

Minutes of Special Meeting held February 17, 2015

Special meeting with the following present: Mayor Mark Bowen; Aldermen Jerry Stone; Ruble Farmer and Ward Sanders; City Secretary Josie Campa; Director of Public Works James McGrath; Animal Control Director Betty Kroeger; Police Chief Richard Priest; Library Director Cassandra Cortez; City Attorney Tom Cate. Aldermen Kevin Keith and Sam Cortez were absent.

Visitors: Eddie Bogard, Rudy Ruiz, Philip Ruiz, Ernie Kroeger.

CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Bowen opened the meeting at 6:30 p.m. and led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENTATION BY TRC ENGINEER(S) ON CITY'S WATER SYSTEM

Eddie Bogard gave a presentation on the city's water system and gave Council members a map showing the city's water lines and discussed the city's need to replace several lines. Mr. Bogard suggested the city have more lines designed for a project and bid it out to see how many of the lines can be done.

Mr. Bogard passed around the sample from Water Well #3, and said the sample was tested and it is crude oil. He said the next step is to put the pump back in and televise the well while it is being pumped and then test it again. He said this procedure will cost about \$25,000.00. Mr. Bogard told Council there might be a way to get grant funds under "urgent need".

CONSIDER AND ACT UPON ADOPTING A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF A TEXAS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM APPLICATION TO THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ACT AS THE CITY'S EXECUTIVE OFFICER IN ALL MATTERS PERTAINING TO THIS APPLICATION

Alderman Stone made the motion that Council adopt the resolution authorizing the submission of a grant for water system improvements. Seconded by Alderman Sanders. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER AND ACT UPON ORDERING OF ADDITIONAL STREET LIGHTS

The City Secretary gave Council a list of twelve (12) areas needing street lights. After discussion, Alderman Sanders made the motion that these lights and the one presented at the February 9th meeting (N. Benton @ Laredo) be approved. Seconded by Alderman Farmer. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER AND ACT UPON CONTRACT FOR RENOVATIONS AT JOHN LOTT MUNICIPAL PARK

City Attorney Tom Cate told Council that the list of items he had questioned in the contract for the park renovations had been reviewed and Crownhill Builders, the contractor is okay with all except one of the items. Mr. Cate told Council that the city will need to be responsible for the cost of testing, and it will be cheaper this way. Alderman Sanders made the motion that Council accept the contract addendums. Seconded by Alderman Stone. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER AND ACT UPON EVALUATIONS OF DEPARTMENT HEADS

Mayor Bowen announced that Council would discuss evaluations with each of the department heads.

Mayor Bowen announced at 7:42 p.m. that Council would go into closed session as allowed by Chapter 551.074 Subchapter D of the Government Code to discuss the evaluation of Betty Kroeger. The Mayor reopened the meeting at 9:09 p.m. and announced that Council had discussed the evaluation of Betty Kroeger and no action was taken.

Mayor Bowen announced at 9:09 p.m. that Council would go into closed session as allowed by Chapter 551.074 Subchapter D of the Government Code to discuss the evaluation of Cassandra Cortez. The Mayor reopened the meeting at 9:45p.m. and announced that Council had discussed the evaluation of Cassandra Cortez and no action was taken.

Mayor Bowen announced at 9:45 p.m. that Council would go into closed session as allowed by Chapter 551.074 Subchapter D of the Government Code to discuss the evaluation of James McGrath. The Mayor reopened the meeting at 10:34 p.m. and announced that Council had discussed the evaluation of James McGrath and no action was taken.

Mayor Bowen announced at 10:34 p.m. that Council would go into closed session as allowed by Chapter 551.074 Subchapter D of the Government Code to discuss the evaluation of Richard Priest. The Mayor reopened the meeting at 11:26 p.m. and announced that Council had discussed the evaluation of Richard Priest and no action was taken.

Mayor Bowen announced at 11:26 p.m. that Council would go into closed session as allowed by Chapter 551.074 Subchapter D of the Government Code to discuss the evaluation of Josie Campa. The Mayor reopened the meeting at 12:12 a.m. and announced that Council had discussed the evaluation of Josie Campa and no action was taken.

The meeting adjourned at 12:13 a.m.