

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

The Edna City Council in regular session on Thursday, May 5, 2022 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. Councilperson District 2 Wayne Callis, Councilperson District 3 Chris Jackson and Councilperson District 4 Mike Dodds were present. Councilperson District 1 Dustin Muncrief and Councilperson District 5 Johnny Vasquez were absent. City Manager Gary Broz, Chief of Police Rick Boone, Finance Director Olga Salomon, Director of Utilities Brad Ryan and Street Superintendent Andy Brzozowski were also present. Minutes were recorded by City Secretary Becky Miska.

APPROVE MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD APRIL 21, 2022 AND MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL WORKSHOP HELD ON APRIL 26, 2022:

Councilperson Jackson made the motion to approve the minutes of the city council meeting held April 21, 2022 and minutes of the special workshop held on April 26, 2022. Councilperson Dodds seconded the motion. All voted AYE. Motion carried.

VISITORS: Jessica Coleman – Jackson County Herald Tribune, Kenneth Tones, David L. Webel, Jonas Titas, CECD/President VEDC, Victoria Economic Development Corporation, Sharon H. Barnard/Vice President Economic Development VEDC and Raquel Garza, Economic Development Specialist/Victoria Economic Development Corporation

HEARING OF VISITORS:

“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.

Kenneth Tones addressed the council regarding his concerns of the trash from his neighbor’s yard. Mr. Tones lives on South East Street.

CONSIDER SALE OF SURPLUS LOADER TO JACKSON COUNTY PRECINCT 3 THROUGH INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT AND TAKE ANY ACTION DEEMED NECESSARY:

City Manager Broz reported to council that he has been in conversation with Precinct 3 Commissioner Glen Martin about a surplus loader that the city has, and that Precinct 3 would be able to utilize. The City and Precinct 3 have an Interlocal Agreement in place. Broz asked the council to consider giving the surplus loader to the Precinct 3 thru the Interlocal Agreement. When the City needs assistance from the Precinct a dollar amount would be deducted from the agreed price of the surplus loader. The agreed price is \$5,000. It will be documented, and detailed documentation of work done will be deducted from the agreed price and be kept for our auditors. Councilperson Jackson made the motion to approve the sale of the surplus loader to Jackson County Precinct 3 through Interlocal Agreement. Councilperson Callis seconded the motion. All voted AYE. Motion carried.

DISCUSS AND TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION TO CONSIDER AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF EDNA, TEXAS AND THE VICTORIA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION:

City Manager Broz stated that he had met Jonas Titus and his team thru meetings that they were both attending regarding broadband. During conversation Gary mentioned the city is needing to do something in Economic Development. After several conversations of the City’s needs to move forward Broz asked the council to consider the proposed agreement with VEDC. Councilperson Callis made the motion to

approve the Agreement between the City of Edna, Texas and the Victoria Economic Development Corporation. Councilperson Jackson seconded the motion. All voted AYE. Motion carried.

HEAR PRESENTATION FROM DAVID L. WEBEL, REPUBLICAN PARTY CHAIR, ON THE SELECTION PROCESS FOR THE JACKSON COUNTY SHERIFF:

Jackson County Republican Party Chair David L. Webel addressed the Edna City Council to update them on the state of the race for Jackson County Sheriff. Mr. Webel outlined that when former Sheriff Andy Louderback decided to run for congress against incumbent Michael Cloud, he was required to step down as Sheriff in order to run. Because of the timing of Louderback's resignation and declaration of candidacy, the seat could not be filled via election until 2024. Three candidates have stepped up and shown interest in the position, but all three – Craig Kirkpatrick, John Davis and Rick Boone have stated that Kelly Janica should finish out the term vacated by Andy Louderback. They all agreed this would allow the people of Jackson County to decide on their next sheriff, instead of leaving it up to the Republican Party to choose one of them as the republican nominee. Webel continued that local elections rarely have Democrat challengers, so whoever received the Republican nomination is usually named to the office for which they're running. Webel said that the Republican Party has been having townhall meetings to gauge what the public believes is best. "I can't tell you today what we're going to do," said Webel. He added that he believes Janica has done a great job filling the spot. Mr. Louderback has expressed interest in taking the spot back.

Rick Boone addressed the council saying that whatever happens whether Louderback throws his name in the mix or not, that he, Davis and Kirkpatrick will all wait. "After going to the first community meeting, we determined that the people were really upset that their voice was stripped away from them, not having a say in who their next sheriff is, who's on the ballot, and who they could vote for," he said. "We met with David, we met with all the committee members, and decided it would be in the county's best interest if we withdraw, and push for Kelly to get that nomination through the republican party." "Then in 2024, whoever is interested in the job could then have their voice back and they could choose whoever they want," he added, "that's what we decided. It was a handshake deal. We anticipate the committee choosing Kelly Janica, and we are going to march on for the next two years. The only wildcard is the unexpected.

DISCUSS AND TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION TO APPOINT VOTING DELEGATE(S) TO THE GOLDEN CRESCENT REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION (GCRPC) GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

City Manager Broz noted that currently Councilperson Muncrief and Councilperson Dodds represent the City of Edna. Councilperson Jackson made the motion to reappoint Councilperson Mike Dodds and Councilperson Dustin Muncrief as voting delegates to the Golden Crescent Regional Planning Commission (GCRPC) General Assembly. Councilperson Callis seconded the motion. All voted AYE. Motion carried.

DISCUSS AND TAKE ACTION ON RESOLUTION NO. R-2022-12 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PUBLICATION AND POSTING OF NOTICE OF INTENTION TO ISSUE CERTIFICATES OF OBLIGATION TO FINANCE WATERWORKS AND SEWER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS AND SOFTWARE UPGRADES:

City Manager Gary Broz report the need for the new water meters and software upgrades. In order for the City to move into the future with adequate readings and reports these improvements are necessary. By approving Resolution No. R-2022-12 this will authorize the publication and posting of Notice of Intention to issue Certificates of Obligation to finance waterworks and sewer system improvements and software upgrades.

Councilperson Callis made the motion to approve Resolution No. R-2022-12 a resolution authorizing publication and posting of Notice of Intention to Issue Certificates of Obligation to finance waterworks and sewer system improvements and software upgrades. Councilperson Dodds seconded the motion. All voted AYE. Motion carried.

SET DATES FOR ANNUAL BUDGET WORKSHOPS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2022-2023:

City Manager Broz noted that budget workshops are upcoming. Broz suggested that July 20th and July 21st be set as budget workshop dates. The second council meeting is July 21st could be held before the council meeting. These dates were agreed upon. (No action was necessary)

APPROVE PROCLAMATION DESIGNATING MAY 1-7, 2022 AS HURRICANE AWARENESS WEEK:

Councilperson Dodds made the motion to approve proclamation showing the council's support in recognizing May 1-7, 2022 as Hurricane Awareness Week. Councilperson Jackson seconded the motion. All voted AYE. Motion carried.

APPROVE PROCLAMATION DESIGNATING MAY 21-27, 2022 AS NATIONAL SAFE BOATING WEEK:

Councilperson Dodds made the motion to approve proclamation showing the council's support in recognizing May 21-27, 2022 as National Safe Boating Week. Councilperson Callis seconded the motion. All voted AYE. Motion carried.

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

City Manager Broz reviewed the bills with council. Councilperson Jackson made the motion to approve payment of current bills in the amount of \$30,680.08. Councilperson Callis 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 Dept. – grant updates, police reports; Director of Utilities – water & wastewater updates; Street Dept. – repairs / projects, park reports; Finance Director-finance report; Code Enforcement – progress reports; City Manager & City Secretary – public information." No formal action can be taken on these items.

City Manager Gary Broz reported Code Enforcement Samantha Idlett has sent out 70 letters in March and 55 letters for violations in April. She is continuing to follow up and working hard in codes.

Three applications have been received for the Finance Director position.

Have been working on grants and continue moving forward with the process.

Next Wednesday morning, Chance with AllTime Tech will be at City Hall at 8am to put webmail on the council's phones.

At the next council meeting, there will be a short presentation on the Sensus Water Meters.

Results of the online auction for the surplus equipment will be presented on May 19th.

Finance Director Olga Salomon will continue with work until her retirement date at the end of May.

Director of Utilities Brad Ryan noted there have been several water leaks due to the dry weather.

Jackson County Hospital District had a water leak earlier today and it has been taken care of.

Employee, Abel Alderatte, passed his C License.

Street Superintendent Andy Brzozowski continuing with improvements on Cypress Street.

City crews have been hauling concrete to the Asbeck ditch to help with the erosion.

The department has a part-time worker that his main job is to drive the city and repair potholes.

Chief of Police Rick Boone stated that the dog pound has been pressure washed, sealing and painting will begin next week. All dogs were moved to out of town location on May 2nd before the work began. After all the repairs are completed, the dogs will be retrieved and returned back to the Edna shelter.

Working with other city departments to remove signs that are put on poles from garage sales, events, painting advertising, etc.

Two (2) burglaries have been solved. One was the burglary at the Vape Shop with \$2,000 worth of vape recovered.

The South Padre Smuggler was captured along with others at Dollar General.

There have been some issues happening at the school; the school haw worked to resolved and handed down proper punishment.

Edna Education and Edna Independent School District will be having a “Project Graduation” to help with the local soon to be graduates with their transition into the future. There will be several booths available with valuable information and a mock situation along with the beer goggles to remind them the importance of not drinking and driving.

Working with the school on the road closures for the Senior locked down party at Shelby Park,

ADJOURN:

Councilperson Dodds made the motion adjourn the meeting. Councilperson Callis seconded the motion. All voted AYE. Motion carried.

APPROVED: _____
Lance Smiga, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Becky Miska, City Secretary