MINUTES
CITY OF LYTLE
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
AUGUST 14, 2023

CALL TO ORDER
Mayor Ruben Gonzalez called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM

ROLL CALL
Mayor Ruben Gonzalez, Alderman Miguel Aguirre, Alderman Richard Hughes, Alderman Michael Rodriguez, and Alderman Charles Cate were present.

Alderman David Emery was absent.

Staff Present: City Administrator Matthew Dear, City Secretary Paola Rios, Finance Director LaNet Hester, Animal Control Director Santiago Morantez, Police Chief Richard Priest, Public Works Director James McGrath, Library Director Cassandra Cortez, and City Attorney Jessie Lopez.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE UNITED STATES FLAG
Led by Mayor Ruben Gonzalez

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD
No citizens to be heard.

PRESENTATION OF POLICE CHIEF COMMENDATION TO THREE (3) POLICE OFFICERS

   i. Chief Priest presented Sgt. David Lopez with the Police Chief Commendation by taking initiative on the trading of 47 old firearms and got 14 brand new Glock 9 millimeters with optical sights with a total of $12K worth of items that were traded.

   ii. Chief Priest presented Ofc. Roger Garcia with the Police Chief Commendation on patrolling by Trophy Buck and notices a vehicle parked way at the back by Big Tex Trailers where they should not be. He makes 3 arrests for Felony Theft in Progress.

   iii. Chief Priest presented Ofc. Luis Diaz and Sgt. David Lopez with the Police Chief Commendation on a disturbance that officers were dispatched on a Domestic Mental Health Crisis. While outside, a gunshot is heard and the officers spring into action and force themselves into the house and confront the person that was armed with a handgun. There were two potential victims in the house one disabled adult male
and a female. Officers use extreme restrain, recover the weapon from the suspect and took the person in for a mental health evaluation.

CONSENT AGENDA

Approval of Minutes

i. Alderman Michael Rodriguez made the motion, seconded by Alderman Richard Hughes to approve the minutes of July 10, 2023. A vote was taken (4:0 all ayes) the motion carried by all present.

ii. Alderman Michael Rodriguez made the motion, seconded by Alderman Charles Cate to approve the minutes of July 24, 2023. A vote was taken (4:0 all ayes) the motion carried by all present.

Approval of Payment of Bills

i. Alderman Charles Cate made the motion, seconded by Alderman Michael Rodriguez to table the item. A vote was taken (4:0 all ayes) the motion carried by all present.

OPEN SESSION – ACTION ITEMS

a. Consider and Act upon city’s donation of Hotel-Motel Tax Revenue to the Lytle VFW in the amount of $10,000.

   i. A motion was made by Alderman Michael Rodriguez, seconded by Alderman Miguel Aguirre to direct staff to work with the VFW and come back on the first meeting in September with the plan. A vote was taken (4:0 all ayes) the motion carried by all present.

b. Consider and Act upon request by Lytle VFW to the city for possible support and donation to the Patriot Day Freedom Walk for the cost of entertainment and event activities.

   i. A motion was made by Alderman Charles Cate, seconded by Alderman Michael Rodriguez to approve the item. After further discussion, Alderman Charles Cate amended his motion, seconded by Alderman Michael Rodriguez to fund $4,000 to the VFW from the Hot Tax Money subject to qualification. A vote was taken (4:0 all ayes) the motion carried by all present.

   Alderman Charles Cate made the motion, seconded by Alderman Michael Rodriguez that item 7 be moved to the top. A vote was taken (4:0 all ayes) the motion carried by all present.

c. Discuss and Act upon developing plan(s) for upgrading and improving the city’s roads and streets to accommodate future development.

   i. A motion was made by Alderman Charles Cate, seconded by Alderman Michael Rodriguez to direct City Administrator to send the application and come back to council and see if we can file for the RCP Grant. After further discussion, a vote was taken (4:0 all ayes) the motion carried by all present.

d. Consider and Act upon Authorizing City Administrator to renew the Certificate of Deposit – Wanjura Center Fund (Account No. ending in 2486) at Lytle State Bank with the funds totaling $150,145.60.

   i. A motion was made by Alderman Michael Rodriguez, Seconded by Alderman Charles Cate to approve the item. After further discussion, a vote was taken (4:0 all ayes) the motion carried by all present.

e. Consider and Act upon Ordinance #23-07 for Saddle Ridge Estates Phase 2 & 5 establishing enforcement of stop signs, setting the speed limit, accepting street names, and adding streets to the City Map.

   i. A motion was made by Alderman Charles Cate, seconded by Alderman Michael Rodriguez to approve the item. A vote was taken (4:0 all ayes) the motion was carried by all present.
City Council took a break at 7:53 p.m.

City Council reconvened at 8:07 p.m.

f. Consider and Act upon authorizing and setting timetable for transfer of Matthew Dear as City Administrator to Lytle Police Department Captain and to proceed with the hiring procedures and job listing to hire a new city administrator.
   i. A motion was made by Alderman Charles Cate, seconded by Alderman Miguel Aguirre to approve the item pending until we find a replacement. After further discussion, Alderman Charles Cate amended his motion seconded by Alderman Miguel Aguirre to add that council reviews all applications as they come in to decide on the hiring. A vote was taken (4:0 all ayes) the motion carried by all present.

g. Discuss and Possible Action on the City Council’s Top Three “Out of Budget” priorities for the proposed 2023-24 budget.
   i. A motion was made by Alderman Michael Rodriguez, seconded by Alderman Richard Hughes to take the items as presented and to collect and tabulate. After further discussion, a vote was taken (4:0 all ayes) the motion carried by all present.

h. Consider and Act upon authorizing city administrator to enter into Telecommunications License Agreement with AirCanopy Internet Services, Inc. dba Rise Broadband.
   i. A motion was made by Alderman Michael Rodriguez, Seconded by Alderman Charles Cate to approve the item. After further discussion, a vote was taken (4:0 all ayes) the motion carried by all present.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

a. Santiago Morantez reviewed his Animal Control’s Report in a power point presentation.
b. Cassandra Cortez reviewed her Library Director’s Report in a power point presentation.
c. James McGrath reviewed his Public Works Director’s Report in a power point presentation.
d. Richard Priest reviewed his Police Chief’s Report in a power point presentation.

ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM CITY COUNCIL AND CITY STAFF

1. Matthew stated we need a special meeting for next Monday August 21, 2023, for the Budget.
2. Special thanks to Public Works for several projects that have come up.
3. Thanked PD
4. Fire Dept. with brush fires
5. Thanked City Hall with the budget.
6. Thanked Cassandra with the Summer Reading, mayor had great feedback.
7. Thanked Paola and Lytle PD on the Convocation.
8. Thanked Soto and Gracie for the 110 kids that were taken cared of at the back-to-school haircut event.
9. Shops of Lytle are up and running again, still bringing in more vendors.
10. Outreach Fair and Farmers Market will be this week on Thursday 10 am to 2 pm at the Community Center.
11. Senior Luncheon on Thursday at 12 pm.
12. Update on TxDOT, they opened the road when they said they were going to open, the frontage road still waiting on the contractor to bore.
13. Special prayer for Mr. Cate
14. We had Alga Mae proclamation for her 90th birthday, Chris Public Works on the 5th and Luis on the 13th and Paola on the 16th.
15. Please support our Pirates

ADJOURNMENT
Alderman Charles Cate made the motion, seconded by Alderman Richard Hughes to adjourn the meeting at 9:20 p.m. A vote was taken (4:0 all ayes) the motion carried by all present.

ATTEST:

[Signature]
Ruben Gonzalez Mayor  9/11/23
Name / Title

[Signature]
Paola L. Rios City Secretary  9/11/23
Name / Title

Date