

The City Council of the City of Bronte, Texas met in regular session Thursday, December 16, 2021, City Council Chambers, City Hall, 114 S. Washington Street, Bronte, Texas. An audio recording can be requested through the Public Information Act through City Hall.

Mayor Paul Gohman called the Regular City Council meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. and a quorum was established. In attendance were Mayor Gohman, Mayor Pro Tem Gwen Dyess, Council Members RA Morris, Kinley Pritchard and Clabe F. Webb. Zach Davidson was absent. Staff members present Teresa Ballard, and Ricky Royall.

Mayor Paul Gohman led with the Pledge of Allegiance and Kinley Pritchard led the council in prayer.

Mayor Gohman started meeting with citizen comments. Steve Hines addressed council discussed if we would have annexed while he was on council, we could have picked up the detention center property. Mr. Hines doesn't understand why we don't move it out ½ mile.

Dennis Duncan asked council to revisit the animal ordinance at next council meeting on section regarding when deeming a dog dangerous or vicious the requirements to get your dog back are unreasonable.

Monthly Reports:

Fire Department: There was no report

Sheriff: Deputy Neal reported in the month of November one call for dog running loose on north side of town. Also, that there is a new state law regarding the tethering of animals.

Animal Control: Tim Smith could not attend council, but Teresa Ballard sent his report via email to council.

Municipal Court: Teresa Ballard reported in the month of November no activity.

EDC: Susan Williams reported EDC 4B paid for the downtown lighting for the holidays. Ms. Williams highlighted that we have two new houses under construction, one house finished, and one almost finished. That's four houses being built in the last twelve months and part of that is we brought in the Galilee Community Development group, and they still have extra lots to build. Discussed possibly contracting with the city developer, Ken Becker, from Sweetwater that spoke at the Town Hall in November 2021. We are excited to see the detention center sold. Just think there is a lot of good things going on in Bronte.

Cemetery: Brenda Hines reported no recent meetings, but still accomplished a lot in 2021. Ms. Hines thanked all the committee members for all their help and all the volunteers that have helped as well. More road base is being put down and the cemetery is looking great.

Depot: Clabe F. Webb met with two other Masonic members from Carlsbad and Sterling City. They took several items. Still working on the 501 (c) (3) set up for the Depot.

Permit: Ricky Royall reported for the month of November there was three permits approved. One new house construction, one solar and one porch.

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Regular Agenda

Water Plant: Mayor Gohman introduce our engineer Ken Martin too give you some good information and also to answer your questions regarding the water plant project. Mayor Gohman explained we have three possible serrano's to upgrade water plant. Scenario One is if we don't do anything this plant will fail. We are at 94% peak capacity; sand filtration will not allow us to get our water with the specs that are coming down the road. You can do whatever you want here but you need more capacity to get the water here and that is what we are working on. Scenario two is get a loan/grant we have gone to USDA and done the engineering study. We haven't finished with the paperwork to complete the application. Serrano three is loan only. There is no obligation to us to see what USDA could offer. Ken Martin expressed to Bronte that the city has done a great job of providing good quality water and probably some of the lowest water rates in the state over the years. As it stands, you are the only provider in Coke County for treated water. Ken explained that if another city wanted to be a part of this they would buy in to a percentage of your capacity of your facilities. Bronte would own and operate the facility. Ken explained you have to design your plant to satisfy TCEQ requirements on a peak day. There was more discussion between citizens and council members. There is a lot of questions that cannot be answered until the offer comes in. Kinley Pritchard made the motion to move forward on the improvement of updating the water plant, seconded by Gwen Dyess. Vote: 4/0 motion passed

Water Plant: Engineering Study: Clabe F Webb made the motion to approve Resolution 21-10 approving mayor to sign agreement to reallocate the engineering cost for the water plant study, seconded by RA Morris. Vote: 4/0, motion passed

Finance: Teresa Ballard opened sealed bids for sale of Backhoe with Ricky Royall recording all the bids. Lanette Fetcher won the bid with \$12,539.15. Gwen Dyess made a motion to accept Lanette Fletchers bid of \$12,539.15, seconded by Clabe F. Webb. Vote: 4/0, motion passed

Contracts: Animal_Contract Official: Council disused his performance and have had no complaints. Kinley Pritchard made the motion to renew ACO contract with Tim Smith for a year, seconded by Gwen Dyess Vote: 4/0 motion passed

Contracts: Clabe F. Webb made the motion to renew contract with Unifirst, seconded by Kinley Pritchard Vote: 4/0 motion passed

Ordinance: Curfew ordinance must be renewed every three years. Council members discussed; Deputy Neal answered questions from council if the curfew is acceptable. Deputy Neal replied yes the ordinance is good. Clabe F. Webb made the motion to approve curfew ordinance as is, seconded by RA Morris. Vote: 4/0, motion passed

Public Safety: Gwen Dyess discussed the future of the Bronte Volunteer Emergency Medical Services. We are all volunteers and must be certified in the EMS training. Steve Salmon is looking into becoming an emergency district. It takes getting a petition on the ballot. Steve Salmon also discussed that we could pay our volunteers to get on call pay for being available. City Hall can be the location to sign the petition. Mayor would like something typed up to explain to citizens. The city will help publicize when we get the information. Clabe F. Webb made the motion for the city to help with publicizing, seconded by Kinley Pritchard. Vote: 4/0, motion passed

General Election: Gwen Dyess made the motion to approve the mayor to sign Resolution 21-11 Ordering General Election 2022, seconded by RA Morris. Vote: 4/0, motion pass

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Annexing: Clabe F. Webb discussed if annexing is good or bad and the cost involved in annexing. If we annex, we lose revenue from what I have heard from the previous water discussion. Mayor Gohman replied, you must take in consideration for customers outside the city limits that don't have AG exemptions. It will save the city money if you can get a developer to come, they will put all the streets in, etc. Annexing with nothing already in place, would cost the city a lot of money and where would the city get money from. You would need a high residence density to compensate for the loss in extra revenue. You have fees for lawyers and surveying fees that is paid upfront, and you must get everyone to sign off on it or you will have problems. Clabe asked do have to annex everywhere, we can pick and choose the area. Mayor Gohman will provide council R.O.I. information. Gwen made the motion to table at this time, seconded by Clabe F. Webb. Vote: 4/0, motion passed

Consent Minutes and Finance: Gwen Dyess made the motion to approve October 21 minutes and monthly aging report, seconded by Clabe F. Webb. Vote: 4/0, motion passed

Informational Reports

Mayor Gohman reported were here and have completed the field audit and should have the audit report to the city in February 2022.

Ricky Royall reported we are having to rebid the TxCDBG project. The newspaper failed to publish the bid for two weeks that was part of the requirements. Still looking for different options to get a generator, either to rent or file for a hardship.

Teresa Ballard will be attending Election Law Seminar January 12-14, 2022.

Future Agenda Items: Discuss dangerous dogs in section VII of the Animal Ordinance will be put on next month's agenda. With no further business Mayor Gohman adjourned council meeting at 7:25 p.m.



Paul Gohman, Mayor

ATTEST:



Teresa Ballard, City Secretary



