

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

The Edna City Council met in regular city council meeting, Thursday, March 19, 2015 in council chambers at 6:30 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Joe Hermes called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

PRESENT: Mayor Joe Hermes, Councilmember Richard Browning, William Selders, Maxine Price, Jean Sorensen and Johnny Vasquez. City Secretary Becky Miska, Finance Director Olga Salomon, Chief of Police Clinton Wooldridge, Director of Public Works Brad Ryan, Street Superintendent Steve Sample, Water Wastewater Superintendent Greg Woodring and EMS Director/Fire Marshal Loyd Chase were also present.

APPROVE MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD MARCH 5, 2015:

Councilmember Browning made the motion to approve minutes of the city council meeting held March 5, 2015. Councilmember Selders seconded the motion. All voted AYE. Motion carried.

VISITORS: Phillip Huseman-KSA Engineers, Velma Vasquez, Lawrence Prince, Jimmy Lee Barnes, Monica Martin-Permit & Inspection Department/Wharton County, Wayne Callis and Chris Lundstrum-Jackson County Herald Tribune.

HEARING OF VISITORS:

“At this time, comments will be heard from the audience on any subject matter that is not on the agenda. In accordance, with the Open Meeting Act, City Council may not discuss or take action on any item which has not been posted on the agenda.”

Lawrence Prince addressed the council in regards to property he was mowing a couple of years ago in which the culvert pipe broke/separated and his tractor fell in. City crews came and took the culvert pipe out. Since that time the property was purchased by Jimmy Lee Barnes.

Jimmy Lee Barnes addressed the council stating he still feels that it is the city responsibility to replace the culverts since they took them out.

Steve Sample, Street Department Superintendent, noted he had also spoken to the Mr. Slatter at the Jackson County County-Wide Drainage District who remembered when the culvert was taken out because it was broken. Due to it hindering the drainage in the area the Drainage District did not have a problem with the culvert being taken out.

After discussion, Mayor Hermes stated council did not feel that it is the city's responsibility to replace the culvert. Hermes noted that Mr. Barnes purchased the property knowing there was no culvert.

DISCUSS AND TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION TO CONSIDER RESOLUTION NO. R-2015-02 AUTHORIZING DON DOERING, CITY MANAGER AND BECKY MISKA, CITY SECRETARY TO COUNTERSIGN CHECKS AND EXECUTE DOCUMENTS FOR THE CITY OF EDNA:

Mayor Hermes asked that Resolution No. R-2015-02 be amended to reflect his name as well. Councilmember Price made the motion to approve Resolution No. R-2015-02 authorizing City Manager Don Doering, City Secretary Becky Miska and Mayor Joe Hermes to be authorized to countersign checks and execute documents for the City of Edna. Councilmember Vasquez seconded the motion. All voted AYE. Motion carried.

HEAR REPORT FROM TEXAS COLORADO RIVER COALITION REPRESENTATIVE:

Monica Martin, Permit & Inspection Department/Wharton County, addressed the council regarding the Texas Colorado River Coalition. Mrs. Martin was asked to come to the council meeting to explain the importance and benefits of being a member of the Texas Colorado River Coalition. Also, answer any questions they may have. The City of Edna will benefit from grants to be applied for and assistance if the city should ever be struck by disaster.

HEAR REPORT FROM KSA ENGINEERS REGARDING VARIOUS CITY PROJECTS:

Phillip Huseman reported to council on the following: *The Flag City Plaza* – The concrete has been stained for the star and electrical is in place for the sign. It is four weeks out for the lettering and plaques to be put in place on the sign. The aim is for everything to be completed by Flag Day on June 14th. *Sanitary Sewer System* - Will be working on Division to Maxine section of streets under Dry Creek. Philip noted he has been working with Mayor Hermes and Brad Ryan, Director of Public Works with notification to TECQ that recent rains had elevated the e-coli issue accrued only when it rains. *Sidewalks* – Huseman also stated he had been looking at TxDot grant applications that would be coming in the near future.

DISCUSS AND TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION IN CONSIDER CITY OF EDNA ORDINANCE NO. 2015-03 TO REPEAL ORDINANCE NO. 2013-04 THAT ESTABLISHED RATES FOR COMMERCIAL SERVICES THAT DEPOSITED OR DISCHARGED TREATED WASTEWATER:

Mayor Hermes asked Director of Public Works Brad Ryan to give a report on this request. Mr. Ryan reported that the City of Edna adopted Ordinance No. 2013-04 in order to establish rates for commercial services that deposited or discharged treated wastewater. The city presently has three companies that utilize this service. With taking the discharged treated wastewater there are rags, trash, port-a-potty waste which is causing endless repairs at the sewer plant. Ryan noted the City is spending more many than taking in and he asked the council to consider repealing Ordinance No. 2013-04. Councilmember Browning made the motion to approve City of Edna Ordinance No. 2015-03 repealing City of Edna Ordinance No. 2013-04 that established rates for commercial services that deposited or discharged treated wastewater, repealing any conflicting city ordinance(s) that established such fees; providing for severability; and establishing an effective date. Councilmember Price seconded the motion. All voted AYE. Motion carried.

CONSIDER PAYMENT OF CURRENT BILLS:

Councilmember Vasquez made the motion to approve payment of current bills in the amount of \$286,678.00. Councilmember Browning 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 not include, but is not limited to the following: Police Department-grant updates, police report; Fire Department-grant updates, fire reports; Public Works Department-park reports, water & sewer line updates, street repairs/project; City Secretary & City Manager-public information; Finance Director-financial report; Code Enforcement-progress reports on code issues. No formal action can be taken on these items.”

Becky Miska-City Secretary noted “Jackson County Day” will be held at the State Capital in Austin on April 21st. Loyd Chase-EMS Director reported two grants had been received from the Forestry Service; each grant is \$8,400. Steve Sample-Street Department stated that between recent rains city crews have been patching streets where they can. The street sweeper will be running as soon as it dries up.

ADJOURN:

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

APPROVED:_____

Joe Hermes, Mayor

ATTEST:_____

Becky Miska, City Secretary