

STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF FALLS
CITY OF MARLIN

On this the 14th day of January, 2020, the City Council of the City of Marlin, Texas convened in a REGULAR SCHEDULED MEETING at 6:00pm, the same being open to the public and having been posted as prescribed in Local Government Code, Section 551.041 with the following members present to wit:

ELECTED OFFICIALS

Mayor Carolyn Lofton
Mayor Pro-Tem Scottie Henderson
Nettie Moore
Rhonda Milton
Max Martinez ((@ 6:05)
Douglas Porter
Terence McDavid

STAFF

Cedric Davis, City Manager
Maryann Waddle, City Secretary
Deandrea Petty, City Attorney

1. Call to Order by Mayor Lofton @ 6:00pm.
2. Roll Call by Maryann Waddle.
3. Certify Posting in accordance with State Law by Maryann Waddle.
4. Pledge by Mayor Lofton and Invocation by Councilmember Moore.
5. Citizens Input.

None.

6. Discussion and or take action swearing in of new Sergeants

Chief McCall introduced the two new Sergeants William Pereyra and Percy Brewer.

Oath of Office was given to both Sergeants. McCall also announced that Officer Linda Mauldin and Officer Eduardo Miranda were being promoted to Corporals

No Action

7. Discussion and or take action new City Lake (as per discussion in last Council Meeting)

Councilmember McDavid stated that citizens were saying that the gates on County road 122 were locked and wanted to know if there were keys to the gates and who had them. His understanding was that the gate would be open so that people could get to the old lake and access to the new lake. Citizens are saying that the gate is locked. He asked the city manager about access. City Manager Cedric Davis said that those gates will be moved and signs will go up by next week, the gate will be moved by the dam. These gates are to be locked because they are close to the dam. Signs were made by the Fire Department and those will be put up soon stating "Hunting by

City Permit Only.”. McDavid asked who patrols the area. Davis said that the State Parks and Wild Life is still looking to enter into an agreement with the city to lease the land for public hunting, until that is complete the Marlin PD will have to police the area.

No Action.

8. Discussion and or take action Presentation by Perdue Brandon concerning delinquent property tax collection services (John Banks)

John Banks addressed the council and let them know that his firm handles 100 different counties, 500 different cities, 300 school districts, and they have 13 offices. He stated that his firm has the means to handle the city’s account. He also stated that they handle locally, Falls County, Rosebud, Cameron ISD, and Rosebud Lot ISD .He takes his job seriously, it is dealing with taking people’s homes. He has 22 years in this field, and will walk and knock on doors to try to reach out to those that owe the properties. He tries to work out payment plans. The cities never receive a bill. City’s current contract is at 20%, he does it at 15%, which saves the tax payer. They have a call center that has 80 people that handle the collections and they try to reach out before a suit is filled. If given the opportunity, it would be a smooth transition, they will step in and collect property taxes, there were 1,100 properties in Falls County that had delinquent taxes. He does not try to get everyone to sign off on the bid because #1 no one likes tax lawyers; he likes to be transparent. He has gone to public resale. He runs newspaper ads, and he puts out emails. He had the county approve 10% of appraisal for opening bid. There are some properties that will sell high and some will sell low. Some properties were struck off 10 to 15 years ago. These properties are off the tax roll and most of the time the city has to handle the clean-up of them. There were over 70 bids at the county auction. He maximizes recovery. Because of wide marketing there are a lot of people who responded. The properties are sold and people tend to build which adds to the tax roll. Mayor Lofton asked if these properties listed were sold at the last sale or if they were sold over a course of sales. John stated that these properties were sitting, most of them in Falls County trust, for about 20 years. Mayor Lofton stated she understood the part about the duration of the trust, she wanted to know when the sale was. John said December 3rd, these properties were in a public resale. Mayor Lofton wanted to know why the exact same properties were listed on the Linebarger sale that was to occur in February.

John said that it was brought to his attention by Kaci, and that someone in their firm know because a comment was made about it. They will not be able to see them; they are a day late and a dollar short. We had these approved and any entity who holds a vested interest in these properties (city, county ,school) has the right by resolution to say we want to sell these properties 6 months after redemption process. Kaci had sent him a list of the properties from Linebarger. It is not an issue since they have not sold the properties also. I will email the list of properties sold to Mr. Davis and CC you, Mayor. He dealt with some properties selling for as low as a dollar in Rosebud. Mayor Lofton stated that Linebarger went to each entity and presented what the minimal bid would be and each entity voted for them to be able to sell at that minimal bid (25%). She wanted to know why no one came to the city and presented like Linebarger did. John said that is because it is a public resale, under private resale you can don't have to do that. Public resale they are published in the paper and the governing body sets the rate. Mayor Lofton stated that James went to each tax entity after he proposed the minimal bid, I was at the school board meeting when he presented. She wanted to know why the city was not given the same consideration before the sale. John stated that he (John) is still following the private resale. Any governing body has the right after the 6-month redemption period to sell the property. Mayor Lofton stated that the sale was going to be public. John asked if she was speaking of the February sale. Mayor Lofton said yes. John said it was because he was doing it at 25%. If he goes to the county. Mayor Lofton stated that James has already gone to the county. John said that if he has then the county will tell him those properties have sold. I will call you in the morning and we can conference with Linebarger, because there is no way. If we can please let's talk tomorrow and clarify. Councilmember McDavid asked about a property he inquired about a while back and was told because it did not have a 911 address it did not meet the qualifications, but it is next to a property with an address. Can it be sold without a physical address? John said that you can go to the appraisal district and find the location to be able to sell it.

No Action

9. Discussion and or take action Meeting with Sledge Law Group (Brushy Creek update) Brian Sledge addressed the council and let them know that in August of 2019 TCEQ renewed the rights permit, as previously discussed in July. Fall of 2018 council impressed upon getting a Federal permit and hiring people that could handle this.

Dave Mitamura and Bill McMullen, who the city hired on his recommendation in November 2018, they did not begin until October 2019, because they wanted to make sure the state permit was renewed. Their contract was a yearlong and council voted to extend their contract for the time for review. Mitamura addressed the council and let them know he had 25 years water resources experience. They prepared a report for the council on the history and how the city can proceed. The city will need a 404 permit for infrastructure. The key event occurred in 1984, water shed preservation, soil conservation. It included Falls, McLennan, and Limestone Counties with the City of Marlin as manager of the project. It had retention ponds included, flood control, municipal water supply, and recreation. The reservoir would be built 8 miles east of the city. The 1984 plan, stated that all structures including the reservoir were covered by a nation-wide permit issued by the Army Corp of Engineers. The 1984 plan does not state that any additional permits were needed, under the NRCS water shed program, PI566 program. The reservoir was done in anticipation of the need for water in 2030. After this the project was stop and go. Since then applications in 1996 and 2007 neither of those permits were completed. Councilmember Milton asked what happened in 2007. Dave said that the application was withdrawn. Milton asked who withdrew it. Dave said I believe Falls County. Since then the project has been looked and we focused on the 1984 and more recently the 2008 study by the TWDB, reservoir protection study, this was because Brushy creek was designated as a unique reservoir site by the Texas Legislature. McMullen said that it was in order to protect the site from anything being built but the construction of a reservoir on the site. In 2017 state provides a cost estimate at 24 million, including a debit service and maintenance cost of \$1,743,000. He stated that the project is still viable. Mayor Lofton asked what is the time frame on getting the plan. Dave said that it is complicated, it could take 10 or more years. The permit process is complex, there is a check list and is not known at this time. Mayor Lofton asked if he was familiar with the reservoir in Buffalo Texas. Dave said no. Mayor Lofton stated that is started around the same time as Brushy Creek and it is completed. Dave contacted the NRC, and they said that it is still active but since so much time has gone by, they are required to reevaluate the plan, to determine if they are still good. Mayor Lofton stated that the records the City has date back to 1956 on this project. She hopes the council can take a trip to Buffalo to look at their reservoir , find out how long it took

and who did it, because this has been ongoing for 50 years and now it is stated is it could take 10 more years. We hired your firm because we were told you all had connection to get the project done faster. Dave said that the Army Core of Engineers won't talk to him they will only talk to the sponsors, the city, he was told this in December. Mayor Lofton stated that people are frustrated with the project, there has not been enough transparency as to what it is, where it is going, and how it will benefit the city. Now you are saying we need a 404 permit, it has stopped and started and now we are trying again, and in December you were they would not speak to you only us, but we were not made aware of this. Dave said that they told us to reach out to NRCS to make sure the project was still viable. The permit process is difficult on the Federal level. The city can apply to the NRCS (National Resources Conservation Services) for funding help. Mayor Lofton said that the contract was entered into for yall to find this out. Dave said we had to go through the records. Mayor Lofton asked when the contract was entered into who was the firm talking to. Dave said the mayor. Mayor Lofton asked since then who have yall been talking to. Dave said since then we have had no contact with the city. Mayor Lofton said that is why she asked Mr. Sledge for documentation because we are getting invoices but no update. You said that your firm had not really started since recently, and found out that they won't talk to you. We thought you were going to start the process for the application. Dave stated that they have been researching the history of the project and speaking with the NRCS, who wants to reevaluate the project. Brian Sledge addressed the council, they were not hired to file the 404 application. They were hired to see if the city spending hundreds of thousands of dollars to get the permit was wise investment for the city. They figured it out, pursuing an individual 404 is not in the city's best interest. This firm has a better relationship with the Core that any other firm I work with, you are just dealing with the Federal government. You are dealing with US Army Core, EPA , and the Conservation Department. The metroplex cities take 30 or so years and lots of money. Marlin does not have that kind of money. The city's record on the project are deplorable, even from the start I have had to file request for records on the project with several entities. I gave several boxes that I had and gave them to the City Secretary. You can get an individual permit that can take forever. General permits , from what Dave & Bill found, in 1984 Marlin was authorized a Nation-Wide Permit , if it still holds then Marlin does not have to spend a gazillion dollars and years to get a

permit. Your partner, the Falls County Water Improvement District, decided they did not want to go through with the project. Their board was taken over by anti-reservoir people who did not want to go through with the actions of taking farm land for the project, they pulled out. Then there was litigation to settle, which took years. Financing and a 404 permit is what is standing in the way of completion of the project. You can do an individual or try to figure out if the original authorization was rescinded. You might want to look into the farm act and actually they said that they could not have a formal meeting without the city being there. When I first got hired 6 years ago NRCS was coming to meeting. The funds dried up. Congress just funded these programs (155 million) so now they have to spend that money somewhere. They will probably say you will have to update (if the original nationwide permit stands) because in 84 the cost of the project was 3 million and is now 20 million due to updates. The strategy will be, if looking at the numbers, you can find other ways to supply water to Marlin, if you are looking at it primarily for that reason. The biggest problem is you have the EPA looking at whether the city really need this project for water supply, they have the veto power to stop the approval. They say you have four other sources for water. The primary reason for the project, there are only 19 other reservoirs like this, is that it will spur economic growth. The primary reason the study was done by the US Department of Agriculture was to prevent soil erosion, this is more of a viable reason and is a big topic right now. Lots of bills were passed for flood control. There are 21 structures authorized in 84, Brushy Creek was one. He knows that the finance is a problem for the city, but as a multipurpose the NRCS would pay for some of the project (60/40 split) and if updates needed to be done the NRCS would update those and hire the people to update. If not approved the city would have to make a decision. Mayor Lofton wanted to know what percentage of our Brazos right is tied into this project. Brian stated that he did not know he would have to look into that but he does not think that is right. Mayor Pro-tem Henderson stated that we need to do a study, because Buffalo got theirs done and they don't have a lot of money, so we need to study this more. I would like to know how Buffalo did it. Brian stated that we will have to look on what is needed to go further with the 404 permit. Councilmember Martinez asked why Brian kept dodging the Buffalo subject. Brian said he does not know about the Buffalo project; he is here to help not be abused. We don't look at all the permits issued out, but I am familiar with your

project. Councilmember Moore asked was the main reason for this project flood control and how many were in the state. Brian said there were 21 projects like this authorized and included in the original design plan. Moore said so what made our area fit in that if we did not get funded. Brian said that back then there was a push for it, we are losing soil. Here you can see in this area is losing soil. In the 50's people were trying to get things done that's why they created a sponsor, a taxing entity the Water District, because you had to have a supporting entity. Dave said that the 84 plan yours was the 5th out of nine. Brian said that a lot of these water structures are not big like you think they are just to slow down the water. 16, 17, 18 are sediment retention ponds, they were the responsibility of the water conservation districts and Marlin's was the big one downstream. There is a prevision in the plan that says those three must be built before the city can build 19, the bigger one. So, when the Water District pulled out, and dissolved, it screwed the city. We accomplished a legislative miracle and got the WICD dissolved and took all their assets and the city got the assets. You need to get the NRCS to help get the reevaluation and apply for the 404 permit and figure out if the nationwide still applies. We are waiting to hear back from NRCS. Mayor Lofton stated that the council needs to look at Buffalo and see what was done, but tonight we need to decide if we want to decide to extend another 30 day or so. Mayor Pro-tem Henderson asked how long will it take. Dave said less than 30 days and we should know if it is still viable. Brian said that the discovery of project still being viable would be a big help. Of the \$30,000 budget there is still \$7,000 left. Mayor Lofton stated that both need to include on invoices updates on what is done. Mayor Pro-tem stated that the city is so far into the project that 30 is not long, we need to give them the chance to see where we are at. Councilmember McDavid said that since they are dealing with the government should we do 60 days. City Manager Cedric Davis said we would have to look at the budget, and the 7 thousand is an estimate. He would suggest the 30 because of funding.

Mayor Pro-tem Henderson motioned to extend the contract 30 days

Councilmember McDavid seconded this motion and the motion carried as follows:

AYES: Councilmember Milton, Councilmember Moore, Mayor Pro-Tem Henderson, Councilmember Porter, Councilmember McDavid, Mayor Lofton.

NAYS: Councilmember Martinez

Davis mentioned that there are funds left from the Water District one about 50,000 can be used. We went to Citizens Bank and verified there are funds available there.

10. Discussion and or take action updates and commissions

Maryann Waddle addressed the council, fillers were sent out trying to get people to sign up for committees. There were signup sheets placed out during council meetings, however there is a lack of volunteers. It is suggested that the council suggest people for the open boards, and committees. No one is signing up so if the council could nominate people it might help to fill the spots. Mayor Lofton suggested that each of the council members provide a name, in order to help fill the boards. Cedric Davis said that one of the committees is charter review, and if the council wanted any changes, they might want to do so by February because the election is in May.

Councilmember McDavid asked how many people we are looking at. Maryann looked at the sign-up sheet and let the council know that a few of the boards only had two people signed up. Milton stated that there was four for administration at the school, maybe we could do the same thing to get people to sign up. This way if we have a reason to draw people in and we could let them know what each entails. We could have refreshments. Councilmember Moore said that people are often hesitant to sign up if they don't know what it is they are signing up for. It will take us doing some things to get peoples trust. Cedric said I can reach out to council and find out their schedule to get something set, so we can move on this.

No Action Taken

11. Discussion and or take action agreement with Education Consultant for completing application process for a potential Charter School

Mayor Pro-tem Henderson motioned to hire Beyond Rhetoric LLC as Education Consultant for completion process.

Councilmember Milton second the motion and the motion carried as follows:

AYES: Councilmember Milton, Councilmember Moore, Mayor Pro-Tem Henderson , Councilmember Martinez ,Councilmember McDavid, Councilmember Porter, Mayor Lofton.

NAYS: None.

12. Discussion and or take action proposal by TK Build LLC

Cedric addressed the council, since he did not see the owners in the audience, this proposal starts with the building of two new homes. Tom, TK Build, LLC, is a home

builder and is asking if the city could waive the fees, because if they work with the city it will enable them to build more single-family dwellings in the city. They would like the permit fees waived; the first project is tow homes. Cedric recommended that the city waive the permit fees, and if and when they build more homes we can deal with other assistance later on an individual basis. This will be a minimal cost compare to what they are building. Mayor Lofton asked if this fee waiver request was for all 15 homes they have proposed to build. Cedric said no this request is for just these first two homes. Councilmember Moore asked are they building 15 or more. Davis said that they are starting with the two, by waiving the fees it helps the company to save on the first set, and eases the next steps on the other home, they plan to build. Waco is growing and people can't afford. Our low taxes are great for people wanting to buy their first home. Councilmember Milton asked if they have built homes in Marlin, Davis said yes, their daughters. Mayor Pro-tem Henderson stated that their needs to be a precedence set on how these proposals are handled. Karen Niehaus addressed the council and let them know they are from Wisconsin and that her daughter found Waco expensive so she bought the old Wilson house in Marlin and they remodeled it. They have been in construction for about 20 years. They bought 15 lots here in the city and decided to look into building new homes for young families. If you look around town there have not been many new homes built. They only ask for the help so that the homes are more affordable for buyers. With these being 1,500 to 1,700 sqft, it would be about \$3,500 for the permits. They can not do all the work themselves so they would be hiring local contractors to help with construction. Mayor Pro-tem Henderson stated that no one knows what tomorrow brings and 15 homes are not guaranteed. Individuals could come and ask for the same fees to be waived. Mayor Lofton stated that they are going to build 5 and they are starting with two. Mayor pro-Tem Henderson said so the fees waived are only for the two. Milton said that she welcomed investments in Marlin and wanted to know what they considered local to be. Tom Niehaus said that they have only one contractor out of Waco, but the rest are here, now they do have more contracts to sign but that is where they are now. Mayor Pro-tem Henderson said does \$3,500 break go to the buyer. Tom said from the cost that we have into the project, we put 10% on the cover house us being here, then that what we are going to sell the houses for. Karen said that they are trying to make the houses affordable, they are not here to get rich. Milton asked City Manager what is the proposal. Cedric said that it is to waive the building permits on the two homes. Mayor Pro-tem Henderson stated that he is all for investments in Marlin and the fact that they are talking about 15 homes makes all the difference. Moore asked how many square feet are the homes. Karen said one is 1,531 and the other is 1,725 .One is three bedroom and the other is 4 bedrooms.

Councilmember Milton motioned that we accept TK Build to building two houses by waiving the permit fees of \$3,500 per home.

Councilmember McDavid second the motion and the motion carried as follows:

AYES: Councilmember Milton, Councilmember Moore, Mayor Pro-Tem Henderson , Councilmember Martinez, Councilmember McDavid, Councilmember Porter, Mayor Lofton.

NAYS: None.

13. Discussion and review of Department Reports.

City Manager

Davis addressed the council and let them know he has been submitting for grants and updated on the loan that was originally 10.6 million, last week a meeting was attended with MRB, they made application for the additional 3.6 million that was a part of the original loan (14 million) .Davis is waiting to hear back from TWBD on the additional money. We had a TECQ contractor go to the water plant and said that the system needs software updates. The software sometimes talks to the system and sometimes it does not. Today he presented, keep having someone hit the buttons or have the system that can trigger the buttons, this is a software issue. Next we have someone coming to look and give options on the software, I will be bringing the information back to the council. If we don't update the system, we could start seeing violations. It is not human error it is a software issue. Working on going heavy on code enforcement in March, the letters should go out next week. March we are starting a code enforcement campaign. One of the citizens, Kyle Simmons, proposed we use the back of our water bills to put out information. When a good idea comes my way, I like to give credit. I will work with Nancy to accomplish this. We are looking next to clean our bar ditches. We had a water leak and we had to clean the ditch to get the water running. We will also look at street projects. We are looking at 60-90-day projects on streets. Rental equipment is being looked at for this project, instead of us buying a couple hundred thousand-dollar pieces of equipment we can look at renting for 60-90 days. There is a bar ditch cleaner in Robinson we will be purchasing it because it is only \$4,300. We will be renting a bobcat and this should save money. Mayor Pro-tem Henderson asked about the grants that the council had given Davis approval on. Davis said that he has submitted some, and has been attending grant events and he has a couple more to go to, these events tell you how to apply, as well as information on the project wanted. Some of the meetings you have to attend to even be able to apply, Cedric attended one last week in Waco, and he also has another to attend in two weeks. Most he is dealing with are for water and infrastructure. There was one for parks, still have not heard back on that one. Now they are opening up a lot on water and infrastructure, and this has been his main focus, without these it will be hard to attract new businesses. This is going to be my top priority, water and infrastructure.

Police

Chief McCall addressed the council and let them know that he had hired two Sergeants and promoted two Corporals. One of the Corporals will be assigned to the traffic division, she will be doing traffic enforcement through the city and HWY 6 & 7. The two Sergeants have been working hard by standardizing and finalizing necessary paper work that is needed to improve our daily operations. These two young men came in blazing and I really appreciate them. I know we have, city manager and I, went to a grant meeting; we learned a lot from that. We have some audits coming up that the Sergeants and myself have been working on. After I did the meeting with the Sergeants and Corporals, I spoke with our officers about service calls and due to the holidays. November and December those numbers went down a little bit and a couple of them was on vacation and at training we spoke on that. We down 3-4 officers. We had a lot of officers that applied, at least about 20 of them applied. Dispatchers was some of them. But at the end of the day you entrusted me to bring the best and the right people to the city and they just didn't cut the mustard at the end of the day. After doing background checks and stuff that was needed some of them was border line but at the end of the day, I need to bring the best that we can possibly get in Marlin. The city manager and I spoke we discussed code enforcement and animal control , I put out that I was looking for part time animal control and hopefully that will be posted soon. I spoke to a lot of the animal rights people and they are on board, they emailed or called me and I had to tell them that whatever we need to do as far as helping these animals that's what we need to do period. The door is always open to any suggestions. For the year, me just getting here and going over stats, and telling the young men, that we go by data, we are data driven. We need to be productive and we had close to 8,600 over all call for the year, this is for traffic, warrants, and service calls. That's a lot of call and they wrote a lot of tickets. We are trying to get with other agencies to do a warrant round up. I spoke with city manager and Mrs. Robin as far as getting information put on the water bill, they said there is enough space to utilize. I spoke with the judge as well, we are going to get Robin and her crew to put something together to put on the water bill, so people can come in and make some type of payment. There's a lot of funds out there that are not being generated or not being returned to the city. That's an outstanding opportunity for us. I spoke with the city manager and the city secretary on Operation Light up Marlin and spoke to one of the council men and he spoke about one of his constituents about lights being out within

the city. By us regulating that and notating where those light were at, we were able to get some of those light fixed. We were able to get; I can't remember the number. Maryann Waddle let him know that the number of reported lights was 75, this was accomplished because the chief assigned his night patrol to document any lights they saw out while patrolling. These lights were reported to Oncor by me and the chief. Oncor actually called me and wanted to know what was going on. They were told that the police department was starting a new thing Light It Up to Prevent Crime. Mayor Pro-tem asked if we pay for those lights. Maryann let hi know that we do on our monthly bill pay for those light, to fix the light is on Oncor. Oncor has been great they said that when we get the list, we can just email them over and they will get them fixed, we do not have to report each one, one at a time. Councilmember Moore asked if they are changing out poles. Maryann said that only if the poles need it. They are changing out the lights to the new LED lights, you will see the brighter LED lights when these are replaced. McCall stated that we are pushing forward and that he appreciated the councilmember calling in and putting his ear on that. The lights are important, that's going to identify a lot of the activity with in that particular location, to prevent and deter crime. In a couple of weeks, I want to put together a neighborhood watch, have a meeting for neighborhood watch. A meeting for community policing within the city and also start a citizen academy , I think that that is very important that they know exactly what we are trying to do out here, what we need to do ,so they can be abreast of us moving forward, of moving Marlin forward. By utilizing those three, the neighborhood watch, community policing, and the citizens' academy, they are very important. We went on a call yesterday and spoke to one gentle man, he was upset originally, but when I spoke to him, you have an opportunity to help us by coming on board. Once he came to his senses, we had a good conversation. He wanted to be apart of the program , so that is just one of the people I spoke to , that is a good start to get people motivated to help . McCall asked if there were any questions. Maryann spoke to those in attendance and let them know that they can help with reporting street lights that are out, citizens are the best way to help, they can report the street light outages online, and slithers of paper will be attached to water receipts to help get the word out. On the web site the map is simple you can type in the number of the pole or find the light, city lights are yellow, click on it and it is reported. McCall stated that once Maryann showed him how it was simple.

If the citizens and other government agents work with us it will be a better place. Jim House wanted to know the population of Marlin. Davis said in 2010 it was around 5,600. The census lady has predicted that that number has risen, but we won't know till this year census. Jim wanted to know how many police officers we have. Davis said that a full staff with reserves, we should be at 12, Chief can answer this. McCall said that right now we have close to 8 to 9. Jim said we are gona have to get more. McCall said oh yeah, we are going to have at least 12 officers to cover the shifts.

Fire Department

Chief Parker addressed the council and let them know he spent the weekend in ICS training this was the first phase of two the next training will be next weekend; it was sponsored by the Falls County Volunteer Fire Association TEEKS. They provided meals morning and afternoon, hats off to them. There has been discussion of bringing classes to this side of the river, even state fire fighters, which will put heads in beds. Justin also addressed the air packs. In 2015 the department got 3 new air packs. We are probably, for sure going to have to purchases 3 additional packs to replace the model 50 form 2002, which failed the testing, it will be cheaper to replace them than try to update. Before the storms we went out and looked at somethings, only problem was at Hwy 6 and Lake View there were a guide wire loose on the tower (2015 or 2016 precured). Engine one is here everything is great. It has brought new stock to our equipment inventory, it is all just perfect. This is the nicest vehicle we have ever had. Moving to station 2 is being discussed, station 1 is over 100 years old and more than likely has mold and asbestos. Station 2 is newer it will take work but Justin thinks it will be the better of the two, only problem is it only has two bays. We will need somewhere to store the other vehicles; we don't need them out in the open. Justin will talk to Dorsey Kates about possibly leasing the carriage house. Mayor Pro-tem Henderson was glad Justin brought up station 2. He said that station 2 is on the side of the tracks with the school, and the majority of the businesses in town. He expressed concern over the access to that side of town should a train be blocking the tracks. Justin stated that the hospital and hotels are on that side. Justin said that Lochrage Priest also agreed that station 2 was the best structure. Justin said that he would be gathering more information on the subject.

Public Works.

Gil from MRB updated the council. The additional funds have been discussed. When the TWBD originally awarded the drainage, they held out 15 million and we are this year applying for some of that money. On December 19 the city closed on the TWBD loan. Last week we kicked off a meeting with the city, Mayor, and Mrs. Scaggs. We had crews here today looking at drainage, there will be more people around in the coming weeks. Tomorrow we have a meeting with city staff on the water side and its infrastructure. There will be more information as we get going.

Scott Fornash told the council the tractor should be done to fit the ditch equipment this week. It will be a quick release, I looked at the equipment it is a multipurpose tool. I picked up the electric cars last week in San Antonio they are unique, we are waiting on batteries. I wanted to give kudos to Jen and the staff at the water plant because TCEQ said it looked great. The only thing he could find was with the computer. The pins in the system are not right, when it misses a ping that is when they get us. We have an L-1 assessment due because of that, it was not a personal error it was the computer. Working on getting equipment to do the streets. We're having our trailers fixed so when we do code enforcement, we have a place to put what we clean up. I spoke with a company to give an assessment on the aerators at the sewer plant. I also spoke with Gil to see if we can get it repaired right instead of having to rebuild. As soon as I get the information, I will let yall know if they say it cannot be repaired, they we will find out what we need to do to repair it and how to go about it. I got quotes on the dump truck, they are too expensive, we will just do it in house. I spoke with the Chief and the city manager, when we are repairing leaks, we are getting people cursing us out and turning the animals out on us, and my guys don't get paid enough to deal with getting cursed out and threatened. Councilmember Moore stated she agreed. I did let the chief know and the city manager that I will be calling every time this happens. Cedric said that we plan on taking care of city lots doing the code clean up and we will be hiring two part time helpers, this is to stay on budget because part time does not get benefits so it saves money. Maryann let the council know that a staffing company will be coming in to do interviews and the Census , there will be a job fair .Mayor Lofton asked don't we have to pay a staffing agency. Cedric said yes but they pay the benefits and that saves money for any full time. It comes out a little bit cheaper. Councilmember McDavid said that with part time you don't have to pay the benefits.

Water Plant

Jennifer Trotter said that the plant was down three employees, but they hired one she will start training the 14th. Skid 100 did not pass testing Seymour pulled filters. 2 were pulled. We are going to pack those up and send them back, we are accessing the warranty issues with our attorney, and we are hoping to meet with him next week to look at the issues. Skid 100 was a manufacture defect; we have actually taken 2 filter off 200 and put them on 100. They were discussing things with the previous Public works director, but things kind of dropped. Councilmember Porter said that we moved 12 over to 100 if he remembered correctly, Jennifer said yes. Councilmember McDavid asked about violations. Jennifer said that in December there was a communication alarm and it shut the plant down. The communications had stopped. We had a hard time getting RLC to come out and fix the problem. We are actually talking to another company about upgrading our system. Our system can not get updates because it will mess with our system our wonder ware is outdated. Will need a license for a new Wonder Ware and Windows. Cedric said that we are updating our computers we just had to start with the PD first to keep them in compliance, but we will be updating the rest of the city within the next week. Moore asked where the updates will be. Cedric said all the city. Jennifer said that some test will be run-on coagulant. And there are some other updates being made.

Water Department

Nancy Dominguez said that in December the water brought in \$308,653.39 and General fund brought in \$137,958.22 for a total of \$449,093.61. Mayor Lofton asked what the total was. Nancy said it is at the bottom. Mayor Lofton said it is cut off. Nancy restated the total.

Finance

Judy Sisk told the council still waiting on dates for INCODE training, they are going to get back with me on upcoming dates. Maryann completed the W-2s for employees and the 1099s and those have gone out. I am working on getting W-9s and certificates of insurance, a lot of our vendors, in their files don't have these. I have sent out request for these to put in their files. Any questions. Councilmember Porter said that they had received an expenditures report but no revenue report. Judy said my bad I just pulled the wrong report. Mayor Lofton asked that Judy put one in the council's boxes. She also stated that the budget needed to be looked at but we are waiting for the auditor

to give us some guidance on that. Cedric said that the auditor did call and need to speak with the city.

Court

Robin Miguez told the council that the court brought in \$27,545 and the city kept \$17,861. I think that is probably the lowest I have ever seen. MBVA, our collection agency is going to have a warrant round up in March, next month, we should get money off that. I need to talk to the city attorney; we have a city ordinance that needs to be brought up to date. I will be going to a team conference for teenagers and kids. The judge helped a kid and now he is going back to school, not getting his GED, I just wanted yall to know that we do help the kids.

14. Future Agenda Items.

None


Cedric asked for Prayers after the council has adjourned. Maryann stated that she will be out of the office at the end of January, she will be attending election update classes.

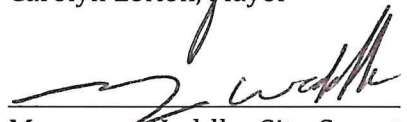
15. Adjourn.

Councilmember Moore made motion to adjourn, all in favor said "Aye" meeting ended at 8:54 pm

PASSED AND APPROVED ON THIS THE 12TH DAY OF May, 2020.




Carolyn Lofton, Mayor


Maryann Waddle, City Secretary