

MINUTES OF APRIL 8, 2024, REGULAR MEETING

On this, the 8th day of April 2024, beginning at 6:00 p.m., the City Council convened in regular session in the City Council Room. The meeting being open to the public and notice of said meeting having been given as prescribed by Chapter 51 of the Government Code with the following being present and in attendance to wit:

Mayor Joe Davis, Council Members Ed Bailey, Jill Cromwell, C.W. Ivey, Leslie Ivy and Mollie Moffitt. Employees present were City Secretary Cindy Woodard, Public Works Director Junior Casas, Fireman Nick Narvaez, Police Chief Rex Plant, Librarian Jackie Owens and Water Clerk Marla Green. Others present were Evelyne Cantu, Linda Parker, Monte Rogers, David Tarrant, Llyod Roberts and Viki Woodard.

Absent: Ray Dickson, Melisa McIntosh and Woody Richardson

CALL TO ORDER AND INVOCATION

Mayor Davis called the regular meeting to order and noted a quorum present. He welcomed all in attendance and asked Alderwoman Cromwell to voice the invocation. The following items were presented.

PUBLIC COMMENT

David Tarrant commented the Sportsman Club would be hosting a second bow shoot this year sometime in the fall.

Jackie Ownes voiced her concern about the timeline on a postcard she had received regarding her property needing to be mowed. She received it the day after the deadline to mow and feels they should give consideration for the time it takes the post office to deliver mail.

Viki Woodard stated she appreciated whoever tagged the truck in front of her house. It has been removed.

APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

The consent agenda items were presented for approval: the regular meeting minutes from March 11, 2024, accept collections and pay expenditures for March 2024, quarterly investment report ending March 31, 2024. Alderman Bailey moved to approve the consent agenda items, seconded by Alderwoman Moffitt. The vote was unanimous in favor.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS ON MONTHLY ACTIVITIES

Librarian Jackie Owens reported she is working with Austin Elementary for the summer reading program. They only had three kids attend last year since there was no summer school, but hope to have more this year. She reported the library meeting room was not listed in the new Welcome Guide under meeting facilities and suggested they add it to the next publication.

Municipal Court Judge David Aleman was absent but his written report was presented.

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Public Works Director Junior Casas reported they have been working on cleaning alleys and fixing leaks. He has spoken with Josh Talley at the Housing Authority and he has ordered the materials to build the fence around the dumpsters on Berry Avenue. Once they come in, the crew will begin work to put up the fence. They have plans to finish the clean-up of the other two city properties. Once done, the loader will have to go into the shop for repairs.

Fireman Nick Narvaez presented his written report to the council. He reported Omega Electronics came and fixed the system so that dispatch can set off the fire sirens if needed. A new water tanker was purchased by the department and they are getting it ready for use.

Police Chief Rex Plant presented his written report. He requested the department participate in a new Tango Tango System for telephone communications and had Sheriff Deputy Dave Thomas explain how it works. The request would be put on the agenda next month for consideration.

City Secretary Woodard reported there are two cd's that are maturing this year and the interest rate is better in the checking account. She plans to move the cd upon maturity and use the funds to assist in the water line relocation project on Noel Street. The first bill from Parkhill is for \$30,000 is now due. The reimbursement process will not begin until the project starts in the fall, but the city can borrow against the two cd's until that time.

OLD BUSINESS

MOTION TO REMOVE TABLED ITEM FROM THE TABLE

Alderman Cromwell moved to remove the tabled item from the table, seconded by Alderman Ivy. The vote was unanimous in favor.

CONSIDER UPDATES TO CITY PARK CODE ARTICLE 10.02 DIVISION 3 PARK HOURS

Police Chief Plant presented the updated park code wording and rules for the RV Park. Alderman Ivy moved to approve the changes and RV Park rules as presented, seconded by Alderman Cromwell. The vote was unanimous in favor.

NEW BUSINESS

CONSIDER REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE FROM HOTEL OCCUPANCY TAXES FOR THE MEMPHIS COUNTRY CLUB MEMORIAL DAY TOURNAMENT

Evelyn Cantu with the Memphis Country Club presented their request for assistance from the hotel occupancy taxes for their annual tournament in May. They had 64 teams last year and anticipate having 72 this year. The request is for \$4,000. Alderman Ivy moved to approve \$4,000 from the hotel occupancy taxes for the Memphis Country Club for their Memorial Day tournament, seconded by Alderman Moffitt. The motion passed with four votes in favor. Alderman Bailey abstained from voting.

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CONSIDER REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE FROM HOTEL OCCUPANCY TAXES TO ROLLING PLAINS SPORTSMAN CLUB

David Tarrant with the Rolling Plains Sportsman Club presented a request for assistance with their annual bow shoot the first weekend in May. They spent \$1,200 getting their liability insurance and \$1,000 on targets. Alderman Bailey moved to approve \$2,200 from the hotel occupancy taxes for the Rolling Plains Sportsman Club Annual Bow Shoot, seconded by Alderwoman Ivy. The vote was unanimous in favor.

CONSIDER NEW LEASE AGREEMENT WITH ROLLING PLAINS SPORTSMAN CLUB

The council discussed what needs to be in the new lease. Alderman Bailey moved to table this item to the next meeting, seconded by Alderman Ivey. The vote was unanimous in favor.

RATIFY HIRING PART-TIME SUMMER EMPLOYEE

Public Works Director Casas reported he has hired Rolando Torres as summer help this year. Alderwoman Cromwell moved to ratify hiring Rolando Torres as part-time summer help, seconded by Alderwoman Moffitt. The vote was unanimous in favor.

APPROVE INCREASE IN HOURLY PAY FOR ELECTION JUDGE AND CLERKS

City Secretary Woodard reported the county is now paying \$12.00 an hour and she would like to increase the hourly wage from \$10.00 to \$12.00 to be in line with the county. Alderman Bailey moved to approve the increase in hourly pay for election judges and clerks to \$12.00 per hour, seconded by Alderwoman Cromwell. The vote was unanimous in favor.

CONSIDER ESTIMATE FROM HOUSING AUTHORITY TO CONSTRUCT FENCE

Alderwoman Ivy reported this item has been resolved and to remove it from the agenda.

CONSIDER AWARDING BID FOR ANNUAL MOWING CONTRACT FOR VIOLATIONS OF CITY CODE

City Secretary Woodard reported no bids were received so the city would proceed as they had in the past. Each yard is advertised for bids when the owner does not mow. No action was taken.

CONSIDER ACCEPTING SEALED BIDS ON SURPLUS CITY EQUIPMENT

The following bids were received on surplus equipment:

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1980 Fire Truck: \$800.00 from Wade & Christopher Pepper

Golf Cart: \$150.55 from Christopher Pepper
\$20.00 from Christopher Rocha
\$200.00 from Rex Plant

Utility cargo trailer: \$50.00 from Chris Rocha
\$500.00 from Rex Plant

Alderman Bailey moved to accept the \$800.00 bid on the fire truck, \$200.00 bid on the golf cart and the \$500.00 bid on the cargo trailer, seconded by Alderwoman Ivy. The vote was unanimous in favor.

DISCUSS STREET TURN AROUND ISSUES ON SOUTH 7TH

Police Chief Plant reported they have complaints for the Fosters who live on South 7th that people are turning around in their driveway because there is no outlet. Public Works Director Casas explained that street was never developed and there is a sign posted warning drivers there is no outlet. No action was taken.

CONSIDER PROPOSAL FOR MEMPHIS POLICE DEPARTMENT VEHICLE STORAGE FACILITY

Chief Plant presented his proposal to make a vehicle storage facility where the old ag farm is at the landfill. Alderwoman Ivy moved to table this item to follow up with the attorney and insurance company, seconded by Alderman Ivey. The vote was unanimous in favor.

CONSIDER ORDINANCE 694 ADOPTING THE UPDATED ANIMAL CONTROL FEES

City Secretary Woodard reported the fees had been approved but not formally adopted and the City Attorney was still working on the Ordinance. Alderman Bailey moved to table this item to the next meeting, seconded by Alderwoman Ivy. The vote was unanimous in favor.

CONSIDER AUTHORIZING VENDOR DIRECT DEPOSIT FOR WATER BILL PAYMENTS

City Secretary Woodard reported Birdsong Peanuts is wanting to be able to directly deposit their water bill into our bank account monthly. The current policy to pay water bills allows the city to draft from a customer's account. She does not recommend allowing a direct deposit from a customer. Alderwoman Ivy moved to not move forward on this, seconded by Alderwoman Cromwell. The vote was unanimous in favor.

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REVIEW & RE-ENFORCE TRESPASSING LAWS

Mayor Davis discussed the issues in our country with states having problems with squatters. He wants the council to be aware of the trespassing laws. It was suggested we give tips to our citizens to protect themselves and possibly have this information in our next newsletter.

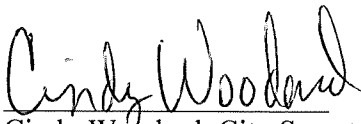
MAYOR AND COUNCIL ITEMS OF COMMUNITY INTEREST

Alderman Ivey had no comments. Alderwoman Moffitt reported this would be her last meeting and she has enjoyed being on the council. She stated the city has a really good group of employees and we really need to take care of them. Alderman Bailey thanked Mollie for her service. He is also glad the Police Chief is still here. Alderwoman Ivy thanked Mollie and everyone for all that they do. She reported driving around town and the cleanup is starting to take form. She was impressed on how good the city is looking. Alderwoman Cromwell thanked Mollie for her service. She reported the cleanup committee worked and they are getting results. She thanked everyone for what they do. Mayor Davis reported he checked into the State of Texas Main Street project and really didn't get an official answer. He is waiting for more information. He is working with Junior on better pothole materials. He thanked everyone for serving on the city council. He thanked Police Chief Plant and reported he is hearing good things about our police department.

ADJOURN

Alderman Bailey moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Alderwoman Ivy. The vote was unanimous in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 8:03 p.m.

Approved: 
Joe Davis, Mayor

Attest: 
Cindy Woodard, City Secretary