



MINUTES OF A CALLED PUBLIC MEETING

June 13th, 2016

City Council Approved on June 27th, 2016

1. CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Adams called the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL:

Council members present for roll call were as follows, to wit: Mayor Adams, Councilman Reyna, Councilman Johnson, Councilman Baugh, Councilwoman Abbe, and Councilman Childers.

3. INVOCATION:

Mayor Adams gave the invocation.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT:

City Attorney Lois Rockefeller addressed the public regarding the rules for public comment.

Betty Grumbles made a comment about paving her roads and other roads.

Jessie Grumbles made a comment regarding an electric bill for the Veteran's Memorial. Mr. Grumbles stated that Mayor Adams is doing a good job. Councilwoman Abbe asked Mr. Grumbles to request to be on the agenda for a later meeting.

Sylvia (?) asked the Council what they are doing to get support from citizens.

Diane Vasquez said that she sees this town as divided when the town is supposed to be working together. Everyone needs to work for the betterment of the community. We need to be united. Ms. Vasquez says she has been vandalized three times and she knows the police department did all they could.

5. CONSENT AGENDA – Approval of Minutes – Called Meeting of May 23, 2016

Councilman Johnson made a motion to approve this item. Councilman Abbe seconded. This item was approved with a unanimous vote.

6. REGULAR AGENDA:

a. **Request by Mario and Elocadia Pena regarding water bill.** It was determined that this matter was resolved, so no action was taken.

b. **Request by Toney Gauna regarding alleyway.** This item was called but Toney Gauna was not present. No action was taken.

c. **Request by Shirley Ennis regarding ditch.** Shirley Ennis and Robert Ennis made a presentation. They stated that there is no drainage on Carruth Street. It comes through their property (located at 533 S. Carruth) and floods their house. Councilman Johnson said he spoke with Mr. Ennis on this issue. It was stated that if Mr. Ennis puts a drainage ditch it will flood someone else's home. It was suggested that they try to hire someone to do a ditch but they would need Council approval before constructing it. No action was taken.

d. **Sealing the brick on City Hall building.** Jim Adams stated that he spoke with Red Oak Roofing, the company that put the roof on, and there are some issues with the roof. They felt that the sealing of the brick would not help with our issue. Jim Adams stated he believed it would be helpful to have them before the Council. Mr Adams requested that this item be tabled until they can come before Council. They are estimating it would cost about \$1,500. Councilwoman Abbe made a motion to postpone this item. Councilman Johnson seconded it and it passed unanimously.

e. Potential Removal from Position of Mayor.

The Council went into Executive Session at 6:38 p.m. pursuant to Section 551.071 of the Texas Government Code.

The Council returned to Open Session at 7:06 p.m.

Betty Grumbles asked what legal reasons the Council has to remove the Mayor. Ms. Grumbles stated she was in support of the Mayor.

Donna Gibson said she has been here for several years and she has seen the professionalism. She thinks the City needs organization. Ms. Gibson stated she does not see why this action should be pursued because she does not see any malice in what happened.

Dianne Donegan stated that she worked with Mayor Adams before for senior citizen issues. Ms. Donegan asked for someone to explain the legality of this issue. She also stated she would like to see Mayor Adams remain.

Regina Sadberry stated that she thinks the Council needs to work together even though feelings were hurt.

Gayle Stroud stated that she was confused and would like to know what was going on.

Assistant City Attorney Eileen Hayman gave some background as to the legality of the process. Ms. Hayman stated that because we are a home rule city, we follow the rules in our Charter. Article VII, Section 3 of the Charter states that a council member may be removed for misconduct, on a three-fourths vote. In this case, there was an allegation that Mayor Adams intruded in a criminal case.

Councilman Reyna stated that he said on June 9th that he was fed up. Councilman Reyna resigned from the City Council because he did not want to be part of this.

Councilman Johnson stated that he was resigning as well because he could not work with Mayor Adams.

Councilwoman Abbe stated that she thought the easy thing to do would be to give up. But she felt that she owed it to the 165 people that voted her in office to stand up and be strong and keep fighting. Councilwoman Abbe asked the Mayor if he would do anything different or if he felt he did anything wrong. The Mayor said he probably would not have done things the same way and it was not his intention to cause a bunch of problems. Councilwoman Abbe said that there is no indication that anything will change next time.

Christina Gardner asked Mayor Adams why Chief Rowell was put on leave. Mayor Adams said he is human and he made a mistake.

Councilman Childers said he will probably be stepping down like Councilman Reyna and Councilman Johnson.

Mayor Adams made a statement about what happened. He said a gentleman called the Mayor and said he was concerned that an allegation of theft was true. Mayor Adams said he went to the Dollar General to see the video and they allowed me to watch it. I asked if Bobby Schuman could look at it and they allowed him to watch it. They saw that the people on the video were guilty. Mayor Adams was getting ready to leave and an employee of the Dollar General said that Chief Rowell needs these (video and statements) and asked Mayor Adams to take the evidence to Ben. Mayor Adams said he agreed to take them because she had asked. Mayor Adams then stated that he went to the Police Department but no one was there. He said he then called City Hall to see who was on duty and was told Office Wendt was on duty but he was at lunch. Mayor Adams then asked if Officer Wendt could meet him at the police statement. Mayor Adams then said he has met with Chief Rowell on this topic and they have worked things out.

Councilman Childers made a motion to remove the Mayor. Councilwoman Abbe seconded the motion. No other votes were cast and the motion died for lack of three-fourths vote.

f. Resignation of City Administrator/Secretary, Karen Wilkerson.

Councilman Baugh made a motion to accept Ms. Wilkerson's resignation. Mayor Adams seconded the motion, with regret. Councilwoman Abbe voted to accept Ms. Wilkerson's resignation. The motion carried.

7. ADJOURN:

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m. due to lack of an acting quorum.


CERTIFICATION

I, *Melenda Harbour*, City Clerk for the City of De Leon, Texas, do hereby certify in a good faith effort, that the above and foregoing is true and correct of the called meeting by the City Council of the City of De Leon and of the minutes pertaining thereto on the 13th day of June, 2016.




Melenda K. Harbour, Acting City Secretary

Minutes **PASSED AND APPROVED** by the City Council of the City of De Leon on the 27th day of June, 2016.



Jim Adams, Mayor

ATTEST:



Melenda K. Harbour, Acting City Secretary

