

A regular meeting of the City Council of Sweeny, Texas, was held at City Hall on Tuesday, May 19, 2015 at 6 pm.

1. Call to Order

Mayor Rodney Weems called the meeting to order.

2. Roll Call

Council Present: Gary Coker, Dale Lemon, Ray Bailey, and Rachel Wells. Jerry Phillips was absent. Also present: Cindy King, City Manager; Charlie Stevenson, City Attorney; 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.

CANVASS THE VOTE FROM MAY 19, 2015

Charlie Stevenson read the resolution canvassing the returns and declaring the results of a General Election and Special Election held in and throughout the City of Sweeny, 9th day of May 2015. Whereas, it appears from said election returns, which were delivered to the City Council by the appropriate election official, that the following number of votes were cast for each of the respective candidates for the offices of City Mayor and City Council Position Two and Position Four. The Special Election, for the purpose of allowing qualified voters of the City to vote on the following charter amendment:

“Shall Section 6.02 of the City of Sweeny Charter be amended to provide that the Judge of the Municipal Court be elected for a term of two years, with such term to run in alternation years with the term of the City Mayor.”

PROPOSITION TO AMEN THE CITY CHARTER

FOR	AGAINST
419	110

OFFICE OF CITY MAYOR

CANDIDATE	NUMBER OF VOTES
Rodney Weems	222
Dale Lemon	352

CITY COUNCIL PERSON POSITION TWO

Scott Swift	184
Jeff Farley	362

CITY COUNCIL PERSON POSITION FOUR

Rachel Wells

378

WHEREAS, it appears that the candidates for the respective office receiving the greatest number of votes cast for such office are all and singularly qualified to hold such offices, under the terms and conditions provided by law; and

THAT, **Dale Lemon, Jeff Farley and Rachel Wells**, received the greater number of votes cast for such respective offices and qualifies for such offices and are entitled to such offices upon taking the constitutional oath of office required by law.

THAT, the proposed amendment to the City Charter was approved by the voters and is now a part of the City Charter.

Ray Bailey made the motion to accept the canvass and declare the results of the election. Gary Coker seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

SWEAR IN NEW OFFICIALS

Dale Lemon - Mayor
Jeff Farley – Council Position Two
Rachel Wells. – Council Position Four

The above persons recited the Oath of Office and Statement.

MAYOR DALE LEMON conducted the remaining of the meeting.

6:10 p.m. Mayor Lemon took a ten minute recess.

6:20 p.m.

5. Presentation of Citizens: Neal Bess, President of SEDC, updated council of the progress of the Industrial Park. The new water line is 99% complete. The new sewer line should be complete by the end of the week.

Visitors: Shirley Thomas, Marilyn Wright, Nikki Woods, Neal Bess Jr. Rev. James Smith, Diona Lemon, Ellen Farley, Donald Lemon, Raymond Woods, Cassandra Woods, Charles Smith, Elaine Smith, Clarence Woods, Karen Hutchings, Wayman Hutchings, Gary Hood, George Lemon, Leona Willer.

6. Consent Items

A. Approval of Minutes – April 21, 2015

B. Approval of Bills \$44,625.75

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 gave the report.

9. Old Business

A. Discuss / Take Action on Police Department Accounts: Forfeiture, Seizure, and Training.

Cindy King stated the last month we approved the three accounts for the Police Department however we did not state what bank and who could be the signers on the accounts. We will open these accounts at First State Bank Louise / Sweeny Branch and the signers will be John Barnard and Chad Makara.

Gary Coker made a motion to approve opening three accounts for the Police Department, Forfeiture, Seizure, and Training at First State Bank Louise / Sweeny Branch and John Barnard and Chad Makara will be the signers. Rachel Wells seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

10. New Business

A. Appoint Mayor Pro-tem

Council voted by secret ballot with Rachel Wells receiving 2 votes, Ray Bailey receiving one vote and Jeff Farley receiving one vote.

Ray Bailey made a motion to approve Rachel Wells as Mayor Pro-tem. Jeff Farley seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

B. Discuss /Take Action on Security at Community Center

Sargent Chris Beck spoke for the Police Department on asking for two officers at the Community Center when alcohol is served. Our current policy only requires one. He stated that most agencies in Brazoria County require two officers at any event serving alcohol. Many times our own police department cannot cover the community center security event. We then have to call an outside agency which requires two officers at any event where alcohol is being served.

All venues, other than our Community Center, Sargent Beck works extra there is two officers required. Having two officers is protection and help for the police officer if any disturbance happens at the event.

Ray Bailey made a motion to change our policy when renting the Community Center to require two officers when alcohol is being served. Rachel Wells seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

C. Discuss / Take Action on Resignation and Replacement of Gary Quinn from SEDC.

Ray Bailey made a motion to accept Gary Quinn's resignation from SEDC Board. Gary Coker seconded.

Cindy King stated she advertised for the opening and received applications from Devin Lemon, Bruce Swift and Leona Willer.

Jeff Farley stated he would like to ask the EDC board who they would recommend.

Wayman Hutchings from the audience stated Devin Lemon.

Jeff Farley made a motion to appoint Devin Lemon to the SEDC board. Rachel Wells seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

D. Discuss / Take Action on removing Rodney Weems from First State Bank Louise and to add Dale Lemon.

Ray Bailey made a motion to remove Rodney Weems and replace with Dale Lemon at First State Bank as a check signer for the City of Sweeny. Gary Coker seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

E. Discuss / Take Action on Sweeny Community Hospital Dev. Foundation using Gazebo Park.

Cindy King stated that the council approved the Sweeny Comm. Hospital Development Foundation last month using the Backyard Park on May 30, 2015 for a Crawfish Giveaway and gave a variance for alcohol. Due to the recent rains, Backyard Park is underwater in several areas and they would like to move the event to Gazebo Park. Jeff Farley made a motion to approve the Sweeny Comm. Hospital Dev. Foundation moving their Crawfish Giveaway Event to the Gazebo Park and to allow alcohol in a designated area with two police officers hired for security on site. Rachel Wells seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

F. Discuss / Take Action on Gary Coker's resignation from Planning and Zoning.

Ray Bailey made a motion to accept Gary Coker's resignation from Planning and Zoning Board. Rachel Wells seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

G. Discuss / Take Action on Variance for Fireworks on July 4, 2015.

Devin Lemon with The Chamber of Commerce is asking for permission to have a fireworks display on July 4th at the Old Fashion 4th of July Celebration in the Backyard Park or Gazebo Park due to recent rains.

Ray Bailey made a motion to approve the variance to allow fireworks display on July 4th for the Old Fashion 4th of July Celebration in Backyard Park and /or Gazebo Park in the event of rain. Jeff Farley seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

H. Discuss / Take Action on Sell of Brazoria County In Trust Property Southend Sweeny Block 1 Lot 14 / Martin L. King.

Cindy stated that an offer was made for \$1100.00 by Rodolfo Mena.

Ray Bailey made a motion to accept the offer on Martin L. King / Southend Sweeny Block 1 Lot 14. Rachel Wells seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

I. Discuss / Take Action on Sell of SISD In Trust Prop. Smith/Sweeny Block 4 Lot 1A / 106 FM 524

Jeff Farley made a motion to sell SISD In Trust Property Block 4 Lot 1A. Ray Bailey seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

J. Proclamation: Sweeny Scholars

ANNOUCEMENTS:

Cindy King read letter of resignation from Councilman Jerry Phillips.
Mr. Phillips stated due to medical reasons he is resigning.

Devin Lemon Sweeny Fire Marshall / Emergency Management Co. stated he is working on the new EOC, which is the old court building on 311 W. Third. He plans to be up and operational by June 1st, 2015 , which starts the Hurricane Season.

12. Closed Executive Session:

OPEN MEETING:

13. Discussion and action from Executive Session:

14. Adjournment: 6:55 p.m.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 2014

Reatta Minshew, City Secretary