

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
OF THE GOVERNING BODY OF
THE CITY OF BLANCO**

June 12th, 2018

6:00 p.m.

308 Pecan Street, Byars Building Blanco, Texas

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Blanco, Texas was held on June 12, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Byers Building, 308 Pecan Street, Blanco, Texas.

Mayor Martha Herden called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. announcing that a quorum was present, followed by the roll call and the Pledge of Allegiance. Councilmembers present were: Martha Gosnell, Keith McClellan, Martin Saucedo, Tony Vela and Matt Lewis.

City staff present: City Secretary Wendy Patterson, Public Works Director Ronnie Rodriguez and Police Chief Mike Ritchey.

Mayor Comments:

Mayor Herden introduced Wendy Patterson who has been hired as the new City Secretary/Finance Director.

Ronnie Rodriguez, Public Works Director, gave a brief overview of the Stage 1 water restrictions currently in place per Canyon Lake Water Supply (CLWS). Stage 1 requires that the City Agencies must adhere to the regulations of no non-essential use of water by City employees. Phase One is a voluntary phase for the community members. CLWS has expressed that they will most likely enter a Phase 2 water restriction in the near future and at that time the City will upgrade their restrictions to follow suit. Information regarding the Stage 1 restrictions may be found on the City of Blanco website at CityofBlanco.com.

The Mayor stated that Tractor Supply is making tremendous progress at their site and it has caused great interest by the Citizens of Blanco. Ronnie Stearman, General Manager, has stated that Tractor Supply is looking forward to being a part of the community and engaging in FFA, 4H and other community programs.

Lavender Festival was successful and the BPD stated it went well.

Public Comments:

Diana Gonzalez, Pedernales Electric Co-op (PEC). June 23, 2018 is their annual business meeting and she would like to invite members out to take part in their birthday celebration of 80 years as well as become involved in the Co-op, as it is member owned by customers and operated through a democratic control. The meeting will be held at the Smithson Valley High School. Members in Districts one (1), six (6), and seven (7) are urged to vote for District

Directors. Ms. Gonzalez further stated that there would be drawings for gifts to include a Cub Cadet zero radius lawn mower, ten (10) \$150.00 bill credits, and a theater system. There will also be a mad science presentation, activities, and the annual business meeting to begin at 10:30 a.m. Voting is allowed until June 15, 2018 and any person from Blanco who is eligible has received information for voting.

Mayor Herden consulted with the Council about moving item #11 of the Business Agenda to the forefront at this time due to a scheduling conflict of one of the speakers. The Council members unanimously agreed that this would be acceptable.

Business Agenda: Consider, discuss and take appropriate action on the following:

Discuss and consider action on agreement with Blanco ISD regarding Police School Resource Officer.

Chief Ritchie presented that the Blanco ISD and he have been in discussions regarding adding funds to the BISD budget for a School Resource Officer (SRO) to be assigned to the schools next year. Superintendent Rosenbaum expressed that one of the things on his mind has been safety of staff and students and he has spoken with the Police Chief and School Board member Joe Hernandez regarding this. School Board member Mr. Hernandez has included in the proposed budget, to add an SRO to cover the cost of a resource officer for the school year as well as additional safety measures. The ISD would pay salary and benefits for the officer for the 9-month school year with the City picking up three months to round out a year. Discussion ensued on policies and procedures.

MOTION: Councilmember Vela moved to continue forward with an agreement for an SRO Officer with the Blanco ISD. Seconded by Councilmember Lewis. Motion carried unanimously.

Return to Public Comments:

Mr. Boatright stated that the issue regarding the property located at 206 4th Street has gone on long enough. He reminded the Council that they voted to deny an application to zone the property as mixed use in November 2017 and should stick to that vote.

Ms. Moore regarding 2016 4th Street: This has been before council for more than 6 months and she feels that most people have been asleep and that this should have been taken care of in the first meeting. She implores that we get the maps and code correct so that we do not have issues such as this in the future.

Consent Agenda:

MOTION: Councilmember Gosnell moved to table to the approval of the April 10th meeting minutes to the next regular scheduled meeting. Seconded by Councilmember McClellan. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION: Councilmember Gosnell moved to approve the meeting minutes of January 9th, January 30th, February 16th, February 20th with correction, March 6th, March 13th, and April 2nd, 2018 meeting minutes. Seconded by Councilmember Vela. Motion Carried unanimously.

Business: Consider, discuss and take appropriate action on the following:

1. Nominate and select a new Mayor Pro Tem.

MOTION: Councilmember Vela moved to select Martin Saucedo as Mayor pro tem. Seconded by Councilmember Lewis. After brief discussion, the motion was returned to the table. Call was made to vote on the motion as presented by Councilmember Vela and seconded by Councilmember Lewis. Motion carried 3-2.

It was discussed and decided to discuss item #3 prior to item #2 as they are listed on the agenda. Councilmembers were all in agreement.

2. Discuss and take action on new job description for City Secretary/Finance Director.

Discussion was held on the job description and associated title to be assigned.

MOTION: Councilmember Lewis moved to table the discussion until the next regular scheduled meeting so that the Council may have more time to review and submit any changes. Seconded by Councilmember Vela. Motion carried 5-0.

3. Resolution No. 003 Appointing Wendy Patterson as City Secretary and Finance Director.

MOTION: Councilmember Lewis moved to appoint Wendy Patterson as City Secretary as job title may be amended. Seconded by Councilmember Vela. Motion carried 5-0.

4. Discuss and take action on new job description for City Secretary/Finance Director.

Discussion was held on the job description and associated title to be assigned.

MOTION: Councilmember Lewis moved to table the discussion until the next regular scheduled meeting so that the Council may have more time to review and submit any changes. Seconded by Councilmember Vela. Motion carried 5-0.

5. Discuss and take action on a request from Ron Faught to extend the approved existing hours for sales of peaches by 1 hour (5pm-6pm) on weekdays only, through the month of July.

MOTION: Councilmember McClellan moved to approve, Seconded by Councilmember Lewis. Discussion was held on typical sales time for vendors. It was noted that typically

food vendors are allowed to sell until 5pm. Motion to approve sales of peaches through July until 6 P.M. carried unanimously.

6. Discuss and take action on attorney findings regarding 206 4th Street. (*Request for rezoning to Commercial Services has been withdrawn*).

Mayor Herden explained that this issue has been before the Council for several months. Recently, minutes from 2013 were located that showed the Council at that time approved the property located at 206 4th Street to be mixed use property. The motion at that time was made by Al Turner and seconded by Danny Ray with the motion carrying unanimously. It appears through the minutes that there was little to no discussion at that time. Mayor Herden reiterated that based on the finding of the minutes from 2013, as well as legal counsel advice, there is no action to be taken on this matter as it is clear that the decision was made in 2013. An inquiry from a member of the public was made about the legality of the noticing of the meeting in 2013. Based on attorney findings and recollection of a member of the audience, the meeting was in fact legal and the decision binding

7. Discuss and Consider Action on Professional Services Agreement for Startup and operational support of the Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Jason Jones: City Engineer, spoke on the materials that had been distributed to the Council. Mr. Jones highlighted the contents of the packets.

- a. May 30th meeting with Texdot regarding drainage: suggestion that the City not agree to the financing proposal until it is mandate by Texdot or work together to see if a jointly funded project can be done.
- b. Wastewater plant permit. TCEQ has moved on notice of preliminary decision and notice should be placed in the paper soon. The notice will start a 45 day clock for public comment and a public meeting will be held. This is a request to discharge an additional amount to accommodate for growth. The City is presently working at about 70% of its allowance and an application for this now will prepare for expansion. There is potential for more meetings in the future.
- c. There is a reclaim water authorization on the table. The reason for this item is for resale of reclaimed water source. City would like to extend the program to the ETJ and they have filed with TECQ. Intent has not been filed yet but will be soon.
- d. FEMA project mgmt. for water plant. Payment for Peabody is due and has been approved to close out the file.
- e. Discussion was held on the amount of sludge that has been removed from one of the ponds. Approximately \$88,900.00 has been spent to date because the ponds had not been cleared in many years. Council has decided to table the discussion on the sludge removal at this time and readdress it further in the agenda order.
- f. Engineers has been seeking out an experienced person to assist with the new wastewater treatment facility on a part time basis while. The new system has many more rules and regulations with the discharge rates and sampling. It would

be of benefit to have an experienced person to assist in the navigation of the new system. Public Works Director Ronnie Rodriguez stated that he would like to have someone on hand, even if they are a phone call away to assist in the navigation of the new process' and procedures.

8. Discuss and Consider Action on Amendment No. 1 to the Wastewater Treatment Plant Sludge Removal Contract with Wastewater Transport Services. Because the sludge has remained in the ponds for so long, water has to be added to the pond to in order to adequately be able to remove the sludge. The original estimate authorization was for a budget of \$175,000.00 with a \$15,000.00 buffer for removal. At this time, it is anticipated that because of the amount of sludge and the condition of the ponds, that the original funds allocated are not adequate and a request to increase the amount to \$350,000.00. This amount does not include the sludge removal from pond three and four.

MOTION: Councilmember Vela moved to approve the additional cost for sludge removal up to \$350,000.00 and to pay for this out of the reserves. Seconded by Councilmember Lewis. Motion carried unanimously.

9. Discuss and consider action on funding request for Arts in the Park.
 - a. John Twilley spoke on behalf of Arts in the Park. Mr. Twilley stated that although there was some disappointment in the attendance for the 5 spring series concerts, it was primarily due to scheduling conflicts and weather. He is before the Council to request a budget for the next fiscal year in the amount of \$13,000.00. Arts in the Park received a total of \$1,900.00 in grants this past year and feels that the same can be achieved for the next year. The increase in \$1,000.00 is for maintenance and work to be done at Bindseil Park. Mr. Twilley discussed plans for the upcoming Fall series of concerts and discussion was held on local bands such as the High School becoming involved. Mr. Twilley stated that has been looked in to.

MOTION: Councilmember Lewis moved to fund the request for the Arts in the Park for their fall series in the amount of \$7,000.00 with the remainder of the request to be voted upon at another time. Seconded by Councilmember McClellan. Motion carried unanimously.

10. Discuss and consider action on Playscape committee for Pecan Bottom property
 - a. Discussion was held on the possibility of placing a Playscape Park at the Pecan Bottom site. Mayor Herden would like to create a Committee that would explore the feasibility of such a project. Councilmember Lewis stated that we are not looking to approve a playscape but only to approve a committee at this time.

MOTION: Councilmember Gosnell moved to form a playscape committee for the Pecan Bottom area. Seconded by Councilmember Vela. Motion carried unanimously.

11. Discuss and consider action on hiring Payment Clerk: Mayor asked to table at this time but explained that a person for 3 days a week would be helpful. Councilmember Saucedo stated that he agrees this may be needed and can be discussed during the budget meetings.

MOTION: Councilmember Vela moved to postpone to a date certain, at the next regularly scheduled meeting, a discussion on the consideration of hiring a payment clerk. Seconded by Councilmember Lewis. Motion carried unanimously.

Executive Session in accordance with Texas Government Code:

Motion to move into Executive session was called at 7:42 P.M. by Councilmember Lewis and seconded by Councilmember Vela. Motion carried unanimously.

1. 551.071 (Consultation with City Attorney): Deliberation regarding proposed restoration of rock wall in Town Creek.
2. 551.074 (Personnel Matters) Consultation with Utility Director regarding appointment and employment of Tyler Campbell.
3. 551.072 (Deliberations regarding Real Property): Purchase of real property with encroachment.
4. 551.071 (Consultation with City Attorney): Consultation with attorney related to legal advice on Canyon Lake Water Supply Corporation request for participation in repairs. No action required.

Executive Session adjourned at 8:46 P.M. and reconvened to the open meeting.

Take any action as a result of Executive Session.

1. Discuss and consider action on proposed restoration of rock wall in Town Creek.
Motion: Councilmember Lewis moved that no action be taken until a survey and title research is done. Seconded by Councilmember Vela. Motion Carried unanimously.
2. Discuss and consider action on appointment and employment of Tyler Campbell.
Motion: Councilmember Vela moved to remove Tyler Campbell from probation and to increase his pay retroactively by \$1.00 per hour retroactive to his 90 day date. Seconded by Councilmember Gosnell. Motion carried unanimously.
3. Discuss and consider action on purchase of real property with encroachment.
MOTION: Councilmember Vela moved to authorize Mayor Herden to negotiate with daughters of Rebecca Howard. Seconded by Councilmember Lewis. Motion carried unanimously.

4. No action required on item #4 of the Executive Session agenda.

MOTION: Councilmember Vela moved to adjourn at 8: 51 PM. Seconded by Councilmember Lewis. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,


Martha Herden, Mayor

Attest:


Wendy L. Patterson, City Secretary

These minutes were approved on the 18th day of Oct, 2018