

REGULAR MEETING
DECEMBER 20, 2011

Mayor Jeff Bearden called the Regular Meeting of the City Commission to order at 6:30 p.m. in the Commission Chambers, and a quorum was declared present.

Present: Mayor Jeff Bearden

Commissioners: Jimmy Dennis, Russell Brownlow, Travis Taylor and Phil McCuistion

Staff Present: City Manager Mitch Grant, Police Chief Tom Wilson, Fire Chief Kent Smead, Public Works Director Bob Cochran, Finance Director Anne Garmon, Community Development Director Monica Wilkinson, Main Street Director Dan Kelleher, Parks & Cemetery Director Tony DeHoyas, and City Secretary Linda Byers.

Commissioner Dennis led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. and Texas flags, followed by the invocation.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mayor Bearden opened the meeting to Public Comment from those who had submitted Requests to Speak during Public Comment Forms.

There was no Public Comments.

CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner McCuistion moved the following items under the Consent Agenda are approved:

- A. Minutes of the Regular City Commission Meeting held on Tuesday, November 22, 2011, a Special Meeting held on Monday, November 21, 2011 and minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting held on Monday, November 21, 2011.
- B. Second Reading of Ordinance No. 1574 – Amending Main Street Board Eligibility rules.
- C. Second Reading of Ordinance No. 1575 – Setting Permit Fees for Storage Permits in the Fire District.
- D. Second Reading of Ordinance No. 1576 – Zoning Change from R-S1 to P-D for the property located at the Southernmost 460 feet of Block 3, Lot 4, Nabers and Stephens Addition.
- E. Second Reading of Ordinance No. 1577 – Adoption of International Existing Building Code.
- F. Second Reading of Ordinance No. 1578 – Creation of the Board of Appeals.
- G. Second Reading of Ordinance No. 1579 – Minimum Masonry Requirements within the Central Business District.
- H. Police Department purchase of seven bulletproof vests at a total cost of \$5,249.65, half of which will be paid by a Department of Justice Grant.

Digital Recording on file

- I. Financial Investment Report for the month of November, 2011 with interest earned totaling \$6,284.88 and vouchers from November 1, 2011 – November 30, 2011 in the amount of \$880,375.44

Commissioner Taylor seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous vote.

“LOCAL MERCHANTS” VIDEO PROJECT

Main Street Director Dan Kelleher explained the promotional activity for the Main Street Program and the series of sixteen 30-second commercials that will run on a continuous loop in three local motels. It also included promotional stills for community activities. The video loop was played for the Commission. Businesses highlighted in these commercials were:

Blessings Antiques	C&N Flowers & Gifts
Ma & Pas Steakfinger Hut	Dew’s Custom Handmade Boots
Hillcrest Country Club	Herring Bank Coffee Shop
Cracker Barrel of Texas	Little House on Main Street
Norsworthy Radio Shack	Pepperberries
Three Hearts Steakhouse	Plaza Theatre
Main Street Courtyard & Gifts	Red River Valley Museum

TIF DISTRICT FEASIBILITY REPORT

City Manager Grant noted that the City Commission requested that staff look into the possibility of creating a TIF District, and explained TIF Districts. Mr. Grant, Dan Kelleher, Sean Stockard, and Monica Wilkinson met several times and then met with representatives of the City of Wichita Falls, who were very helpful, allowing staff to better understand what was involved.

A TIF District would be a 15-20 year commitment, and would be a very involved process with the current staff. This committee is still studying the feasibility, since all other taxing entities would have to get involved. A developer might help with the process, but this is a very high-end process and we will keep it on the drawing board as a possible tool for the future.

BRINE DISCHARGE LINE REPORT

Public Works Director Cochran told the Commission that the contractor had received the Notice to Proceed. The contract will begin on January 3, 2012, and has 90 days to reach substantial completion. Final completion is scheduled on or before May 2, 2012.

AQUATIC CENTER CONSTRUCTION REPORT

Parks & Cemetery Supervisor Tony Dehoyas reported that some concrete had been poured for the pool floor last week, and was delayed slightly by the rain.

City Commissioner Grant reported that colors had been chosen for the structures (White Stairs framework/ Orange and Yellow for the slide/ Blue and White stripes for awnings on the slide), and explained about Clubhouse and Aquatic Center Rental Rules. The Pool Committee had input on these rules, and they will be presented to the Commission when finalized.

MAIN STREET BOARD APPOINTMENTS

City Manager Grant explained that two Regular Board Members are up for re-appointment – Joe Rogers and Billy Talbot, and the Alternate Board Members list will be expanded. Staff would like to get those people who are attending the Main Street Board Meetings included on the Board.

Commissioner Dennis made the motion to appoint Joe Rogers and Billy Talbot as Regular Board Members with three year terms, Matt Maurer as Alternate Board Member with a one year term, add Phil McCuiston, Mark Farr-Nash, Rusty Haynes and Judy Jezl as Alternate Board Members on one year terms, and approve Ex-Officio Board Members with one year terms of Sean Stockard, Carrie Hawkins and Monica Wilkinson.

Commissioner McCuiston seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous vote.

WEB BASED COMMUNITY MARKETING VIDEO

City Manager Grant explained they he has been in contact with CGI (a New York based video production company) who is associated with the National League of Cities and have chosen Vernon as a prospect for a free project. Quality community videos usually start at about \$30,000. With this, the catch is that we would have to endorse their product that they would solicit businesses with, and then CGI would sell them advertising spots that are linked to the video page. Local businesses would be obligated to around \$1,000 per year and up to \$5,000 up front costs. Videos from Big Springs and Alvin were viewed.

Another approach is for CGI to do the video and charge a one-time fee divided among all participating entities (City, County, Wilbarger General Hospital, Vernon College, etc.). This would cost each entity \$4,000 to \$8,000 per entity (depending on participation) and would have no ongoing fees for at least two years.

Mr. Grant recommended the non-commercial route and he would approach other entities about interest in participation in next year's budget.

There was discussion of using Tourism Funds, the City Website, YouTube, and a City Facebook presence, and the different approaches noted above.

Commissioner Brownlow made the motion to authorize City Manager Grant to pursue interest of other entities in the National League of Cities Web Site Video Agreement with CGI.

Commissioner McCuiston seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous vote.

TOURISM COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

Mayor Bearden explained that the Chamber recommends that the existing members be reappointed so that they can work out their appointment criteria so that they can have an orderly transition without losing all corporate memory at one time.

Commissioner Dennis made the motion to take this item from the table at the last meeting.

Commissioner Taylor seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous vote.

Commissioner Dennis made the motion to nominate Robert Webb and Gerald Thiele to the Tourism Committee.

Commissioner Brownlow seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous vote.

CONSTRUCTION MANAGER AT-RISK FOR POOLHOUSE

City Manager Grant explained that this is a new process for the City, and allows the use of sub-contractors for each aspect of construction. Completed plans should be ready in the next few weeks.

One set of qualifications was received from Santa Rosa Construction, who have a good reputation and have all of the bonding and insurance required for public sector construction.

Mr. Grant requested authorization to execute a contract with Santa Rosa Construction and take into consideration the maximum amount of funds in the budget for construction. Architectural Plans should be ready in the next few weeks.

Commissioner McCuiston made the motion to approve the construction manager at risk for the Bath House & Concession at the new Aquatic Center.

Commissioner Taylor seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous vote.

Mr. Grant asked for clarification as to his authorization to execute a contract with Santa Rosa Construction. The consensus was yes.

ORDINANCE NO. 1580

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 6, AMBULANCES, OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF VERNON; ADOPTING A NEW SCHEDULE OF RATES; PROVIDING A SAVINGS AND SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT; AND PROVIDING FOR RECORDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Digital Recording on file

EMS Coordinator Adam Scott explained that these fees for additional medication would allow the upgrade to MICU Status for our Ambulance Service.

Commissioner Taylor made the motion to approve Ordinance No, 1580.

Commissioner Dennis seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous vote.

PUBLIC HEARING – ZONING CHANGE

Mayor Bearden opened the Public Hearing regarding Ordinance No. 1581 regarding a Zoning Change for Braum's – a 0.4825 acre tract of land out of Section 21, Block 12, H&TC Railroad Company Survey, Wilbarger County, Texas.

There was no public comment.

Mayor Bearden Closed the Public Hearing.

ORDINANCE NO. 1581

AN ORDINANCE CHANGING THE BOUNDARIES OF ZONING DISTRICTS, DEFINING THE LOCATION OF THE NEW BOUNDARIES, AND PROVIDING FOR CONFLICT, VALIDATION, RECORDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Community Development Director Monica Wilkinson explained that the Planning & Zoning met on December 13, 2011, and had a Public Hearing on this Zoning Change from Community Facilities to Convenience Commercial. There was no opposition to the change, and staff recommends approval.

Commissioner Dennis made the motion to approve Ordinance No. 1581.

Commissioner Brownlow seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous vote.

ORDINANCE NO. 1582

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF VERNON, TEXAS, APPROVING THE SALE OF THE PROPERTY AT 2313 BOWIE, APPROVING THE SALES PRICE, AND REQUIRING THAT DELIVERY OF THE PROPERTY BE EXECUTED TO THE PERSON NAMED BELOW.

City Manager Grant explained that this is a property that was not able to sell at a Sheriff's Sale, and state law allows the entities to sell the property when an offer is received. Staff recommends approval to get the property back on the tax roll.

Digital Recording on file

Commissioner Taylor made the motion to approve Ordinance No. 1582 approving the sale of 2313 Bowie Street.

Commissioner McCuiston seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous vote.

ORDINANCE NO. 1583

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF VERNON, TEXAS, APPROVING THE SALE OF THE PROPERTY AT 2227 WANDERER, APPROVING THE SALES PRICE, AND REQUIRING THAT DELIVERY OF THE PROPERTY BE EXECUTED TO THE PERSON NAMED BELOW

City Manager Grant explained that this is a property that was not able to sell at a Sheriff's Sale, and state law allows the entities to sell the property when an offer is received. Staff recommends approval to get the property back on the tax roll.

Commissioner Dennis made the motion to approve Ordinance No. 1583 approving the sale of 2227 Wanderer Street.

Commissioner Taylor seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous vote.

ORDINANCE NO. 1584

AN ORDINANCE CREATING CHAPTER 36-12 –GRAFFITI DRIMES OF ARTICLE I, CHAPTER 36 – OFFENSES AND MISCELLANEOUS LAW ENFORCEMENT PROVISIONS OF THE CITY OF VERNON CODE OF ORDINANCES; ALLOWING FOR ENFORCEMENT OF GRAFFITI CRIMES WITHIN THE CITY LIMITS OF VERNON, TEXAS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR PENALTY; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF CONFLICTING PROVISIONS; PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Police Chief Wilson explained the problem the department is having with gang tagging. This will help when minors are found in possession of graffiti materials (spray paint) in traffic stops. The ordinance includes a penalty for providing graffiti materials, and will hopefully stop it before it happens.

Following discussion of the provisions of the ordinance, Commissioner McCuiston made the motion to approve Ordinance No. 1584.

Commissioner Taylor seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous vote.

2012 CHAPMAN TREE GRANT

Community Development Director Wilkinson explained that this grant would provide trees to be planted near the Central Fire Station, and that we would contract to plant the trees, which would probably not be planted until next fall in the 2012-2013 Budget.

Commissioner McCuiston made the motion to approve application for the 2012 Chapman Tree Grant.

Commissioner Brownlow seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous vote.

PURCHASE OF DEFIBRILLATORS FOR AMBULANCES

EMS Coordinator Adam Scott explained that this purchase would continue the upgrade to MICU Status for our Ambulance Service. We need four monitors – one for each ambulance – and the Hospital is not helping with funding. Two defibrillators were purchased with a RAC Grant, but we still need two more. These are refurbished monitors for a total cost of \$23,160.

Commissioner McCuiston made the motion to approve purchase of two defibrillators.

Commissioner Dennis seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous vote.

PURCHASE DUMP TRUCK

Public Works Director Cochran explained that this truck was in the current budget. The low bid is for a 2007 International Truck with a 15 yard dump bed at a cost of \$59,865 which will be lease purchase financed with total budget impact being \$12,000.

Commissioner McCuiston made the motion to approve purchase of the dump truck for the street department.

Commissioner Taylor seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous vote.

JANITORIAL CONTRACT

City Manager Grant explained that there were two proposals received and the low bidder was Pruitt Building Services of Fort Worth, Texas in the amount of \$20,340 per year for a two year contract.

Following discussion of the references of this company and the current provider, Commissioner Dennis made the motion to award the Janitorial Contract to Pruitt Building Services.

Commissioner Taylor seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous vote.

ADJOURN

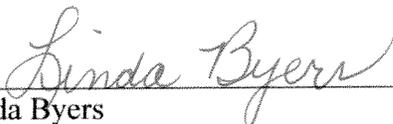
Commissioner McCuiston made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:09 p.m.

Commissioner Taylor seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous vote.



Jeff Bearden
Mayor

ATTEST:



Linda Byers
City Secretary