



MINUTES OF A CALLED PUBLIC MEETING
January 23rd, 2018

City Council Approved on February 13th, 2018

CALL TO ORDER - Mayor Scott called the meeting to order at 6:04 pm.

ROLL CALL - Council members present for roll call were as follows; to wit: Terry Scott, Sarah Childers, Jon Awbrey, Bob Whitney, Jaye Golden, and James Beck. All Council Members were present for roll call.

INVOCATION - Mayor Scott gave the invocation.

PUBLIC COMMENT - No public comments were made.

Mayor Report - No report

Public Works Report - Robert Duncan commented not much had been going on, just staying busy keeping the water leaks fixed, sewers unclogged, and service orders done. He continued that Public Works was replacing all the discolored stop signs in the City, so we would have red stop signs instead of pink. He mentioned the contract with US Water would expire soon, and staff was learning all they could. He reported on closure of the ponds at the plant, recent sample taking, and the insurance claim being filed on the broken fence at the Cemetery.

Police Chief Report - Chief Dyson said the PD had been contacted by the state for their CEJAS audit, and they would be inspecting the building diagram and security. Dyson continued the City's IT, Tom Tolson, was supposed to come over soon and speak to the department concerning their computer firewalls. He also reported he had interviewed Teddy, the PD's latest candidate for patrolman, and had offered him a conditional job offer depending on his background checks and drug screen. James Beck asked if the tinted windows had come in yet, and Dyson stated that the delivery company had broken one of the windows so delivery had been delayed. Discussion followed about whether or not the PD could hire a 5th officer, and it was decided the PD wouldn't be able to afford another officer until next fiscal year.

US Water Report - No report

Emergency Management Report - Ray Helburg was present, and stated the county commissioners had continued the burn ban for 90 days. He touched on the Parker County fires. Said Emergency Management had 5 annexes due by April. He wanted to know if the County still tested our Sirens every 1st Monday of the month, and Melenda Harbour answered that they were. Ray then mentioned updating the appendix, and said he would bring a copy by for Melenda.

Parks Committee Report - Jon Awbrey said the Parks Committee had met several times, and had come up with a cheaper solution to build a ball field. He said they were also working on new swings for the park, and plans were being made for building a basketball court.

Library Committee Report - David Denman reported that the Library Committee was wanting to do more things with the Library. They were in the process of trying to get utilities upstairs, and had been working on getting gas, electricity, and Wi-Fi if it wasn't there already, and making sure the upstairs was ADA complaint. He mentioned several programs they would like to incorporate into the Library, such as hiring high schoolers to work part time. David wanted to know if City Council was okay with him moving forward with various changes to the Library, and they concurred.

City Secretaries Report - Sarah Cogburn reported to the Council the last day to file was February 16th, and Terry had filed for Mayor. No one had filed for a Council seat. Melenda Harbour reported water bills had gone out, that herself and Cogburn would be going to Frisco for the annual Elections Seminar, and that now during business hours the door to the Council room would remain locked due to an incident that made the employees in City Hall question their safety.

City Administrator Report - David Denman told the Council about the weekly employee meetings he had started on Tuesday mornings at 8 am, and this morning's meeting had been about showing respect for one another, and being polite to people. He continued that the Sutherland Springs shooting might not have happened if someone had taken to time to be kind to the shooter, and helped him work through his problems. He continued that having these weekly meetings would help to empower employees. He went on to comment on the various types of grants he had looked into getting for the City, such as the TWDB grant and Community Development Block grant. He said Rob could apply for some of these grants for the sewer system. Jon Awbrey asked about the City's auditor, Burl Lowery, saying the City had spent all of its

reserves on grants in the past, and asked the Council if they were going to move forward with getting grants. Mr. Denman said zero match grants could still be obtained, and continued on to talk about the visit historical downtown De Leon signs the EDC board had said they would pay to have put up, and how it would bring more business in off of SH 6. He also covered his efforts and thoughts on getting more businesses in on SH 6, and through downtown.

CONSENT (AUTOMATIC APPROVAL) AGENDA:

Approval of Minutes – December 12, 2017, December 27, 2017, December 28, 2017, January 2, 2018 – James Beck voiced he was under the impression the minutes had the wrong dates in them, but was shown why it looked that way, since the minutes being passed within the minutes of the last meeting were from two months prior. Jon Awbrey pointed out that Mayor Scott was absent from the January 2nd meeting, and the Call to Order and Executive Sessions were made by the Mayor pro-tem, instead. Councilman Whitney made a motion to approve the minutes, with corrections. Councilman Beck seconds that motion. All were in favor; motion carried unanimously.

REGULAR AGENDA: *(Discuss and take action separately on the following items)*

Ordinance 01-18, Calling May 2018 Election English – Mayor Scott made the reading of Ordinance 01-18. Jon Awbrey made a motion to approve the reading. Sarah Childers seconds that motion. All were in favor; motion carried unanimously.

Ordinance 02-18, Calling May 2018 Election Spanish – Bob Whitney made a motion to approve Ordinance 02-18. Sarah Childers seconds that motion. All were in favor; motion carried unanimously.

Chamber of Commerce request for Banquet – Gabe Price was present to represent the Chamber, and started out by saying the Chamber would like to have beer and wine at this year's annual banquet. He said the Chamber wanted it to be a relaxed evening, and were calling it Boots and BBQ. He included there were going to be lots of laughs and the Chamber was going to show a video of De Leon of days gone by, and they were really excited to be putting over 200 people in the auditorium. Sarah Childers made a motion to approve their request. Jaye Golden seconds that motion. Bob Whitney, James Beck, and Terry Scott were in favor. Jon Awbrey is opposed. Motion passed.

Park Committee, spending of Grant Funds – Jon Awbrey said the Parks Committee had met a few times, and had found a much cheaper way to put in baseball fields than getting a grant. He said it would only cost roughly \$15,000. He proposed putting more fields at Birdsong park, opposed to using the Peach and Melon festival grounds as there had been a lot of controversy over the arena parking lot in the past. Sarah Childers made a motion to let the Parks Committee spend left over grant money to build a baseball field. James Beck seconds that motion. All were in favor; motion carried unanimously.

Ordinance 03-18, Alcohol Ordinance – Council seemed in favor of not allowing alcohol in the City Auditorium, and opted to leave the current ordinance in effect. James Beck made a motion to table this item. Jon Awbrey seconds that motion. Jaye Golden and Sarah Childers were in favor. Bob Whitney abstains. Motion passed.

Auditorium Rental Contract – Based on the decision of the previous item on the agenda, no changes were made to the contract. Sarah Cogburn asked the board if there was a time limit on how late parties could stay in the auditorium, saying staff had been asked on occasion by the public, and staff needed clarification. Council said there was not. No action was taken.

Ordinance 04-18, Fee Schedule – It was decided this ordinance needed further adjustments before being considered. No action was taken.

Police Department Policies – Chief Dyson presented Council with some amendments to PD policy, based on recent legislative changes from the Sandra Bland act. Council seemed in favor of the policies, and commended Dyson. No action was taken.

Change of Engineering Firms – Eddie Aguilar was present on behalf of Jacob and Martin Engineering Firm, from the Weatherford office. Eddie started with a little history, saying Jacob and Martin had been in business since 1948, and he had been an engineer for nearly 10 years. He said they had much success in applying for and being awarded grants, and went on to speak of a notable grant they had won for Houston in wake of hurricane Harvey, a 1.5 million dollar grant they had been awarded for Comanche, and a 1 million dollar grant for Carbon. Jon Awbrey asked David if the City had the money for this, and Eddie added their fees were all project based, and they did all the project budgeting, and mentioned loan forgiveness. David told the Council some of the sewer lines were in pretty bad shape, and would have to be repaired soon. Sarah Childers made a motion to switch from EHT to Jacobs and Martin. James Beck seconds that motion. All were in favor; motion carried unanimously.

Change of Grant Writer – David Denman addressed the Council, saying he was used to How Co grant writers from Lubbock, and had had really great luck with them. No action was taken on this item, as it was to be brought back up later for further information.

Improvements to Library – This item had been covered under the Library Report, so no action was taken.

Executive Session – The Council may enter into Executive Session under Government Code Section 551.074, Personnel Matters; City Administrator –

At 8:10 pm, Mayor Scott moved the meeting into closed session.

At 8:43 pm, Mayor Scott moved the meeting back into open session - No action was taken from the closed session.

ITEMS OF COMMUNITY INTEREST:

- Expression of thanks, congratulations or condolences
- Information regarding holiday closings
- Honorary recognition of City officials, employees, or other citizens
- Reminders about upcoming events sponsored by the City or other entity that is scheduled to be attended by a City official or City employee.

ADJOURN – At 8:44, James Beck made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Sarah Childers seconds. All were in favor; motion carried unanimously.


CERTIFICATION

I, *Sarah Cogburn*, Assistant City Secretary for the City of De Leon, Texas, do hereby certify in good faith 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 23rd day of January, 2018.



Sarah Cogburn, Assistant City Secretary

Minutes **PASSED AND APPROVED** by the City Council of the City of De Leon on the 13th day of February, 2018.



Terry Scott, Mayor

ATTEST: 

Melinda K. Harbour, City Secretary

