City of Bronte, Texas Regular City Council Meeting Minutes Thursday, May16, 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

Santiago Rodriguez, Mayor Pro Tem

Lee Wommack, Councilman Ron Cooper, Councilman Steve Hines, Councilman Stormy Vaughn, Councilman Ricky Royall, Utilities Director Teresa Ballard, City Secretary Sherry Bailey, Deputy City Secretary

Absent:

Eileen M. Hayman, City Attorney

A. Proclamations and Presentations

A.1. Pledges of Allegiance

A.2. Prayer was led by Lee Wommack

B. Administration of Statements and Oaths of Office of Elected Officers

The following candidates were sworn in by City Secretary Teresa Ballard as council members for the City of Bronte:

Council Member Ron Cooper Council Member Santiago Rodriguez Council Member Stormy Vaughn

Discuss/Act - City Council: Appoint Mayor Pro Tem for the City of Bronte

Mayor Paul Gohman recommended appointing Council Member Santiago Rodriquez as Mayor Pro Tem.

Discussion - none

Motion by Council Member Stormy Vaughn to approve of appointing Council Member Santiago Rodriquez as Mayor Pro Tem, seconded by Council Member Steve Hines

Vote: 4 – 0 Motion carried; Council Member Santiago Rodriguez abstained

C. 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.

No citizen comments

Regular Agenda

1. Discuss/Act – Oak Creek Land: Consider additional water well on the land at Oak Creek Lake purchased by Kavin Tinney, May 2016, and other concerns.

Mr. Tinney gave council his interpretation of events for the 45.00 +/- of land at Oak Creek Lake Reservoir that he purchased through a bid process with the City of Bronte in May of

2016. Statements and facts were presented, and the Council listened, asked questions and had a lengthy discussion. (An audiotape is available to the public through request).

Tinney thought this process was wrong and that he had no choice but to accept the \$100 more an acre for a 2nd water well because it would have put him at unfair disadvantage. Tinney was the sole bidder on the property, and it was public knowledge. Tinney explained that the other properties sold or leased by Bronte didn't go by the same guidelines. Tinney stated that one place was given away for a \$1.00 (a year) with no water well restrictions, one other place was given additional water well with no additional monies and I was cheated out of \$4,500.00. Tinney requested Council to give his \$4,500 back to him, or at least make my deal like everyone else's out there. No charge for a second well. Santiago Rodriguez and Lee Wommack asked the City Staff if the City Attorney had been called.

Lee Wommack made the motion to approve for Mr. Tinney to drill another well and check with City Attorney to see what the city's options are to his request, seconded by Santiago Rodriguez.

Vote: 5-0, motion passed to table to discuss options with city attorney.

Discuss Sewer Lease: Discuss renewal options proposed Discussion:

Ricky Royall opened the floor with why we need to graze the sewer property. Riley Coalson currently has the City property leased, and Mr. Coalson gave a new proposal to Council for review and to renew lease when the term ends in August. Ricky explains the need of the irrigation pumps to be run and electric bill has been paid by Mr. Coalson. In the past, the highest yearly electric bills were about \$2,100/year. He is willing to lease the property for \$2,000/year if the City of Bronte would pay the utilities. Mr. Coalson would be responsible for maintaining the fence and property. Without grazing and clearing the land, it would a City expense. Stormy recommends putting a set number on how much the city will pay for electricity. In section 2, the lease price could go up each year according the consumer price index. Ricky Royall and Paul Gohman will meet with Mr. Coalson regarding the proposed contract.

Discussion only

 Discuss/Act – Housing Authority: Considers renewing expiring board members /commissioners, Cynthia Robinson, Susan DeLaGarza and Janet Wommack to the Bronte Housing Authority for a two-year term, June 1, 2019 to May 31, 2021. Discussion

Stormy Vaughn made the motion to approve Cynthia Robinson, Susan DeLaGarza and Janet Wommack for a new term as commissioners to the Bronte Housing Authority, seconded by Santiago Rodriguez.

Vote 5-0, motion passed

4. Discuss/Act – Economic Development: Consider Lynn Follis resignation as board member on EDC 4B and accepting Linda Scott as board member to EDC 4B to replace him leaving your position as board member on EDC 4A open to be filled.

Steve Hines made the motion to accept Lynn Follis resignation and approve transferal of Linda Scott to the 4B board member leaving an open position to advertise for 4A board member, seconded by Lee Wommack

Vote: 5-0 motion passed

5a. Discuss - Public Safety: Fire Department Report

Martin DeLaGarza reported FD receiving a donation for \$11,000 from the Turkey N Hog fest. Work continues at the New Fire Building. FD discussed having fish fry in July to thank the community.

Discuss – Public Safety: Sheriff's Enforcement Report 5b.

Deputy Neal reported April as follows:

Officer ordinance notifications from city hall: 5-2 from city hall

Citizen call in:

Verbal:

0

Written:

0

Information only

5c. Discuss - Animal Services: Animal Report

City Secretary reported the following:

Skunks - 2

Possums - 4

Cats - 12

Raccoons - 3

Dogs – 1

Information only

6. Discuss/Act - Animal Services: Livestock Permits

Kolby Lee – 524 SW Railroad – chickens 6a.

Lisa Lobbes – 309 N Randall – chickens 6b.

6c. Orlando DeLaGarza – Driftwood -4H project – 2-Steers

Santiago Rodriguez made the motion to approve all three livestock permits, seconded by Ron Cooper.

Vote: 5-0, motion passed

Pending Livestock Permits

7. **Discuss/Act – Animal Services: Pending Livestock Permits**

Armandina Sanchez; 734 S. Jefferson; sheep, horses

Discussion – There has been some clean up but still not adequate for grazing.

Stormy Vaughn made the motion to deny permit, seconded by Lee Wommack.

Vote: 5-0, motion to deny

City Hall will send certified letter tomorrow, May 17, 2019, to remove all of livestock within 15 days from date of letter.

8. Discuss/Act - Code Enforcement: Permits

Larry Dyess – 810 S State St. – Add on to Building area – Permanent

Stormy Vaughn made the motion to approve, seconded by Steve Hines.

Vote: 5-0, motion passed

Larry Dyess - 709 Meadow - Sea Container - Temporary 8b.

Santiago Rodriguez made the motion to approve, seconded by Stormy Vaughn.

Vote: 5-0, motion passed

Discuss/Act – Code Enforcement – Regulations on Sea Container

Discussion:

The Mayor suggested sending a letter to all citizens with sea containers in order to educate them of what could happen if proper usage of sea containers was not done. Lee Wommack stated that a

letter would be the way to go, to force people to vent their sea containers are not the way to go. Stormy Vaughn states that the City had 3 structure fires last year. One liter of gas stored or an open propane tank in a sea container (with conditions) can cause an explosion. Stormy Vaughn argues that you can't force anyone, but if you don't wave the liability of the City of Bronte, then we have a problem. There are more and more sea containers in the City limits of Bronte. The likelihood of an accident happening has increased. Wommack stated that you could have the same problem in a garage. Vaughn stated that is why there is an International Building Code and the International Fire Code. We haven't adopted the International Fire Code yet. We need to do that. Education is a great start, and an ordinance would protect the citizens of Bronte and wave any liability of the City of Bronte if a sea container blew up and killed someone. Ricky Royall will review contents in the International Building and International Fire codes. If sea container regulations are mentioned in the Codes, we need to adopt the International Fire Code, to protect the citizens of Bronte and waive any liability of the City of Bronte. Santiago Rodriguez will see what guidelines the Airforce Fire Instructors have and report back to council.

Tabled until next meeting.

- **10. Discuss/Act Economic Development**: On-going EDC Report No report, next meeting is May 22.
- 11. Discuss/Act Cemetery: On-going Cemetery Report

Ms. Hines has no report at this time.

Ricky Royall reports the cost to spray to kill weeds and pre-emergent is \$7,100 for 14.2 acres. Don't think one spraying will kill all the weeds, but the bid covers the second spraying. Council recommends city staff to get several more bids with and without pre-emergent depending when the spraying is done, for council to approve. Recommendation made for a cleanup day at the cemetery. Tabled until bids are received.

Mayor Gohman reports there is USDA grants to help with cemetery improvements. We have the packet. One of the requirements is we will need to get bids to possible build a wall on the west side.

- 12. Discuss/Act Economic Development Depot: On-going Depot Status Report We can't do anything with the roof. We are still waiting to see what we can do with the building.
- 13. Discuss/Act Economic Development: On-going Update on land behind the Depot Nothing to report.
- 14. Discuss/Act Computer: Consider approval to add Asyst Cash Control Module to help with reconciling bank statements.

Stormy Vaughn made the motion to approve adding Cash Control Module, seconded by Ron Cooper.

Vote: 5-0, motion passed.

15. Discuss/Act – Finance Ordinance 2nd Reading: Consider an ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2019 Adopted Budget for municipal purposes respecting the General, Water and Sanitation Fund to transfer budget expenses.

Stormy Vaughn made the motion to approve Financial Ordinance 2nd reading, seconded by Santiago Rodriguez.

Vote: 5-0, motion passed

16. Discuss/Act – Ordinance - Animal Ordinance – Consider amending the current Animal Ordinance.

Discussion: We have had several amendments to the ordinance. A new ordinance needs to be in place.

Stormy Vaughn asked how many livestock permits we have. How many are chicken permits and how many are 4H/AG permits? City secretary will email council the breakdown.

Council recommends talking to new AG teacher letting him know we have an AG area that could be utilized instead of at citizen's property.

Council discussed possibly having more restrictions/requirements for livestock permits. Council discussed registration of pets and revising that part of the animal ordinance.

Discussion only. Update at next meeting

Consent Agenda - Minutes/Finance:

- 17. April 18, 2019 Regular Council Minutes
- 18. May 2, 2019 Special Council Minutes
- 19. Bills Paid April
- 20. Balance Sheet April
- 21. Revenue and Expenditures April
- 22. Aging Report
- 23. Bank Reconciliation April
- 24. Preliminary Revenue and Expenditures May

City Secretary met with financial advisor and discovered I am not transferring gross payroll. I have been transferring only net payroll. I am asking if council would approve me opening October financials to correct our findings. Also, the auditors posted deposits in transit at year end and they were posted in October's bank statement. Auditors have approved reverse if council approves of opening financials and make more corrections from October-forward. The City General Ledger is what is off, the payments are correct, the ledger is not.

Lee Wommack made the motion to approve consent agenda items 17 – 24 with permission to open up every statement/ledger for corrections to financials monthly as requested, seconded by Ron Cooper.

Vote: 2-3, Stormy Vaughn, Steve Hines and Santiago Rodriguez voted against, motion failed.

Stormy Vaughn made the motion to approve April 18 and May 2 minutes, seconded by Santiago Rodriguez.

Vote: 5-0, motion passed

Discuss - On-going

a. Mayors Report: Goals and projects

Zoning - In the 90's we had a "Town Plan" and a grant covering mostly for water, sewer and drainage, very extensive. That is what we need for zoning. We have a call into Grantworks to see if there are grants that will help us with zoning. To have growth in our City, we need zoning. We are trying to get some help to do this. The legal matter is huge; there are firms that can do that. They can't tell you what your goals are, but they can help you achieve your goals.

Water Plant – You have seen the bid package from our engineers. That will include all our options for our water system; total system. We have to look at the pipe line to the lake. We have to look at our plant and the water infiltration system. Possibly have to put in another clarifier. That's what their study is going to encompass. It will also be an environmental impact study and we will need as well. Once we get this packet then we can go and say we need a grant. There are challenges in getting a grant, one thing they score us on is based on the price of water. If you have good water rates, that kills your score. We will have to deal with that. Once I get this in place, I will be talking to

representatives, senators, etc. Next council meeting, we plan to have the city engineers here to present our plan, also I'd like to the get USDA representative be here as well, so they can tell their side of the story on scoring, so we will know what we're looking at. We can't go much further where we're at. We are hitting 94% plant capacity on date rate. That is something we will be working on this month as well. There are big projects underway. I am dedicated to get the town cleaned up, get us zoning, continuing getting local events, moving us forward, and water is everything. That's our revenue stream. I look forward to working with all of you, and I think we will be much further down the road at this time next year.

Utility Director Report

Roads - Originally, we contacted a trucking company in San Angelo to bring road base in, but in the meantime, we will have Webb Construction bringing us ten loads for the dirt roads. Maybe once we have that done, San Angelo trucking will have their load here. We're hoping five loads per block will be enough. Once that is down, we will know if we need to add more or not.

Drainage - Hopefully in the next few weeks the drainage will start. They are behind because of being rained out.

City Secretary Report

Municipal Court Seminar June 3-5.

Met with our financial consultant

Tire disposal is May 29.

One formal complaint. Turned over to the Sheriff's office to investigate and closed complaint.

Convenience Center made \$125 for their first day with the new rates.

Curb Side Service cost was \$1,487 (8.5 hours at \$175 an hour). Vaughn stated that if the City isn't paying \$3,400 a month for the Convenience Center, then we might be doing better in the long run with the curbside service. The City has turned in one of our containers, so our fee to Republic will be less. A recommendation made to use C.C. for Convenience Center and CSC for Curb Side Service when reporting to Council.

d. Request for future agenda items

Santiago Rodriguez: Response from City Attorney regarding Mr. Tinney

Steve Hines: Discuss moving out the city limits Stormy: Discuss Code Enforcement-fence violation

Santiago Rodriguez: Address Old vehicles out of compliance Stormy Vaughn: Update on dilapidated houses and plans Lee Wommack: Update on house given back after unpaid taxes

Adjourn: No further business meeting adjourned at 9:07 pm

Paul Gohman, Mayor

ATTEST:

Teresa Ballard, City Secretary