

City of Bronte, Texas
Regular City Council Meeting Minutes
Thursday, October 15, 2020

The City Council of the City of Bronte, Texas met in regular session Thursday, October 15, 2020 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 regular city council meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Mayor Paul Gohman, and a quorum was established. In attendance as follows: City Council Members: Lee Wommack, Steve Hines, Ron Cooper, Stormy Vaughn, and Santiago Rodriguez. City staff present Ricky Royall and Teresa Ballard.

Mayor Paul Gohman led with the Pledge of Allegiance and prayer was led by Lee Wommack

There were no citizen comments.

Public Safety & Animal Services Reports for September: There is no one Fire Department report. Deputy Neal had to respond to a call so Teresa Ballard reported activities as follows: two calls for ordinance enforcement; six officer ordinance notifications from city hall; four verbal and no written with two ordinance enforcement calls, two ordinance notifications from city hall, and no ordinance citation issued. Animal services set two traps to try to catch an armadillo and skunks. No animals were caught. There was no summons given issued.

Economic Development Report and Cemetery Report: EDC 4B board met September 28, 2020, with six loan forgiveness loan applications. One applicant met all the application requirements and asking for \$25K. Application is on the agenda. Also, FY2020-2021 budget has been revised with information requested from council. Ricky Royall reports Bug Express has been out to spot treat the weed control at the cemetery.

Depot Status Report: Nothing to report.

Code Enforcement: Building permit committee reviewed and approved seven building permits in the month of September. One carport; one fence; three storage buildings and two adding on to existing houses. There were no denied permits.

Regular Agenda

Community: Mayor Gohman has request from citizens to place a speed bump on Mesquite Street. Ricky Royall reports there are two type of bumps. One is a speed hump, which is less than 20mph, and speed bump wish is less than 15mph. To make this happen we would need to have an engineering and traffic investigation done. Deputy Neal was asked to set and watch traffic, but the City has not received report. Trucks and 18 wheelers go flying down the road not watching for kids playing and animals. Ricky Royall read parts of Section 544 from the Texas Transportation Code. Ricky Royall recommends putting up signs and weight limit signs. Stormy Vaughn asked if we could have TX Dot do the traffic count then report to deputies. Stormy Vaughn made the motion to add two new signs saying to watch out for children and reduce speed ahead signs cost approx. \$575, seconded by Ron Cooper. Vote: 5-0, motion passed to orders signs.

Economic Development Corporation 4B: Stormy Vaughn asked Reece Braswell questions regarding the budget. Stormy Vaughn made the motion to approve FY 2020-2021 Budget; Motion was made by Stormy Vaughn, seconded by Santiago Rodriguez. Vote: 5-0, motion passed to accept FY2020-2021 budget.

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Economic Development Corporation 4B – Loan Forgiveness Grant: Reese Braswell answered all the council's questions to the fact that the insurance company does not collect sales tax, but plays a big part in the community and the board takes that in consideration when reviewing applications. Ron Cooper made the motion to approve Lanette Fletcher dba Glenn Bivins Insurance Loan Forgiveness application for \$25K, seconded by Lee Wommack. Vote: 4-1, Steve Hines vote no, motion passed. EDC will schedule public hearing to finish the process.

Cemetery: Teresa Ballard explained city does not have a written policy and procedure to buy back cemetery plots. In the past, the Council has always would buy back the plots with proof of purchase and what they paid for the plot. Need direction from council. Ms. Doris Sims has receipt of purchasing two plots for \$200. Lee Wommack made the motion to approve buying back two plots for \$200 from Ms. Doris Sims, seconded by Santiago Rodriguez. Vote: 5-0, motion passed.

Sanitation Contract: Stormy Vaughn was the leader on having revisions to the Republic Waste Services of Texas Contract 2020-2025 starting October 1, 2020 ending September 30, 2025. It is now ready for council's review and approval. Stormy Vaughn went over all the revised changes and pointed out in the contract items 17 and 21. Lee Wommack made the motion to accept Republic Waste Services of Texas Contract 2020-2025, seconded by Stormy Vaughn. Vote: 5-0, motion passed.

Monthly curbside service dates for council to choose is either 1st Monday or 1st Saturday of each month. Republic Services expressed 1st Saturday would be the best option, but it is up to council to decide, they do not for see any problems. Lee Wommack made the motion to approve having curbside service on the 1st Saturday of each month, beginning the 1st Saturday in November, seconded by Stormy Vaughn. Vote: 5-0, motion passed. Teresa Ballard will send out notifications and have visual aids posted on Facebook, newspaper, marquee, and website.

City Personnel: Mayor Gohman reports City Hall has had several applications from the animal control/convenience center works, but some of the applicants only applied for the animal and others only applied for the convenience center position. Mathew Basquez would like to come back to work but only for the Convenience Center position. Ricky Royall stated that senior employee, Ken Coalson, would like to continue in that position. The C.C. might go away except for limbs being dropped off, but we would still need to have staff there to open and oversee the operation. Mayor Gohman recommends separating Trapper and Equipment Operator positions and wants council approval. Stormy Vaughn would like to have the position name of Trapper be changed to Animal Control Official as it is listed in the animal ordinance. Lee Wommack made a motion separating Animal Control Official and Equipment Operator positions, seconded by Santiago Rodriguez. Vote: 5-0, motion passed.

City Hall Personnel: Council went into executive session at 7:17 p.m. in accordance with Texas Government Code 551.074 personnel matters and reconvening into open session at 7:38 p.m. Lee Wommack made the motion to hire Tina Smith for a part-time position as city clerk, seconded by Steve Hines. Vote: 5-0, motion passed.

Council took break at 7:39 p.m. and reconvened at 7:45 p.m. to continue council meeting.

Ordinances: Mayor Gohman turned the discussion over to Ron Cooper for brain storming session on enforcement priorities. For public nuisance regarding mowing, if you could give the residents a courteous call or even a door hanger that they need to mow before letters or out. Additionally, he would like for the main

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concentration to be on more substance matters like identifying dangerous buildings and junked vehicle. We could do that for a month and then change the main concentration to other substance matters.

Stormy Vaughn received multiple messages and some sent pictures regarding the RV at the cemetery being moved from the property, which is in direct violation of the ordinance. Ricky Royall was called to advise of the violation issue, and he was to have the deputy take pictures. Stormy Vaughn asked if a warning issued that she is no longer a grandfathered RV and only can live in the RV for 14 days? Stormy Vaughn read section 11.2., Non-Conforming Structures. Ricky Royall is asking council how to proceed. Deputy should be contacted by the City to give the occupant a warning that her RV is no longer grandfathered, she can only live in the RV for a 14 day period, then a citation should be issued and then to the municipal judge; all according to the written ordinance. Stormy Vaughn read the section of the RV Ordinance 11.2., Section A, Provision 2 (a-d), that the city should be willing to trade a City owned lot for her lot located at the entrance of the cemetery, and she would then be in compliance and could move to the 1 time, "new" location in order to continue permanently living in the RV and to be grandfathered per said provision.

Monthly Financial Reports: Lee Wommack made the motion to approve regular city council meeting minutes, September 17, 2020, seconded by Ron Cooper. Vote: 4-1, Stormy Vaughn abstained from vote, motion passed.

Santiago Rodriguez made the motion to accept aging report, seconded by Lee Wommack. Vote: 5-0, motion passed. Stormy Vaughn made the motion to accept consent agenda September finance reports as follows: September deposits, bills paid, check register, bank reconciliation for General, Water, Sewer, Sanitation and Cemetery funds, seconded by Lee Wommack. Vote: 5-0, motion passed.

Discuss – On-going

Mayor Gohman distributed sales tax trending report and as you can see it is continuing to hold up very well. Hope you have seen where city has been patching the roads. The vacant city property located on the North Side has been cleared and looks nice. Ricky Royall put backhoe in shop for hydraulic problems and been having sewer problems again behind Stripes.

Teresa Ballard reported Mayor has renewed required paperwork for Grant Works HUD project. I will be registering for yearly training. Census is closing tonight. Thank you, councilman Steve Hines and councilman Lee Wommack, for your support on city council.

Future business: Ron Cooper would like to see if we could adopt the Tx Dot property at the "Y". It is the first thing you see when coming into town from that direction, it needs to be kept clean and mowed.

Adjourned at 8:44 p.m.


Paul Gohman, Mayor

ATTEST:



Teresa Ballard, City Secretary