

SEPTEMBER 15, 2020

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL

CITY OF BELLVILLE

Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code allows a meeting to which the public does not have access in certain limited instances. The Council may consult with their attorney regarding pending or contemplated litigation. The Council may have a closed meeting to deliberate the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real property. An open session is not required to consider evaluation, discipline, or dismissal of an employee unless there is a specific complaint or charge against an officer or employee and the employee or officer wants an open session. The purpose of the agenda is to give notice to the public about the item that will be considered. If any item on the agenda falls within the exceptions to the open meeting law, the Council has the right to adjourn the open session and convene a closed meeting. However, no action may be taken in an executive session. The Council will reconvene in open session before taking any action on an agenda item.

1. 5:30 P.M. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor James Harrison called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

2. INVOCATION AND PLEDGES OF ALLEGIANCE

Alderman Wayne Browning led all in prayer and Pledges of Allegiance.

3. CERTIFICATION OF A QUORUM

Present-to-wit: Mayor James Harrison, Aldermen Clay Kistler, Garrett Dornon, Arlie Kendrick, Wayne Browning, Alderwoman Ashley Slater; thereby a quorum was established. Also present were City Administrator Shawn Jackson, City Attorney Charley Smith and City Secretary Betty Hollon.

4. CONSIDERATION TO ADOPT AGENDA

The motion was made by Alderman Kendrick and seconded by Alderman Dornon to adopt the Agenda for the Regular Meeting of September 15, 2020 as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

5. CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

The motion was made by Alderman Browning and seconded by Alderman Kendrick to approve the Minutes of the Special Meeting of August 13, 2020, the Regular Meeting of August 18, 2020 and the Special Meeting of September 1, 2020 as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

6. CITIZEN'S FORUM (Any public comment that is made on an item that is not on the posted final agenda will only be heard by the City Council. No formal action, discussion, deliberation, nor comment will be made by the Council.)

No one wished to speak.

7. REPORT OR REQUEST(S) FROM CITY ADMINISTRATOR/DEPARTMENT HEADS

City Administrator Shawn Jackson reported Fall Clean-Up begins on September 28th and the Masonic Street project will begin later this week. Mr. Jackson also mentioned a "Tour of the City" is planned for Council.

8. QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM MAYOR/ COUNCIL MEMBERS/CITY ATTORNEY (DISCUSSION IS LIMITED TO STATEMENTS OF POLICY OR STATEMENTS OF FACTUAL MATTERS, OR THE REQUEST THAT A MATTER BE PLACED ON THE NEXT MEETING'S AGENDA)

Alderwoman Ashley Slater thanked the Electric Department for their efforts with the power outages during recent storms. Alderman Dornon thanked the Electric Department and requested a note be placed on the next utility bill informing customers late fees will begin again. Alderman Kistler inquired about a sewer leak and poles to be replaced. Alderman Kendrick also inquired on utility poles and thanked the Electric Department for their fine efforts. Alderman Browning requested tree trimming continue and inquired about electric outage and sewer leak. Alderman Browning presented packets to Mayor and Council and to Mr. Bruce White with the Bellville Times. Mayor Harrison also thanked the Electric Department and introduced the Bellville Medical Center's new CEO, Mr. Dan Bock. Mayor Harrison with Council consent stated beginning next month (October) Council Meetings will start at 5:00 p.m.

9. PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER PROPOSED 2020 TAX RATE

The Public Hearing to consider the proposed 2020 Tax Rate began at 5:43 p.m. and closed at 5:44 p.m. No citizen commented.

10. PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER PROPOSED 2020-2021 BUDGET

The Public Hearing to consider the proposed 2020-2021 Budget began at 5:45 p.m. and closed at 5:46 p.m. No citizen commented.

11. DISCUSSION TO AMEND APPENDIX A OF CODE OF ORDINANCES FEE SCHEDULE ARTICLE A7.000 UTILITY RATES AND CHARGES SECTION A7.007 GARBAGE COLLECTION AND ANY RELATED ACTION NECESSARY

The motion was made by Alderman Dornon and seconded by Alderman Kistler to amend Appendix A of the Code of Ordinances Fee Schedule Article A7.000 Utility Rates and Charges Section A7.007 Garbage Collection. Motion carried unanimously.

12. CONSIDERATION OF 2019-2020 BUDGET AMENDMENTS AND ANY RELATED ACTION NECESSARY

The motion was made by Alderwoman Slater and seconded by Alderman Dornon to approve the 2019-2020 Budget Amendments. Motion carried unanimously.

13. CONSIDERATION TO ADOPT 2020-2021 FISCAL YEAR BUDGET AND ANY RELATED ACTION NECESSARY

The motion was made by Alderman Dornon and seconded by Alderwoman Slater to adopt Ordinance 1621 adopting the maintenance and operations component of the 2020-2021 Fiscal Year Budget, which will require raising more revenue than would be raised under the no-new-tax revenue provision and called for a roll call vote. Alderman Position 1-Wayne Browning voted aye, Alderman Position 2-Arlie Kendrick voted aye, Alderwoman Position 3-Ashley Slater voted aye, Alderman Position 4-Clay Kistler voted aye, Alderman Position 5-Garrett Dornon voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

The motion was made by Alderman Dornon and seconded by Alderman Kendrick to adopt Ordinance 1621 which contains a \$0.00 debt service component of the 2020-2021 Fiscal Year Budget and called for a roll call vote. Alderman Position 1-Wayne Browning voted aye, Alderman Position 2-Arlie Kendrick voted aye, Alderwoman Position 3-Ashley Slater voted aye, Alderman Position 4-Clay Kistler voted aye, Alderman Position 5-Garrett Dornon voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

The motion was made by Alderman Dornon and seconded by Alderman Kendrick to move that the City Council take a separate ratification vote to ratify the property tax increase of 3.57% reflected in the budget and called for a roll call vote. Alderman Position 1-Wayne Browning voted aye, Alderman Position 2-Arlie Kendrick voted aye, Alderwoman Position 3-Ashley Slater voted aye, Alderman Position 4-Clay Kistler voted aye, Alderman Position 5-Garrett Dornon voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

14. CONSIDERATION TO ADOPT 2020 TAX RATE AND ANY RELATED ACTION NECESSARY

The motion was made by Alderman Dornon and seconded by Alderman Kistler to move that the property tax rate be increased by the adoption of a tax rate of \$0.30200 which is effectively a 3.57% increase in the tax rate and called for a roll call vote. Alderman Position 1-Wayne Browning voted aye, Alderman Position 2-Arlie Kendrick voted aye, Alderwoman Position 3-Ashley Slater voted aye, Alderman Position 4-Clay Kistler voted aye and Alderman Position 5-Garrett Dornon voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

15. CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE 2019-2020 BEDC BUDGET AMENDMENTS AND ANY RELATED ACTION NECESSARY

The motion was made by Alderman Kendrick and seconded by Alderwoman Slater to approve the 2019-2020 BEDC Budget Amendments. Motion carried unanimously.

16. CONSIDERATION TO MOVE EDC ACCOUNTING SERVICES TO THE CITY AND ANY RELATED ACTION NECESSARY

The motion was made by Alderwoman Slater and seconded by Alderman Dornon to transfer the EDC bookkeeping to the City, Cathy Ezell, Finance/HR Director for a monthly fee of \$250.00. Currently Wehring Wealth Management is providing this service for the EDC. Mayor Harrison called for the vote. Voting in favor were Alderwoman Slater, Alderman Dornon and Alderman Kistler. Opposed were Aldermen Browning and Kendrick. Motion carried.

17. CONSIDERATION OF QUIET ZONE PERFORMANCE AGREEMENT WITH BELLVILLE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION AND ANY RELATED ACTION NECESSARY

The motion was made by Alderman Kendrick and seconded by Alderwoman Slater to approve the Performance Agreement with the Bellville EDC pertaining to EDC funding of the Quiet Zone Project. Motion carried unanimously.

18. CONSIDERATION OF AMENDING TRAFFIC ORDINANCE REGARDING STOP SIGNS AT INTERSECTION OF EAST PALM STREET AND NORTH MATTHEWS AND ANY RELATED ACTION NECESSARY

Lt. Smalley spoke to Council regarding the dangerous intersection of E. Palm Street and N. Matthews Street. The motion was made by Alderman Kendrick and seconded by Alderman Kistler to amend the Traffic Ordinance and make the intersection a 4-way stop. Motion carried unanimously.

19. ADJOURNMENT

The motion was made by Alderman Browning and seconded by Alderman Kendrick to adjourn at 6:47 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.