

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR CITY COMMISSION MEETING HELD AUGUST 1, 2012

The governing body met in regular session on August 1, 2012, at 5:30 p.m. in the City Commission Room at City Hall, with the following members being present: Commissioners Pounds, Wentz, Johnson, Parker, and Fraser.

Absent: None.

Other Officers: City Manager Uri, Finance Director Farha and City Clerk Crum.

Mayor Pounds declared that a quorum was present and called the meeting to order.

Visitors: Jessica LeDuc, Toby Nosker, Tina Barnett, LaVerne Clintsman, Nathan Hylton. Staff present: Bruno Rehbein, Building Inspector; Larry Eubanks, Fire Chief; and Chris Edin, Police Chief.

Pastor Tina Barnett gave the invocation, followed by the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

APPROVED

Commissioner Fraser moved to approve the minutes of the July 18, 2012, meeting. Commissioner Wentz seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Johnson moved to approve the minutes of the July 11, 2012, special meeting. Commissioner Fraser seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Wentz moved to approve the minutes of the July 25, 2012, special meeting. Commissioner Parker seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE #14

APPROVED

Commissioner Johnson asked about Hood's payment. Finance Director Farha said most was for the pool, with the entire billing for six different departments.

Commissioner Wentz questioned the \$200 check to the Department of Water Resources, asking if it's for entering into the contract for the two wells with junior rights. City Manager Uri said the fee was paid, but the check had been returned today. Commissioner Wentz asked about the Mardi Gras pens. Chris Edin said they are pens for marketing.

Commissioner Wentz moved to approve appropriation ordinance #14. Commissioner Johnson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

LaVerne Clintsman said he appreciated the work the public works department had done on his property, filling in holes in the yard and in the alley. He said he continues to have settling issues, providing photos of his garage. City Manager Uri said he'd discuss the issue with the city engineer.

NEW BUSINESS:

BUDGET DISCUSSION

Finance Director Farha said the new budget allows for a three mill increase, from 51.747 to 54.747. The increase is for the hiring of a new police officer, and a 1% cost of living increase for employees, as well as being able to maintain our ending cash balance. Commissioner Johnson cited increases of more than 1% budgeted for personnel. Finance Director Farha said that includes step increases for employees as well. Commissioner Johnson said he'd prefer the mill was only increased by one, and felt the departments could cut. Mayor Pounds said he'd taken phone calls from citizens and explained the reason for the increase. Commissioner Fraser said the commission needed to stop approving everything brought before them, and make sure to look into the future to see how these things would be paid for. Commissioner Parker said he preferred avoiding another mill increase next year, since this would be two consecutive years of increases. Commissioner Wentz said in order to be progressive and keep up infrastructure, the mill increases are necessary.

Finance Director Farha said the budget would be published next week, with a public hearing for next meeting to approve the budget.

EMERGENCY WATER PLAN

An emergency water plan has been in place since the mid 1990s. Due to the current drought situation, two wells with junior water rights will soon be ordered shut off. Recent usage has seen gallons pumped in excess of one million gallons each day. This is more than the City wells can pump and keep the water tower levels up, especially if the two wells cannot be used; leaving three wells to serve the entire city.

A water warning has been issued to residents, calling for voluntary conservation.

RESOLUTIONS:

2012-1932 WATER WARNING RESOLUTION

PASSED

Thereupon, there was presented to the City Commission a Resolution entitled:

WHEREAS, ON JULY 23, 2012, THE CITY ISSUED NOTICE OF A WATER WATCH PURSUANT TO THE DROUGHT/ EMERGENCY CONTINGENCY IN THE CONCORDIA MUNICIPAL WATER CONSERVATION PLAN, REQUESTING THAT PEOPLE LIMIT THEIR WATER USE VOLUNTARILY AND AVOID WATERING LAWNS BETWEEN 10:00 A.M. AND 6:00 P.M.;

The Resolution was considered and discussed; and thereupon on motion of Commissioner Wentz, seconded by Commissioner Fraser, the Resolution was adopted by the following roll call vote:

Aye: Commissioners Pounds, Wentz, Parker, and Fraser.

Nay: None.

Thereupon, the Mayor declared said Resolution duly passed and the Resolution was then duly numbered Resolution No. 2012-1932 was signed and approved by the Mayor and attested by the Clerk.

MANAGER'S REPORT

City Manager Uri said he has been notified by the Corps of Engineers that the dam project is not a feasible Corps project. The Corps has estimated possible damage downstream should the dam be breached. Their estimate is \$2,000,000, and they can't get the price to build to that figure. City engineers are estimating we can build state-approved dams for no more than \$2,000,000.

MAYOR/COMMISSIONER COMMENTS AND REPORTS

There were no commissioner comments.

STAFF COMMENTS

Bruno Rehbein discussed the housing rehabilitation grant. The deadline for applications for the first round has passed. Fifteen rehab and eight demo applications were received.

Larry Eubanks displayed a new nozzle purchased for the fire department. It allows the crew to work from outside the property rather than going in during a fire. Mr. Eubanks also discussed how the department uses water conservation.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGE

HELD

Commissioner Wentz moved that the commission recess into executive session for fifteen (15) minutes for attorney-client privilege. Inviting: City Manager Uri. Commissioner Parker seconded. Motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Commissioners Pounds, Wentz, Johnson, Parker, and Fraser.

Nay: None.

Time: 6:40 p.m.

The commission reconvened at 6:55 p.m.

Mayor Pounds announced there was no binding action taken.

ADJOURN

Mayor Pounds announced there would be a study session following the adjournment of the meeting.

There being no further business, Commissioner Fraser moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Parker seconded. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

(Seal)



Stacey Crum
City Clerk