



MINUTES OF A REGULAR PUBLIC MEETING
6:00 p.m. – Monday, April 9th, 2018

City Council Approved on May 14th, 2018

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – Mayor Scott called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm.
2. **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 members were present for roll call.
Staff members present for said meeting were as follows: David Denman (City Administrator), Melenda K. Harbour (City Secretary), Ed Dyson (Chief of Police), Sarah Cogburn (Assistant City Secretary), Larry Jonap (Peace Officer) and Rebecca Hurteau (Librarian).
3. **INVOCATION** - James Beck gave the invocation.
4. **PUBLIC COMMENT** – No public comments were made.
5. **Mayor Report** - None
6. **Public Works Report** – Denman reported the annual TCEQ inspection had gone well and some sewer taps had gone in around town.
7. **Police Chief Report** - Ed handed out the PD's monthly statistics report, and added that the PD had been very busy.
8. **Emergency Management Report** – Mayor Scott reported the burn ban had been placed back in affect.
9. **Parks Committee Report** – Awbrey reported that Randy Stephens was excited about having a mural painted on his wall and they wanted to set up a committee, naming various individuals who were interested in participating. Awbrey added it should be historically matching to the Wall of Recall, and would be located on the west wall of the historical peanut plant.
10. **Library Committee Report** – Childers reported on the progress for the science bus program for grades 3-8. She wrapped up by saying there were a few other irons in the fire.
11. **City Secretaries Report** – Harbour reported that Cogburn and she had attended a San Antonio class for minutes, resolutions, ordinances, open meetings and open records. Cogburn reported website statistics.
12. **City Administrator Report** – Denman reported the City's finances to Council briefly covering the financial statement, and Whitney asked if Denman anticipated large expenses before the end of budget year. Denman replied the City was going to have to do a little work on utility lines on West Navarro for the upcoming TxDOT project, but the good news was the City could hopefully handle it and wouldn't need to contract out, saving money.
13. **CONSENT (AUTOMATIC APPROVAL) AGENDA:** *(All consent agenda items are considered routine by City Council and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Council Member requests an item to be removed and considered separately)*
 - a. **Approval of Minutes – March 13th, 2018** – Whitney made a motion to approve the minutes. Sarah Childers seconds that motion. All were in favor; motion carried.
14. **REGULAR AGENDA:** *(Discuss and take action separately on the following items)*

OLD BUSINESS

- a. **Request for Proposals (RFP) for Solid Waste** – Denman handed out a comparison sheet, showing the bid amounts presented at last month's meeting versus the amended amounts for this month. Republic Services was not present. Waste Connections annually would cost \$231,678.48 with 28 free roll offs, and Knox Waste would annually cost \$218,717.16 with 20 free roll offs. Childers made a motion to award the contract to Knox Waste. Awbrey seconds that motion. Childers, Awbrey, Golden and Scott were in favor. Beck and Whitney were against. Motion passed.

b. **Ordinance 03-18 Schedule of Fees** – Mayor Scott made the 2nd reading of the Fee Schedule Ordinance. Awbrey made a motion to approve the 2nd reading. Childers seconds that motion. All were in favor; motion carried.

c. **Ordinance 04-18, Solicitors & Itinerant Vendors (1st Reading)** – Denman directed Council to the Ordinance draft in their packets, and proceeded to review the first few pages. Discussion followed about definitions, permit fees and duration. Childers asked Council if this ordinance was really something the town needed. Denman mentioned protecting the businesses, and Childers replied she felt the City should concentrate on other angles to help establish and assist business. Beck added that sometimes competition is a good thing. Childers made a motion to table this item. Beck seconds. Motion failed due to further discussion. Denman was asked to bring back a simple condensed ordinance to address the issue, and no action was taken.

NEW BUSINESS

d. **2016-2017 Audit (Burl Lowery, CPA)** – Burl Lowery presented the Council with the 2016-2017 audit, and gave a brief overview. He showed where the general fund ended the year at \$1,109,609 in revenues and \$1,374,586 in expenditures, and the utility fund ended the year at \$1,213,605 in revenues and \$778,919 in expenditures. The only finding in the audit pertained to the City's book keeping and bank statements. Whitney made a motion to accept the 16-17 audit. Childers seconds that motion. All were in favor; motion carried.

e. **Annual Rate Adjustment (Atmos Energy)** – Shelley Burnett was present on behalf of Atmos Energy, and addressed the Council regarding a resolution for the purpose of adopting policies for providing a reasonable expedited rate review process that had been shown to result in just and reasonable gas utility rates. After much discussion and deliberation, Golden made a motion to adopt the resolution. Childers seconds. All were in favor; motion carried.

f. **Request for Variance from Alcohol Ordinance, by Christina Salinas** – Salinas had redacted her request prior to the meeting, and was not present. No action was taken.

g. **Cemetery Bids – Gardens of Memory Cemetery** – The bids opened at the Council meeting were as follows; on a per month basis unless otherwise specified:

- Amanda Hicks: \$800 for seven months and \$500 for five months;
- Dawson Lawn Service: \$1,450 for seven months and \$950 for five months;
- Sharp Image & Lawn Scaping: \$7,000 total for seven months and \$1,000 total for five months;
- D. W. Davis: \$1,200 per month for 12 months;
- Cardinal Lawn Care: \$19,500 total for seven months and \$2,500 total for five months; and
- Jeremy Debord: \$800 for seven months and \$500 for five months, or \$800 for eight months and two months free. Debord verbally changed bid from eight months to ten months for \$800 per month at the meeting.

Beck made a motion to award the contract to Jeremy Debord, for ten months at \$800 with two months free. Golden seconds that motion. Childers was in favor. Scott, Awbrey and Whitney were against. Motion did not pass. After discussion between Jeremy Debord, Mayor Scott and City Council, Debord retracted his bid. After further discussion, Whitney made a motion to award the contract to Amanda Hicks. Jon Awbrey seconds. All were in favor; motion carried.

h. **Ordinance #05-18, Maintaining a Nuisance/Code Enforcement (1st Reading)** – Awbrey asked why this was being considered when there was an ordinance already in place, and Cogburn responded the current ordinance required staff to charge for brush pickup in advance to service, but this wasn't practiced because the City didn't know how much individual pickups would cost prior to service, since the price is assessed by how long the pickup takes. Cogburn continued the ordinance had been changed to say every day the offense was not remedied would constitute a separate offense, to put more teeth within the ordinance. Denman addressed some changes he had made as well, to where courtesy notices could be sent by regular mail instead of certified, and where the City Attorney added section 2.4h regarding the annual notice after the first notice. Whitney made a motion to approve the reading. Beck seconds that motion. All were in favor; motion carried.

i. **Cancelling May 2018 General Election (Ordinance #06-18 & 07-18, 1st Reading)** – Harbour had provided draft ordinances to the Council for cancelling the election, as no council seats were opposed. Childers made a motion to approve the first reading of 06-18. Whitney seconds that motion. All were in favor; motion carried. Childers made another motion to approve the first reading of #07-18. Golden seconds that motion. All were in favor; motion carried.

j. **Chamber of Commerce requesting permission to use City Grassy Lot for Hog Slam & Jam in Oct/Nov.** – Denman briefly addressed the Council, requesting permission on behalf of the Chamber to use the lot next to the PD on the SE corner of Texas and Reynosa for this year’s Hog Slam & Jam. Golden made a motion to approve said request. Whitney seconds. All were in favor; motion carried.

15. 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.

16. **ADJOURN** – At 8:31 p.m., Beck made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Golden seconds. All were in favor; motion carried.

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 **Regular Meeting** by the City Council of the City of De Leon and of the minutes pertaining thereto on the **9th** day of **April, 2018.**



Sarah Cogburn, Assistant City Secretary

READ, PASSED and APPROVED by the City Council of the City of De Leon on the **14th** day of **May, 2018.**



Terry Scott, Mayor

ATTEST: 

Melenda K. Harbour, City Secretary

