

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

The Edna City Council met in regular session on Thursday, December 3, 2020 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 the moment of silence, followed by the council and audience reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. Councilmember District 1 Dustin Muncrief, Councilmember District 2 Wayne Callis, Councilmember District 4 Mike Dodds and Councilmember District 5 Johnny Vasquez were in attendance. City Manager Gary Broz, City Secretary Becky Miska, Finance Director Olga Salomon, Water Wastewater Superintendent Justin Weber, Director of Public Works Brad Ryan, Street Superintendent Steve Sample and Chief of Police Clinton Wooldridge were in attendance. Minutes were recorded by City Secretary Becky Miska.

VISITORS: Cari Jackson, Rick Boone, John Meng-Jackson County Herald Tribune

APPROVE MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD NOVEMBER 10, 2020:

Councilmember Callis made the motion to approve minutes of the city council meeting held November 10, 2020. Councilmember Vasquez seconded the motion. All voted AYE. Motion carried.

HEARING OF VISTIORS:

“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.” Please limit comments – two minutes.

At this time, Mayor Lance Smiga present Rick Boone (previous Councilmember District 3) with a plaque of appreciation from the City of Edna and thank him for serving.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

HOLD AN EXECUTIVE SESSION IN ACCORDANCE WITH TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE §551.074; PERSONNEL MATTERS; TO DELIBERATE THE APPOINTMENT, EMPLOYMENT, EVALUATION, REASSIGNMENT, DUTIES, DISCIPLINE OR DISMISSAL OF A PUBLIC OFFICER OR EMPLOYEE; POSSIBLE APPOINTMENT OF COUNCILMEMBER:

At this time, the council chambers was cleared of visitors. Council went into executive session at 6:15pm

DISCUSS AND TAKE ANY ACTION DEEMED NECESSARY FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Council came back into open session at 6:30pm Councilmember Muncrief made the motion to appoint Chris Jackson to represent District 3 as Councilmember. Councilmember Dodds seconded the motion. All voted AYE. Motion carried.

ADMINISTER OATH OF OFFICE TO POSSIBLE NEW COUNCILMEMBER DISTRICT 3:

City Secretary Miska administered Oath of Office to newly appointed Councilmember District 3 Chris Jackson.

PUBLIC HEARING:

- a) **DISCUSS AND TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION TO CONSIDER REQUEST FROM DONNY SPARKS FOR A ZONING CHANGE FROM R-2 TO COMMERCIAL. LOCATION: 200 BLOCK OF ST. CHARLES. LEGAL DESCRIPTION: SOUTHSIDE, LOT 1-4, BLOCK 2, JACKSON COUNTY, TEXAS**

City Manager Broz stated he had spoken with Donny Sparks and Mr. Sparks asked that this be tabled until after the first of the year. Councilmember Dodds made the motion to table the request from Donny Sparks for a zoning change. Councilmember Vasquez seconded the motion. All voted AYE. Motion carried.

APPROVE OR DISAPPROVE THE PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION'S RECOMMENDATION:

a) ZONING CHANGE APPLICATION – DONNY SPARKS

This item was tabled.

DISCUSS AND TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION TO CONSIDER APPOINTMENT TO THE PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION:

No action was taken.

DISCUSS POSSIBILITY OF AN EMPLOYEE DONATING ACCRUED SICK TIME FOR ANOTHER EMPLOYEE IN NEED AND TAKE ANY ACTION DEEMED NECESSARY:

City Manager Broz explained that sometimes an employee may have a major hospital stay, treatments or illness and may not have enough sick time to cover time needed off. Broz added that another employee may have a large amount of accumulated sick leave. City Manager Broz went onto ask if council would consider an employee giving another employee sick leave hours if needed. Councilmember Dodds made the motion to approve an employee donating accrued sick time for another employee in need. Councilmember Jackson seconded the motion. All voted AYE. Motion carried.

DISCUSS AND TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION TO CONSIDER CONTRACT EXTENSION WITH TEXAS DISPOSAL SYSTEMS AND TAKE ANY ACTION DEEMED NECESSARY:

City Manager Broz noted the county was moving forward. Councilmember Vasquez made the motion to approve the contract extension with Texas Disposal Systems for three years. Councilmember Muncrief seconded the motion. All voted AYE. Motion carried.

DISCUSS AND TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION TO CONSIDER ORDINANCE NO. 2020-11 AN ORDINANCE AFFECTING PARTICIPATION OF CITY EMPLOYEES IN THE TEXAS MUNICIPAL RETIREMENT SYSTEM; GRANTING THE ADDITIONAL RIGHTS, CREDITS AND BENEFITS AUTHORIZED BY SECTIONS 852.205 OF TITLE B, GOVERNMENT CODE, AS AMENDED; AND PRESCRIBING THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS ORDINANCE:

City Manager Broz stated that most cities have adopted an ordinance allowing employees to be vested in five (5) years. Councilmember Muncrief made the motion to approve Ordinance No. 2020-11 an ordinance affecting participation of city employees in the Texas Municipal Retirement System granting employees to be vested with the City of Edna after five (5) years of employment. Councilmember Dodds seconded the motion. All voted AYE. Motion carried.

DISCUSS CHRISTMAS PARADE TO BE HELD ON DECEMBER 12TH AND TAKE ANY ACTION DEEMED NECESSARY:

The parade will take place as planned on December 12th. Citizens are excited.

DISCUSS AND CONSIDER REAPPOINTING MONICA FOSTER TO THE JACKSON CENTRAL APPRAISAL DISTRICT BOARD:

Councilmember Muncrief made the motion to reappoint Monica Foster to the Jackson Central Appraisal District Board. Councilmember Vasquez seconded the motion. All voted AYE. Motion carried.

DISCUSS PREVIOUS BIDS FOR DEMOLITION OF TWO STRUCTURES LOCATED AT 605 MARTIN LUTHER KING AND 508 SAYLES:

City Manager Broz noted that Jason Stafford continue to be the lowest bidder to demolition the two structures. Councilmember Dodds made the motion to award Jason Stafford the contract to demolition the structure located at 605 Martin Luther King for \$6,300 and 508 Sayles for \$9,000. Councilmember Muncrief seconded the motion. All voted AYE. Motion carried.

DISCUSS POSSIBLE RELOCATION OF COMMUNITY GARDEN TO HICKORY STREET AND TAKE ANY ACTION DEEMED NECESSARY:

City Manager Broz noted that the previous location proposed for the community garden did not work out. Broz asked council to consider the relocation of the community garden to Hickory Street property where the water tower is located. Councilmember Dodds noted that the area was utilized for little league

baseball practice in the spring. Mayor Smiga asked that item be tabled. Councilmember Dodds made the motion table the item. Councilmember Callis seconded the motion. All voted AYE. Motion carried.

DISCUSS AND TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION ON POSSIBLE AGREEMENT WITH EDNA INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT FOR THE CITY OF EDNA TO FURNISH A SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER:

Rick Boone (who will take the position of Chief of Police on January 1, 2021) addressed the council noting that 90% of the budget would be covered by the school district and that the school will cover training costs as well. Councilmember Muncrief made the motion to approve an agreement with the Edna Independent School District for the City of Edna to furnish a School Resource Officer. Councilmember Jackson seconded the motion. All voted AYE. Motion carried.

DISCUSS COVID-19 AND TAKE ANY ACTION DEEMED NECESSARY:

Mayor Smiga noted the number of positive cases has risen to 56. Mayor encouraged citizens to wear masks when out in public.

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

Councilmember Vasquez made the motion to approve payment of current bills in the amount of \$188,213.82. Councilmember Dodds seconded the motion. All voted AYE. Motion carried.

CITY STAFF REPORTS:

“At this time, the City Council will hear reports / updates on all committees or department assignments, which may include, but is not limited to the following: Police Department-grant updates, police reports; Public Works Department-park reports, water & sewer updates; Street Department-repairs/projects; Code Enforcement-progress reports; City Manager & City Secretary-public information.” No formal action can be taken on these items.

City Manager Gary Broz thanked the city staff for decorating for the holidays throughout the city and at city hall. The new phone system has been installed. The city has been contacted that tonight at 10:30pm substation repairs will be taken place and electricity may be out in some areas up to 3 hours. The Hickory Street water tower is undergoing improvements along with the Edna Cowboys and Edna Cowgirls being painted on the tower. Mr. Broz reminded the council and visitors that Chief of Police Clinton Wooldridge’s retirement reception will be held in council chambers on December 29th. **Director of Public Works Brad Ryan** reported that the holiday decorating went smoothly this year. **Water Wastewater Justin Weber** stated that weather permitting the tower will continue with painting of the blue cowboy emblem. **Chief of Police Clinton Wooldridge** gave an update on the tasers; the company made it right and forwarded the much needed batteries. Patrol car is still in the body shop.

ADJOURN:

Councilmember Jackson made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember Vasquez seconded the motion. All voted AYE. Motion carried.

APPROVED:

Lance Smiga, Mayor

ATTEST:

Becky Miska, City Secretary