

**VERNON CITY COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 24, 2015**

Mayor Joe Rogers called the Regular Meeting of the Vernon City Commission to order at 6:30 p.m. in City Hall, and a quorum was declared present.

Present: Mayor Joe Rogers

Commissioners: Danny McMahan, Ruben Hinojosa, Travis Taylor, and Pat Bryant.

Staff Present: City Manager Mitch Grant, City Prosecutor Jonathan Whitsitt, Police Chief Tom Wilson, Public Works Director Darell Kennon, Community Development Director Monica Wilkinson, and City Secretary Linda Byers.

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Taylor made the motion to approve the consent agenda.

- A. Minutes: Attached are copies of the Regular City Commission Meeting held on Tuesday, January 27, 2015 and Minutes of the Finance Meeting held on Monday, January 26, 2015.
- B. Second Reading of Ordinance #1656 for Sale of Property at 2120 Maiden – to Shelby Vaughn for \$200 and the Sale of 2431 Violet – to Shelby Vaughn for \$300.
- C. Payment of TCEQ required electrical work on Lift Stations to allow operation during a power outage to Fancher Electric in the amount of \$13,304.97.
- D. Payment to King, Moore, Truelove & Pharis for FY 2014 Audit Consultation in the amount of \$23,000.
- E. Payment to Edgin, Parkman, Fleming & Fleming for FY 2014 Audit Consultation in the amount of \$19,750.
- F. Cost of Calibrating meters on water wells as required by TCEQ at a cost of \$11,142.26.
- G. Application for a State Homeland Security Program (SHSP) Grant for Fire Department Hazardous Material Protective Suits in the Amount of \$27,451.
- H. Financial Investment Report, Vouchers, and Payroll & Benefit Expense. January 1, 2015 – January 31, 2015.

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

REPORT ON HEALTH INSURANCE RATE INCREASE

City Manager Grant outlined the basic operation of the Employee Benefit Trust, and reported to the Commission the rate increase from Blue Cross Blue Shield and the benefit reductions that the Employee Benefit Trust Committee felt needed to be made to make our health insurance plan affordable:

- Increase the deductible from \$500 to \$1500 per year
- Increase office doctor co-pay from \$25 to \$40 per visit
- Increase the prescription co-pay from \$10/\$30/\$45 to \$10/\$30/\$60/\$150
- Cancel Vision Coverage
- Make Dental Insurance employee paid not paid by the City
- Employees will pay \$43 on the projected increase
- Dependent care will increase \$13 per dependent.

With these reductions the basic cost will increase from \$555 per month/per employee to \$717 per month/per employee.

ORDINANCE NO. 1657

AN ORDINANCE GRANTING TO AEP TEXAS NORTH COMPANY, CONSENT TO MAKE A PARTIAL ASSIGNMENT OF ITS FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, MAINTAIN AND OPERATE LINES AND APPURTENANCES AND APPLIANCES FOR CONDUCTING ELECTRICITY IN, OVER, UNDER AND THROUGH THE STREETS, AVENUES, ALLEYS AND PUBLIC RIGHTS-OF-WAY OF THE CITY OF VERNON, TEXAS TO ELECTRIC TRANSMISSION TEXAS, LLC.

City Manager Grant explained that we have a Franchise Agreement with American Electric Power, but the Transmission lines are owned by Electric Transmission Texas, and this ordinance will assign those lines in accordance with our franchise agreement. Exhibit A will have a more specific description for the second reading.

Commissioner Hinojosa made the motion to approve Ordinance #1657 Assigning American Electric Power (AEP) Franchise Agreement to Electric Transmission Texas (ETT).

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

PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING FOR EASTVIEW CEMETERY

City Manager Grant explained that under City direction, AMD Engineering had prepared a plan for improvements to Section 23 of Eastview Cemetery including a north/south curb & gutter street along the east side of the new Section 23. The Commission might consider authorizing the engineer to develop plans for a possible project cost of \$40,000.

Digital Recording on file

There followed discussion on whether we can legally use principal from the Perpetual Care Fund, and directed the City Attorney to research the use of funds. There was also discussion of planting trees along the west side on the new section.

Commissioner McMahan made the motion to approve the preliminary plan with the exception of the engineering for the hardscape.

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

RESIGNATION FROM THE BDC BOARD

Commissioner Hinojosa made the motion to accept the resignation of Jim Trafton from the Business Development Board.

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

BDC BOARD APPOINTMENTS

There were three nominations for one position on the Business Development Commission Board:

Doug Jeffrey IV Phillip Rhea White Loyd Wayne Bridges

Following a vote as outlined the by Board selection process, Doug Jeffrey IV received three votes, Phillip Rhea White received two votes, and Loyd Wayne Bridges did not receive any votes.

Commissioner Hinojosa made the motion to approve Doug Jeffrey IV appointed to the BDC Board for an unexpired term.

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

PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION BOARD APPOINTMENTS

City Manager Grant explained that Jim Gunn, Tisha Garrard, Charles McArthur and Bob Beazley have agreed to another two year appointment, and there were no other nominations.

Following a vote as outlined the by Board selection process, all four nominees were voted for reappointment.

Commissioner Taylor made the motion to approve all four re-appointments to the Planning and Zoning Commission Board.

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

BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT BOARD APPOINTMENTS

City Manager Grant explained that neither of the current Board of Adjustment members are up for reappointment are seeking another term. Ashley Kieschnick and Don Aydelott were nominated to serve on the Board of Adjustment.

Following a vote as outlined the Board selection process, Ashley Kieschnick received one vote and Don Aydelott received four votes.

Commissioner Hinojosa made the motion to approve the appointment of Don Aydelott to the Board of Adjustment and Ashley Kieschnick as Alternate Member of the Board of Adjustment.

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

MUNICIPAL COURT APPOINTMENTS

City Manager Grant explained that Mamie McArthur currently serves as Municipal Court Clerk and Associate Municipal Judge. Her two year term as Municipal Court Clerk expires March 1, 2015, and we are attempting to clean up the appointment dates so that there is one date for both appointments.

Commissioner Bryant made the motion to approve a two year appointment of Mamie McArthur as Municipal Court Clerk and Associate Municipal Judge.

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

ORDINANCE NO. #1658

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ARTICLE IV, DISCHARGE OF INDUSTRIAL WASTES OF CHAPTER 54 - UTILITIES, SECTIONS 54-99; OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF VERNON; AND PROVIDING FOR A REPEALING SECTION, A SAVINGS SECTION, A RECORDING SECTION AND FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

City Manager Grant explained that there was an error in our original ordinance (Ordinance #1638) that was discovered by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality and they are requiring us to make corrections in the formula calculating surcharges.

Commissioner McMahan made the motion to approve Ordinance #1658 amending and correcting the Industrial Discharge Waste Surcharge.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Commissioner Hinojosa made the motion to enter Executive Session at 7:33 p.m. under Government Code Section 551.072 – Deliberation concerning Real Property.

Commissioner McMahan seconded that motion, which passed by unanimous vote.

RESUME REGULAR SESSION

Commissioner Hinojosa made the motion to resume regular session at 8:18 p.m.

Commissioner Bryant seconded that motion, which passed by unanimous vote.

ACTION FOLLOWING EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was no action following executive session.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Commissioner Bryant made the motion to enter Executive Session at 8:20 p.m. under Government Code Section 551.074 – Deliberation concerning Personnel – City Manager Applications.

Commissioner McMahan seconded that motion, which passed by unanimous vote.

RESUME REGULAR SESSION

Commissioner Taylor made the motion to resume regular session at 9:30 p.m.

Commissioner McMahan seconded that motion, which passed by unanimous vote.

ACTION FOLLOWING EXECUTIVE SESSION

Commissioner Taylor made the motion to authorize Linda Byers to contact applicants for City Manager interviews.

Commissioner Bryant seconded that motion, which passed by unanimous vote.

ADJOURN

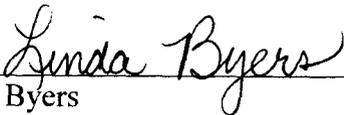
Commissioner Taylor made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:31 p.m.

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



Joe Rogers
Mayor

ATTEST:



Linda Byers
City Secretary