

A regular meeting of the City Council of Sweeny, Texas, was held at City Hall on Tuesday, February 16, 2016 at 6:00 pm.

1. Call to Order

Mayor Dale Lemon called the meeting to order.

2. Roll Call

Council Present: Sandra Blaine, Jeff Farley, Tim Shotts and Jalyn White-Wick. Rachel Wells were absent. Also present: Charlie Stevenson, City Attorney. Gene West, Dir. of Public Works and Jose DeJulian.

3. Invocation

Invocation was given by Pastor Ken Hysten.

4. Pledge of Allegiance

Pledge to the American Flag was recited and led by Jalyn White-Wick.
Pledge to the Texas Flag was recited and led Jalyn White-Wick.

5. Presentation of Citizens:

Visitors:

6. Consent Items

A. Approval of Minutes – Jan. 19, 2016

B. Approval of Bills \$50,844.38

Sandra Blaine made a motion to approve the Minutes of January 19, 2016 and the bills in the amount of \$50,844.38. Jeff Farley seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

7. Public Hearing:

8. Fire Department Report:

9. Old Business

10. New Business

A. Discuss / Take Action on Parking on City Right of Way on Alice Street. / Vera & Johnny Ross

Vera Ross addressed the council and stated she and Mr. Ross are having problems with their neighbors overflow of family and friends parking on the side of the ditch in front of their home. Charlie Stevenson stated the side of the ditch next to the road is “city right of way” and anyone could park there. Ms. Ross stated the parking issue is every weekend and asked if something could be done about that? Mr. Farley stated he wished both parties could get along and be good neighbors.

Jalyn White-Wick made a motion to have Chief Barnard talk with Bill Barns at the Hospital to see if overflow parking of the neighbor's friends and family to park at the Hospital. Jeff Fraley seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

B. Discuss / Take Action on Resolution and letter to Support Hamilton Valley in the Rehab of McKinney Manor.

Paul Farmer with Hamilton Valley in the rehab of McKinney Manor Apartments addressed the council asking for help in retaining tax credits from the state. Hamilton Valley needs a resolution from the City of Sweeny supporting their endeavors and a \$100.00 waver from a permit.

Jalyn White-Wick made a motion to approve the resolution / letter to support Hamilton Valley in the rehab of McKinney Manor Apartments and to approve a \$100.00 waver off a building permit. Sandra Blaine seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

C. Discuss / Take Action on Options Showing Commitment of Dev. Funding for Hamilton Valley

Paul Farmer with Hamilton Valley

D. Discuss / Approve on Generator Located at 222 Pecan – Fire Dept.

Gene West, Dir. of Public Works, addressed the council and stated that the generator at the Fire Dept. is 16 years old and is not working at this time. It will cost approximately \$5000.00 to fix it. Gene is asking the council if he could buy a new one approximately \$12,000.00 or fix this one again for \$5K.

Jeff Farley made a motion to table for next month. Tim Shotts seconded. Sandra Blaine voted yes to table. Jalyn White-Wick opposed. Motion carried.

E. Discuss / Take Action to determine What / Where Court and Court Offices in relation to City Hall.

Charlie Stevenson addressed the council and stated that there is a new Open Carry Law in Texas. It's not against the law now to openly carry a weapon in a City Building except that can vote to restrict weapons in a city meeting and if so we would post signs outside proclaiming that. It's also against the law, in the Texas Penal Code, to carry a weapon in the Court Room or Court Office. We need to determine that the Lobby, the Council Room is also the Court Room and the Office (were the four ladies are) is determined "The Court Office and Court Room"

Jeff Farley made a motion to designate that the Lobby, The Office and The Council Room is the Court Office and Court Room and it will be illegal to carry a weapon in that area. Sandra Blaine seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

F. Discuss / Take Action to Determine Prohibiting Weapons at Meetings in City Hall

Tim Shotts made a motion to take no action. Jeff Farley seconded. Sandra Blaine opposed. Jalyn White-Wick voted in favor. Motion carried.

G. Discuss /Take Action on Investment Policy

Jeff Farley made a motion to approve the annual renewing of the Investment Policy for 2016. Jalyn White-Wick seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

H. Discuss / Take Action on Ordinance Enacting and Adopting a Supplement to the Code

Jalyn White-Wick made a motion to approve the Ordinance Enacting and Adopting a Supplement to the Code of Ordinances. Sandra Blaine seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

I. Discuss / Take on Ordinance to Call the Election on May 7, 2016

Jalyn White-Wick made a motion to approve the ordinance to Call the Election on May 7, 2016. Jeff Farley seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

J. Discuss / Take Action on Joint Election Agreement w Brazoria County

Jalyn White-Wick made a motion to approve the Joint Election Agreement w Brazoria County. Tim Shotts seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

K. Discuss / Take Action on Ad for Chamber Director

Jalyn White-Wick made a motion to approve an ad for \$350.00 ½ page ad, in the Chamber Director. Jeff Farley seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

L. Discuss / Take Action on Water leak (Esteyasu Cano)

Jalyn White-Wick made a motion to allow Ms. Cano is pay out the large bill (\$100.00 a month) due to a water leak on her side and to wave the late fees as long as she pays on time. Sandra Blaine seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

ANNOUCEMENTS:

12. Closed Executive Session:

OPEN MEETING:

13. Discussion and action from Executive Session:

14. Adjournment: 7:05 p.m.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 2016

Reatta Minshew, City Secretary