

City of Bronte, Texas
Regular City Council Meeting Minutes
Thursday, January 21, 2021

The City Council of the City of Bronte, Texas met in regular session Thursday January 21, 2021 in 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.

The regular city council meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Mayor Paul Gohman, and a quorum was established. In attendance were mayor pro tem Santiago Rodriguez, council members Ron Cooper, Kinley Pritchard, Gwen Dyess and Stormy Vaughn. Staff member Teresa Ballard and Tina Smith. Staff Ricky Royall was absent.

Mayor Paul Gohman led with the Pledge of Allegiance, Kinley Pritchard led prayer, and Stormy Vaughn followed with The Lord's Prayer.

There were no public comments.

Public Safety & Animal Services Reports: Fire Chief Martin DeLaGarza responded to one small fire from citizen welding but contained quickly. There has not been a meeting due to COVID-19. VFD responded to Winters VFD on call for a fire which was contained quickly. Required paperwork for Texas Forestry for workman's compensation insurance has been submitted.

Sheriff's Department was not present to report. Animal services picked up loose dogs, retained at the water plant yard. Owner claimed two dogs and citation issued.

Council member Kinley Pritchard discussed to council a citizen was upset that this was the first time his animals were loose and did not think he should have received a citation. Teresa Ballard and Council member Stormy Vaughn explained the process of the deputy's role. Council member Stormy Vaughn said in the past the Deputy gives a verbal warning (in most instances), and then a written warning, and then a citation depending on the circumstances. Council member Gwen Dyess mentioned that maybe ACO might be doing the job too well. Council member Stormy Vaughn stated that ACO doing great trapping animals. Council member Ron Cooper also shared concerns from citizens that maybe ACO is overzealous and looking for things. City staff will address concerns with ACO.

Economic Development Report and Cemetery Report: Teresa Ballard reports EDC 4A board received street signs. City is responsible for putting up street signs. Council member Stormy Vaughn discussed with council that a concerned citizen had asked how EDC money has been spent. Need to be more transparent with the monthly reports. A member from the board should attend council meetings and give a report. Stormy Vaughn advised that an election was held years ago where 4A can fund 4B projects and that 4A board may want to look at giving Bronte business's money like 4B is doing. Teresa Ballard will discuss with board at next EDC meeting.

Cemetery Report: Council member Stormy Vaughn asked who is mowing the cemetery and when it was last mowed. This is the time for the stickers to be removed, burned, or sprayed. City will take bids for getting Trees trimmed and report at next council meeting.

Depot Status Report: No report.

Code Enforcement: Teresa Ballard reports no building permits were issued in the month of January.

City of Bronte, Texas
Regular City Council Meeting Minutes
Thursday, January 21, 2021

Regular Agenda

Zach White answered questions from council regarding mobile vendor permit. It will be located on the property behind the Motel and across the street from Stripes on Park Road, closed probably Wednesday and Thursday, hours being before Noon and open later than most in town restaurants. Ron Cooper made the motion to approve Zach White for mobile food vendor permit, seconded by Stormy Vaughn. Vote: 4, Gwen Dyess abstained from vote. Motion passed.

Mayor Gohman read Resolution 20-11 amending ordering the 2021 General Election on May 1, 2021 to end candidates filing is February 12, 2021. Stormy Vaughn made the motion to accept the amendment resolution 20-11, seconded by Gwen Dyess Vote: 5-0. Motion passed.

Mayor Gohman presented to council the Livestock permits. Fourteen livestock and two fowl permits were approved by the committee. One fowl permit rejected, and one fowl permit was incomplete. Council discussed the Special Use Permit. Santiago-Rodriguez motioned to approve the Special Use Permit for the rejected Fowl Permit to Howard Baker, seconded by Ron Cooper, Vote: 5-0. Motion passed.

Council member Stormy Vaughn brought to the attention the highlighted items on the aging report that were being reported past due. City Secretary Teresa Ballard responded to the question asked regarding a commercial use customer, and she explains chapter 11 bankruptcy has been filed, and can only pay a certain amount each month. Council member Vaughn continued to next highlighted area regarding a different customer's charge over \$1,000 in one month on account that was closed. City Secretary responded that water was turned off because of nonpayment and then the water meter was destroyed. Council member Vaughn asked why charges were not filed for damaged to a city water meter. City Secretary Teresa Ballard reported that Ricky Royal did not file charges at the time. City Secretary Teresa Ballard reported that she will follow up to research who the owner of the home is and follow up with Council on the matter. Council discussed two other highlighted accounts that have been closed with outstanding balances. December's balance sheet, revenue and expenditures have not been finalized due to fact of outstanding checks payable to Faubion for well lease.

Gwen Dyess motioned to approve minutes and financial reports agenda items 4 thru 10 and seconded by Ron Cooper Vote 4. Stormy Vaughn abstained from the December 17, 2020 minutes. Motion passed.

Mayor Gohman reported to council still have a few entities to sign the City of tax Deed Parcel 6480. Information only. Council Member Stormy Vaughn explained that when the Tax Deed has been fully executed, the city would then execute a special warranty deed conveying the property to a new owner and the process and order the recording of instruments should occur. Discuss only.

Mayor Gohman discussed the real property to be added to the Fairview Cemetery. Council previously made the decision to add the property and pay consideration to the owner by trading like kind lots for like kind lots. Deeds for the lots have been executed to convey the lots to the City of Bronte fbo Fairview Cemetery. Gwen Dyess motion to move forward, seconded by Ron Cooper Vote 5-0. Motion passed.

Mayor Gohman discussed Curbside/Convenience Center finance. Teresa Ballard distributed spreadsheet with the breakdown of the expenses. After discussion with council, Teresa will meet with Ricky and get new

City of Bronte, Texas
Regular City Council Meeting Minutes
Thursday, January 21, 2021

breakdown of expenses and report back to council. Stormy Vaughn motioned to contact Republic Services that we move Curbside to First Monday of the month and Gwen Dyess seconded Vote 5-0. Motion passed.

Stormy Vaughn motioned to cancel one roll-off at convenience center after these roll-offs are full and only open convenience center once a month on the 3rd Saturday of the month, seconded by council member Kinley Pritchard. Vote 5-0. Motion passed.

City Council entered executive session at 7:05 p.m.

City Council is back from executive session at 7:53 p.m.

Stormy Vaughn made the motion to hire Tina Smith fulltime with benefits effective February 1, 2021 with Health Insurance starting after 90 days, seconded by Gwen Dyess. Vote 5-0. Motion passed.

Teresa Ballard explained to council the reason we need to increase building expense to cover city hall roof repairs and to increase sewer fund for sewer repairs. Council discussed budget Stormy Vaughn motioned to accept the budget amendment, seconded by Santiago Rodriguez. Vote 5-0 motion passed.

Mayor Gohman reported the plans for street blade clean up and repairs, also repairs from flood damage. Getting a quote for spraying the streets. City staff will send letters out to citizens regarding tree limbs hanging excessively over the streets and overgrown bushes blocking corners.

Council asked to look into the cleanup of alleyways. The alleys have been grown up for years. Discussion of who is responsible for cleanup? Does the City want to start the cleanup? Does the city have utilities in alleyways? City will report back with answer to council.

Mayor Gohman report Jacob & Martin is here surveying the water lines for the grant award by "TxCDBG". Todd Powell with USDA called, and money has been freed up regarding the grant for the backhoe. We are sending updated information to USDA. Nothing to report on regarding the water treatment plant.

Teresa Ballard reports applications for a place on the general election ballot will be taken until 5 p.m. February 12th for three council candidate positions.

There was no further business and council adjourned at 8:28 p.m.


Paul Gohman, Mayor

ATTEST:


Teresa Ballard, City Secretary