

**VERNON CITY COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
SEPTEMBER 22, 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 Britt Ferguson.

Staff Present: City Manager Joseph Jarosek, Police Chief Tom Wilson, Public Works Director Darell Kennon, Community Development Director Monica Wilkinson, Interim Fire Chief J.J. Oznick, and City Secretary Linda Byers.

Commissioner McMahan led the group in the Invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. and Texas flags.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Pam Gosline, Chairman of the Pride Committee introduced Brayden Hernandez and his idea to adopt a street. Sport teams, church groups or families could adopt a street or block to clean up that block. Brayden cleaned up his block this summer. The Commission commended him for his actions.

Sarah Hernandez explained the importance of the Boys and Girls Club of Vernon and its impact on kids. They serve 285-325 kids daily, and 40% of members are from single parent households, 75% of the children qualify for reduced lunches, 60% are minority. The Club includes about 700 children in sports programs, and has 1500 members. They served 10,000 meals this summer, and provide many programs. Ms. Hernandez thanked the City for their support and support of the United Fund.

CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Hinojosa made the motion to approve the consent agenda.

- A. Minutes of the Regular City Commission Meeting held on Tuesday, August 25, 2015; and Minutes of the Finance Meeting held on Monday, August 24, 2015.
- B. Request Changes to the School Zone at Shive Elementary School.
- C. Purchase of a Thermal Imaging Camera in the amount of \$10,775, to be paid from Fire Response Billing Fees.
- D. Disposal of Old Recliner and Mattresses at the Fire Station.
- E. Financial Investment Report, Vouchers, and Payroll & Benefit Expense. August 1, 2015 – August 31, 2015.

Commissioner Taylor seconded the motion which passed by unanimous vote.

PUBLIC HEARING ON FY 2015-2016 BUDGET

Mayor Rogers opened the Public Hearing.

There being no comments, Mayor Rogers closed the Public Hearing.

ORDINANCE NO. 1670

AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR OCTOBER 1, 2015, AND THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2016, FOR THE CITY OF VERNON; APPROPRIATING MONEY FOR THE VARIOUS FUNDS AND PURPOSES OF SUCH BUDGETS; ESTABLISHING AND ADOPTING AN OFFICIAL CLASSIFICATION PLAN FOR ALL POSITIONS AND ABOLISHING ALL POSITIONS NOT LISTED IN SAID BUDGETS; PROVIDING A SAVINGS AND SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES AND APPROPRIATIONS IN CONFLICT; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Mayor Rogers reminded the public of the drastic changes that were made in this budget that were necessary for the long term health of the community.

Commissioner Ferguson made the motion to approve Ordinance #1670 – Adopting City Budget for Fiscal Year 2015-2016.

Commissioner Hinojosa seconded the motion which passed by unanimous vote.

ORDINANCE NO. 1671

AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE 2015 TAX ROLL; LEVYING AD VALOREM TAXES ON ALL TAXABLE PROPERTY IN THE CITY OF VERNON, TEXAS, FOR THE YEAR 2015; PROVIDING FOR THE MAILING OF TAX STATEMENTS; FIXING THE DUE DATE AND TIME OF PAYMENT THEREOF, AND PROVIDING FOR THE COLLECTION OF TAXES, A SAVINGS CLAUSE, A REPEALING CLAUSE, RECORDING, DECLARING AN EMERGENCY, AND EFFECTIVE DATE.

Commissioner Hinojosa made the motion to approve Ordinance #1671 - that the property tax rate be increased by the adoption of a tax rate of \$0.56020, which is effectively a 58.08 percent increase in the tax rate.

Commissioner Hinojosa seconded the motion. A roll call vote was required for passage. Commissioner McMahan, Commissioner Hinojosa, Commissioner Taylor, Commissioner Ferguson and Mayor Rogers all voted aye. There were no nay votes. The ordinance passed.

ORDINANCE NO. 1672

AMENDING THE BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR OCTOBER 1, 2014, AND THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2015, FOR THE CITY OF VERNON; APPROPRIATING MONEY FOR THE VARIOUS FUNDS AND PURPOSES OF SUCH BUDGETS; PROVIDING A SAVINGS AND SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES AND APPROPRIATIONS IN CONFLICT; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

City Manager Jarosek noted that final transfers were made from Enterprise Fund to General Fund to balance both funds. The water rate increase passed in April enabled timely bond payments. Net Revenue over expenditures in this amended budget is \$679,545.

Commissioner Taylor made the motion to approve Ordinance No. 1672 amending Fiscal 2014-2015 Budget.

Commissioner McMahan seconded the motion which passed by unanimous vote.

RESOLUTION 990

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF VERNON, TEXAS, AUTHORIZING THE TEXAS COALITION FOR AFFORDABLE POWER, INC. (TCAP) TO NEGOTIATE AN ELECTRIC SUPPLY AGREEMENT FOR THREE YEARS FOR DELIVERIES OF ELECTRICITY EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2018; AUTHORIZING TCAP TO ACT AS AN AGENT ON BEHALF OF THE CITY TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT FOR ELECTRICITY; AUTHORIZING VERNON TO EXECUTE AN ELECTRIC SUPPLY AGREEMENT FOR DELIVERIES OF ELECTRICITY EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2018 AND COMMITTING TO BUDGET FOR ENERGY PURCHASES IN 2018 THROUGH 2020 AND TO HONOR THE CITY'S COMMITMENTS TO PURCHASE POWER FOR ITS ELECTRICAL NEEDS IN 2018 THROUGH 2020 THROUGH TCAP

Digital Recording on file

City Manager Jarosek explained that our current rate for electricity is \$0.06372 and the total rate including transmission charges is \$0.1193.

The Texas Coalition for Affordable Power, Inc. (TCAP) proposes a rate of \$0.043 for three years. This Resolution authorizes TCAP to negotiate rates for a three year supply.

The Commission discussed approving this resolution but also shopping for rates on our own.

Commissioner Hinojosa made the motion to approve Resolution No. 990 authorizing the Texas Coalition for Affordable Power, Inc. (TCAP) to negotiate an electric supply agreement for three years.

Commissioner McMahan seconded the motion which passed by unanimous vote.

INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT WITH CITY OF FORT WORTH

City Manager Jarosek explained that the City of Fort Worth negotiated a contract for automotive parts and have opened their contract to allow other cities to participate. The contract is with a company who has a local vendor (Uni-Select operating locally as Parts Plus). Our purchasing policy will not change in reference to obtaining three bids for purchases of more than \$500.

Commissioner McMahan made the motion to approve Interlocal Agreement with the City of Fort Worth for purchase of automotive parts.

Commissioner Hinojosa seconded the motion which passed by unanimous vote.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

This item was moved for discussion after Board Appointments were approved.

CLOSURE OF STREET FOR FARMERS FALL FESTIVAL

Community Development Director Wilkinson explained the need to close Pease Street north of the Courthouse for the safety of citizens involved in the Farmers Fall Festival.

Commissioner Taylor made the motion to approve closure of Pease Street between Main Street and Cumberland on October 24, 2015 for Farmers Fall Festival.

Commissioner Hinojosa seconded the motion which passed by unanimous vote.

HOUSING AUTHORITY BOARD APPOINTMENTS

City Manager Jarosek explained that Rita Martin would be reappointed for another two year term and Carla Jackson would be newly appointed for a two year term.

Commissioner Taylor made the motion to approve Housing Authority Board Appointments of Rita Martin and Carla Jackson.

Digital Recording on file

Commissioner Hinojosa seconded the motion which passed by unanimous vote.

TOURISM BOARD APPOINTMENTS

City Manager Jarosek explained that current board members Randall Guy Boyd and Jim Gryseels were reappointed for a two year term by Mayor Rogers. It was noted that the ordinance provided the original appointments for staggered terms but each reappointment would be for a two year term.

Commissioner Hinojosa made the motion to approve Tourism Board Appointments of Randall Guy Boyd and Jim Gryseels.

Commissioner McMahan seconded the motion which passed by unanimous vote.

RESIGNATION OF BDC BOARD MEMBER

Commissioner Hinojosa made the motions to accept resignation of BDC Board Member Jonathan Voekel.

Commissioner McMahan seconded the motion which passed by unanimous vote.

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT BOARD APPOINTMENT

City Manager Jarosek noted that Mayor Rogers had nominated Lisa Marie Herber.

Commissioner Taylor made the motion to approve Business Development Corporation Board appointment of Lisa Marie Herber to fill the unexpired term of Jonathan Voekel.

Commissioner McMahan seconded the motion which passed by unanimous vote.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

City Manager Jarosek explained that this capital improvement plan was first seen at the beginning of budget hearings. The improvements for the wastewater plant, street improvements and software updates were moved to future years. This is an awareness plan for future planning, and can be modified for future years.

Commissioner McMahan made the motion to approve adoption of Capital Improvement Plan.

Commissioner Hinojosa seconded the motion which passed by unanimous vote.

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION BUDGET

Jim Gunn, President of the Business Development Corporation explained to the Commission that the Board has given due diligence to each line item in the budget. BDC Treasurer Douglas Jeffrey IV noted that the rental income was reduced for both the Revised FY2014-2015 Budget and the Proposed FY 2015-2016 Budget. The Board is actively searching for projects to come to Vernon. Local Project Funds in the budget are funds approved by the Board for doctor benefits to the North Texas State Hospital and doctor benefits to Wilbarger General Hospital that have been committed but have not been fulfilled or paid. Debt service is for State of Texas obligations for Capital Loans.

Commissioner Taylor made the motion to approve the BDC Budget.

Commissioner Ferguson seconded the motion which passed by unanimous vote.

APPRAISAL DISTRICT BOARD APPOINTMENT

City Manager Jarosek explained that Commissioner Hinojosa is the current Appraisal District Board member. Commissioner Hinojosa expressed interest in continuing to serve on the Board.

Commissioner McMahan made the motion to approve reappointment of Ruben Hinojosa for the Wilbarger Appraisal District Board.

Commissioner Ferguson seconded the motion which passed by unanimous vote.

APPOINT MUNICIPAL JUDGE

City Manager Jarosek explained that the Commission can formally reappoint Lori O. Adams as Municipal Judge or take no action and she will automatically be reappointed.

Commissioner McMahan made the motion to approve reappointment of Lori O. Adams as Municipal Judge for a two year term.

Commissioner Taylor seconded the motion which passed by unanimous vote.

PURCHASE OF RESIN FOR THE ION EXCHANGE PLANT

Public Works Director Kennon explained that funds for purchase of the resin beads for the Ion Exchange Plant to help produce more water are in the FY2015-2016 Budget as adopted, but purchasing policy require City Commission approval.

Commissioner Ferguson made the motion to approve purchase of resin for the Ion Exchange Plant at a cost of \$68,006.40 from the FY2015-2016 Budget.

Commissioner Taylor seconded the motion which passed by unanimous vote.

EMERGENCY PURCHASE OF PUMP CONTROLS FOR WWTP

Public Works Director Kennon explained that the Wastewater Treatment Plant pump controls that automatically control the on and off function of the influent pumps have stopped working. These controls are proprietary single source purchases due to the age of our system. Staff is looking to a possible insurance claim. It appears the controls were struck by lightning.

Commissioner Taylor made the motion to approve emergency purchase of pump controls for Wastewater Treatment Plant at a cost of \$24,776.84 from the FY2015-2016 Budget.

Commissioner Hinojosa seconded the motion which passed by unanimous vote.

TRAFFIC CONTROL PLAN FOR CENTRAL SCHOOL

Public Works Director Kennon explained that the proposal is to designate the north Lane of Paradise Street in front of Central School as a “No Loading Zone” to keep traffic flowing in that lane. The South lane of Paradise Street in front of Central School would be a loading zone to allow for the safe pickup of students. Signage would indicate the change in lane activity. Vernon ISD is in agreement of this plan and has sent out letters warning parents.

Following discussion, Commissioner Taylor made the motion to approve the traffic control plan for Central School.

Commissioner McMahan seconded the motion which passed by unanimous vote.

FIRE PROTECTION AGREEMENTS

Mayor Rogers made the suggestion to form a committee to discuss fire protection with members from both the City and County.

City Manager Jarosek noted that accurate numbers can be obtained from the fire department to show the cost of Fire Protection in the County and information will be maintained for long term data. He noted that we need to begin a dialogue and made proposals.

There was discussion about the makeup of the proposed committee and obtaining accurate data from both entities.

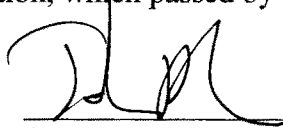
Commissioner Taylor suggested that the committee be composed of one city representative, one county representative, someone from fire department, one from each governing body and taxpayers should also be represented.

City Manager Jarosek noted that staff will formalize and present the proposal to the County.

ADJOURN

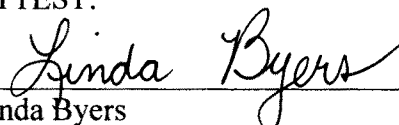
Commissioner Hinojosa made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:49 p.m.

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



Joe Rogers
Mayor

ATTEST:



Linda Byers
City Secretary