6 weeks and will be setting up immediately. The City Secretary agreed to send the minutes of the preconstruction conference to the Council.

REVIEW AND DISCUSS 2019 UTILITY INFRASTRUCTURE CAPACITY REPORT-ALDERMAN CATE
Alderman Cate made the motion that Council table this item until the financial advisor can advise Council on this matter. Seconded by Alderman Cortez. Passed unanimously.

DISCUSS AND CONSIDER RENAMING EASY STREET TO RUIZ-FOSTER WAY-ALDERMAN CATE
Alderman Cate made the motion that Council rename Easy Street to Ruiz-Foster Way. Seconded by Alderman Emery. Passed unanimously.
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DISCUSS AND CONSIDER ESTABLISHING A MUNICIPAL DRAINAGE UTILITY SYSTEM-ALDERMAN CATE
Alderman Cortez made the motion that Council consider establishing a Municipal Drainage Utility System. Seconded by Alderman Morrow. Passed unanimously.

DISCUSS AND ACT UPON AUTHORIZING THE CITY SECRETARY, OR THEIR DESIGNEE, THE ABILITY TO SUBMIT GRANT APPLICATIONS ON THE CITY OF LYTLE’S BEHALF-ALDERMAN CATE
Alderman Cate made the motion that Council table this item until after workshop is held. Seconded by Alderman Emery. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER AND ACT UPON ESTABLISHING A GRANT SUPPORT WORKSHOP
Alderman Emery made the motion that Council hold a workshop as soon as possible to discuss grants that are available. Seconded by Alderman Morrow. Passed unanimously.

INFORMATION ITEMS
Mayor Gonzalez reported on the following:
1 - change made to Medina County districts, so Lytle will now have 3 commissioners instead of 2, he also showed map of new districts;
2 - vaccination clinic being held November 19th at Horace Fincher Center;
3 - the siren at Coal Mine was installed and will be tested the 1st Wednesday of December;
4 - he and Public Works Director and Foreman will be attending seminar in Corpus to learn how to write the Preparedness Plan;
5 - trying to find a generator support company;
6 - Finance Director ad needs to be sent to Indeed;
7 - getting trailers lined up for hayride on December 4th;
8 - thanked people for work done on City’s parade float;
9 - homecoming parade had 62 entries;
10 - thanked the Police and Public Works departments for their help with the parade;
11 - ran out of pet food on distribution day;
12 - Veterans’ Day celebration will be at 9 am at the Elementary School;
13 - Library holding a Book Sale on Saturday;
14 - November birthdays include Melinda Flores and Alderman Cate;
15 - Cross country boys and girls were rated better than expected; and
16 - Council will be notified if city has celebration for Thanksgiving.

Alderman Emery made the motion that Council adjourn. Seconded by Alderman Cortez. Passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 9:53 p.m.