



City of Lucas
City Council Meeting/Budget Workshop
July 30, 2020

Video Conference Meeting
6:05 P.M.

City Hall, 665 Country Club Road, Lucas, Texas

MINUTES

Call to Order

City Councilmembers Present:

Mayor Jim Olk
Mayor Pro Tem Kathleen Peele
Councilmember Wayne Millsap
Councilmember Tim Baney
Councilmember Steve Duke
Councilmember Philip Lawrence
Councilmember Debbie Fisher

City Staff Present:

City Manager Joni Clarke
City Secretary Stacy Henderson
City Attorney Joe Gorfida
Assistant to the City Manager Kent Souriyasak
Development Director Joe Hillbourn
City Engineer Stanton Foerster
Finance Director Liz Exum
Fire Chief Ted Stephens
Assistant Fire Chief Lance Gant
EMS Office Aaron Alderdice
Human Resources Generalist Janice Babcock

This meeting was conducted by video conference.

Mayor Olk called the meeting to order at 6:09 p.m. and determined that a quorum was present. Attendees were reminded to silence their cell phones and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Citizen Input

There was no citizen comment at this meeting.

Regular Agenda

- 1. Consider a bond election to be held on November 3, 2020 or May 1, 2021 for the purpose of submitting a proposition to the voters for the implementation of a broadband fiber project.**

Mayor Pro Tem Peele discussed what would occur if a shortfall occurred and the 55 percent uptake rate was not met. Mayor Pro Tem Peele stated that taxpayer funds or extra funds from reserves would be needed to cover the debt. Ms. Peele discussed the construction time of the project, streaming applications were not included, and the number of households needed to be included in the 55 percent uptake rate. Mayor Pro Tem Peele stated that she did not believe there was enough growth in Lucas to support the broadband project.

Councilmember Fisher gave a presentation reviewing pro forma tables, cash flow and salary projections. Negative cash flow was discussed and how to cover costs that could include a tax rate increase should inadequate participation occur. Ms. Fisher expressed her concerns about the take rate, staff time, privacy and data security, and technology changes. Councilmember Fisher suggested other options be explored.

Councilmember Lawrence discussed his concern with the proposed rate of \$115 and if residents would want to pay that amount, and the possibility of a tax rate increase should the uptake rate not be met.

Councilmember Millsap discussed grants that could be received, future partnerships, and various scenarios with various uptake rates and monthly rates that could be successful.

The following individuals spoke related to the broadband project:

- Josh Jacobs – in favor of taking to the voters on November 3, 2020
- Tom Redman – more information needed before a decision can be made
- Matt Stroud – in favor of taking to the voters on November 3, 2020
- Jay Keller – Opposed to placing item on the ballot and the City taking part in providing broadband
- Greg Jacobs – Opposed to the City implementing a broadband fiber network, public needs to be informed before decisions were made

This item was for discussion purposes only, no formal action was taken on this item.

2. Consider the Lucas Farmers Market remaining 2020 season, receive a report from the July 25, 2020 market, and provide guidance to the Lucas Farmers Market Committee and City Staff regarding upcoming markets.

City Manager Joni Clarke gave a report on the drive-thru farmers market event held on July 25, 2020. Ms. Clarke stated that logistically traffic flowed well and there was some congestion in the gravel parking lot area, but adequate space was available for vehicles to pass. Ms. Clarke noted that 17 vendors participated and approximately 160 vehicles visited the market. Generally, the participants were pleased with the event. Vendors wore masks and practiced social distancing. Ms. Clarke stated that the Farmers Market Committee would like to request to operate at Stage 2 for the August 8 market and would place more space between each vendor and require masks for the event, and staff was also asking that consideration be given to allow the Mayor authority to make decisions on stage level for future market events.

Mayor Olk noted that currently there have been 29 cases of COVID-19 in Lucas, up from eight just four weeks ago; however only nine cases were active currently.

The City Council discussed using more of the park area to place vendors further apart, wearing masks, and having hand sanitation stations available. Mayor Olk stated that he was comfortable with Stage 2 at this time and will determine if changes need to be made for future events.

Councilmember Fisher asked that vendors be placed ten feet from the sidewalk so that adequate space was available for people to walk as well as pass the booth.

The City Council also discussed the number of staff required to work the event and safety measures for staff.

Mayor Olk and the Council authorized the farmers market to operate at a Stage 2 level for the August 8 market.

Mayor Olk announced that the City Council would be taking a 10-minute break beginning at 8:25 pm and reconvening at 8:35 pm.

3. Discuss the proposed City of Lucas budget for Fiscal Year 20/21.

City Manager Joni Clarke and Finance Director Liz Exum gave a presentation regarding the fiscal year 20/21 budget discussing the following items:

- City of Lucas strategic goals
- Current projects related to West Lucas Road, Southview/East Lucas Road intersection, and the broadband project
- Capital fund projects, Winningkoff Road, reverse curve to Snider; Snider Bridge design and Stinson Road bridge design funded by 2019 Certificates of Obligation
- Current and future water projects
- Mapping projects, enhanced security and water rescue items

Finance Director Liz Exum reviewed the City's existing tax rate of \$0.305631, as well as general fund and water fund projected revenues.

The following items were discussed that included:

Unfunded Programs:

- Provide cost of mapping project and potentially fund the project from reserves.
- Provide 5-10-year plan of water rescue with total costs including training.
- Provide total cost and plan for enhanced security at City Hall and trailheads to integrate into a centralized, single system.

Compensation and Benefits:

- City Council to review compensation/market study at mid-year to determine where the City stands.

General Fund – Parks:

- Re-address vendor fees for the Farmers Market at the end of the year.
- Consider holding parade at a future date. Staff will place the parade discussion on a Parks Board meeting agenda to possibly incorporate with another city event.

General Fund – Non-Departmental:

- Discuss negotiating Collin County Sheriff's Office contract and public safety in general at mid-year.

Water Fund – Public Works

- Allocate some of the salary for other staff members from the water fund and free up some funds in the general fund so we consistently have a fund balance in the water fund.

There was no formal action taken on this item, it was for discussion purposes only.

Executive Session Agenda

4. Executive Session

An Executive Session was not held at this meeting.

5. Reconvene from Executive Session and take any action necessary as a result of the Executive Session.

An Executive Session was not held at this meeting.

Adjournment

6. Adjournment.

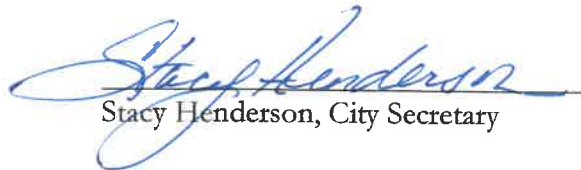
MOTION: A motion was made by Councilmember Millsap, seconded by Mayor Olk to adjourn the meeting at 9:56 pm. The motion passed unanimously by a 7 to 0 vote.

APPROVED:



Mayor Jim Olk

ATTEST:


Stacy Henderson, City Secretary

