

A regular meeting of the City Council of Sweeny, Texas, was held at City Hall on Tuesday, May 17, 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. Also present: Cindy King, City Manager; Gene West, Dir. of Public Works and Jose DeJulian Utilities Supervisor.

3. Invocation

Invocation was given by Mayor Dale Lemon.

4. Pledge of Allegiance

Pledge to the American Flag was recited and led by Al Lindley.
Pledge to the Texas Flag was recited and led Al Lindley.

***** CANVASS THE VOTES*****

Charlie Stevenson read the resolution canvassing the returns and declaring the results of a General Election held the 7th of May, A.D. 2016, in the City of Sweeny. 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 Municipal Judge and City Council person position One, Three and Five, to-wit:

Office of Municipal Judge

Candidate	Number of Votes
Robert Foster	225

City Council Person Position One

Candidate	Number of Votes
Sandra K. Blaine	220

City Council Person Position Three

Candidate	Number of Votes
Brian Brooks	211

City Council Person Position Five

Candidate	Number of Votes
Bill Hayes	107
Tim Pettigrew	172

Jeff Farley made a motion to canvass the vote and to approve the Resolution as written. Tim Shotts seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Swear in Officials:

Robert Foster, Sandra Blaine, Brian Brooks and Tim Pettigrew recited the Oath of Office.

5. Presentation of Citizens:

Visitors:

6. Consent Items

A. Approval of Minutes – April 29, May 2, 2016

B. Approval of Bills \$39,817.40

7. Public Hearing:

8. Fire Department Report: Roger Barton gave the report. Mr. Barton mentioned the passing of Billy Jack Ward. Mr. Ward was a major part of starting the first Sweeny Fire Dept. Mr. Barton told the council the Sweeny Fire and Rescue gave Mr. Ward a full dress Fireman's Funeral.

9. Old Business

A. Discuss / Take Action on Council Position 4 Vacancy

Mayor Lemon addressed the council and stated the council had voted to fill position 4 vacancy after the May election. He asked council what they would like to do.

Jeff Farley made a motion to appoint Bill Hayes to council position four. Tim Pettigrew seconded. Three were in favor. Sandra Blaine, Jeff Farley and Tim Pettigrew. Brian Brooks abstained. Motion carried.

B. Discuss / Take Action Amendment to Sign Ordinance

Cindy King addressed the council and stated that in their packet was a new sign ordinance that the council addressed concerns about last month. It is very similar to West Columbia's. Charlie stated that maybe the new council persons would like the time to take it home and read and study it.

Sandra Blaine made a motion to table for June. Jeff Farley seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

10. New Business

A. Discuss / Take Action – Swear in Official for Council Position 4

Bill Hayes recited the Oath of Office.

B. Discuss / Take Action to Appoint Mayor Pro-tem

The council voted by secret ballot. City Secretary Reatta Minschew read the results as: 4 votes for Jeff Farley and 1 vote for Sandra Blaine.

Sandra Blaine made a motion to appoint Jeff Farley as Mayor Pro-tem. Tim Pettigrew seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

C. Discuss / Take Action to Allow a Benefit BBQ Cook-Off and Alcohol on City Property

Dee Dee Truitt addressed the council and stated friends of Ricky Jones, a little league coach that passed away, would like to have a Benefit BBQ Cook-Off and allow alcohol on the city property next to City Hall, the first or seconded weekend in August. The group would like to give scholarships in his name along with Little League hardship cases. Ms. Truitt stated they would get with Devin Lemon for aid on traffic. Jeff Farley made a motion to give a variance for alcohol and to allow the Friends of Ricky Jones to have a Benefit BBQ Cook-Off sometime in August 2016 providing they provide security, trash receptacles and port a cans. Bill Hayes seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

D. Discuss / Take Action to Amend Animal Ordinance

Cindy King stated the persons who wanted to speak could not make the meeting. Jeff Farley made a motion to table for next month's meeting. Sandra Blaine seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

E. Discuss / Take Action to Grant Variance for Fireworks on July 4th

Jeff Farley made a motion to grant a variance for Fireworks at our annual July 4th Celebration. Tim Pettigrew seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

F. Discuss / Take Action to Burn inside City Limits

Mayor Lemon asked the council for a variance to burn some stumps and dead trees at the cemetery off of county road 409. It's about 450 feet where he wants to burn and 500 feet is out of the city limits. Sandra Blaine made a motion to grant the burn variance for Mayor Lemon to burn stumps and dead trees in the slough on county road 409. Jeff Farley seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

G. Discuss / Take Action on Requesting TxDot to Lower Speed Limit on FM 524

Ms. King stated the city requested a study last summer on FM 524 and TxDot stated it could lower the speed 5 mph bringing it down from 45 to 40. The council declined to make any changes at that time. A citizen has brought the speed back up due to all the contractors at Phillips 66. Chief Barnard stated he would take a lower speed any day. Brian Brooks made a motion to have another study done on FM 524 and to lower it to 40 mph at least from the earlier study. Tim Pettigrew seconded. Sandra Blaine voted no. Jeff Farley voted no. Bill Hayes voted yes. Motion carried.

H. Discuss / Take Action to Sell In-Trust Property at Sherriff's Sale

Cindy King stated there are three properties to look at. These properties were taken for taxes and when they were put up for bid no one bid on them. Jeff Farley made a motion to have these three properties taken to the sheriff sale. With a minimum bid of \$1500.00 on the 6th Street property, \$100.00 for the MLK Street property and \$100.00 for Willow Street property. Sandra Blaine seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

I. Discuss / Take Action on Veteran's Memorial Checking Acct. Signers

Cindy King addressed the council and stated in 2010 the Veteran's Memorial Organization somehow got the check signers as: Reatta Minshe, Cindy King and Rodney Weems. We need to take these three signers off and assign Linda Diaz, the treasurer as the check signer. Al Lindley, in the audience, a member of the Veteran's Memorial stated there should be two signers. Cindy stated Linda Diaz said the group only voted for one.

Sandra Blaine made a motion to table for next month to take this back to the Veteran's Memorial group and tell them they need two signers. Tim Pettigrew seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

**J. Proclamations:
Sweeny Scholars**

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

12. Closed Executive Session:

OPEN MEETING:

13. Discussion and action from Executive Session:

14. Adjournment: 6:56 p.m.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 2016

Reatta Minshe, City Secretary