

**City of Bronte, Texas**  
**Regular City Council Meeting Minutes**  
**Thursday December 19, 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. An audio recording can be requested through the Public Information Act through City Hall.

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 P.M. by Mayor Paul Gohman, and a quorum was established. In attendance: City Council Members: Lee Wommack, Steve Hines, Ron Cooper and Stormy Vaughn, Santiago Rodriguez; Ricky Royall, Utility Director, Teresa Ballard, City Secretary and Sherry Bailey, Deputy City Secretary. City Attorney, Eileen M. Hayman was not requested to attend the meeting.

**A. Proclamations and Presentations**

Pledge of Allegiance led by Paul Gohman

Prayer was led by Lee Wommack

**B. Citizen Comments**

There are no citizens comments

Mayor Paul Gohman Mayor of the City of Bronte do hereby recognize the Bronte I.S.D. Lady Longhorn Volleyball Team and coaching staff for their outstanding achievements and commend them for their display of sportsmanship and leadership.

Bronte I.S.D. Lady Longhorn Volleyball Team, being Kalyn Seales, Zoe Watkins, Mia Minjarez, Saige Busby, Karissa Cervenka, Dree Davis, Elexia Davis, Katelyn Powell, Keeley Queen, Searra Powell, and Michaela Basquez, Manager, Mariah DelaCerde, Manager, and Thaliah Casteneda, Manager, and Head Coach Carol Moore, Assistant Coach Misty Davis, and Assistant Coach Samuel Torres to be recognized and honored for their outstanding volleyball season; and by its extraordinary efforts, this dynamic team competed in the 2019 U.I.L. Regional Championship Finals and won Class 1A-Region 1 Runner-up.

**Regular Agenda**

**Monthly Reports:**

Public Safety & Animal Services reports: Fire Chief Martin DeLaGarza reports fire station has stained the floor red in the office and heating is being put in now. Had two runs this month; one helping with one grass fire towards Robert Lee and second run was working a wreck north of town. Have received new 5-ton truck and skid unit is being ready from the forestry. Soon we have a special flag to post at the FD notifying citizens when we are in a burn ban. Be aware in January, the wind turbans will be doing a BIG burn around the wind turbans going to Sterling City. We are still receiving equipment from the previous grant that will help us work roll over wrecks. We will be using one of our trucks to put all the new equipment to work rollovers.

There was no sheriff report. Teresa Ballard reports animal services have caught 1 cat, 2 raccoons, 2 skunks, 1 dog that was claimed. Animal services is now making his presence known in the community by driving around in the city truck with the animal control magnets on the truck. He has been out several times since starting on November 27. Has been one dog on two occasions and found who the animal belongs to and the owner lives outside city limits.

Economic Development Report and Cemetery Report: Brenda Hines reports meeting schedule for Monday. Brenda also reports at the cemetery there is still tree limbs piled at the back of the Cemetery. Stormy Vaughan reports meeting with a contractor regarding repairs to the arches at the cemetery. Recommending removing the cattleguard and knock off the cement and redo the footing and old stucco off then adding Quick wall around the arches. Also, met with a tree trimming service. They have a 12" chipper that will handle what we have and maybe have the front entrance painted, etc. It is getting time to think about getting pre-emergent down. Then in the spring putting in landscaping. Stormy also mentioned working on the cemetery ordinance. Citizen Gwen Dyess gave some recommendations that have worked for them in the past.

Economic Development – Depot Status Report: Ricky Royall had nothing new to report.

Code Enforcement: Pending Building Permits. Permit Committee reviewed application and site plan for Bedo Juarez adding addition to permanent building.

Stormy Vaughn made the motion to accept permit for Bedo Juarez, seconded by Santiago Rodriguez

Vote: 5-0, motion passed

**City of Bronte, Texas**  
**Regular City Council Meeting Minutes**  
**Thursday December 19, 2019 6:30 P.M.**

Economic Development: EDC 4A president Ryan Webb reported the board approved for new street signs for Bronte. This is our first project is costing approximately \$18K for 249 sign and 50 longhorn blanks in case we must replace some of them with the hardware. There are several components being looked at one which is the status of exciting poles, stop signs. We are looking into placing all of them with new galvanized poles that do not need painting and another component is how are we going to get them installed. This is a topic for discussion. Does the EDC need to think about contracting out? We are here to help the city with what they need to make this happen.

Stormy Vaughn made the motion to accept EDC 4A street sign project, seconded by Ron Cooper

Vote: 5-0, motion passed

Public Safety: Chief DeLaGraza we are now at the point are needing internet services. We are asking if the city would pay for internet services. We have a quote for \$29.95 for 100GB. We need internet to be able to send various reports, training, etc. Stormy Vaughn's mentioned the council approve to pay for the fire department bills/utilities and this is one of items needed to do their job it \$360 a year. We don't have it in the budget but remember we approved the city hall staff to have a cell phone and that wasn't budgeted either. City secretary is waiting to hear from West Central to see if the fire department can get free WIFI since fire department has a new location, and because the City of Bronte gets its internet for free since their tower is located on City property. Lee Wommack concerns and mentions the radios could have been approved with a grant. What I do not want to see the water plant and city hall be tied in with the fire department. Whatever we do the fire department needs to be independent of the city. The bill should go straight to the fire department and then they present to city for reimbursement. Santiago Rodriguez weighed in and his thought was how much are they going to use it, and at the time the VFD started looking, it was \$59 a month. Since then, the monthly rate has come down in price. Stormy Vaughn adds that internet services are needed in order to get security cameras for the new station; there is a lot of high dollar equipment and gear in the station. The replacement of any stolen equipment/gear would be expensive.

Santiago Rodriguez made the motion to table until we here if we can get it for free from WCW, seconded by Lee Wommack.

Vote: 5-0, motion to table waiting on if the city can get free WIFI.

City Secretary: Consider authorizing the mayor to ordering the 2020 General Election.

Stormy Vaughn made the motion to authorize the mayor to order the 2020 general election, seconded by Lee Wommack.

Vote: 5-0, motion passed.

Community: Consider authorizing the mayor to sign application for federal assistance for SWCD.

Stormy Vaughn made the motion to authorize the mayor to sign application for federal assistance for SWCD, seconded by Santiago Rodriguez.

Vote: 5-0, motion passed.

Property: Ricky Royall updated on the status of property at 202 N Jefferson. TML attorney Bill Langley reported you can give to EDC, but they only use for public use. Either way it has to go through the bid process. We could put specifications on the bid. Council discussed the Neighborhood Empowerment Zone (380 Project) that was done for the land behind the Depot. The City Attorney drew up that paperwork and we could use as a template. City of San Angelo has done something similar with Galilee regarding building new housing, Stormy Vaughn will get with them to see how they were able to do it. City secretary will send the 380 project notes and bid package to Stormy Vaughn for review.

Discussion only.

Utilities: Ricky Royall discussed electricity rate comparisons, and it is very evolved. Ricky's recommendation is to have a subcommittee of two to review all the data and bring back recommendation to council. Citizen Gwen Dyess has several contacts with AEP, but Ricky pointed out that we visited with AEP representative he said it would be a conflict.

Ron Cooper made the motion to have subcommittee members be Ricky, the Mayor, and Council Members: Stormy Vaughn, and Steve Hines, seconded by Lee Wommack.

Vote: 5-0, motion passed.

Ordinance: Stormy Vaughn revised section 4.6 in the RV ordinance as follows:

The City Council of the City of Bronte amended Section 4.6 by adding Paragraph (b) with additional Subsections (1 through 4), and for the purpose of clarity, the amended Section 4.6 shall read as follows:

**SECTION 4.6 – Prohibited placement of recreational vehicle and Waiver for temporary permit of occupancy in a recreational vehicle to build an owner-occupied residence**

- (a) The placement of a recreational vehicle for occupancy longer than fourteen (14) days shall not be permitted except in an approved recreational vehicle park. A recreational vehicle may be placed (being 1 RV vehicle) at an owner's residence

**City of Bronte, Texas**  
**Regular City Council Meeting Minutes**  
**Thursday December 19, 2019 6:30 P.M.**

as long as the RV vehicle is placed to the side or rear yard area and not used for occupancy longer than fourteen (14) days in a twelve (12) month period.

- (b) A waiver for temporary permit of occupancy in a RV vehicle for the owners of a lot, parcel or tract of land to build an owner-occupied residence in the corporate city limits of the City of Bronte.
  - (1) A waiver for temporary permit of occupancy in a RV vehicle for temporary living longer than a fourteen (14) day period, but less than one hundred eighty (180) days, may be considered by the City Council by bringing the request to the Council as an agenda item at any upcoming City Council open meeting as scheduled or to be scheduled.
  - (2) A waiver for temporary permit of occupancy shall be considered by the City Council with a proper site development plan submitted to the Council prior to the placement of the RV vehicle.
  - (3) The City Council retains the right to approve or reject any request for a waiver for temporary permit of occupancy in a RV vehicle.
  - (4) The City Council retains the right to revoke a waiver for temporary permit of occupancy in order to build an owner-occupied residence if construction has not started in a reasonable amount of time after the waiver of temporary permit has been issued, or if the construction of the residence takes longer than initially stated at the time of the initial request for such waiver of temporary permit.

Ron Cooper made the motion to accept the amendment to section 4.6 as read by Stormy Vaughn, seconded by Stormy Vaughn.

Vote: 5-0, motion passed

Stormy Vaughn added that Lee Wommack mentioned there were no RV Parks in the city limits last meeting, but there are two RV park locations that are labeled as such. One is currently a RV storage facility and not a RV park, and the other location has never met the specifications required of a RV park in the City limits. We need to take the section "RV Parks" out of this ordinance. The City does not allow Mobile Home Parks and we do not have any "active" RV parks currently in the city limits and recommends this portion of the Ordinance should be deleted in its entirety. We have four grandfathered, permanent living - RV's in the City Limits: 3 are near the cemetery and only 1 other in the middle of town. As it stands now with our current ordinance, an owner of an RV cannot move their RV to any other location, for example, to be moved to a more receptive location away from the City cemetery. I think they ought to be able to move one time or if they want to upgrade their RV, they should be able to one time. The revised ordinance should be specific that if they sell or convey the real property, the grandfather clause for the RV is gone and no longer valid and therefore, another RV could not be located at that same location. Mayor Gohman stated he would like to have the Council approve or reject any location change of a grandfathered, permanent living - RV or type of replacement RV to be lived in. (Further discussion only)

Approve Minutes:

Stormy Vaughn made the motion to approve November 21, 2019 regular city council meeting minutes, seconded by Ron Cooper.

Vote: 4-1, Santiago Rodriguez abstain, motion passed

Approve Monthly Finance Reports:

Aging Report – Stormy Vaughn asked if all city services are turned off. The bill is sent every month to them, and the city staff tries write on the bill that they will be sent to collection after 90 days. Once council approves to send to collections, they are taken out of the system and sent to collection. If they come back to get city services, they must pay the prior balance and pay double the current deposit rate before they get any water/city services.

Stormy Vaughn made the motion to accept the aging report, seconded by Santiago Rodriguez.

Vote: 5-0, motion passed.

General Fund Reports

Stormy Vaughn made the motion to accept General Fund Reports, seconded by Ron Cooper.

Vote: 5-0, motion passed.

Water Fund Reports

Stormy Vaughn asked what was check #51548, \$1222.10 for? Teresa will send out to council the detail for #51548.

Stormy Vaughn made the motion to accept Water Fund Reports, seconded by Steve Hines.

Vote: 5-0, motion passed.

Sewer Fund Reports

Stormy Vaughn made the motion to accept Sewer Fund Reports, seconded by Santiago Rodriguez.

Vote: 5-0, motion passed.

Sanitation Fund Reports

**City of Bronte, Texas**  
**Regular City Council Meeting Minutes**  
**Thursday December 19, 2019 6:30 P.M.**

It was brought up to the City Secretary to re-check to see if Sales Tax is being paid out correctly. After reviewing with the financial consultant, it has been confirmed that the sales tax is being paid correctly, BUT the 1% being paid to EDC is incorrect. We have been paying them twice. The City Secretary has been paying them their portion of the sales tax from the sanitation fund BUT they are also getting paid from the Big ("total") Sales Tax Revenue that comes from the Comptroller to the City and deposited in the General fund account. As of today, there will be no checks to EDC for sales tax from sanitation fund. I will inform the EDC board. Stormy Vaughn made the motion to accept Sanitation Fund Reports, seconded by Ron Cooper.

Vote: 5-0, motion passed.

Cemetery Reports & Other Reports

Stormy Vaughn asked what is the pipeline project report in our packets? Ricky explained that fifteen years ago it was created for a pipeline and people donated to it. Volunteers put it in from the water wells. Ricky explained that we might want to continue keeping the account for future use.

Stormy Vaughn made the motion to accept Cemetery and Other Reports, seconded by Lee Wommack.

Vote: 5-0, motion passed.

Discuss – On-going:

Mayors Report – Mayor, Ricky, City Council Members: Stormy Vaughn and Ron Cooper, met with sheriff and deputies to discuss code enforcement of City ordinances. The City gave the deputies a notebook all the city ordinances for guidance to help the City with enforcement of said ordinances. They need to have a copy of the grandfathered RV's and Sea containers and, they need executed ordinances (meaning ordinance # and signatures). City staff will get that information to him. Positive feedback was given. Received a call from the property owner by the post office and they might be interested in giving it to the city for city use.

Utility Director Report – Part-time employees started December 2. They have been working out well.

City Secretary Report – Financial Consultant would like to discuss how our budget money was transferred. I will also send out a general ledger acronym to the council as requested.

Continuing with cross training, getting ready for the elections, auditors have sent list of items needed for audit. They will be here the first week of January. Cyber training needs to be completed by June 2020 for any employee that uses city computers. We had the webinar for the walking quorum. Steve Hines asked if TML offers any on-line seminars that we can take. I will check into all the seminars required and report back if they can be taken online or if they must be in person.

Request for future agenda items:

Lee Wommack would like to see if council is interested the VFD and EMS receiving any of the EDC sales tax money and if so, they need to contact comptroller's office in Austin in January.

Ordinance: Make changes to the RV/RV Park Ordinance.

Ordinance: Revoke illegal smoking ordinance - it is now state law.

Adjourn: No further business meeting adjourned at 8:22pm.

  
Paul Gohman, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
Teresa Ballard, City Secretary