Minutes of Regular Meeting held December 13, 2021

Regular meeting with the following present: Mayor Ruben Gonzalez; Aldermen David Emery, Jerry Stone, Sam Cortez, Joseph Morrow, and Charles Cate via zoom; City Secretary Josie Campa; Fire Marshal Matt Dear; Police Chief Richard Priest, Public Works’ Director James McGrath; Police Officer David Lopez; Animal Control Director Santiago Morantez; Library Director Cassandra Cortez; City Attorney Tom Cate; Code Compliance Officer Scott Traeger.


CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
Mayor Gonzalez opened the regular meeting at 6:30 p.m. and led everyone in the pledge to the flag. He announced to everyone that Alderman Charles Cate was at the meeting via zoom.

VISITORS'/CITIZENS' COMMENTS
Atascosa County Commissioner Stuart Knowlton told everyone that due to Census 2020, Atascosa County has new voting precincts. He said that growth and population caused the changes to the precincts.

The Commissioner also told Council that the County Precinct’s yard will be moved from Poteet to next to the JP’ #2’s office.

Alderman Emery made the motion that Council move up Items #3A and #5A on the Agenda. Seconded by Alderman Cortez, Passed unanimously.

City Secretary Josie Campa read the Proclamation honoring the Lytle Lady Pirates Cross Country Team and Mayor Gonzalez presented each member with a framed copy of this proclamation.

The City Secretary then read the Proclamation honoring the Lytle Pirates’ Boy’s Cross Country Team and Mayor Gonzalez presented the seven members of this team with a framed copy of the Proclamation.

CONSIDER ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE APPROVING THE RENAMING OF EASY STREET TO RUIZ-FOSTER WAY
Alderman Emery made the motion that Council adopt the ordinance approving the renaming of Easy Street to Ruiz-Foster Way. Seconded by Alderman Cortez. Passed unanimously.
Minutes of Public Hearing during Regular Meeting-page 2

Public hearing with the following present during regular meeting: Mayor Ruben Gonzalez; Aldermen David Emery, Jerry Stone, Sam Cortez, Joseph Morrow, and Charles Cate via zoom; City Secretary Josie Campa; Fire Marshal Matt Dear; Police Chief Richard Priest, Public Works’ Director James McGrath; Police Officer David Lopez; Animal Control Director Santiago Morantez; Libray Director Cassandra Cortez; City Attorney Tom Cate; Code Compliance Officer Scott Traeger.


Mayor Gonzalez opened the public meeting at 6:55 p.m. and announced the purpose for the public hearing.

Since no one was present for this hearing, it was closed at 6:56 p.m.

Council then went back to regular agenda starting with Item #4A.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF MINUTES
Alderman Emery made the motion that Council approve the minutes of the November 8th regular meeting and December 7th public hearing, as presented. Seconded by Alderman Morrow. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF CITY ATTORNEY’S MONTHLY BILL
Alderman Cortez made the motion that Council approve the bill from City Attorney Tom Cate. Seconded by Alderman Emery. Vote: FOR motion-Alderman Cortez, Emery, Morrow and Stone. Alderman Cate abstained. Motion carried.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF PAYMENT OF BILLS
Alderman Stone made the motion that Council approve the bills, as amended by the City Secretary. Seconded by Alderman Morrow. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER AND ACT UPON REQUEST FOR VARIANCE FROM RAUSCH COLEMAN TO HAVE SALES TRAILER AT SADDLE RIDGE
Alderman Stone made the motion that Council grant the variance to Rausch Coleman for them to have a sales trailer at Saddle Ridge until first house is completed. Seconded by Alderman Emery. Vote: FOR motion-Aldermen Stone, Emery, Cortez and Morrow and AGAINST motion-Alderman Cate. Motion carried.
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CONSIDER AND ACT UPON RECOMMENDATION FROM THE MOBILE HOME COMMISSION ON REQUEST FROM ANTONIO SANCHEZ AND HOLLY PERKINS-SANCHEZ ON LIVE OAK STREET
Alderman Cortez made the motion that Council approve the recommendation from the Mobile Home Commission on the mobile home placement by Antonio Sanchez and Holly Perkins Sanchez. Seconded by Alderman Emery. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER AND ACT UPON PROPOSAL BY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE FOR PROCUREMENT, INSTALLATION AND MAINTENANCE OF A DIGITAL SIGN FOR CITY OF LYTLE
Brad Beazer and Pam Fintel, newly elected President and Vice-President of the Lytle Chamber of Commerce reviewed their proposal for a digital sign with Council. Alderman Stone made the motion that Council pursue this and get information needed to see if this will work. Seconded by Alderman Morrow. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER AND ACT UPON ARP MONIES LEFT OVER FOR SMALL BUSINESS GRANT PROGRAM-ALDERMAN EMERY
Alderman Emery made the motion that this item be tabled until Council gets more information on the previous item (digital sign). Seconded by Alderman Stone. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER ADVERTISING FOR PROPERTY MAINTENANCE BIDS
Alderman Cortez made the motion that Council have the City advertise for bids on all of the City properties from last year except for the Police Department. Seconded by Alderman Morrow. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER AND ACT UPON RESOLUTION FOR REDISTRICTING PLAN
Alderman Cortez made the motion that this item be tabled. Seconded by Alderman Stone. Passed unanimously.

Council took a short break at 8:09 p.m. and reconvened at 8:20 p.m.

CONSIDER AND ACT UPON BIDS RECEIVED FOR STREET IMPROVEMENTS
Alderman Stone made the motion that Council table this item until January’s meeting to allow for review of the apparent low bidder. Seconded by Alderman Emery. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER AND ACT UPON AUDITING FIRM FOR 2020-2021 FY
Alderman Stone made the motion that Council hire Armstrong, Vaughan and Associates to conduct the 2020-2021 audit provided the price stays the same at $30,000.00. Seconded by Alderman Cortez. Passed unanimously.
CONSIDER AND ACT UPON REQUEST TO ADVERTISE FOR A PART-TIME KENNEL TECH FOR ANIMAL CONTROL
Alderman Cortez made the motion that Council approve the request from the Animal Control Director to advertise for a part time kennel technician. Seconded by Alderman Morrow. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER AND ACT UPON APPOINTING LOCAL RABIES CONTROL AUTHORITY
Alderman Cortez made the motion that no action be taken on this item. Seconded by Alderman Emery. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER AND ACT UPON REQUEST TO APPROVE USE OF THE LYTLE COMMUNITY CENTER FOR LYTLE ANIMAL CONTROL’S MARCH 19, 2022 SPRING INDOOR YARD SALE STARTING WITH ACCESS FEBRUARY 28TH FOR SETTING UP
Alderman Emery made the motion that Council approve the request for use of the Community Center for the indoor yard sale for Animal Control. Seconded by Alderman Stone. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER AND ACT UPON EMPLOYMENT STATUS OF DAVID LOPEZ-APPOINTMENT AS FIRE INSPECTOR AS PER CITY FIRE CODE
Alderman Cortez made the motion that Council appoint David Lopez as a Fire Inspector as per Chief Priest’s recommendation. Seconded by Alderman Morrow. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER AND ACT UPON ADDITIONAL STREET LIGHTING FOR COAL MINE ENTRANCE AREA-ALDERMAN CORTEZ
Alderman Cortez made the motion that Council pursue additional street lighting for the Coal Mine entrance. Seconded by Alderman Stone. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER AND ACT UPON CLOSURE OF CR 6843
Alderman Cate made the motion that the city close the portion of CR 6843 that is in the city limits. Seconded by Alderman Emery. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER AND ACT UPON HIRING FINANCE DIRECTOR
Alderman Emery made the motion that Council invite LaNet Hester and Marion Governor to interview for the Finance Director position on Monday, December 20th. Seconded by Alderman Cortez. Passed unanimously.
CONSIDER AND ACT UPON GRAVITY FOR OBTAINING GENERATORS FOR USE DURING WINTER STORMS
Alderman Stone made the motion that the city use Gravity for obtaining generators for use during a winter storm. Seconded by Alderman Morrow. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER AND ACT UPON REPAIRING WATER LINE ON WISDOM ROAD AT CREEK
Alderman Stone made the motion that Council rescind the motion made at a prior meeting. Seconded by Alderman Emery. Passed unanimously.

Alderman Stone made the motion that Council approve the proposal from Cruz Construction as long as it is under $20,000.00. Seconded by Alderman Emery. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER AND ACT UPON ELIGIBILITY AND NOMINATION FOR ANNUAL CITIZENSHIP AWARD
Alderman Cate made the motion that Council table this item until the first regular meeting in January. Seconded by Alderman Morrow. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER AND ACT UPON SETTING A DATE IN JANUARY FOR GRANT WORKSHOP
Alderman Cate made the motion that Council hold a grant workshop on January 5th. Seconded by Alderman Emery. Passed unanimously.

DISCUSS AND APPOINT A RESPONSIBLE PERSON IN CHARGE (RPIC) FROM THE CITY OF LYTLE FOR TxDOT 2021 TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVE SIDEWALK GRANT-ALDERMAN CATE
Alderman Cate made the motion that Matt Dear be appointed to be the person in charge from the city for the TxDOT 2021 TA Sidewalk Grant. Seconded by Alderman Morrow. Passed unanimously.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS
Police Chief Richard Priest told Council the school would be holding a bonfire on December 16th.

City Secretary Josie Campa told Council that Virginia Medina had given her two weeks notice.

Mayor Gonzalez reported on the following:

1 - TxDOT project on IH 35 access roads will start in January;
2 - truck stop plans being pushed through TxDOT;
INFORMATIONAL ITEMS (CONT.)
3 - Congressman Cuellar’s office announced that there will be a lot of money available in the next couple of years for rural cities and if the city goes to Congressman Cuellar with a list of projects his office will work with the city and that a total of sixty-five billion dollar will be available for Texas;
4 - TxDOT informed the city that a turn lane would be added in front of city hall;
5 - City Attorney is reviewing new agreement with TxDOT;
6 - Boys’ Basketball team ranked 15th in State;
7 - more Covid Clinics will be setup;
8 - Covid numbers have gone up;
9 - thanked Public Works Department, City Hall Staff, City Secretary, NHS, VFW Auxiliary, Police Department for work done with Christmas decorations and hayride;
10 - asked for special prayers for people in states and cities hit by tornadoes; and
11 - wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy Holiday.

Alderman Emery made the motion that the meeting be adjourned. Seconded by Alderman Cortez. Passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 10:06 p.m.