

A regular meeting and public hearing of the City Council was held at City Hall on Tuesday, January 19, 2010.

**1. Call To Order**

Mayor Lott called the meeting to order. Reminded Council and audience meetings are conducted in strict compliance with Roberts Rule of Order.

**2. Roll Call**

Council present: Gary Coker, Dale Lemon, Ray Bailey, Linda Diaz. Absent: Mayor Pro-Tem Neil Bess.

Also present: Tim Moss, City Manager; Charlie Stevenson, City Attorney; Homer Toscano, Director of Public Works. Absent: Gary Stroud, Chief of Police.

Mayor Lott recognized Neal Bess for receiving an award at an MLK Banquet held on Sunday January 17, 2010.

**3. Invocation**

Invocation was given by Charlie Stevenson

**4. Pledge of Allegiance**

Pledge of Allegiance was recited and led by members of Boy Scouts Troop 551: Toby Reifel and Lee Lanier.

**5. Presentations by Citizens -**

Visitors: H.K. Brooks, John Corder, Brian Odom, Paul Jordan, Toby Reifel, Lee. Lanier, Chris Jones, Gloria Harrison, Jerry Shelton, Jerri Morris, Madelyne Finch, Waymon Hutchings, Holly Romero, Drew Jolly, Crystal Johnson, Claudia Garza, Agatha Jones, and Frances Jammer.

\*\*\*Crystal Johnson spoke on behalf of Chamber. John Corder spoke.\*\*\*

**6. Consent Items**

**A. Approval of Minutes - December 15, 2009**

Dale Lemon made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Linda Diaz seconded. All in favor; motion carried.

**B. Approval of Bills - \$21,546.63**

Ray Bailey questioned bills for Family Care Specialist (random drug/alcohol screening) and Thomas Creative Apparel (Judge Phillips new robe).

Ray Bailey made a motion to approve the bills. Gary Coker seconded. All in favor; motion carried.

**7. Public Hearings**

None

**8. Fire Department Report**

Tim Webb gave report. Total of 14 calls, Fire Department Installation Banquet will be on January 30<sup>th</sup>. Current roster at 24 w/ new applications.

**9. Old Business**

None

**10. New Business**

**A. Pre-approval to Subdivide Property/Drew Jolly**

Mr. Jolly spoke on his behalf. Mr. Jolly is requesting approval to subdivide his property so that he can build a new house. Our city ordinance states only one residence is allowed per property. Dale Lemon made a motion to give Drew Jolly preliminary approval to subdivide his property located at 1303 Ave A. Ray Bailey seconded. All in favor; motion carried.

**B. Pre-approval to Subdivide Property at Hackberry and Fifth Street/Brian Odom**

Brian Odom spoke on behalf of the property owners. They are requesting approval to subdivide their property so they can build a new home. Our city ordinance states only one residence is allowed per property. Dale Lemon made a motion to give preliminary approval to subdivide the property located at Hackberry and Hackberry. Gary Coker seconded. All in favor; motion carried.

**C. Discuss and/or Approve Bids for Utility Extension of FM 524/Tim Moss**

Craig Kankel, our City Engineer, was present and spoke. Mr. Kankel stated they opened bids on January 13, 2010; and Backup Utility Contractors was the lowest bidder with an amount of \$262,812.05. Mr. Kankel stated he has not worked with this company but did check references and got good reports. Backup Utility Contractors stated they could have project completed in about ten working weeks. Discussion made. Ray Bailey made a motion to approve the bid for utility extension of FM 524 from Backup Utility Contractors. Dale Lemon seconded. All in favor; motion carried.

**D. Annex Property for Industrial Park on FM 524/Tim Moss**

This agenda item and agenda item E were discussed together. The SEDC has purchased this property for an industrial park. In order for us to get utilities to them we would need to annex this property. Mr. Brooks was in attendance and requested to have his property annexed. Request was made to Mr. Brooks to have his request in writing. A public hearing would need necessary before annexation of properties. Ray Bailey made a motion to begin process of annexation of said properties on FM 524. Dale Lemon seconded. All in favor; motion carried.

**E. Annex Property for H.K. Brooks, 9391 FM 524/H.K. Brooks**

This agenda item and agenda item D were discussed together. Please see agenda item D.

**F. Support of Carver Memorial on Sixth Street/Dale Lemon**

Dale Lemon stated that since the WIC building has been removed; the George Washington Carver Alumni would like to place a memorial on said property located on Sixth Street. They are meeting with the Sweeny ISD school board next month. They would like support from Council to make this memorial. Ray Bailey made a motion to give support to the George Washington Carver Alumni memorial on Sixth Street. Linda Diaz seconded. All in favor; motion carried.

**G. Property Tax Resale on Travis Street**

Tim Moss spoke. Dale Lemon made a motion to accept the offer from James Forsyth for said property. Ray Bailey seconded. All in favor; motion carried.

**H. Discuss and Take Action on a Veteran's Memorial for Sweeny/Mayor Lott**

Mayor Lott spoke. Mayor would like to have a memorial constructed on public property to recognize service of those whom fought in every war past and present. He would like to have a task force made up of members from area organizations. Discussion made. Ray Bailey made a motion to appoint Mayor Lott as Chair and for the Mayor to contact organizations to begin preliminary work. Dale Lemon seconded. All in favor; motion carried.

**I. Repair Ground Storage Tank/Tim Moss**

Tim Moss spoke. We have two ground storage tanks and one of them had a leak and is in need of repairs. We have tried to make repairs but need a new bottom for the tank. Tim has gotten one bid for approximately \$34,600.00 for a new bottom. Discussion made. Gary Coker made a motion for Tim to get more than one bid for new tank bottom. Ray Bailey seconded. All in favor; motion carried.

**J. SECO Stimulus Grant/Tim Moss**

Tim Moss spoke; this is an energy grant in which if approved we would receive approximately \$23,000.00. We applied to have all lights changed out in our city owned buildings. Discussion made. Ray Bailey made a motion to approve said funds if received to be used for new lights in city owned buildings. Gary Coker seconded. All in favor.

**K. Generator for Water Department/Tim Moss**

No action taken

**L. Installation of Base Material for Backyard Park/Linda Diaz**

No action taken

**M. Discuss Tax Abatements for New Homes Built in Sweeny/Dale Lemon**

Dale Lemon spoke. He would like Council to approve tax abatements for new homes that were built in Sweeny. Something similar had been done in the past with Brazoria and was discussed. Discussion made. Dale Lemon made a motion to approve the tax abatement for new homes built in Sweeny. Linda Diaz seconded. 2 in favor; 2 opposed (Gary and Ray). Mayor tie breaker opposed.

**N. Report on Park Board Activity/Devin Lemon**

Dale Lemon spoke on behalf of Devin. The Park and Recreation Board will be having a meeting on Tuesday, January 26, 2010, at 5:30 pm in Council's Chambers - City Hall.

**11. Reports of Advisory Boards & Commissions**

None

**12. Mayor, Council and Staff Reports**

**Mayor Lott** – Mentioned in each members packet they had information regarding some cultural events. Also in packet there is a letter from a resident regarding the closure of the thrift store. Mayor Lott also discussed he went to the Chamber meeting on 01-18-2010 and proposed change to allow Mayor Pro-Tem to serve in absence of Mayor on Chamber Board. The chamber opted not to change their by-laws. Finally, Mayor Lott reminded Council of report given to all from Cindy King, Asst. City Manager.

**Gary Coker** – None

**Dale Lemon** – None

**Neal Bess** – Absent

**Ray Bailey** – None

**Linda Diaz** – None

**Tim Moss** – Mentioned the second round of Ike/Dolly funding will be done by ourselves not by County as round one was done.

**Chief Stroud** – Absent

**Homer Toscano** – None

**13. Announcements**

None

**14. Closed Executive Session in Accordance with the Open Meetings Act, Tex. Gov't Code § 551.071, § 551.072 and § 551.074.**

**OPEN MEETING:**

**15. Discussion and action on any items discussed in Executive Session**

**16. Adjournment**

Being no further business meeting adjourned at 8:36 pm

**PASSED AND APPROVED THIS \_\_\_\_\_ DAY OF \_\_\_\_\_, 2010**

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**Reatta Minshew, City Secretary**