

City of Bronte, Texas
Regular City Council Meeting Minutes
Thursday, February 9th, 2017 6:30 P.M.

The City Council of the City of Bronte, Texas met in regular session in City Council Chambers, City Hall, 114 S. Washington Street, Bronte, Texas at 8:00 p.m.

6:35 P.M. City Council Convened
City Council Chambers, 114 S. Washington, Street, Bronte, Texas

Present: Mayor Gerald Sandusky City Secretary Crystal L. Blevins
 Mayor Pro Tem Misti Bedford Utilities Director Ricky Royall
 Council Member Martin Lee Messer, Rockefeller & Fort, PLLC
 Council Member Wade Stautzenberger
 Council Member George Tomes

Absent: Council Member Paul Gohman

1. Proclamations and Presentations

1.1. Pledges of Allegiance were given by those in Council Chambers.

1.2. Prayer by Council Member Martin lee

2. Citizen Comments - Any citizen wishing to appear before a regular meeting of the City Council may do so by signing up to speak at the City Council meeting itself, with regard to any item posted on the City Council agenda. Council may take comments from citizens on this matter.

The following citizens signed up for citizens comments to request a building permit for the Cowboy Church:

Jim Bennett – no comment
Jennifer Bolber – no comment

The following citizens signed up for citizens comments to address their concerns towards council in reference to the Oak Creek Land Lease Agreement:

Margaret Charlesworth – If the City Attorney Mr. Arrott determined that the lease was void why did the Council go forward with this? Do we have insurance to cover this incident?

James Sutton – no comment

Paul Knight – Why did the City Council do this agreement? Why do the citizens have to pay for legal fees?

Santiago Rodriguez – Lets not drag this out, we need to move forward. We just want answers.

Stormy Vaughn – How is this the citizens fault that this has cost us so much money to get out of this?

3. **Minutes**

3.1. January 12th, 2017 City Council Meeting

Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Misti Bedford to approve of the January 12th, 2017 City Council Meeting Minutes, seconded by Council Member Martin Lee.

Vote: 4 – 0 Motion carried

4. **Regular Agenda**

4.1. **Discuss/Act – Finances:**

o Monthly Report

Motion by Council Member Martin Lee to approve of the Monthly Report, seconded by Council Member Wade Stautzenberger.

Vote: 4 – 0 Motion carried

o Bills to Pay

Motion by Council Member Wade Stautzenberger to approve of bills to pay, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Misti Bedford.

Vote: 4 – 0 Motion carried

o Revenues and Expenditures

Motion by Council Member Wade Stautzenberger to approve of revenues and expenditures, seconded by Council Member Martin Lee.

Vote: 4 – 0 Motion carried

4.2. **Discuss/Act – Finances:** Reimburse the Texas Water Development Board for Loan ID L1000020 and LF1000016 for Project Closeout.

Motion by Council Member Wade Stautzenberger to reimburse the Texas Water Development Board for a project closeout, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Misti Bedford.

Vote: 4 – 0 Motion carried

4.3. **Discuss/Act – Public Safety: Sheriff’s Department Report**

No report, no action was taken.

4.4. **Discuss/Act – Public Safety: Consider deeding City of Bronte property located at 401 W. Main Street, Bronte, Texas to the Bronte Volunteer Fire Department.**

Fire Chief Bill Torres – Requesting the City of Bronte either deed property located at 401 W. Main Street, Bronte, Texas to the Volunteer Fire Department or the City of Bronte purchase material the Volunteer Fire Department has or plans to spend for the construction of a fire department building. Building material was purchased from Mueller in December 2016. Contractors are ready to begin on the concrete and construction of the building.

Motion by Council Member Wade Stautzenberger to table the agenda item deeding City of Bronte property located at 401 W. Main Street, Bronte, Texas to the Bronte Volunteer Fire Department, seconded by Council Member Martin Lee.

Vote: 4 – 0 Motion carried

4.5. **Discuss/Act – Animal Services: Animal Report**

8 Cat
2 Dog
5 Skunk
4 Possum
4 Raccoon

City Secretary Crystal L. Blevins presented the Animal Services Report.

Discussion only, no action was taken.

4.6. **Discuss/Act – Animal Services: Livestock Permits**

Rowdy Akins - 516 S. Jefferson; pigs
Howard Baker - 300 Briarwood; horse, goats, chickens, guinea, turkeys
Travis Black - 823 E Main; mules, goats
Dennie Braswell - 802 Mesquite; goats, chickens
Jackie Corley - 901 Price; sheep
Juan DeLaRosa - 310 N Lombard; horses
Larry Dyess - 810 S State; miniature horses, goat
Billy Eubanks - 630 N Franklin; poultry
David Glenn - 520 Pecan; sheep, goats, cows
Corby Kelso - 707 Westwood; horse, steer, lamb
Carolyn Knight - 601 N Jefferson; poultry
Terry Marrs - 702 Meadow; goats
Harold McCutchen - 815 E Main; equine

Kenneth Miller - 702 W Jackson; horses
Homer Oliver - 502 & 536 Brunson; horses, sheep, cows, goats
Pete Percifull - 526 SW Railroad; chickens, goats
Colin Pope - 404 Kickapoo; goats
Colin Pope - 404 Kickapoo; goats, donkey
Bob Ragsdale - 819 SW Railroad; goats
Rocky Rawls - 707 Meadow; goats, sheep, chickens
Amy Reeves - 705 Meadow; goats, lambs, steer
Philip Shaw - 711 Westwood; miniature horses, donkey, pony, llama
Juan Tapia - 511 NW Railroad; chickens

Council Member George Tomes recommended approving all livestock permits at once, as long as these are just renewal permits. Ricky Royall confirmed all permits listed are renewal permits from the prior year and the City had no issues.

Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Misti Bedford to approve of all of the listed livestock permits, seconded by Council Member Martin Lee.

Vote: 4 – 0 Motion carried

4.7. Discuss/Act – Code Enforcement: Building Permits

James Brunson – 110 W Main, Bronte, TX; storage building

Ricky Royall – Building permit was tabled at previous meeting so that Council may view building.

Crystal L. Blevins - Portable building is temporary. It is used as a location for the children to have class.

Mayor Pro Tem Misti Bedford recommended the permit be for six months.

Motion by Council Member Martin Lee to approve of a six month building permit for James Brunson, seconded by Council Member Wade Stautzenberger.

Vote: 4 – 0 Motion carried

Lynn Pate – 202 S Franklin, Bronte, TX; storage building

Lynn Pate – present, no discussion.

Ricky Royall – Location is behind the motel, where RV station is located. A fence is provided next to his house. Ricky recommended storage building be placed behind fenced area.

Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Misti Bedford to approve of a six month building permit for Lynn Pate seconded by Council Member Wade Stautzenberger.

Vote: 4 – 0 Motion carried

Lynn Follis – 801 S Jefferson, Bronte, TX; fence

Gerald Sandusky - Fence is to be constructed around property owned at the football field.

Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Misti Bedford to approve of the building permit for Lynn Follis seconded by Council Member Martin Lee.

Vote: 4 – 0 Motion carried

4.8. **Discuss/Act – Code Enforcement:** Demolition quotes for property located at 401 N Washington, Bronte, Texas.

Crystal L. Blevins – Quotes to demo property include Cody McClure in the amount of \$12,000, Bruce Vaughn in the amount of \$8,500, Matt Moore in the amount of \$3,000, and WEB Construction in the amount of \$1,200. All quotes request City of Bronte to cover roll-off container expenses.

Restoring Bronte Foundation Jodie Arrott – We can provide free labor. We need someone to pay for the roll-off containers.

Council agreed to discuss agenda item 4.9 prior to making a decision on agenda item 4.8.

Motion by Council Member Wade Stautzenberger to reject demolition quotes received for property located at 401 N Washington, seconded by Council Member George Tomes.

Vote: 4 – 0 Motion carried

4.9. **Discuss/Act – Community Development:** Restoring Bronte Foundation to assist in the demolition/cleanup of City property.

Restoring Bronte Foundation Ashley Braswell – Requesting City Council to give the volunteers of the RBF the opportunity to clean up and demo properties. We are offering our services. We are asking the City to provide roll-off containers.

Motion by Council Member Martin Lee for the Restoring Bronte Foundation to assist in the demolition/cleanup of City property, seconded by George Tomes.

Vote: 4 – 0 Motion carried

- 4.10. **Discuss/Act – Community Development:** Restoring Bronte Foundation Commerce Committee tree and plant placement.

Restoring Bronte Foundation Commerce Committee Terry Ervin – Request to place trees along Main Street, but decided to place planters along the sidewalk on Main Street. Douglas Roberts at the Texas Department of Transportation informed they may place planters as long as they are not bolted into the sidewalk.

Discussion only, no action.

- 4.11. **Discuss/Act – Community Development:** Discuss and consider a resolution authorizing the submission of a Texas Community Development Block Grant Program Application to the Texas Department of Agriculture for the Community Development Fund; and authorizing the Mayor to act as the City's executive officer and authorized representative in all matters pertaining to the City's participation in the Texas Community Development Block Grant Program.

Ricky Royall – This is for sewer repairs.

Motion by Council Member Martin Lee to submit the Community Development Block Grant application to the Texas Department of Agriculture for the Community Development Fund, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Misti Bedford.

Vote: 4 – 0 Motion carried

- 4.12. **Discuss/Act – City Secretary:** Staff holidays for 2017.

Motion by Council Member George Tomes to approve of the staff holidays, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Misti Bedford.

Vote: 4 – 0 Motion carried

- 4.13. **Discuss/Act – City Secretary:** Consider deeding property located on the East half (E/2) of Lot Ten (10) in Block Fifty-nine (59) of the Original Town of Bronte, Coke County, Texas (R6618) to the Bronte Independent School District.

Crystal L. Blevins – Dorothy Collins deeded property to the Bronte ISD, this section of land was not included.

Motion by Council Member Wade Stautzenberger to approve of deeding the East half (E/2) of Lot Ten (10) in Block Fifty-nine (59) of the Original Town of Bronte, Coke County, Texas (R6618) to the Bronte Independent School District, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Misti Bedford.

Vote: 4 – 0 Motion carried

- 4.14. **Discuss/Act – City Council:** Discuss and consider action regarding resolution of issues regarding the Land Lease Agreement dated April 14, 2016, between the City of Bronte, as landlord, and Ronny Loyd, as tenant, for a 6.846 acre tract and 11.523 acre tract near Oak Creek Lake.

No action.

6:39 p.m. - Council members entered into executive session.

- 4.15. **Executive Session – City Council:** The City Council may enter into Executive Session under Gov't Code §551.071, Consultation with Attorney, to discuss legal status of Land Lease Agreement between the City of Bronte and Ronny Loyd and to discuss legal ramifications regarding resolution of issues regarding the Land Lease Agreement.

7:59 p.m. – Council members entered into open session.

- 4.16. **Discuss/Act – City Council:** The City Council will reconvene in open session and may take action regarding resolution of issues regarding the Land Lease Agreement dated April 14, 2016, between the City of Bronte, as landlord, and Ronny Loyd, as tenant, for a 6.846 acre tract and an 11.523 acre tract near Oak Creek Lake.

Motion by Council Member George Tomes to start over, discontinue any negotiations with Mr. Loyd regarding the property, we will obtain an appraisal from an independent third party for the value of the improvements made by Mr. Loyd did and offer to pay that amount to Mr. Loyd for the release of any claim, seconded by Council Member Wade Stautzenberger.

Vote: 4 – 0 Motion carried

- 4.17. **Discuss/Act – City Council:** Presentation of information regarding transactions involving the Oak Creek Lake land purchased from the City of Sweetwater and subsequent sale or lease of that property by the City of Bronte.

Discussion made by Attorney Eileen Hayman from Messer, Rockefeller & Fort, PLLC with a timeline of events that took place from the purchase of land from the City of Sweetwater to the sale/lease of the three sections of land.

Answers were provided to citizen questions they had at the January 12th, 2017 City Council Meeting. There has been no lawsuit filed from Mr. Loyd. We have not had any contact from an attorney on Mr. Loyd's behalf to the City of Bronte or to Messer, Rockefeller, & Fort, PLLC.

Under the Public Information Act, we have ten business days to reply to open record requests.

Mayor Gerald Sandusky and Council Member Martin Lee will not be held liable nor will they be required to reimburse the City of any expenses in reference to the land lease agreement that was approved by Council. The Council made the decision to agree to the lease.

No Action

- 4.18. **Discuss/Act – City Council:** Discuss and consider action regarding options for disposition of a 6.846 acre tract and an 11.523 acre tract near Oak Creek Lake, including placing those properties up for bid for lease and/or sale.

Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Misti Bedford to take no action on placing the 6.846 and 11.523 acre tract of land near Oak Creek Lake up for bid or for lease, seconded by Council Member Wade Stautzenberger.

Vote: 4 – 0 Motion carried

- 4.19. **Executive Session – City Council:** The City Council may enter into Executive Session under Gov't Code §551.072, Real Property, to deliberate the sale, lease, or value of the 6.846 acre tract and the 11.523 acre tract near Oak Creek Lake.

Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Misti Bedford to take no action on placing the 6.846 and 11.523 acre tract of land near Oak Creek Lake up for bid or for lease, seconded by Council Member Wade Stautzenberger.

Vote: 4 – 0 Motion carried

- 4.20. **Discuss/Act – City Council:** The City Council will reconvene in open session and may take action regarding options for disposition of a 6.846 acre tract and an 11.523 acre tract near Oak Creek Lake, including placing those properties up for bid for lease and/or sale.

Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Misti Bedford to take no action on placing the 6.846 and 11.523 acre tract of land near Oak Creek Lake up for bid or for lease, seconded by Council Member Wade Stautzenberger.

Vote: 4 – 0 Motion carried

- 4.21. **Discuss – Reports:**
Mayor
Councilmembers
City Secretary
Utilities Director

Council Member George Tomes announced location of Jimmie Guthrie's funeral at the Hamel Funeral in Abilene, Texas Saturday at 11:00 a.m.

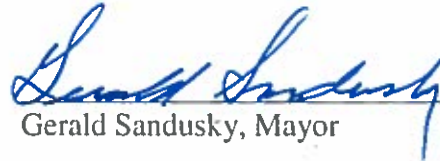
Crystal L. Blevins - Mobile Light is requesting a letter from the City of Bronte to provide a stating that the City of Bronte does not have any permit requirements to place cell phone tower poles within City limits.

Crystal L. Blevins - Lana Elms is requesting to cell four cemetery lots to the City of Bronte. Documents will be provided at the next regular City Council meeting.

Crystal L. Blevins – Requesting a Special Council Meeting to review four building permits for the HOME Grant. Meeting scheduled for Thursday, February 16th, 2017 at 6:30 p.m.

No action.

There being no further business, at 9:30 p.m. meeting adjourned.


Gerald Sandusky, Mayor

ATTEST:


Crystal L. Blevins, City Secretary

Handwritten text, possibly a signature or name, located in the center of the page.