

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

The Edna City Council met in regular session on Thursday, June 20, 2019 in council chambers at 6:30 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Lance Smiga called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Mayor Pro-Tem / Councilmember District 2 Wayne Callis, Councilmember District 3 Rick Boone, Councilmember District 4 Elizabeth Sommerfeld and Councilmember District 5 Johnny Vasquez were in attendance. Councilmember District 1 Dustin Muncrief was absent. City Manager Don Doering, Finance Director Olga Salomon, Chief of Police Clinton Wooldridge, Director of Public Works Brad Ryan and Street Superintendent Steve Sample were also present. Minutes were recorded by City Secretary Becky Miska.

VISITORS: Vicki Hessong, Velma Vasquez, Regina Dominy, Tami Stevens, Lydia Martinez, Serenity Martinez, Mariann Clark, Kaitlyn Clark, John Clark, Cindy Brown, Bryleigh Brown, Linda Brown, Kurt Janica, Justin Sommerfeld, Joe Hermes, Mary Margaret Read, Rodney Read, Dr. Aaron W. Wilfert, Whitney Wilfert, Jennifer Dierlam, Justine Cruz, Monica Foster-Jackson County Tax Assessor-Collector, Gianna Robison and Heather Harper.

APPROVE MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD MAY 14, 2019:

Councilmember Callis made the motion to approve minutes of the city council meeting held May 14, 2019. Councilmember Vasquez seconded the motion. All voted AYE. Motion carried.

APPROVE MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD MAY 14, 2019:

Councilmember Boone made the motion to approve minutes of the special city council meeting held May 14, 2019. Councilmember Callis seconded the motion. All voted AYE. Motion carried.

APPROVE MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD JUNE 3, 2019:

Councilmember Vasquez made the motion to approve minutes of the special city council meeting held June 3, 2019. Councilmember Callis seconded the motion. All voted AYE. Motion carried.

DISCUSS AND TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION TO CONSIDER APPOINTMENT OF ELIZABETH SOMMERFELD TO REPRESENT DISTRICT 4:

Councilmember Callis made the motion to appoint Elizabeth Sommerfeld as voted on in Special Session on June 3, 2019. Councilmember Vasquez seconded the motion. All voted AYE. Motion carried.

ADMINISTER OATH OF OFFICE TO APPOINTED OFFICIAL TO DISTRICT 4: ELIZABETH SOMMERFELD:

City Secretary Becky Miska administered Oath of Office to newly appointed official to District 4: Elizabeth Sommerfeld.

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, the Council may not discuss or take action on any item which has not been posted on the agenda.” Please limit comments to two (2) minutes.

There were no comments.

HEAR FROM DR. & WHITNEY WILFERT ON PUBLIC HEALTH AND FERAL INFORMATION:

Dr. & Whitney Wilfert voiced their thoughts, suggestions and concerns regarding the feral cats.

DISCUSS AND TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION TO CONSIDER PROPOSED CITY OF EDNA RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE EDNA COWBOY SCULPTURE:

Joe Hermes stood before the city council to update them on the proposed sculpture. Hermes noted that \$55,000 was being donated by the Schiewitz family in honor of their parents, the late Floyd and Brodie

Schiewitz. Hermes said the statue of a cowboy on a horse, tentatively named “Cowboy Pride” would be one and one half times the actual size. He went onto say that the sculpture was being commissioned by Douglas Clark. Clark is a native of Edna and currently serves as the sculpture professor at the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley in Edinburg. The statue will be located across the street from the Flag City Plaza on the north side of town. The city’s responsibility will be to provide a 4-foot concrete pad and electricity to light the sculpture. Hermes said the council’s vote of support was the first step and once finished will be sent to Mexico to be fired and completed. Mr. Hermes noted that the land which the statue will be placed on is owned by Whataburger. Hermes has been coordinating with Preston Atkinson. The Schiewitz family would like a confirmation that the city is on board with the project before they proceed with giving \$55,000 to the sculptor.

Mayor Lance Smiga noted that the city council had previously given their verbal okay towards the sculpture and asked the council if this was still their wish. Councilmember Callis made the motion for the city to continue their support towards the project. Councilmember Boone seconded the motion. All voted AYE. Motion carried.

It was noted that TxDot would also need to be contacted regarding setbacks.

DISCUSS AND TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION TO CONSIDER INTERLOCAL COOPERATION 2019-2020 PROPERTY TAX ASSESSMENT/COLLECTION AGREEMENT:

Jackson County Tax Assessor-Collector Monica Foster was in attendance to answer any questions that council may have. Foster noted that the Interlocal Agreement is presented annually and gives across the board equalities. Councilmember Boone made the motion to approve and accept the Interlocal Cooperation 2019-2020 Property Tax Assessment/Collection Agreement. Councilmember Callis seconded the motion. All voted AYE. Motion carried.

DISCUSS AND TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION TO CONSIDER ORDINANCE NO. 2019-03 AMENDING THE CITY OF EDNA CODE OF ORDINANCES, CHAPTER 5 “FIRE PREVENTION AND PROTECTION”, ARTICLE 5.02 SECTION 5.02.001, “ADOPTED” AND SECTION 5.02.002, “AMENDMENTS”, BY ADOPTING THE INTERNATIONAL FIRE CODE, 2018 EDITION WITH AMENDMENTS, AND BY DELETING SECTIONS 5.02003 “ESTABLISHMENT OF LIMITS OF DISTRICTS”, 5.02.005 “BOARD OF APPEALS”, 5.02.006 “ENFORCING OFFICER”, 5.02.007 “DEFINITION”, 5.02.008 “STORAGE OF EXPLOSIVES AND BLASTING AGENTS; STORAGE OF CLASS I LIQUIDS IN ABOVE-GROUND TANKS; STORAGE OF LIQUEFIED PETROLEUM GAS”, 5.02.009 “ MODIFICATIONS” 5.02.010 “APPEALS” 5.02.011 “PENALTY”, AND ARTICLE 5.03 “FIRE DEPARTMENT” IN THEIR ENTIRETY; PROVIDING A SAVINGS/REPEALING CLAUSE, SEVERABILITY CLAUSE, CODIFICATION CLAUSE AND EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS ORDINANCE:

ESD 3 Fire Chief Kurt Janica address the council regarding Ordinance No. 2019-03. Janica stated that the ESD 3 will take over enforcing the city’s fire code. Chief Janica noted he has been working on ordinance updates and revisions for some time now. “It seems only natural for the fire department to enforce our city’s fire codes” City Manager Doering added. Councilmember Callis made the motion to approve Ordinance No. 2019-03 amending the City of Edna Code of Ordinances, Chapter 5 regarding various sections for Fire Prevention, Protection and Enforcement. Councilmember Vasquez seconded the motion. All voted AYE. Motion carried.

DISCUSS AND TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION TO CONSIDER ORDINANCE NO. 2019-04 SETTING A TIME AND PLACE FOR REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS TO BE HELD;

Mayor Smiga noted that the current meeting time is 6:30 p.m. and he would like the council to consider changing it to begin at 6:00 p.m. Smiga added that the council meetings would continue to be held on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month. Councilmember Vasquez made the motion to approve Ordinance No. 2019-04 setting a time and place for regular city council meetings to be held. Councilmember Boone seconded the motion. All voted AYE. Motion carried.

DISCUSS AND TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION TO RESCHEDULE OR CANCEL THE JULY 4TH COUNCIL MEETING:

Councilmember Sommerfeld made the motion to cancel the July 4th council meeting. Councilmember Boone seconded the motion. All voted AYE. Motion carried.

CONSIDER PAYMENT OF CURRENT BILLS:

Councilmember Callis made the motion to approve payment of current bills and bond payments in the amount of \$334,007.78. Councilmember 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 Department-grant updates, police reports; Public Works Department-park reports, water & sewer line updates; Street Department – street repairs/projects; City Manager & City Secretary-public information. Finance Director-financial report; Code Enforcement-progress reports on code issues.” No formal action can be taken on these items.

City Manager Don Doering reported that Grantworks will be submitting the \$730,000 grant soon. Alamo Lumber has been issued a building permit for the old Walmart building. **Water Wastewater Superintendent Justin Weber** noted city crews have been replacing old broken manholes. **Finance Director Olga Salomon** stated that she will be passing out packets for the budget workshop which will be held next Tuesday. **Director of Public Works Brad Ryan** stated he wanted to thank Fire Chief Kurt Janica for all the hard work he put into updating and amending the ordinance for Fire Prevention & Protection. **Street Superintendent Steve Sample** street work will begin on South East, South Kleas and Yuba Dam next week; following that street work will continue on Gilbert Street, Catclaw and at the new Family Dollar.

ADJOURN:

Councilmember Callis made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember Boone seconded the motion. All voted AYE. Motion carried.

APPROVED: _____
Lance Smiga, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Becky Miska, City Secretary