

A regular meeting of the City Council of Sweeny, Texas, was held at City Hall on Tuesday, June 16, 2015 at 6 pm.

1. Call to Order

Mayor Dale Lemon called the meeting to order.

2. Roll Call

Council Present: Jeff Farley, Ray Bailey, and Rachel Wells. Gary Coker was absent. Also present: Cindy King, City Manager; Charlie Stevenson, City Attorney; Homer Toscano, Dir. of Public Works.

3. Invocation

Invocation was given by Charlie Stevenson.

4. Pledge of Allegiance

Pledge to the American Flag was recited and led by Jeff Farley.

Pledge to the Texas Flag was recited and led by Dale Lemon.

5. Presentation of Citizens: Neal Bess Jr. addressed the council and stated he would like to encourage the city officials to go by and visit the E.O.C. and to visit your Fire Department.

Visitors: Neal Bess Jr., Jalyn White-Wick, Eran Jones, Gary Hood, Wade Whitlow, Andy and Auson Anderson, Kandy Palmer, Devin Radon and Leona Willer.

6. Consent Items

A. Approval of Minutes – May 19, 2015

B. Approval of Bills \$41,140.12

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

Tim Webb gave the report.

9. Old Business

A. Discuss/ Take Action on Water System – William Hebner with O’Malley Strand

Mr. Hebner addressed the council and stated the council asked O’Malley Strand to evaluate the feasibility of purchasing water from the Brazos Water Authority in lieu of the City producing its own water.

The Brazos Water Authority charges a flat rate for their water. This price includes production of water along with the infrastructure. They are going to build all the infrastructure to get water from their facility to our system. The rate of \$2.43, per thousand gallons, pays for the water and capital improvements. That rate will steadily increase and by 2019 will be over \$3.00 per thousand gallons.

The biggest impact for your customer would be cost, about a 45% increase
If the city decides to go with BWA it would be about a one to two years for the process for the infrastructure to get to our water system.

The TCEQ requires we produce 1000 gallons per minute based on the number of connections we show. Our wells right now have the capacity to produce 1400 gallons per minute. From water wells number 1, 3 and 5. The city would need to keep their water wells in reserve. The daily duties and chemicals would be less.

There will be a contract between the city and BWA and they will set a number of gallons to be use.

Fire Marshall Devin Lemon asked would the Fire Department, hooked up to the hydrants by using well water or BWA water. Mr. Hebner said that was a good question to which the city would need to decide.

No Action.

B. Discuss /Take Action Tax Abatement Ordinance

Jeff Farley asked Charlie Stevenson to explain what tax abatement is. Charlie stated it is where you agree to abate at 100% or another percent for a certain period of time to encourage builders to build and then at the end of the time the taxes would be due.

Ray Bailey suggested they talk about this and 380 Agreement at Budget Workshop.

No Action

A. Discuss Take Action on Council Position 5 and Resignation of Jerry Phillips

Jeff Farley made a motion to accept the resignation of Jerry Phillips from council position five. Rachel Wells seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Charlie Stevenson stated the Charter states the council can appoint someone for the unexpired term or hold special election.

Ray Bailey made a motion to take applications to fill the council position of Judge Phillips. The application deadline will be one week before next month council meeting.

The council will appoint from the applications received. Jeff Farley seconded. Rachel Wells voted nay. Motion carried.

B. Discuss/ Take Action on FY 2013-2014 Audit

Wade Whitlow with Kennermer-Masters presented the 2013-2014 Audit to council.

Ray Bailey made a motion to accept the audit as presented by Kennermer-Masters.

Rachel Wells seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried

6:45 / Side 2 of tape

C. Discuss / Take 45-MPH Speed Limit on FM 524

Eran Jones addressed the council stating he resides at 103 Powell Street, across from the Little League Baseball. He wanted council to be aware of the 45 mph speed limit on Main Street right there at Powell Street. He stated with the RV Park, the Little League and the Crosswalk at Main and Ashley Wilson, he would like to see the speed limit reduced from 45mph to 35 mph. From Backyard RV Park to Subway, on Main Street.

Ray Bailey made a motion to have TxDOT issue a minute order to do a study on traffic from Backyard RV Park to Subway on FM 524 (Main Street). Rachel Wells seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried

D. Discuss / Take Action on Belle Parent BBQ Cook-off next to City Hall and Variance for Alcohol in Cook off Area.

Candy with Belle Parent Organization addressed the council for permission to have a fundraiser, BBQ Cook-Off, next door to City Hall on July 31-Aug 2, 2015, and a variance for alcohol.

After much discussion Ray Bailey made a motion to give preliminary permission to approve the variance for use of alcohol at the BBQ Cook-Off and the use of the lot next door to City Hall by the Belle Parent Organization contingent on them getting with Chief Barnard and Fire Marshall Devin Lemon. Rachel Wells seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

E. Discuss / Take Action on Drainage Down Ashley Wilson Rd

Mr. Ducroz with Brazoria County Drainage District discussed drainage on west side of town, starting at Ashley Wilson going west out of town to the railroad and turning left then right into an existing trestle culvert that goes under the railroad. The drainage district will add a larger culvert that will bring the water back under CR 332 then turn left down a ditch that belongs to Hilcorp that goes into a dry lake. Brazoria County has permission from Hilcorp to use this ditch and will hire Marshall Finley to clean it out, about two miles long.

No Action.

7:25 pm / 5 minute break

7:32 pm / Back in Session

F. Discuss / Take Action on Purchasing New Radios for City Departments

Fire Marshall Devin Lemon stated that in 2006 the FCC (Federal Communications Commission) mandated all Emergency Responders (Fire, EMS, Police and Public Works) be on the same radio, the 7X System or the P25, by the year 2016. This is a multi-jurisdiction, multi-county frequency that all Emergency Responders must be using.

Devin stated the city needs 64 radios. The radios are \$4,000.00 and \$6,000.00 each. Motorola is giving discounts this month, half price.

Ray Bailey made a motion to proceed with the purchase of these radios in the amount of \$152,857.81. Rachel Wells seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Tape 2)

G. Discuss / Take Action on Planning and Zoning Boards

Jeff Farley made a motion to re-appoint Eugene Griggs to the Planning and Zoning Board of Adjustments. Ray Bailey seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

H. Discuss /Take Action on Resignation of Rodney Weems

Ray Bailey made a motion to accept Rodney Weems resignation from Planning and Zoning. Rachel Wells seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

I. Discuss /Take Action on Banking Contract

Ray Bailey mad a motion to give City Manager and the City Attorney the ability to decided on choosing the banking contract between First State Bank and Prosperity Bank and bring it back next month for review. Rachel Wells seconded. All were in favor. Motion carries.

J. Discuss / Take Action SEDC Budget for FY 2015-2016

Neal Bess addressed the council and presented the 2015-2016 budget for EDC, showing a \$3,590.00 in excess. More revenue than exponders.

Jeff Farley made a motion to approve the SEDC Budget for the FY 2015-2016 with the revision to the total revenue to show \$220,325.00. Ray Bailey seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

K. Discuss /Take Action Amending Smoking Ordinance

To ban E-Cigarettes.

Jeff Farley made a motion to table. Motion dies for lack of seconded.

L. Set Date for Budget Workshop

Ray Bailey made a motion to set the budget workshop for Thursday, July 9, 2015 at 6 pm. Rachel Wells seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

ANNOUCEMENTS:

12. Closed Executive Session:

OPEN MEETING:

13. Discussion and action from Executive Session:

14. Adjournment: 8:08 p.m.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 2014

Reatta Minshew, City Secretary