

A regular meeting of the City Council of Sweeny, Texas, was held at City Hall on Tuesday, August 19, 2014 at 6 pm.

1. Call to Order

Mayor Rodney Weems called the meeting to order.

2. Roll Call

Council Present: Gary Coker, Dale Lemon (6:02 pm), Ray Bailey, Rachel Wells and Jerry Phillips. Also present: Cindy King, City Manager; Charlie Stevenson, Attorney, John Barnard, Chief of Police; Homer Toscano, Dir. of Public Works and Jose De Julian.

3. Invocation

Invocation was given by Charlie Stevenson.

4. Pledge of Allegiance

Pledge to the American Flag was recited and led by Ray Bailey.
Pledge to the Texas Flag was recited and led by Rachel Wells.

5. Presentation of Citizens: Roger Barton addressed the council in regards to Fire Department Budget cuts.

Visitors:

6. Consent Items

A. Approval of Minutes – July 15, 2014

B. Approval of Bills \$39,268.78

Ray Bailey made a motion to approve consent items. Rachel Wells seconded. All were in favor; motion carried.

7. Public Hearing

8. Fire Department Report – Roger Barton

9. Old Business

A. Discuss / Take Action to Replace Sewer Line on Estelle

Dale Lemon made a motion to approve replacing the sewer lines on Estelle Street. Rachel Wells seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

10. New Business

A. Discuss / Take Action on 2012-2013 Audit / Kennermer Masters

Kevin Cadenhead presented the Audit of 2012-2013. He suggested three things to work towards. 1) General Fund needs to be self-sufficient. Does the city need to reduce cost and or do we have a revenue issue on the tax side? 2) Enterprise Fund needs to build up a savings for water and sewer repairs, right now the city does not do that, it transfers to pay debt and to support the General Fund. 3) The City spent \$98,450.00 in excess appropriations. It was not issues of authorization; the budget was exceeded due to accounting issues that have been addressed.

Ray Bailey made a motion to accept the 2012-2013 Audit. Gary Coker seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Ms. King introduced our new employee, Karla Wilson. Karla is our new Court Clerk/Payroll Clerk. She has a degree in Accounting and is a prior C.P.A. She will also be helping with the City's annual audit.

B. Discuss / Take Action on Resolution / Certified Tax Roll for 2014

Charlie Stevenson read the resolution accepting the 2014 Tax Roll Certified by the Chief Appraiser. The net taxable value is \$109,116,917.00.

Ray Bailey made a motion to accept the Certified Tax Roll for 2014. Gary Coker seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

C. Discuss / Take Action on Tax Rate for Fiscal Year 2014/ 2015 and Schedule Public

Ray Bailey made a motion to accept the tax rate of .908000, which is above the effective tax rate of .869599 or an overall increase of .038401 cents. Set two public hearing on Sept 2, 2014 and Sept 9, 2014. Gary Coker seconded. Dale Lemon and Rachel Wells voted no. Jerry Phillips voted yes. 3 yes, 2 no.

Ray Bailey made a motion to amend the motion to include the time of 6 pm at the two public hearings. Gary Coker seconded. Dale Lemon and Rachel Wells voted no. Jerry Phillips voted yes. 3 yes, 2 no. Motion carried.

Dale Lemon wanted to be on record saying, "I'm just not a No vote, but I think we need to think about things and put some kind of game plan with citizens to discuss the issues that face the city in our moving forward on how we are going to address the steady tax increases." Rachel Wells agreed with Mr. Lemon.

D. Discuss / Take Action on Preliminary Plat for Phillips 66 Pipeline Company at Industrial Park

Ms. King stated this is the preliminary plat for a warehouse, laydown yard and office on 3.494 acers for the Phillips 66 Pipeline Company.

Dale Lemon made a motion to approve the preliminary plat for Phillips 66 Pipeline Company at the Industrial Park. Rachel Wells seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

E. Discuss / Take Action on Preliminary Plat to Subdivide Crestmont / Mark Roome

Dale Lemon made a motion to approve the preliminary plat to subdivide Crestmont on Block One Southwest by 2. This is a lot and a half purchased by Mark Roome on Ave A. He wants to split this into two lots and build one 1450 sq foot home and a 1650 sq foot home.

Dale Lemon made a motion to approve the preliminary plat of Mark Roome. Ray Bailey seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

F. Discuss / Take Action on Minute Order for Stop Sign at Calvie Brown Rd.

Ray Bailey made a motion to accept the minute order authorizing the Chief of Police to install a traffic control sign, stop sign, at the intersection of Calvie Brown Rd. and FM 524. Dale Lemon seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

G. Discuss / take Action on Bids VS Auction of Seized Travel Trailer.

Dale Lemon made a motion to approve auction of seized travel trailer with no minimum bid. Rachel Wells seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

H. Discuss / Take Action on Blocking off Parking Area at 200 Blk Main.

Dale Lemon made a motion to approve blocking off first two parking spots in the 200 block of N. Main for safety issues due to not being able to see traffic because of the curve. Rachel Wells seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

I. Discuss /Take Action on Interlocal Agreement with Brazoria County Road and Bridge for Fiscal Year 2015.

Dale Lemon made a motion to approve the Interlocal Agreement with Brazoria County Road and Bridge for Fiscal Year 2015. Ray Bailey seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

J. Discuss / Take Action on Placing Tile in the Front Foyer

Ray Bailey made a motion to approve tile in the front foyer and not to exceed \$2,300.00. Gary Coker seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

K. Discuss / Take Action on Pound and Surrender Fee's and Amending Animal Ordinance.

Cindy King addresses the council stating that more people are surrendering their animals to the city. She is asking council for a surrendering fee of \$40.00. This will help with food and shelter until we can adopt the animal out. Also she would like to raise our current pound fees from \$13.00 for the first day of shelter and \$3.00 each day after to \$15.00 for the first day and \$5.00 each day after.

Dale Lemon made a motion to approve the pound and surrender fee's and amend the animal ordinance. Rachel Wells seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

L. Discuss / Take Action on Caliche Fees

Ms. King spoke to the council stating our current Caliche Fees are \$25.00 for one yard and the labor for spreading it. This fee has not changed in about 15 years. She would like to have these fees raised. Homer Toscano figured cost of caliche and labor was \$75.00 for one yard.

Ray Bailey made a motion to approve the Caliche Fee raising it to \$75.00 for one yard with a two yard max. Jerry Phillips seconded. Dale Lemon voted no. Motion carried.

M. Discuss / Take Action on Turn off Day Fee's

Cindy King addressed the council that the office would like to have a "Turn off Day Fee". Meaning, if your name appears on the "Turn off Day List" and has not been paid by 11:00 am, the time stamped on the bill stating it will be turned off, you will then be charged a fee.

Ray Bailey made a motion to approve the "Turn off Day Fee". Rachel Wells seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

N. Discuss / Take Action on Contracting Mowing of Overgrown Property

Ray Bailey made a motion to table for more information. Rachel Wells seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

O. Discuss / Take Action on Using Funds from 2006 CO for PD Roof.

Dale Lemon made a motion to approve using funds from 2006 CO for the Police Department a new roof, up to \$20,000.00. Rachel Wells seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

P. Discuss / Take Action on Repair / Replace of Water Well #3

Ms. King stated we do have the monies in the budget from Maintenance of Water and Sewer.

Ray Bailey made a motion to accept the bid from J & S Water Wells for \$25,314.00 to repair water well #3. Dale Lemon seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 11. Closed Executive Session**

OPEN MEETING

- 12. Discussion and action from Executive Session**

- 13. Adjournment: 7:26 p.m.**

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 2014

Reatta Minshev, City Secretary