

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

The Edna City Council met in regular session on Thursday, December 14, 2023, in council chambers at 6:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Lance Smiga called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. The council stood for a moment of silence, followed by the council and audience reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. Councilperson District 1 Cipriano Palacios, Councilperson District 2 Wayne Callis, Councilperson District 3 Chris Jackson, and Councilperson District 5 Johnny Vasquez were present, City Manager Gary Broz, Director of Utilities Brad Ryan, Police Chief Rick Boone, Finance Director Diane Pierce, and City Secretary Sonya Robinson were also present. Councilperson District 4 Mike Dodds was absent. Andy Brzozowski Street Supervisor, Finance Director Diane Pierce were absent. The minutes were recorded by City Secretary Robinson.

APPROVE MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD NOVEMBER 30, 2023:

Councilperson Jackson made the motion to approve the minutes of the city council meeting held November 30, 2023. Councilperson Vasquez seconded the motion. All voted AYE. Motion carried.

VISITORS: None

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

"During the council meeting, as each item is addressed, the council shall also allow the audience to speak on any subject matter that is posted on the agenda in accordance with HB 2840. The council may not take action on any item which has not been posted on the agenda." Please limit-two minutes.

No action taken.

CONSIDER RESOLUTION 2023-15 AUTHORIZING PARTICIPATION WITH THE CITIES SERVED BY AEP TEXAS; AUTHORIZING HIRING OF LEGAL COUNSEL; FINDING THAT THE CITY REASONABLE RATE CASE EXPENSES SHALL BE REIMBURSED BY THE COMPANY; FINDING THAT THE MEETINGS AT WHICH THIS RESOLUTION IS PASSED IS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC AS REQUIRED BY LAW; REQUIRING NOTICE OF THIS RESOLUTION TO LEGAL COUNSEL AND TAKE ANY ACTION DEEMED NECESSARY:

City Manager Gary Broz stated that AEP is asking for increase of \$2.90 per residential customer. Broz stated there is a lawsuit against the increase the cities have. Councilperson Jackson made a motion to approve resolution 2023-15 authorizing participation with the cities served by AEP Texas; authorizing hiring of legal counsel; finding that the city reasonable rate case expenses shall be reimbursed by the company; finding that the meetings at which this resolution is passed is open to the public as required by law; requiring notice of this resolution to legal counsel and take any action deemed necessary. Councilperson Vasquez seconded the motion. All voted AYE. Motion carried.

CONSIDER RESOLUTION 2023-13 ADDING SEAT BELT USAGE POLICY TO THE CITY PERSONNEL MANUAL AND TAKE ANY ACTION DEEMED NECESSARY:

City Manager Broz stated that this is a policy that we need to add to our personnel manual. Broz stated that since he has been working with the mitigation grant there are questions around the policy. Councilperson Callis made a motion to approve adding seat belt usage policy to the City of Edna Personnel Manual. Councilperson Palacios seconded the motion. All voted AYE. Motion carried.

CONSIDER RESOLUTION 2023-14 ADDING POLICY ON TEXT MESSAGING WHILE DRIVING TO THE CITY PERSONNEL MANUAL AND TAKE ANY ACTION DEEMED NECESSARY:

City Manager Broz stated that this is a policy that we need to add to our personnel manual. Broz stated that since he has been working with the mitigation grant there are questions around a policy on text messaging while driving. Councilperson Palacios made a motion to approve adding policy on text messaging while driving to City of Edna Personnel Manual. Councilperson Vasquez seconded the motion. All voted AYE. Motion carried.

DISCUSS AND CONSIDER BUDGET AMENDMENTS:

Pass

DISCUSS AND TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION TO CONSIDER PAYMENT OF CURRENT BILLS:

Councilperson Jackson made the motion to approve the payment of current bills in the amount of \$88,004.40. Councilperson Callis seconded the motion. All voted AYE. Motion carried.

CITY STAFF REPORTS:

"At this time, City Council will hear reports / updates on all committees or department assignments which may include, but is not limited to the following: City Manager-grants, projects, public information; Finance Director-finance & department reports; Police Department-grant updates, police reports; Director of Utilities-park reports, water & sewer updates; Street Department-repairs/projects; Code Enforcement-progress reports; Jonas Titus-Vice Economic Development; City Secretary-public information." No formal action taken on these items.

Gary Broz, City Manager, applauded the PD for their great work this week. Broz informed everyone is about time for the election again. This year it will be district 3,4, and 5 and can start process January 17, 2024. TCEQ was in town today. They check the burn pile out on CO RD 822 the old fairgrounds. Broz stated that the burn pile is still too hot, so we have asked for an extension. The extension is now until March 1, 2024. CO project is in budget. Utility software will go live January 2nd and January 8th we will start meter installation. Golden Crescent grant is moving slowly. 1123 N Kleas is moving. Letters have been sent to Cottonwood apartments from Code Enforcement. We are hoping to meet with the Cottonwood Apt. owner in January. Hoping he will allow us to view some apartments. We have received about \$100,000 in property tax money. Broz stated a solution for Shelby Park until more information is available. Close and lock all pipe gates, lock all electric boxes: there will be a fee to use of \$50 an hour, The group that use will have to clean up around field, dugouts batting cages, and concession stand. Restrooms will only be unlocked for functions. It will be the user's responsibility for cleaning the restrooms.

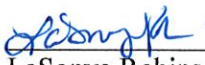
Director of Utilities Brad Ryan stated he has had a couple of his workers on vacation, and they just been staying busy.

Police Chief Rick Boone stated they have been assisting the county with a couple of major crashes, a couple of juveniles have been sent to Victoria for burglary, oil pan leak on one of their vehicles, so they are down one vehicle. Tip A Cop was very successful, they were able to take 12 kids Christmas shopping. The Lonestar for overtime has tripled. Pd has received \$90,000.00 to buy a vehicle. The man has been arrested for the killing of the 16-year-old girl.

ADJOURN:

Councilperson Jackson made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:27 p.m. Councilperson Callis seconded the motion. All voted AYE. Motion carried.



Lance Smiga, Mayor

LaSonya Robinson, City Secretary