

## MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING

January 10, 2015

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Ray Schultz  
Mayor Pro tem Sherrie Williams  
Councilwomen Lori Shierry and Stephanie Wooten  
Councilmen Keith Dyer and Tim Sheppard

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

PERSONNEL: Jerry Flemming, City Manager  
David Sherrill, Public Works Director  
Robert Johnson, Chief of Police  
Robbie Matthews, Parks and Recreation Director  
David Owen, Economic Development Director  
Randy Fulbright, Fire Chief  
Becky Ferguson, Director of Finance  
Amie Shultz, Library Director  
Janice Newman, City Secretary

VISITORS: Dolores Hamilton

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1: Call to Order.

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 9:15 a.m.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2: Invocation.

The Economic Development Director gave the invocation.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3: Goals Planning Session.

The City Manager stated he plans to develop a five to ten year strategic plan for the City starting with information gathered from this meeting.

The Public Works Director explained the need for some major renovations at the wastewater treatment plant including new blowers as well as electrical work.

A study is needed to determine if the unused water treatment plant can be reactivated, if not, should it be torn down to clean up the area and then could be used for another purpose, such as expanding on the disc golf course.

There was discussion of the wild animals inhabiting Lake Gordon. It was agreed that the City Manager, Parks and Recreation Director and the Public Works Director set up a meeting with the Texas Parks and Wildlife to find answers to control the wildlife population.

Mr. Sherrill believes that within the next couple of years TCEQ will require municipalities to have back-up generators for their facilities.

Also discussed was the current job opening for a laborer in Public Works. Because of the lack of applications received, Mr. Sherrill would like to see this position reclassified to an equipment operator which would then allow this position to operate some of the larger equipment.

The need for a new city complex was also discussed.

Police Chief Robert Johnson felt the most important thing for the City is to have a strategic plan in place. He noted numerous vehicles and equipment need to be replaced due to age and/or mileage. He pointed out the 4B Board recently purchased in-car camera systems for all of the patrol cars in his department.

Chief Johnson also expressed the need for a new city complex as well as a new animal shelter. The current shelter was built as a holding facility and has only three pens. He believes at least a sixteen animal facility is needed. Several ideas were discussed on raising funds for the facility including requiring all household pets to be registered with the City or face a fine.

He also felt fuel cards were needed to allow his department and the fire department to purchase fuel after hours or on holidays. He would also like to see a professional ID card system for the City employees.

The Parks and Recreation Director briefed the Council on his department and their duties. The number of City facilities his department must maintain keeps growing. His three man crew have a hard time keeping up with everything that must be done.

Biggs & Mathews is currently working up plans for a drainage system at the swimming pool. Splash water from the pool stands in an area and has killed the ground. The Health Department stated this drainage problem must be remedied.

Mr. Matthews would like to see the lighted Christmas decorations on the street light poles replaced with banners.

The City Secretary stated a new city complex was needed, but until then the roof at City Hall needs replaced. Every time it rains water gets into the public works offices, council chambers, utility billing office and the Director of Finance's office. Both the Chief of Police and the Economic Development Director stated rainwater gets into their buildings also. The security at City Hall still needs improved. A new camera system will be installed in the next few months that will capture the front hallway. The staff will also be looking into bank draft options for water utility customers in the near future.

During the upcoming budget workshops, she will be proposing increasing the employee contribution to TMRS from the current 6% to the maximum of 7% and possibly reducing the years of service from the current twenty-five years to twenty years.

The Economic Development Director has been working on getting an apartment complex in Iowa Park for the past couple of years. He has been contacted by the developer and they will be trying again this year.

Mr. Owens stated he has had a serious inquiry on a hotel and they are currently conducting a feasibility study. He also informed the Council that the 4A Board will be asking for a new spec building.

The Library Director said the upstairs area of the library needs some work. The water pipes to the restrooms upstairs have been freezing during the recent cold weather.

She also plans to start a computer replacement program to replace her aging computers.

The Fire Chief stated he is out of room at the fire station. He said they could stay where they are at if they can add on to the building.

He also expressed the need to have at least three to four paid firemen and EMT's.

The Mayor had only one item and it was to work on attracting more businesses to Iowa Park.

Councilwoman Shierry wants the City to start a cleanup along East Highway including all the junk cars at Barry's service station, the old dilapidated former Jiffy Store and the Pallet Outlet. She would like to start scouting locations for a new City complex.

Councilman Dyer praised the department heads and staff for the work they have done with such a limited budget.

Councilman Sheppard would like to see City sponsored events, such as concerts, around Gordon Lake. There was also discussion of having a Halloween event around the lake where businesses and residents could set up tables and/or lawn chairs and bring treats for the trick or treaters.

Councilwoman Wooten would like to see TMRS go from 25 years to 20 years retirement. She would also like to have an employee and family appreciation event at the pool.

She asked about drilling water wells around Lake Gordon and was told the City already drilled and did not find any water.

Mrs. Wooten would like the City to start annexing along U.S. Highway 287.

She wants to see Woodbriar Apartments cleaned up as well as several other properties around town.

Councilwoman Williams had a list of properties that need cleaned up and gave that list to the City Manager. She pointed out that the City has the Code of Ordinances and it should be used as a tool to help clean up properties.

She also wants to see a new City complex, a recreational vehicle park, annexation along the highway and a lighthouse on Duck Island at Lake Gordon. Street signs and dredging of the lakes were discussed.

The meeting adjourned at 3:26 p.m.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 26<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2015.

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Mayor Ray Schultz

ATTEST:

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City Secretary Janice Newman