

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING – March 14, 2016

The City Council of the City of La Grange met in Regular Session on Monday, March 14, 2016 in the City Hall Council Chambers with the following members present: Mayor Janet Moerbe, Councilmember Deborah Bradley, Mayor Pro tem John Cernosek, Councilman John Eilert, Councilman Pat Janca, Councilmember Kathy Weishuhn, Councilman Arnold Romberg, and Councilmember Violet Zbranek. Councilmember Bonnie Busch was absent. Staff present: Asst. City Manager Frank D. Menefee, Jr., Chief of Police Jackie Skelton, and City Secretary Lisa Oltmann. Visitors: Pastor Marcia Kifer, and Tom Hudson with Subway.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the United States and to Texas were recited and Pastor Marcia Kifer of Shared Lutheran Ministries gave the invocation.

The first item was to discuss and or consider approval of the Certificate of Unopposed Candidates. Discutir y/o considerer la aprobacion del Certificado de Candidatos Sin Oposicion. The 2016 City Officers Election was called on January 25, 2016. Friday, February 19th was the last day to file for a place on the ballot. Tuesday, February 23rd was the last day for a write-in candidate to declare candidacy. As of Wednesday, February 24, 2016, the following candidates were unopposed. Kathy Weishuhn-Councilmember Ward 1; Violet “Patsy” Zbranek, -Councilmember Ward 2; Deborah Blanchette Brandley-Councilmember Ward 3; John Eilert-Councilmember Ward 4. **MOTION** Councilman Arnold Romberg, **SECOND** Councilman Pat Janca to approve the Certificate of Unopposed Candidates. Motion carried. **Attachment #1**

The next item was to discuss and or consider an order canceling the May 7, 2016 City Officers Election. Discutir y/o considerar Orden Cancelando Election del 7 de mayo de 2016. Para Oficiales Municipales de Candidatos Sin Oposicion. **MOTION** Mayor Pro tem John Cernosek, **SECOND** Councilmember Violet Zbranek to cancel the May 7, 2016 City Officers Election. Motion carried. **Attachment #2**

The next item was to discuss and or consider a request from Fayette County Habitat for Humanity to waive moving permit fee. A request was received from Fayette County Habitat for Humanity to waive the permit fee associated with moving a building here in town from Eblin St to 936 E. Camp St. The fee is \$75.00 and staff recommends approval of this request. **MOTION** Councilmember Zbranek, **SECOND** Councilmember Deborah Bradley to approve staff’s recommendation. Motion carried.

The next item was a Public Hearing on the City of La Grange Curfew Ordinance. The Public Hearing was opened at 6:05 PM. Texas Local Government Code Section 370.002 requires the governing body of a home-rule municipality to review a juvenile curfew ordinance at least every three years; and to conduct a public hearing to review the juvenile curfew ordinance’s effects on the community and on the problems the juvenile

curfew ordinance was intended to remedy. Chief of Police Jackie Skelton addressed the council and noted that they have issued a few citations for those under 17. He noted that the ordinance was working as intended. There being no one present to comment, the Public Hearing was closed at 6:07 PM.

The next item was to discuss and or consider adoption of the current City of La Grange Curfew Ordinance. City Council noted that it would be in the best interest of the community to readopt the juvenile ordinance. **MOTION** Councilman Romberg, **SECOND** Councilman Janca to adopt the current City of La Grange Curfew Ordinance on First Reading. A roll call vote was taken: Councilmember Busch absent, Councilmember Bradley in favor, Mayor Pro tem Cernosek in favor, Councilman Eilert in favor, Councilman Janca in favor, Councilman Romberg in favor, Councilmember Weishuhn in favor, Councilmember Zbranek in favor. Motion carried 7-0.

The next item was to discuss and or consider a request from the La Grange Volunteer Fire Department to authorize an additional contribution to the Texas Emergency Services Retirement System. The La Grange Volunteer Fire Department participates in the Texas Emergency Services Retirement System. The city currently contributes \$48.00 quarterly into the system on behalf of the volunteer firefighter. The La Grange Volunteer Fire Department would like to contribute an additional \$27.00 per quarter per member for a total of \$75.00 per quarter. The La Grange Volunteer Fire Department currently has 31 active members. Fire Chief, Frank D. Menefee, Jr. spoke to the council regarding this request. He noted that the retirement benefit helps to recruit volunteers as well as help retain volunteers which benefits the community due to the investment towards each member's training and protective clothing requirements. The La Grange Fire Department has been very fortunate to have citizens volunteer to be firefighters. The national trend is such that citizens are not volunteering any more resulting in staffing issues in the volunteer fire service. The members of the LGVFD are required to attend the same training as members of a paid fire department. **MOTION** Councilman Eilert, **SECOND** Councilmember Zbranek to have staff investigate the possibility of the City contributing the additional \$27.00 per quarter per member. Motion carried.

The next item was to discuss and or consider approval of the February 2016 minutes. **MOTION** Councilmember Weishuhn, **SECOND** Councilmember Bradley to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

Mayor Pro tem Cernosek then gave the Tourism Committee Report. The committee met prior to the council meeting and reviewed 4 funding requests. They are as follows: La Grange Roadrunners Square Dancers in the amount of \$1,500 for advertising an event; Best Little Cowboy Gathering in the amount of \$10,000 for marketing their event; Texas Czech Heritage and Cultural Center in the amount of \$4,000 to advertise the Slavnost/May Fest event; and Oktoberfest-Rotary Club of La Grange in the amount of

\$6,000 to advertise the event. The committee recommends council fund the requests as follows: La Grange Roadrunners Square Dancers-\$1,500; Best Little Cowboy Gathering-\$9,500; Texas Czech Heritage and Cultural Center-\$3,000; and Oktoberfest-Rotary Club of La Grange-\$6,000. **MOTION** Mayor Pro tem Cernosek, **SECOND** Councilman Eilert to fund the requests as recommended by the Tourism Committee. Motion carried.

City Council Committee Reports

The Library Board met and everything is running smoothly.

The Beautification Committee met and awarded Yard of the month to Maria & Juan Ramirez at 829 N. Monroe.

Main Street will host Uncorked this weekend.

The Tax Appraisal Board will be replacing 1 or 2 member(s).

Mayor Moerbe then noted that the Electric sales were down, and the Water sales were up. Sales Tax was down by approximately 16% for the fiscal year.

At 6:20 PM 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 – March 28, 2016

The City Council of the City of La Grange met in Regular Session on Monday, March 28, 2016 in the City Hall Council Chambers with the following members present: Mayor Janet Moerbe, Councilmember Deborah Bradley, Mayor Pro tem John Cernosek, Councilman John Eilert, Councilman Pat Janca, Councilmember Bonnie Busch, Councilman Arnold Romberg, Councilmember Violet Zbranek and Councilmember Kathy Weishuhn. Staff present: City Manager Shawn Raborn, Chief Jackie Skelton, Financial Director Brett Wolff and Assistant City Secretary Mary Goerig. Visitors: Greg Trlicek and Tom Hudson.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and Pastor Candy O’Meara of St. Paul Lutheran Church gave the invocation.

The first item was a presentation of City of La Grange Annual Audit Report. Mr. Greg Trlicek of Trlicek & Co., P.C., presented the audit report. Mr Trlicek reported that the city is in good financial standing. He also thanked the city staff for their assistance while the auditors were gathering information for the audit.

The next item was to discuss and or consider acceptance of the City of La Grange Audit Report. **MOTION** Councilmember Kathy Weishuhn, **SECOND** Councilmember Deborah Bradley to accept the audit. Motion carried.

The next item was to discuss and or consider request from the La Grange Volunteer Fire Department to authorize an additional contribution to the Texas Emergency Services Retirement System. The city currently contributes \$48.00 quarterly into the system on behalf of the volunteer firefighter. As proposed by council, the City of La Grange will contribute an additional \$27.00 per quarter per member for a total of \$75.00 per quarter. The La Grange Volunteer Fire Department currently has 31 active members. The additional payment is \$3,348 per year. The increase will be included in the FY 2016 - 2017 annual budget and the change this year will be covered in the current budget and staff recommends approval of this request. **MOTION** Councilman John Eilert, **SECOND** Councilman Mayor Pro Tem John Cernosek to approve staff's request. Motion carried.

The next item was to discuss and or consider on second reading the adoption of the current City of La Grange Curfew Ordinance. Texas Local Government Code Sec 370.002 requires the governing body of a home-rule municipality to review a juvenile curfew ordinance at least every three years; and to conduct a public hearing to review the juvenile curfew ordinance's effects on the community and on the problems the juvenile curfew ordinance was intended to remedy. After conducting the public hearing required by Texas Local Government Code Section 370.002, the City Council should make a determination if it would be in the best interest of the community to readopt the juvenile ordinance. The Ordinance received council approval on the first reading at the March 14, 2016 meeting. **MOTION** Councilmember Violet Zbranek, **SECOND** Councilmember Kathy Weishuhn to approve this ordinance on second and final reading. A roll call vote was taken: Councilmember Busch in favor, Councilmember Bradley in favor, Mayor Pro tem Cernosek in favor, Councilman Eilert in favor, Councilman Janca in favor, Councilman Romberg in favor, Councilmember Weishuhn in favor, Councilmember Zbranek in favor. Motion carried 8-0. **Attachment # 1**

Chief of Police Report

They are working on some leads on a Home Invasion case during Spring Break.

There has been a big break in the Skull case from January 17, 2015 located on North Jefferson.

City Manager Report

MS 150 Bike-A-Thon is April 16 & 17

Bulk Curbside pickup April 23

Tree & Brush pickup April 25 – 30

At 6:28 PM as pursuant to Section 551.072 Real Property, council went into Executive Session to discuss and or consider the acquisition of real property.

At 6:39 PM Council went into open Session. There was action taken.

Council then went on a tour of the Casino Hall located at 255 N Franklin.

At 7:02 PM a **MOTION** was made by Councilman Eilert, with a **SECOND** by Councilmember Violet Zbranek that the meeting be adjourned. Motion carried.

Mary Goerig, Assistant City Secretary

These Minutes Approved by City Council on:

Janet Moerbe, Mayor