

City of Bronte, Texas
Regular City Council Meeting Minutes
Thursday, November 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. 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; Ricky Royall, Utility Director, Teresa Ballard, City Secretary. Absent council member Santiago Rodriguez, Mayor Pro Tem. 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

Gwen Dyess will talk later regarding livestock ordinance.

Darrel Cook would like council to consider permit to live in RV while building house on property.

Susan Williams commented I have three business in the city and what happens in the city effects my businesses. I appreciate the hard work council is doing. You are the most progressive city members and leaders. We are blessed to have city council and what you do help protecting our property value, and I appreciate it.

Katherine Shaw here to listen to the livestock changes and to clarify anything might come up regarding the kids in the community.

Phillip Shaw would like to be able to address the livestock changes.

Regular Agenda

There is no report from Fire Department. Deputy Roberson gave the Sheriff's Enforcement reports: two calls from city hall to investigate ordinances; one citation was issue for illegal burning the city. City Secretary gave the Animal Report being animal services caught 2 cats, 13 raccoons, 5 possums, 6 skunks, 2 dogs that were claimed and removed one dead cat and deer. Susan Williams reported EDC 4B that store front grants are going great. New signs are up around town. Held a summit working group with the area entities represented. Galilee Community Development Corporation wants to expand and build homes in rural areas. Brenda Hines reported having eight volunteers for the cemetery clean-up on Saturday October 26. Worked on one section. Someone has been cleaning up and have left a pile of tree limbs that needs to be picked up.

Code Enforcement: Consider temporary permit to live in RV while building house at 220 N Lombard, Daryl & Resie Cook.

Lee Wommack made the motion to approve a six-month waiver from January to June 2020, seconded by Ron Cooper.

Vote: 4-0 motion passed for six-month waiver from January to June 2020

Note*** - need to revise section 10 of the RV ordinance. Will be added to next council meetings agenda

Community: Consider approving Christmas in Olde Bronte Parade Route, December 14, 2019

Lee Wommack made the motion to approve parade route, seconded by Stormy Vaughn.

Vote: 4-0, motion passed

Community: Consider resolution approving Christmas in Olde Bronte to hold the festivities inside the Depot, on the grounds at the depot, surrounding depot area and using the bay area at city hall.

Stormy Vaughn made the motion to approve Christmas in Olde Bronte to hold the festivities as stated in the resolution 19-11, seconded by Ron Cooper

Vote: 4-0, motion passed

Ordinance: Consider approving amended Livestock Animals and Fowl Ordinance. Stormy Vaughn read to council and citizens the recommended changes. Citizens were happy with the recommended changes to the livestock ordinance.

City of Bronte, Texas
Regular City Council Meeting Minutes
Thursday, November 21, 2019 6:30 P.M.

Stormy Vaughn made the motion to approve amended Livestock Animals and Fowl Ordinance, seconded by Steve Hines.

Vote: 4-0, motion passed and will be effective immediately.

Ordinance: Consider approving amended Animal Control Ordinance. Stormy Vaughn read to council and citizens the recommended changes. Stormy Vaughn made note that there is not a "surrender" animal clause in the new ordinance. If a citizen wants to no longer have a domestic animal, then the citizen will have to take the animal themselves to shelter out of town. Having a surrender clause causes a loop-hole where citizens think they can just surrender a dog to avoid a citation for ordinance violation.

Stormy Vaughn made the motion to approve with changes, seconded by Ron Cooper

Vote: 4-0, motion passed with changes

Code Enforcement: Permits

a. Christina Lindsey; 235 W McCaulley; addition – Permanent – wood fence

Stormy Vaughn made the motion to approve permit, seconded by Ron Cooper.

Vote: 4-0, motion passed

b. Cowboy Church; Curly Bill Halfmann, 317 N Fayette; addition – Permanent – wood building

Ron Cooper made the motion to approve permit, seconded by Stormy Vaughn.

Vote: 4-0, motion passed

Economic Development: Consider approving changes made to BYLAWS from EDC 4A board. No discussion.

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

Vote: 4-0, motion passed

Economic Development: Consider approving filling one vacant position on each EDC Board. Susan Williams as a member of EDC 4A Board and Mikah Davidson as a member of EDC 4B Board. They will still hold their position on the other boards.

Stormy Vaughn made the motion to Susan Williams as a member of EDC 4A board and Mikah Davidson as a member of EDC 4B board, seconded by Steve Hines.

Vote: 4-0, motion passed

Finance: Consider approving Letter of Engagement with Eckert, Company, CPA

Ron Cooper made the motion to approve Letter of Engagement, seconded by Stormy Vaughn.

Vote: 4-0, motion passed

Finance: Consider Agreement with Everett Bedford as our Financial Consultant

Stormy Vaughn made the motion to approve agreement, seconded by Lee Wommack.

Vote: 4-0, motion passed

Municipal Court: Consider revised agreement with Judge Allen Gilbert as Bronte Municipal Judge

Stormy Vaughn made the motion to approve agreement, seconded by Ron Cooper.

Vote: 4-0, motion passed

Public Safety: Consider Agreement with Coke County Sheriff Department

Lee Wommack made the motion to approve with change to document, seconded by Stormy Vaughn.

Vote: 4-0, motion passed with change

*Note** Set up meeting with Sheriff, deputies, Paul Gohman, Ricky Royall, Ron Cooper and Stormy Vaughn will be on the subcommittee.*

City Secretary: Consider approving City Holidays for 2020

Lee Wommack made the motion to approve 2020 City Holidays, seconded by Steve Hines.

Vote: 4-0, motion passed

City Secretary: Consider approving debit/credit card for Sanitation Fund for the use of Curbside expenses.

Stormy Vaughn made the motion to approve for Sanitation Fund, seconded by Ron Cooper.

Vote: 4-0, motion passed

City Secretary: Consider Calling for the 2020 General Election for May 2, 2020

Ron Cooper made the motion to call for the 2020 General Election, seconded by Stormy Vaughn

Vote: 4-0, motion passed

Financial City Hall: Consider business cell phone for office staff to use for work orders and notifying public information.

Ron Cooper made the motion to approve cell phone, seconded by Lee Wommack.

City of Bronte, Texas
Regular City Council Meeting Minutes
Thursday, November 21, 2019 6:30 P.M.

Vote: 4-0, motion passed

Property: Consider selling property at 202 N Jefferson. Ricky Royall's recommendation to donate the property to the EDC and donate to a non-profit agency to build a spec home.

Lee Wommack made the motion to table until questions are answered from TML, seconded by Stormy Vaughn.

Vote: 4-0, motion to table until questions are answered

*Note*** Ask TML if city can donate property to the EDC and ask if the EDC can donate to a non-profit agency to build spec home.*

Appraisal Board: Consider and vote for nominees on the ballot for 2020-2021 Coke County Central Appraisal District Board of Directors

Ron Cooper made the motion to place all 89 votes for our taxing unit for our nominee Paul Williams, seconded by Stormy Vaughn.

Vote: 4-0, motion passed

TDCA: Consider authorizing Mayor to sign Audit Certification Form (ACF) FY End 9/30/19 for the Texas Department of Housing. Stormy Vaughn expressed concerns that the Council had to amend the fiscal year budget after the fact of the check being written; being City Hall received money, paid for the HUD house prior to amending the budget. Teresa Ballard stated it was just a "run-through" and had to be done. Stormy Vaughn, stating for the record, that Council found out about the payment after the check was written. And asked what happened, to "amend BEFORE you spend". Stormy Vaughn stated that this will be an audit finding that will end up being a ding against the City.

Stormy Vaughn made the motion to approve audit, seconded by Ron Cooper.

Vote: 4-0, motion passed

Human Resources: Consider hiring a City Helper for the City of Bronte.

a. Executive Session – City Council: The City Council may enter into Executive Session under Gov't Code §551.074, Personnel, to deliberate regarding the hiring of a City Helper for the City of Bronte

Council entered executive session at 8:36pm. Ron Cooper returned from executive session at 9:03pm and recused himself from anymore discussion regarding the hiring. Council returned from executive session at 9:19 pm then took break. Council back in open session at 9:25pm.

Stormy Vaughn made the motion to approve to hire two employees, Jayton Cooper and Tiffani Sullivan, seconded by Lee Wommack.

Vote: 3-1, motion approved hiring Jayton Cooper and Tiffani Sullivan, Ron Cooper recused himself from voting.

Water Utilities: Paul Gohman gave an overview of meeting with the Mayor of Robert Lee and one council member from Robert Lee also attended. City of Robert Lee is concerned with an increase of the wholesale water rate of 12% and hitting all at once. Robert Lee asked to roll the rate of 5% for three years. City of Bronte committee comprised of Lee Wommack, Ron Cooper, Mayor Paul Gohman and Ricky Royall recommended to Robert Lee to use the tier rate system and that would solve all their problems. Lee Wommack asked the City of Robert Lee why you are using treated water for bulk water sales and recommended to RL to charge more for outside city limits water sales. Lee Wommack gave specific amounts of water usage that RL has had compared to the lower amount used for Bronte water customers. Lee Wommack recommends to Council that we stay where we are at regarding the rate. Ron Cooper shared his opinion regarding the meeting as well and agreed with the recommendation to keep the new rate of 12% increase. The rest of the Council discussed their requests and agreed to leave the rate increase to the same 12% that was discussed and approved several months prior to this meeting. In the past, Bronte raise the rate every 4-years and that is a 3% increase every year, and this was the 4-year end period. Council discussed to have an increase of 3% or cost expense yearly instead of every 4 years to make it an easier transition. Mayor asked each Council member to weigh in on the matter. Council agreed with the decision and Stormy Vaughn added the 12% increase is only \$0.30 per 1000 gallons for lake water still being a fair "wholesale" water rate. The "overage rate" charges were agreed by Council to be more of a fine for going over their 200,000 per day allotment. Next year we will go up the 3% or cost increase according to our contract.

Council's recommendation was to take no action.

Utilities: Report update on information gathered on services from the Electricity Brokers

Ricky reported he spoke with AEP and they couldn't give much advice because it would be a conflict of interest. We asked an engineer at Jacob and Martin to review our data. Recommendation not to go over five-year contract. He

City of Bronte, Texas
Regular City Council Meeting Minutes
Thursday, November 21, 2019 6:30 P.M.

explained how the pass through, and nodules works. Stormy Vaughn would like to see what Jacob Martin evaluation of the pass throughs and nodules is after reviewing our data, also I would like to have you get a quote from each electricity brokers what their best rate. Use previous year's peak season meter reading and streetlight reading and ask for their quote for the same meter reading with their new offer rates and then compare to our previous billing. Discussion only.

Code Enforcement: Mayor discussed the building permit procedures. Would like to have Ricky Royall with the Mayor or one other council member to review each permit. Ricky Royall would report to council as report only. Ron Cooper agrees and the only time it should come to council is if permit subcommittee denies the permit and the citizen appeals to be heard. Stormy Vaughn reminded council in the Manufactured Home ordinance permits must go through council. This is a procedure change only.

Minutes:

- a. October 17, 2019
- b. November 7, 2019

Ron Cooper made the motion to approve October 17 and November 7 minutes with minor misspelling, seconded by Stormy Vaughn.

Vote: 4-0, motion passed

Monthly Finance Reports:

Stormy Vaughn would like all reports for each fund to be put in the packet together. Being General Fund with Bank Reconciliations, Balance sheet, Revenue & Expenditures, and so on; then Water, Sewer and Sanitation done the same way. All the reports for each fund are separated currently, it would be easier to approve each fund instead of the breakdown of approval. (Being "All funds" Bank Reconciliation, "All funds" Balance Sheet, and "All funds" Revenue and Expenditures.) Moving forward financials will be each account fund with the appropriate reports regarding that fund when possible.

Aging Report

Stormy Vaughn made the motion to approve Aging report, seconded by Ron Cooper.

Vote: 4-0 motion passed

Bills Paid

Stormy Vaughn made the motion to approve Bills Paid, seconded by Ron Cooper.

Vote: 4-0 motion passed

Outstanding Checks that have not cleared

Deposit List by Funds

Stormy Vaughn made a recommendation discontinuing outstanding check and deposit list is showing on the bank reconciliation report because the new Reconciliation report has all the deposits and charges now.

Bank Reconciliations

Stormy Vaughn made the motion to approve bank reconciliations seconded by Lee Wommack.

Vote: 4-0 motion passed

Balance Sheet

Teresa Ballard informed council some accounts are carried over from last year. TMRS – over paid \$15.26 in October and deducted from November's Bill. I have corrected this issue with the help the financial consultant. I had been accruing but not overpaying TMRS. If I can be corrected before auditors prepare their audit, then I will give you correct reports each month to approve.

Stormy Vaughn made the motion to approve balance sheet, seconded by Ron Cooper.

Vote: 4-0 motion passed

Revenue and Expenditures

Stormy Vaughn made the motion to approve Revenue and Expenditures, seconded by Lee Wommack.

Vote: 4-0, motion

Discuss – On-going

➤ Mayors Report: Been looking at property with vacant lots. City is compiling list breaking down city, school and county owned property. Might be able to put a spec home on hwy 277 where the house burnt down and maybe in the area if we could get the lots. We are making progress. Working on cross training. Having helpers will help the

City of Bronte, Texas
Regular City Council Meeting Minutes
Thursday, November 21, 2019 6:30 P.M.

City out a lot. Have a program now for zoning. Will be talking to the engineers now that we have our scope of work for our initial set up.

➤ Utility Director Report: City helper's truck is now ready for use. Have the magnetic signs for Animal Control-Trapper work truck. We are still working on the roads in the City limits.

➤ City Secretary Report: December 2nd, TML will conduct FY18/19 Workers' Compensation Field Audit. I will be attending Election Seminar in Austin from December 4th through 6th. Municipal Court had one citation for illegal burning inside city limits. We have been doing cross training when time permits. December 12th webinar regarding walking quorum at city hall 10:30am. I am working with financial consultant to simplify reporting. He is working on having each employee get paid out of the fund they are charged to instead of all from the general fund and having to transfer money from utility funds. He is reviewing data being entered into Asyst, and how come back into a report form.

Request for future agenda items:

- RV Ordinance add special waiver to section 10
- Cemetery ordinance need to have one
- Need to adopt the international building, fire, residential and accessory building code
- Report the Update from TML if we can donate the Jefferson property to EDC, and if EDC can donate to nonprofit agency.

Adjourn: No further business meeting adjourned at 10:40pm.



Paul Gohman, Mayor

ATTEST:



Teresa Ballard, City Secretary

