

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

The Edna City Council met in regular session on Thursday, July 18, 2024, 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 prayer by Andy Brzozowski followed by the council and audience reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENT: Councilperson District 1 Cipriano Palacios, Councilperson District 2 Wayne Callis, Councilperson District 3 Chris Jackson, Councilperson District 4 Mike Dodds and were present. City Manager Gary Broz, Police Chief Rick Boone, Street Superintendent Andy Brzozowski, Finance Director Diane Peirce, Utility Director Brad Ryan and City Secretary LaSonya Robinson were also present. Councilperson District 5 Amanda Friedrich was absent. The minutes were recorded by City Secretary Robinson.

APPROVE MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD JULY 2, 2024:

Councilperson Jackson made a motion to approve the July 2, 2024, minutes. Councilperson Callis seconded the motion. All voted AYE. Motion carried.

VISITORS: Beth Foley- Jackson Hearld, Andrew Tobola, Enrique Maya, Cameon Palacios Tobola, Mary Palacios, Joe Luna, Olivia Luna, Betty Hernandez, Dolly Nunez, James Griffin, Jill Sklar, Lindsey Lee, Julie Garza, Sara Ramirez, Royce Hudgeons, Stephiane Hudgeons, Lydia Jordan, Gaby Alvarez, Jonas Titas – VEDC, Mike Jordan, Hannah Cunningham, Kristi Cunningham, Michael Linburg, Frances Lindberg, Matilda Hernandez,

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.

PUBLIC HEARING:

DISCUSS AND CONSIDER APPLICATION FOR A NEW SUBDIVISION. LEGAL DESCRIPTION: WARDS, EDNA, BLOCK 8, ACRES 7.22:

Sonya Robinson City Secretary stated there were 7 letters mailed and there were no responses. Robinson stated that Jake Tipton and Lindsey Lee are available for any questions. Jake advised everyone that they want to build a subdivision. The council asks what his plan is. Tipton stated they will start with about five homes and see how pricing and taxes are at that time. Tipton states he plans on renting the houses.

APPROVE OR DISAPPROVE THE APPLICATION FOR A SUBDIVISION APPLICATION. LEGAL DESCRIPTION: WARDS, EDNA, BLOCK 8, ACRES 7.22:

Councilperson Callis made the motion to approve the request for a new subdivision. Councilperson Palacios seconded the motion. All voted AYE. Motion carried.

PUBLIC HEARING:

DISCUSS AND CONSIDER AN APPLICATION FOR A ZONE CHANGE PERMIT. ZONE IS CURRENTLY RESIDENTIAL R-2 AND THERE IS A REQUEST FOR PROPERTY TO CHANGE TO COMMERCIAL. LEGAL DESCRIPTION: LOT PT 3-TR 2, ACRES 0.413, EDNA BLOCK C, LOT 198X660+82X500FT2, ACRES 3.7, ADDISTON EDNA BLOCK C, LOT W PT 2, ACRES 2.46.

Mayor Lance Smiga requested to table the zone change permit but allowed the visitors to voice their concerns.

APPROVE OR DISAPPROVE THE APPLICATION FOR A ZONE CHANGE PERMIT. ZONE IS CURRENTLY RESIDENTIAL R-2 AND THERE IS A REQUEST FOR PROPERTY TO CHANGE TO COMMERCIAL. LEGAL DESCRIPTION: LOT PT 3-TR 2, ACRES 0.413, EDNA BLOCK C, LOT 198X660+82X500FT2, ACRES 3.7, ADDISTON EDNA BLOCK C, LOT W PT 2, ACRES 2.46.

Councilperson Palacios made a motion to table the zone change permit. Councilperson Jackson seconded the motion. All voted AYE. Motion carried.

SECOND READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 2024-10, AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF EDNA, TEXAS ADOPTING A DROUGHT CONTINGENCY PLAN; ESTABLISHING CRITERIA FOR THE INITIATION AND TERMINATION OF DROUGHT RESPONSE STAGES; ESTABLISHING RESTRICTIONS ON CERTAIN WATER USES; ESTABLISHING PENALTIES FOR THE VIOLATION OF THE PROVISIONS FOR ENFORCEMENT OF THESE RESTRICTIONS; ESTABLISHING PROCEDURES FOR GRANTING VARIANCES; AND PROVIDING SEVERABILITY AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE:

City Manager Gary Broz stated that we need to adopt a Drought Contingency Plan. Broz stated that the last ordinance was in 2000. Councilperson Jackson made a motion to approve the second reading of ordinance no. 2024-10 to pass a Drought Contingency Plan. Councilperson Dodds seconded the motion. All voted AYE. Motion carried.

DISCUSS AWARDING AGREEMENT TO LSPS SOLUTIONS, LLC OUT OF VICTORIA, TX FOR COMPLETION OF THE CITY LEAD AND COPPER RULE MANDATE FOR THE EPA AND TAKE ANY ACTION DEEMED NECESSARY:

City Manager Gary Broz stated that EPA has new lead and copper rules. Broz stated we must look at every meter to see what up or down and we must have a record of it. Broz stated that the deadline is Oct 1st. Broz stated the crew that is installing the meters are doing an extra step to complete this task for us. Broz states that it's all about the paperwork for TCEQ and EPA. Broz stated if we were to hire a company it would cost us about \$80,000 to do the total project. Broz stated LSPS will charge us about \$20,000 to complete paperwork and get us in compliance. Councilperson Jackson made a motion to award the agreement to LSPS Solutions, LLC out of Victoria, TX. Councilperson Palacios seconded the motion. All voted AYE. Motion carried.

DISCUSSION WITH TEXAS DISPOSAL SERVICES ABOUT THE TRASH AND BRUSH SERVICE THROUGHOUT THE CITY AND TAKE ANY ACTION DEEMED NECESSARY:

Council discussed with James Griffin (TDS) their feelings about all the brush in town that is not being picked up. City Manager Broz stated that on July 12 he and Griffin rode around the city to look at all the brush and the following week it was still not collected. Mayor Lance Smiga stated that there is not a trash issue, it is only a brush issue. Griffin stated that on the ride around town he noticed small brushes on vacant lots. Griffin went on to say they have a new driver and was not aware that picking up on a vacant lot is in City of Edna contract and that has been addressed. Griffin stated they do not like to lift over 40 pounds. Councilperson Palacios asked about the clause in the contract for special pickup. Griffin stated they pick up bulky items and would have to review the clause for the meaning of special pickup. Mayor Lance Smiga stated that we ask for an estimate to remove picking up brush from the contract. Griffin stated that he gave the city manager Broz a rough estimate of about .60 cents. Mayor Smiga stated that the supervisor needs to tag the limbs not the driver and send a picture to us, so we can inform customers on what they need to have for their brush to be picked up. Mayor Smiga asks if we can revisit our contract. Griffin stated yes. Mayor Smiga asked City Manager Broz to draft a letter and we will move forward with that.

DISCUSS AND CONSIDER BUDGET AMENDMENTS:

No action taken.

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

The City Manager stated that we need to pay bills totaling \$217,622.79. Councilperson Callis made a motion to approve paying bills totaling \$217,622.79. Councilperson Dodds made a motion to second. 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."

City Manager Broz stated City cleanup last week went well Thursday pick up was washed out but we filled 9 – 40-yard roll off's with debris, 3 – 30-yard Rolloff's with metal and 279 tires, had a call on yesterday with Standard and Poor for Bond Rating to determine our interest rate, hurricane Beryl went east of us and city had had minimal damage, we sent a crew from the street department to Bay City to assist them for two days with cleanup, our sales tax revenue for July is up from last year, will have a zoom meeting next Wednesday with the GLO on the Mitigation Grant, hopefully a contract will come out of the call, completed the SECO Grant with new lights in City Hall, have not heard anything on our TWDB Grant to clean Post Oak Branch, FEMA is supposed to release results at any time, we have 2330 water meters installed, software conversion is moving, we will start purchasing soon, have a budget workshop July 31st that will need to be pushed back to August 7th or 8th if one of those days work for everybody, received \$25,000 from the Robinson Foundation for Shelby Park RR/Concession Stand construction, BLS will have preliminary plans next week for the RR/Concession Stand at Shelby Park, three of the six buildings are demolished, the house on Allen Street is being demolished by the owner, grass is growing and we are sending out letter, spent Friday with James Griffin from TDS to come up with plan for the brush pickup around the city.

Finance Director Diane Pierce stated that Vicki is currently inputting meter information, we are processing payments, working on budget preparations, software transition and bank reconciliations.

Street Superintendent Andy Brozowski stated prepared the yard for a possible hurricane, mowed and trimmed a ditch on Miricle Drive, made over 200 sandbags for citizens, back filled and water leak repair in the 700 block of S. Wells and at the intersection of Gilbert and Gayle Street, helped Bay City with cleanup for two days, participated in the City of Edna cleanup, started shredding City R.O.W, patched potholes, check all drains prior to and during the rain.

Director of Utilities state they repaired water leak on 111 S. at Church St., Chase St., Roosevelt and Harris, repaired sewer line at W. Gayle and Gilbert, installed sewer tap at 1401 US 59 Feeder, mowed plant and lift stations, cleaned UV system at plant, pulled boxes for meter installers, line located for fiber installers, read meters, made sludge boxes at plant, helped with cleanup.

Police Chief Rick Boone stated they made 56 traffic stops, 17 of those resulted in a citation, 66 warning was issued and 13 arrests have been made from the last meeting. Durning hurricane scare all PD stayed at office, animal control had a case in municipal court this week, the owner relinquished the three dogs and we currently housing 21 dogs, unit #664 is current at Port Lavaca ford needing a engine, unit #663 has been repaired from minor crash, still need stickers, Detective Bustamante finished up a big sexual assault and tampering with evidence case. Officers were dispatched to a residence involving a mental issue, and officers continue work traffic at Main and Wells.

ADJOURN:

Councilperson Dodds made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:49 p.m. Councilperson Dodds made a motion to adjourn. Councilperson Jackson seconded the motion. All voted AYE. Motion carried.

Lance Smiga, Mayor

LaSonya Robinson, City Secretary