

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

The Edna City Council in regular session on Thursday, April 7, 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 1 Dustin Muncrief, Councilperson District 2 Wayne Callis, Councilperson District 3 Chris Jackson, Councilperson District 4 Mike Dodds, Councilperson District 5 Johnny Vasquez were present. City Manager Gary Broz, Chief of Police Rick Boone, Director of Utilities Brad Ryan, Finance Director Olga Salomon, Street Superintendent Andy Brzozowski were also present. Minutes were recorded by City Secretary Becky Miska.

APPROVE MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD MARCH 24, 2022:

Councilperson Jackson made the motion to approve the minutes of the city council meeting held March 24, 2022. Councilperson Vasquez seconded the motion. All voted AYE. Motion carried.

VISITORS: Melissa Braunholz, Victor Diaz-Account Executive TML, Blake Petrash-TML Board Member, Clara King, Shanna Brooks,

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.

Clara King addressed the city council regarding loose dogs in the streets. Ms. King stated she lives on Mexico Street across from the motel. The dogs are coming from the motel area and are continually turning on the trash cans and spreading trash everywhere. King noted the Animal Control Officer and Patrolmen both who have been extremely helpful and professional. Chief of Police Boone spoke with Ms. King to get more information to try and resolve this issue. King also asked about a street light at the end of Mexico Street.

PRESENTATION OF A LONGEVITY AWARD TO THE CITY OF EDNA FROM TEXAS MUNICIPAL LEAGUE:

Victor Diaz, TML Account Executive and Blake Petrash, TML Board Member were present to thank the Edna City Council for their partnership with TML Health Benefits for the past 43 years. Diaz stated that TML appreciates the opportunity given to them for the continued support and commitment. A crystal plaque was given to the Mayor and Council

DISCUSS AND CONSIDER REQUEST FROM MELISSA BRAUNHOLZ WITH EDNA PROJECT GRADUATION COMMITTEE TO UTILIZE SHELBY PARK AND CLOSE CERTAIN STREETS FOR SAFETY:

Melissa Braunholz addressed the Council on behalf of the Edna Project Graduation Committee. The Committee would like for the utilize Shelby Park, Shelby Hall, baseball / softball fields and close off the street(s) in front of the park to help contain the group. The event should wind down around 6am on

Councilperson Jackson made the motion to approve the Edna Project Graduation Committee to utilize Shelby Park and close certain streets for safety. Councilperson Dodds seconded the motion. All voted AYE. Motion carried.

DISCUSS AND TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION TO CONSIDER CLOSING CERTAIN STREETS AROUND THE MARTIN LUTHER KING PARK FOR SAFETY PURPOSES DURING THE APRIL 9H EASTER EGG HUNT SPONSORED BY THE JUNETEENTH COMMITTEE.

Addressing the Council on behalf of the Juneteenth Committee was Shanna Brooks. was also present in support. Ms. Brooks noted the committee would like permission to utilize Martin Luther King Park on

April 9th to sponsor an Easter Egg Hunt. Also, close the street in front of the park (if needed) for the safety of the children. Councilperson Dodds made the motion to approve the request to utilize MLK Park and close certain street(s) on April 9th to hold an Easter Egg Hunt. Councilperson Muncrief seconded the motion. All voted AYE. Motion carried.

DISCUSS AND TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION TO CONSIDER REQUEST FROM THE JUNETEENTH COMMITTEE FOR FUNDING FROM THE CURRENT CITY'S BUDGETED HOTEL/MOTEL FOR THE 2022 FISCAL YEAR:

Shanna Brooks gave a report of the importance of the Freedom Celebration, the planned activities, the involvement of community as well as the visitors the celebration brings to Edna. Councilperson Callis asked what was budgeted. City Manager Broz noted \$2,000 was budgeted. Councilperson Dodds made the motion to approve funding the Juneteenth Committee in the amount of \$2,000 from the current city's budgeted hotel/motel for the 2022 fiscal year. Councilperson Vasquez seconded the motion. All voted AYE. Motion carried.

DISCUSS AND TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION TO CONSIDER CLOSING CERTAIN STREETS AROUND THE MARTIN LUTHER KING PARK FOR SAFETY PURPOSES DURING THE JUNE 18TH JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION SPONSORED BY THE JUNETEENTH COMMITTEE:

Councilperson Dodds made the motion to approve closing certain streets around the Martin Luther King Park for safety purposes during the June 18th Celebration. Councilperson Vasquez seconded the motion. All voted AYE. Motion carried.

DISCUSS AND TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION TO CONSIDER THE AUDIT ENGAGEMENT LETTER FROM HARRISON, WALDROP & UHEREK, L.L.P. AND TAKE ANY ACTION DEEMED NECESSARY:

PUBLIC HEARING:

HEAR COMMENTS REGARDING THE 2019-2022 TEXAS CDBG PROGRAM COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CONTRACT 721920:

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 \$404,552.22. Councilperson Vasquez 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 sales tax is up.

The city was awarded a grant to be utilized for new tanks for used oil;

Once employee evaluations are done, employees will receive 3% increase retro back to January.

City Clean Up is Wednesday, March 30th – Thursday, March 31st – Friday, April 1st from 8am to 5pm and on Saturday, April 2nd from 8am to noon. Disposal items will be taken to 404 N. Kleas.

Finance Director Olga Salomon reported she is working on end of the month financials.

The utility department has been extremely busy.

Street Superintendent Andy Brzozowski reported that crews have been busy cleaning ditches in Cypress Street area.

Director of Utilities Brad Ryan stated he has been busy with building inspections.

Two (2) new houses have been built: one on Vanderbilt Road and another on Dewberry Lane.

City crews have been busy with water leaks and several sewer stoppages.

Chief of Police Rick Boone reported mental health issues are on the rise.

Several officers are busy and involved with the murder trial which has been going on this week at the courthouse.

Joe Hermes delivered a \$5,000 check from Mr. William Hobson to be utilized towards the improvements to the new Police Station location.

The City of Edna and Jackson County have had their fair share of illegals; several were obtained last week and another today. The Edna Police Department is partnering with DPS and the City of Victoria Police Department to apprehend those entering our counties.

Investigator Derrick Bermea is utilizing a seized Tahoe; it has saved the city the cost of one; the city did have to outfit the seized vehicle with the needed equipment.

ADJOURN:

Before adjourning the meeting, Councilperson Vasquez asked Street Superintendent Brzozowski the status of trimming the tree canopies over Lavaca Street. Brzozowski noted he is aware, and it is on the list. Councilperson Vasquez also mentioned Lavaca Street needs attention because of the wear and tear caused by the school buses. Brzozowski noted he would look at it.

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

APPROVED: _____
Lance Smiga, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Becky Miska, City Secretary