

**City of Bronte, Texas  
Regular City Council Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, March 21, 2019 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 6:30 p.m.**

6:30 P.M. City Council Convened - City Council Chambers, 114 S Washington Street, Bronte, Texas

Present: Paul Gohman, Mayor Teresa Ballard, City Secretary  
Lee Wommack, Councilman Sherry Bailey, Deputy City Secretary  
Santiago Rodriguez, Councilman  
Steve Hines, Councilman  
Stormy Vaughn, Councilman

Absent: Eileen M. Hayman, City Attorney  
Ricky Royall, Utilities Director  
David Bedford, Mayor Pro Tem

**A. Proclamations and Presentations**

A.1. Pledges of Allegiance

A.2. Prayer was led by Lee Wommack

**B. 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, regarding any item posted on the City Council agenda. Council may take comments from citizens on this matter. Citizens are allowed three minutes for comments.

Ms. Marlene Vaughn gave a boost to everybody. I know things go slow, but I know the city is working hard, and we are starting to see development. The EDC is keeping busy and again thank you to everybody and encourage everyone to hang in there.

**C. Presentation – Community:** Presentation from Jacob & Martin Engineering concerning plant upgrade, presented by Kirt Harle.

Mr. Harle recently toured water plant and met with Ricky and the Mayor.

I have gathered a lot of information regarding water plant, and there is a lot of opportunity with the plant. Water plant is getting older; probably needs some upgrades, improvements. The City needs to do a solid evaluation of what you have and what you need. First step is a good feasibility study of supply of water and treatment water. It will take 3-4 months to do study.

Mayor would like to see scalability options for the future, so when we do this study, we can get ready for the new standards, and be ready for the possibility to treat more water.

**D. Presentation - Community:** Presentation on new City of Bronte Website presented by Katie Ramirez, EDC 4B.

Ms. Katie Ramirez was unable to present tonight but will be placed on the agenda for next month.

**Regular Agenda**

**1a. Discuss – Public Safety:** Fire Department Report

Martin DeLaGarza reported only went on one run to help Blackwell. McCoy's has donated supplies to finish bathrooms for Turkey & Hog Festival.

Information only

**1b. Discuss – Public Safety:** Sheriff's Enforcement Report

Deputy Neal reported February as follows:

Officer ordinance notifications from city hall:3

Citizen call in's	2
Ordinance citation issued:	2
Investigated compliant Information only	1

**1c. Discuss – Animal Services: Animal Report**

City Secretary reported the following:

Skunks – 5

Possums – 3

Cats - 4

Raccoons – 3

Information only

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

- Armandina Sanchez; 734 S Jefferson; sheep, horses

Mayor reports Ricky Royall's recommendation not to approve at this time. Ricky discussed with land owner what needed to be cleaned to on the property when water was turned on. Certified letter will be sent to clean up property in 30 days or remove live stock from property.

Santiago Rodriguez made a motion to deny livestock permit contingent on 30 days to cleanup property or remove livestock, seconded by Steve Hines.

Vote: 4-0, motion passed to deny at this time

- ❖ Present at this evening meeting is Juan DeLaRosa to have livestock approved or not approved. Stormy Vaughn apologized to DeLaRosa and issued a statement of fact saying that this should have been on this month's agenda and was accidentally left off.

**3. Discuss/Act – Code Enforcement: Permits**

- Austin Fisher; 310 N Jefferson St.; Portable Carport
- Brian Rote; 523 E McCaulley; Fence
- Ray Sparks; 307 W Barclay; Carport
- Ray Sparks; 307 W Barclay; Fence
- Mike Bohensky; 323 State; Fence
- Lynn Pate; 107 S Franklin; Building

Stormy Vaughn made motion to accept first five permits, and deny permit at 107 S Franklin permit contingent on 30 days to clean up property and he needs to sign permit, seconded by Lee Wommack.

Vote: 4-0, motion passed

**4. Discuss/Act – Economic Development: On-going EDC Report**

Brenda Hines reports the Welcome Hunters Banner has arrived. TX Dot has approved banner and placement of poles. Need to get permanent poles installed. Katie Ramirez presented a website and logo design that she and Ryan Webb developed. The EDC referred it to the City for consideration. EDC discussed the three-entrance signs at Bronte's North, South and West city limits that will need to be replaced soon. The Front Store grants are being will utilized. Several more businesses have applied for assistance.

Information only

**5. Discuss/Act – Cemetery: On-going Cemetery Committee Report**

Brenda Hines has seven citizens on committee but have not met. Brenda discussed with Robert Lee cemetery association what is working for them on how to keep their cemetery clean, etc. Please notice next time you go toward Robert Lee; they have built a pavilion at the cemetery.

Information only

**6. Discuss/Act – Community: Consider date for brush clean up with the help from Restoring Bronte Foundation. City Secretary distributed a calendar for council to approve a date.**

Stormy Vaughn asked if city was thinking of brush clean up before the festival. Maybe not advertise just get volunteers together to go around cleaning up.

Recommendation to clean up brush March 30 and not advertised

Recommendation for the Convenience Center to be closed April 20<sup>th</sup> and rescheduled to be opened April 27<sup>th</sup> from 8am – Noon.

Recommendation to advertise on the marquee, Facebook and Bronte bulletin board - Brush Cleanup April 27.

Stormy Vaughn made a motion to have clean up March 30<sup>th</sup> not advertised, close C. C. April 20<sup>th</sup>, open convenience center on April 27<sup>th</sup> 8-Noon and advertise brush clean up April 27, seconded by Steve Hines.

Vote: 4-0, motion passed

**7. Discuss/Act – Economic Development: Consider/Approve new board members to EDC 4A**

Lee Wommack made motion to approve Bralyn Baker to EDC 4A board, seconded by Santiago Rodriguez.

Vote: 4-0, motion passed

**8. Discuss/Act – Economic Development: Consider/Approve Changing EDC 4A & 4B Bylaws for Board Member Terms.**

Lee Wommack would like to see the member terms be 4 years.

City Secretary would like council to consider changing their term date from October to February 1, since we just approved at last council meeting.

Lee Wommack also would like to take out “of the unexpired term”. Lee Wommack said he would like to see a budget done, but after more discussion the budget is already in the bylaws in section 4.09.

Lee Wommack asked who pays for EDC’s portion of the annual audit. Stormy Vaughn mentioned in the past the City would bill them for their portion but would like for the Eckert CPA to bill EDC for their portion of the audit.

City Secretary will check to see if Eckert CPA can do this. Eckert will bill EDC separately for audit.

Mayor’s recommendation to table and have changes made to the bylaws and review at next meeting for approval.

Lee Wommack made a motion to make changes and review/approve at next council meeting and seconded by Santiago Rodriguez.

Vote: 4-0, motion passed to table until next council

**9. Discuss/Act – Community: Consider/Approve Resolution for 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Celebrity Turkey and Hog Festival hosted by Restoring Bronte Foundation Downtown District using the parking and grounds at the Depot April 4-7, 2019.**

Stormy Vaughn made a motion to approve resolution for 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Celebrity Turkey and Hog Festival, seconded by Santiago Rodriguez.

Vote: 4-0, motion passed

**10. Discuss/Act – Economic Development Depot: On-going - Consider what to do with the Depot**

Brenda Hines reported attending the RL Historical Clean up. She discussed the Depot with Bobby Blaylock. Bobby has been talking to Ricky Royall. Brenda Hines recommends having Bobby Blaylock and Beth Prather attend a council meeting to discuss what to do with the Depot.

Discussion only

**Consent Agenda – Election**

**11. a. Discuss/Act – Election: Consider Certification of Unopposed Candidate**

**11. b. Discuss/Act – Election: Consider Cancellation of 2019 General Election**

**11. c. Discuss/Act – Election: Consider Resolution declaring unopposed candidates in May 4, 2019 General City Election, Elected to Office; Canceling the Election; Providing a Severability Clause; and providing an effective date.**

Steve Hines made a motion approve to cancel election, seconded by Lee Wommack.

Vote: 4-0, motion passed

**12. Discuss/Act – Economic Development:** On-going Update on land behind the Depot Keeping on the agenda, so we don't forget about it.

Discussion only

**13. Discuss/Act – Human Resources:** Consider/Approve authorizing the Mayor to execute a rerate notice and employee benefit verification with Texas Municipal League Health Benefit Pool. Mayor opened the discussion. Council discussed in depth the options given to them. Steve Hines read the current rates:

Employee medical \$590.30; dependent medical \$448.68; employee dental \$13.64; Employee vision \$12.50; employee life/AD&D \$7.30; Dependent life \$1.60. By Steve's calculations the city's paying 95.75% and the employee paying 4.25%. That's far out of whack of the national average.

Steve Hines recommended having special council to discuss further.

Stormy Vaughn recommended having full time employees present at meeting to choose their option.

Special council meeting will be scheduled for March 28, 6pm

Steve Hines made a motion to hold special council meeting to discuss change to employee benefit, seconded by Lee Wommack.

Vote: 4-0, motion passed to hold special council meeting

**14a. Discuss/Act – Human Resources:** Consider/Approve TML Intergovernmental Risk Pool – 2017/2018 Workers' Compensation Audit

**14b. Discuss/Act –** Discuss drop the Volunteer Ambulance/EMS Workers Compensation Coverage

Lee Wommack reported that EMS has their own workers compensation coverage.

Lee Wommack made a motion approve TML Intergovernmental Risk Pool audit and cancel the EMS workers compensation coverage, seconded by Stormy Vaughn

Vote: 4-0, motion passed

**15. Discuss/Act – City Hall: Update -** Consider Water Service Credit ordinance/agreement with Bronte Volunteer FD/EMS staff. City Hall created guidelines for water service credit.

Stormy Vaughn made a motion to accept the guidelines for water service credit, seconded by Lee Wommack.

Vote: 4-0, motion passed

**16. Discuss/Act – Utilities:** Consider/Approve Public Utility Commission of Texas Right-of-Way 2019 increase

Stormy Vaughn made a motion to approve Texas Right-of-Way 2019 Increase, seconded by Lee Wommack.

Vote: 4-0, motion passed

**17. Discuss/Act – Ordinance: Update –** Consider amending Sanitation Ordinance 18-05 Item #1, adding verbiage to say portion of the Convenient Center fee goes to service Inside City Limit Curb Side Service.

Stormy Vaughn recommended take \$2 off Convenient Center for all out of city limits customers and change Convenient Center to Inside Curb Side Services to all inside city limits customers.

Stormy Vaughn made a motion to amend changes to Sanitation Ordinance 18-05 seconded by Santiago Rodriguez.

Vote: 4-0, motion passed

**18. Discuss/Act – Ordinance:** Revisit RV/RV Park Ordinance 18-09 - Discuss the need for a variance or exception for RV's in Bronte.

Lee Wommack discussed the recent changes and council's decision of denying permits. In my option I would like to look at temporary permits for permanent living every six months.

Stormy Vaughn stated that the City should get a background check before issuing any permit for additional living in an RV and advising the Council of such.

Santiago Rodriguez reports you cannot get a back ground check on renters.

Santiago Rodriguez mentioned that we all agreed previously 5-0 not to approve any permanent living RV permits.

Ordinance stands with no changes.

No action taken, discussion only

**19. Discuss/Act – Ordinance: Update amending Peddler Permit, Door to Door Solicitation - Ordinance #310**  
Still working on updating the ordinance. Once the council has approved the ordinance, it needs to go to the attorney for final approval.

Lee Wommack made motion to table until more is done, seconded by Stormy Vaughn.

Vote: 4-0, motion passed to table until more research is done.

**Consent Agenda – Minutes/Finance:**

**20. February 21, 2019 - Minutes**

**21. Bills Paid – February**

**22. Balance Sheet – February**

**23. Revenue and Expenditures – February**

Teresa Ballard reported that we are going over budget in " Training Section" of the Sewer budget.

Will send the corrected check register for general fund.

Steve Hines asked about TMRS checks paid. The figures are not adding up. Steve Hines will come to city hall to look at the detailed reports tomorrow and Teresa will email council if report is incorrect.

Steve Hines would like to see a list of employees and how much they get paid and breakdown of benefits.

Santiago Rodriguez asked about 03.03.200 accounts payable – at the bottom \$172.38 – what is this? I will send out detail of this account. 03.03.205 health – is a credit of \$261. – We doubled paid the funds in health insurance last year. I am waiting on auditors to send adjusting entries.

Stormy Vaughn asked what the employee's % of payroll breakdown is – I will send out.

Teresa Ballard will send out a detail explained G/L payroll report for your information.

Lee Wommack made a motion to approve the minutes and table the financials, seconded by Stormy Vaughan.

Vote: 4-0, motion passed

**24. Discuss – Mayors Report: Goals and projects**

Mayor met with Stormy and Steve for our first zoning meeting and discussed what the goals are.

Dobbs Construction is finishing up another project and the drainage would be in the next few weeks.

Gravel streets – looking at the cost for transport. Once we get enough gravel for one block, we will ask the County to come by with the maintainer.

**Utility Director Report**

Ricky Royall was not present but left the following information.

Sherry has emailed council the Code Enforcement Report/Spreadsheet.

Sherry and Teresa are compiling spreadsheet for RV's, Sea Container and Junked Vehicles to monitor

**City Secretary Report**

A credit card log was distributed to council to show them how the credit cards are being tracked.

As of April 1, all employee will be paid semi-monthly.

Audit is wrapping up – should be coming out soon.

**Request for future agenda items**

Stormy Vaughn reminded Teresa to have livestock permits for Delarosa; Harnedt; and Siler to be on next agenda and permit for Cowboy Church Cook storage building and cook shack.

**Adjourn:** No further business meeting adjourned at 9:17 pm.

  
Paul Gohman, Mayor

**ATTEST:**

  
Teresa Ballard, City Secretary