

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING – January 8, 2018

The City Council of the City of La Grange met in Regular Session on Monday, January 8, 2018 in the City Hall Council Chambers at 155 E. Colorado St. with the following members present: Mayor Janet Moerbe, Councilmember Bonnie Busch, Mayor Pro tem John J. Cernosek, Councilman John Eilert, Councilman Ken Taylor, Councilmember Kathy Weishuhn and Councilmember Violet Zbranek. Councilmember Deborah Bradley and Councilman Pat Janca were absent. Staff present: City Manager Shawn Raborn, Chief of Police David Gilbreath, Community and Economic Development Coordinator Scott Byler, and City Secretary Lisa Oltmann. Visitors: Jeff Wick, Dusty Rhodes, Heidi Ullrich, Jason McBroom, Mary Ann Powell, Shirley Hudson and others.

Mayor Moerbe called the meeting to order. Heidi Ullrich of First Baptist Church gave the invocation.

The first item was a report on the Comprehensive Plan Update. Scott Byler gave a report on the status of the Comprehensive Plan Update Project. This project included two portions with one being a way finding signage plan and the overall comprehensive plan update. The task force committee working on the signage plan will meet again next week. There will be a public meeting on January 30th as relates to the overall comprehensive plan. It is anticipated that this project will be completed in September.

The next item was to discuss and or consider awarding bid for police vehicles. Bids for the two (2) police vehicles were opened on January 2, 2018. There was only one bid received for the vehicles and that bid was from La Grange Ford in the amount of \$35,347.00 per vehicle. As this was the only bid received, staff recommends that the bid be awarded to La Grange Ford in the amount of \$70,694.00. **MOTION** Councilman John Eilert, **SECOND** Councilmember Kathy Weishuhn to award the bid to La Grange Ford. Motion carried.

The next item was to discuss and or consider amending the Equipment Fund Budget to purchase a vehicle for the Sewer Department. Staff is requesting council approval to amend the Equipment Fund Budget in the amount of \$25,000 for the purchase of a truck for the Sewer Department. The new truck will replace a 2006 GMC 1500 with 87,345 miles.

The next item was to discuss and or consider amending the Equipment Fund budget to purchase a vehicle for the Parks Department. Staff is requesting council approval to amend the Equipment Fund Budget in the amount of \$13,000 for the purchase of a new utility vehicle for the Parks Department. The new utility vehicle will replace a 2003 Kawasaki with over 2,400 hours and we are having some problems with the unit. Both pieces of used equipment will be auctioned on GovDeals and the funds put

back into the Equipment Reserve Fund. The current balance in the Equipment Fund is \$723,864. **MOTION** Mayor Pro tem John Cernosek, **SECOND** Councilman Ken Taylor to approve staff's recommendation to amend the Equipment Fund Budget for a truck for the Sewer Department and for a new utility vehicle for the Parks Department. Motion carried.

The next item was to discuss and or consider approval of the December 2017 minutes. **MOTION** Councilmember Violet Zbranek, **SECOND** Councilmember Bonnie Busch to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

Chief of Police Update

In 2017 the department had 4,293 calls and out of these 581 were animal control calls. There were also 109 accidents and 200 arrests in 2017. Gonzalo Anguiano, Jr. will retire from the department at the end of January.

City Manager Update

Curbside bulk pickup has been scheduled for January 27th. An application was submitted to the LCRA Step Forward Program requesting assistance with painting and landscaping at Kruschel Park. Bids are being accepted for the 2017 TTHM Removal Phase 1. The manufacture home which was blocking Lower Line Street after Hurricane Harvey has been removed and the street is now open. The Private Club permit for Silver Star has been denied. City Offices will be closed on Monday, January 15th for Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Please keep the family of former Councilman James Zimmerhanel in your prayers following his death. Mr. Zimmerhanel had been a member of the city council for forty years.

At 6:30pm a **MOTION** was made by Councilmember Weishuhn, with a **SECOND** by Councilmember Zbranek that the meeting be adjourned. Motion carried.

Lisa Oltmann, City Secretary

These Minutes Approved by City Council on:

Janet Moerbe, Mayor

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING – January 22, 2018

The City Council of the City of La Grange met in Regular Session on Monday, January 22, 2018 in the City Hall Council Chambers at 155 E. Colorado St. with the following members present: Mayor Janet Moerbe, Councilmember Bonnie Busch, Councilmember Deborah Bradley, Mayor Pro tem John J. Cernosek, Councilman John

Eilert, Councilman Pat Janca, Councilman Ken Taylor, Councilmember Kathy Weishuhn and Councilmember Violet Zbranek. Staff present: City Manager Shawn Raborn, Chief of Police David Gilbreath, and City Secretary Lisa Oltmann. Visitors: Jeff Wick, Jackie Skelton and Matthew Kinney.

Mayor Moerbe called the meeting to order. Father Matthew Kinney of Sacred Heart Catholic Church gave the invocation.

The first item was to discuss and/or consider and take appropriate action on Order Calling for Election of City Officers. Discutir y/o considerar y tomar acción apropiada sobre la autorización para La Orden de Elección de Consejo Municipal. **MOTION** Councilmember Kathy Weishuhn, **SECOND** Councilman Pat Janca to approve Order Calling for Election of City Officers. Motion carried.

The next item was to discuss and or consider appointments to the Library Board. The Fayette Library Museum Archives Board of Directors is composed of nine members who are appointed by the City Council. The Board serves as an advisor to the library staff in the operation and maintenance of the library. The Library Board recommends that the following members whose term expired on December 31, 2017, be re-appointed for a three year term: Arlene Zapalac, Jeff Kelly, and Neale Rabensburg. **MOTION** Mayor Pro tem John Cernosek, **SECOND** Councilmember Violet Zbranek, to approve the board's recommendation. Motion carried.

The next item was to discuss and or consider appointment to the Fireman's Pension Board. Included on the Fireman's Pension Board is one member from the city council of the City of La Grange. Currently Councilmember Violet Zbranek is the council representative on this board and she is willing to serve again. **MOTION** Councilman John Eilert, **SECOND** Councilmember Bonnie Busch to re-appoint Violet Zbranek. Motion carried.

The next item is to discuss and or consider participating in the coalition of cities intervening in the CenterPoint Energy Entex rate case. The City Council suspended the rate increase proposed by CenterPoint Energy Entex back in December. The city has the opportunity to participate in the Coalition of cities that are protesting the rate increase. The current cities that are participating in the Coalition include: Bishop, Falls City, Hallettsville, Hondo, Ingleside, Ingleside on the Bay, Karnes City, Kenedy, Kingsville, Laredo, Point Comfort, Portland, Refugio, San Diego, Sinton, Taft, Victoria, and Weimar. According to Thomas Brocato, the lead attorney on the rate case with the firm Lloyd Gosselink Rochelle & Townsend, P.C., they expect that a few others may join in the next week or so. The Coalition is an ad hoc group of cities that participates in CenterPoint South Texas gas cases. We participated with the Coalition in the 2011 rate case and as a result the rate increase was less than proposed by Entex at that time. By working together, we are able to improve efficiency and lower overall costs. This is done

by hiring one law firm (i.e. Lloyd Gosselink) and one consultant rather than each city acting alone. Under the law, cities are entitled to be reimbursed their costs by the utility. Thus, there will be no direct cost to the City. Currently, Lloyd Gosselink Rochelle & Townsend, P.C. are conducting discovery and reviewing the filing. The main benefits of participating with the group are: (1) access to legal advice as we go through the process, and (2) demonstrating that the City is concerned about the price that the City, its residents and businesses pay for gas service. **MOTION** Councilmember Weishuhn, **SECOND** Councilman Ken Taylor to participate in the coalition of cities. Motion carried.

City Council Committee Reports

Main Street Board will visit with Bastrop's Main Street to share information and trade ideas for the program.

The Beautification Committee met and awarded Yard of the Month to Carolina and Gordon Ayres at 907 N. Franklin St.

Chief of Police Update

Troy Stevens has been promoted to Investigator and Travis Anderson has been promoted to Patrol Sergeant.

We are currently advertising for the open position in the department.

A "Safe Spot" has been designated by the police department for individuals to use who buy, trade or sell items on the internet. Signage will be installed to show the designated area.

City Manager Update

Sales tax was down for this period. However, there was an audit adjustment which contributed to this factor.

The quarterly bulk pickup will be this Saturday.

The pool house at Kruschel Park will be painted thru the LCRA-Step Forward Program. Main Street will host Uncorked on February 17th. They will also host the first Mornings with Main Street for the year on February 8th.

At 6:20pm a **MOTION** was made by Councilmember Zbranek, with a **SECOND** by Councilmember Weishuhn that the meeting be adjourned. Motion carried.

Lisa Oltmann, City Secretary

These Minutes Approved by City Council on:

Janet Moerbe, Mayor