

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE CITY COUNCIL
THE CITY OF SWEENY, TEXAS
JUNE 21, 2016**

A regular meeting of the City Council of Sweeny, Texas, was held at City Hall on Tuesday, June 21, 2016 at 6:00 pm to consider the following items of business:

1. Call to Order

Mayor Dale Lemon called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

2. Roll Call

Council Present: Position 1. Sandra Blaine, Position 2. Brian Brooks, Position 4. Bill Hayes and Position 5. Tim Pettigrew. Position 3./Mayor Pro Tem Jeff Farley was absent.

Staff Present: Cindy King, City Manager; Gene West, Dir. of Public Works; Reatta Minshew, City Secretary; Charlie Stevenson, City Attorney; Ross Aguirre, Utilities Supervisor; John Barnard, Chief of Police and Devin Lemon, Fire Marshall.

3. Invocation

Invocation was given by Mayor Dale Lemon.

4. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge to the American Flag was recited and led by Neal Bess Jr.
The Pledge to the Texas Flag was recited and led Neal Bess Jr.

5. Presentation of Citizens: (Limited to five minutes per person)

Haskell Anderson: 909 Ave A, spoke to council regarding heavy trash that has not been picked up.

6. Consent Items

A. Approval of Minutes – May 17, 2016

B. Approval of Bills \$116,150.13 (\$60,000.00 was New 2016 Dump Truck)

Sandra Blaine made a motion to approve the consent items. Tim Pettigrew 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 Amendment to Sign Ordinance

Sandra Blaine made a motion to table for more time to get information. Tim Pettigrew seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

B. Discuss / Take Action Signers for Veteran's Memorial Checking Account

Cindy King stated the Veteran's Memorial Group met last month and approved Linda Diaz and Sylvia Gibson as signers on their checking account. The council needs to remove Cindy King, Reatta Minshew and Rodney Weems as signers and add Linda Diaz and Sylvia Gibson as Veteran's Memorial Check Signers.

Tim Pettigrew made a motion to remove Cindy King, Reatta Minshew and Rodney Weems as check signers and add Linda Diaz and Sylvia Gibson as Veteran's Memorial Signers. Sandra Blaine seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

C. Discuss / Take Action on TxDot FM 524 Speed Limit Request

Ms. King stated she has spoken to TxDot and they did agree to do another study.

Tim Pettigrew made a motion to suspend TxDot FM Speed Limit Request for the July meeting. Brian Brooks seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

D. Discuss / Take Action on Amending Animal Control Ordinance

Melody Killina, an animal rescuer of 25 years and has helped with our animal pound for the past 3 years addressed council and stated she would like to change the time an animal has before the animal is euthanized from 72 hours to 10 days. Also she would like to dismiss the impound fee a person must pay to adopt an animal plus the \$20.00 adoption fee.

Sandra Blaine made a motion to leave the adoption fee of \$20.00 as is and leave the 72 hrs to be euthanized but work with the volunteers if they have an animal about to be adopted and wave the impound fee when the animal is adopted out. Bill Hayes seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Gene West replied he would like to have a liability waver signed by all volunteers and could they have a lock put on the city gate at the pound so an employee doesn't have to come and open the gate each time the volunteers need in.

Bill Hayes made a motion to allow the volunteers to place their lock on the City Gate and all volunteers will sign a liability waver from the city before entering the City Pound. Brian Brooks seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

10. New Business

A. Discuss / Take Action on Committee to Review City Personnel Policies

Cindy King stated she would like to have a committee to review city personnel policies and would like to recommend: Cindy King, Gene West, Billy Hayes, Karla Wilson and Chad Makara.

Tim Pettigrew made a motion to appoint Cindy King, Gene West, Billy Hayes, Karla Wilson and Chad Makara to a committee to review city personnel policies. Sandra Blaine seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

B. Discuss /Take Action on SEDC Budget FY 2016-2017

Neal Bess Jr. presented the SEDC budget for 2016-2017.

Brian Brook made a motion to approve the SEDC Budget for FY 2016-2017, balanced in the amount of \$560,843.75. Sandra Blaine seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

C. Discuss / Take Action on Drainage

Cindy King stated that Marshall Finley a contractor with the Drainage District has been digging a ditch west of Sweeny across the tracks into a retention pond. He has started at CR 332 and is working his way back to Sweeny. This will help Main Street, Ashley Wilson Rd and the West side drain. The city will install huge culverts on West Ashley Wilson Rd opposite from Camelia/Azalea. Willie Sanders, with the Drainage District, is working Cedar and Magnolia area. Mr. Finley has been given approval to mow Red Bird Ditch which is behind Stewarts Grocery. We are working with the county for help with Stevenson Slough at Hackberry and Crosson Street.

Mr. Pate at 903 Happy Hollow said he lacked 3 inches of getting water in his home this last big rain in May we received. Mr. Pate stated the culverts need to be cleaned out in his area. Sherry Atwood at 802 Shady Drive stated it's getting worse. All the trees have grown up into the ditch, the ditch needs to be cleaned out.

Mayor Lemon stated he would like to see a drainage committee of five citizens. The city needs to have a plan. Charlie Stevenson suggested the city would need engineering involved in all drainage changes.

Mr. Scott Walker at 204 Ashley Wilson asked why hasn't a drainage study happened before now?? Neal Bess Jr. stated the city better step up and start cleaning out culverts and ditches. The city needs to take a section at a time. The empty lot on Hackberry, Sandra Blaine suggested the fire department could shoot out a culvert once a month.

Mr. Sanchez Jr. 1208 Mac Drive addressed the council and stated he spoke to Ms. King and told her she needed to cut the trees out of the ditches on Ashley Wilson so this town can drain, that was two years ago. Nothing has been done. Mr. Sanchez Jr. stated the city better do something. There is also a manhole on Mac Drive that overflows every time it rains, sewer gets all over the street.

Don Buchanan at 912 Kent stated he got water in his garage from the last big rain. He stated also the city could at least spray round-up in the ditches, come back in one week and rake and clean the ditch. We are now in hurricane season.

The Mayor stated, we the city, need to do better. Devin Lemon had a suggestion to get a map from the county and do a hydrologic study. Show on the map the most critical parts. We can have a benchmark. We have to have a plan.

Brain Brooks made a motion to have Devin Lemon be on this drainage committee to get this elevation map and get citizens from different parts of Sweeny to look at areas to be addressed for drainage for long term. Sandra Blaine seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

BREAK at 7:48 pm

BACK IN SESSION: 7:53 pm

D. Discuss /Take Action to Extend Utilities to 9397 FM 524 (BD Mahurin)

Cindy King stated that in 2009 the city annexed the industrial park and Marsh Veterinarian Clinic we did not take in Mr. Mahrin's land. Mr. Mahurin is building a large welding shop for his business and his building contractor, Larry Lamb Sr., has asked about possibly connecting to city utilities. The estimate from our engineer is \$54,960.00. Ms. King stated if the council decides to extend the utilities that we annex Mr. Mahurin. Sandra Blain made a motion to suspend the action to extend utilities to 9397 FM 524. Tim Pettigrew seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

E. Discuss /Take Action Set Date for Budget Workshop

Sandra Blaine made a motion to set July 7, 2016 as Budget Workshop. Tim Pettigrew seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

F. Proclamations: Brazoria County Library System

11. Report of Boards and Commissions

12. Mayor, Council and Staff Reports

13. Announcements

Councilman Brian Brooks made mention of the Waste Water Treatment Plant being in such bad need of repair. It has no running water or restroom facilities. Platform need repaired ASAP.

Mowing is behind, we need help with that.

Councilwoman Sandra Blaine wants new dump truck to get a cover or parked into building.

14. Closed Executive Session: TIME:

OPEN MEETING: TIME:

13. Discussion and action from Executive Session:

14. Adjournment: 8:14 p.m.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 2016

Reatta Minshew, City Secretary