

A regular meeting of the City Council was held at City Hall on Tuesday, March 21, 2006.

## **1. CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Piper called the meeting to order.

## **2. ROLL CALL**

Council present: Mayor Larry Piper, Donna Bailey, Gary Coker and Ken McConnell.  
Absent: Rita McMillan and Larry Borders.

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

## **3. INVOCATION**

Invocation was given.

## **4. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Pledge of allegiance was recited.

## **5 WELCOME OF VISITORS**

Visitors present: Frank Lawrence, Rhonda Slay, Randy Stroud, and Tim Pike.

## **6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Donna Bailey made a motion to accept the minutes as recorded; with the changes as follows: Section New Business, item E; line four – *Stan White* changed to *Stan Weik*, and line six – *but are* changed to *both are*. Gary Coker seconded the motion. All were in favor; motion carried.

## **7. APPROVAL OF BILLS**

Donna Bailey made a motion to pay the bills in the amount of \$40,970.14. Gary Coker seconded the motion. All were in favor; motion carried.

## **8. FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT**

Roger Barton gave the report for the fire department. Roger stated that we had 24 calls for the month; total of 67 calls so far for this year; more than 50% of all calls for last year, mainly grass fires. 6 motor vehicle accidents, 11 grass fires, 3 fire alarms, 1 barn fire, 1 dumpster fire, 1 odorous smell in city, and 1 shed fire. Roger mentioned that they have been working very close with our neighboring departments. Donna Bailey questioned the

amount of \$21,100.00 for survival air systems. Roger stated they the fire department received a FEMA Grant, and this was one of the last items purchased. The \$21,000.00 was for breathing air compressor, and fill station.

## **9. OLD BUSINESS**

### **A. Consider Bids on Sewer Project and Discuss Financing**

Tim Moss stated that everyone should have a bid sheet from O'Malley. We had five bidders for the sewer project; and that Uticon was the lowest bid of \$231,137.20. However, the lowest bid was more than our budget of \$208,00.00. Tim has also spoke with several banks to get a loan for approximately \$125,000.00 to \$140,000.00. Tim would like the council to consider to possibly extend utilities on FM 1459. Mayor recommended based upon the recommendation from O'Malley that we approve to award the contract to Uticon, and authorize Tim through the engineers and through the incremental funding, to proceed with the sewer line on FM 1459. Donna Bailey made a motion to approve the recommendation from O'Malley; and gave Tim the authority to come up with some creative financing for the remainder of the project and possibly add the FM 1459 to the project. Gary Coker seconded. All in favor; motion carried. Tim also mentioned that we did have money to fulfill the contract within other funds in the budget.

## **10. NEW BUSINESS**

### **A. Tim Pike and Randy Stroud with Brazoria County Drainage District #11**

Tim Pike stated he was here to represent Brazoria County Drainage District #11. Mr. Pike stated the Drainage District is looking at some 3 and 5 year projects. They would like to have input and would like to have someone from City or the Council to represent Sweeny. The first meeting of the Drainage District will be April 20, 2006, at 7:00PM. Mayor Piper stated that since Rita McMillan has been to the District's meeting previous that she may represent our city or even Mr. Robert Nairn, but we will have a decision and a representative at the April, 20<sup>th</sup> meeting. The meetings will be on Thursday nights, every other week, at 7:00PM. The meetings will be at the Brazoria County Precinct 4 Barn in Brazoria, a light meal or refreshments will be provided.

### **B. Contract with West Columbia Jail Services**

Tim Moss stated that everyone should have the contract in their packets. Tim stated that the contract stated that if a prisoner was taken to West Columbia and the transferred to the Brazoria County Sheriff's Department then West Columbia was not getting paid. West Columbia wanted to change that. Donna Bailey made a motion to accept the contract as proposed. Gary Coker seconded. All in favor; motion carried.

### **C. Proclamation Proclaiming April 2006 as “Fair Housing Month”**

Mayor Piper read the Proclamation proclaiming April 2006 as “Fair Housing Month.”

### **D. Proclamation Proclaiming April 2006 as “Child Abuse Awareness & Prevention Month”**

Mayor Piper read the Proclamation proclaiming April 2006 as “Child Abuse Awareness and Prevention Month.

### **E. Approve Stop Sign at Camellia and Azalea**

Mayor Piper stated that the intersection of Camellia and Azalea be changed from a yield sign to a stop sign. Discussion was made. Donna Bailey made a motion to change the yield sign at the intersection of Camellia and Azalea be changed to a stop sign. Gary Coker seconded. All in favor; motion carried.

### **F. Approve Stop Sign at Backyard Park and FM 524**

Tim Moss stated that since there are signs throughout Backyard Park stating slow children at play, and etc.; and there was no stop sign. Mr. Moss stated that he felt there should be a stop sign; since it was a city park. Mr. Moss also stated on the sign pole he has placed a sign that said buckle up it is the law. Discussion was made. Donna Bailey made a motion to place a stop sign at the corner of Backyard Park and FM 524. Gary Coker seconded. All in favor; motion carried.

## **11. Mayor, Council and Staff Reports**

**Gary Coker** reported on the Planning and Zoning Committee he stated that the will need to get with Tim Moss and get some maps. Rodney Weems will be the Chairperson, and meetings will be the Third Monday of each month.

**Donna Bailey** mentioned the TML spring meeting on March 30, 2006, in Houston. Mrs. Bailey also commended Mr. Moss on the Sewer Project.

**Tim Moss** stated we have a paving plan to get bids for the parking lot for the Seniors Citizen Building. We are waiting on the county to tear down the old Seniors Building. Tim also reported about the death of Eva Baugh, and a thank you card from the family. Tim also reiterated about the help from Sweeny Fire and Rescue on the odor in town. Tim also stated that he called Conoco Phillips and spoke with Dale Poehl ; Kim Abshire came out to help locate the odor.

**Mayor Piper** stated that Life Chek will begin within the next 2 months. Mayor also spoke about the Rotary Building; the Rotary Council, will be having a meeting on Thursday night. Donna Bailey would like to have the information on that meeting. She will call back on Friday.

**Reatta Minshew** mentioned that City Hall would be closed Thursday April 27, 2006 for election training. The training will be 8:00 AM - 3:00 PM.

**12. Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:45 PM.

**PASSED AND APPROVED THIS \_\_\_\_ DAY OF \_\_\_\_\_, 2006.**

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**Reatta Minshev, City Secretary**