

**VERNON CITY COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
JULY 26, 2016**

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: Guy Spears, Ruben Hinojosa, Travis Taylor and Britt Ferguson.

Staff Present: City Manager Joseph Jarosek, City Prosecutor Jonathan Whitsitt, Police Chief Tom Wilson, Public Works Director Darell Kennon, Community Development Director Monica Wilkinson, Tourism and Main Street Director Brandy McIntyre, Municipal Judge Lori Adams and City Secretary Linda Byers.

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

Molly Baldwin commented that the City should consider a declaration of support for the Police Department, and noted that the continued investment of individual labor is the backbone of Vernon.

Bubba Edwards commended the Commission for the job they do and voiced his support of the Police Department taking cars home, stating that the extra cost is worth the safety concerns. He also supports the cleanup of lots all over town.

Pam Gosline addressed the Commission on behalf of the Vernon Pride Committee and asks that the Commission put money into the budget for beautification. She also stated that the City needs to enforce city ordinances to clean up the city, and clean up the cemetery of weeds and stickers. If we don't clean up Vernon, no one will be interested in living here. Citizens can do a better job.

CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Hinojosa made the motion to approve the consent agenda.

- A. Approve Minutes: Attached are Minutes of the Regular City Commission Meeting held on Tuesday, June 21, 2016; Minutes of the Special City Commission Meeting held on Tuesday, July 12, 2016; and Minutes of the Finance Meeting held on Monday, June 20, 2016.
- B. Approve Financial Investment Report, Vouchers, and Payroll & Benefit Expense. June 1, 2016 – June 30, 2016.

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

WICHITA FALLS AREA COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Teresa Caves, President and CEO of the Wichita Falls Area Community Foundation gave a brief history of the foundation and outlined grants that had been received by Vernon and Wilbarger County nonprofits as well as the Vernon Volunteer Fire Department and scholarships to Vernon graduates. Ms. Caves also described the Burkburnett Legacy Foundation. The mission of the foundation is to promote philanthropy and she encouraged Vernon's participation in "Texoma Gives" which is a day of online giving to area non-profits on September 15, 2016 through www.texomagives.org.

REQUEST BY VERNON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE TO CLOSE PEASE STREET

Stephanie Obenhaus, representing the Chamber of Commerce requested the closure of one block of Pease Street to have a power wheels drag contest and watermelon seed spitting contest Saturday morning during Summers Last Blast. All property owners on that block have agreed to the closing between 10:00 am and noon.

Commissioner Spears made the motion to approve request by Vernon Chamber of Commerce to close Pease Street between Cumberland Street and Mesquite Street on Saturday, August 13.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 997

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CONTINUED PARTICIPATION WITH THE ATMOS CITIES STEERING COMMITTEE; AND AUTHORIZING THE PAYMENT OF TWO AND ONE-HALF CENTS PER CAPITA TO THE ATMOS CITIES STEERING COMMITTEE TO FUND REGULATORY AND RELATED ACTIVITIES RELATED TO ATMOS ENERGY CORPORATION

City Manager Jarosek explained that the Atmos Cities Steering Committee intervenes with the Public Utility Commission on behalf of cities in rate cases.

Commissioner Hinojosa made the motion to approve Resolution No. 997 continuing participation in the Atmos Cities Steering Committee.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 1692

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF VERNON, TEXAS, APPROVING THE SALE OF TAX PROPERTIES LOCATED AT 1917 BEAVER STREET, 1210 BOWIE STREET, 2018 BOWIE STREET, 2925 BOWIE STREET, 2330 EASTLAND STREET, 1021 HOUSTON STREET, 1130 HOUSTON STREET, 1429 HOUSTON STREET, 2600 ST. JAMES STREET, 1904 LEXINGTON STREET, 3011 LUNA STREET, 2610 MAIDEN STREET, 1021 MANSARD STREET, 2727 MESQUITE STREET, 809 PARADISE STREET, 2401 PEARL STREET, 1713 TURNER STREET, 1717 TURNER STREET, 1507 VIOLET STREET AND 3219 WICHITA STREET; APPROVING THE SALES PRICE, AND REQUIRING THAT DELIVERY OF THE PROPERTY BE EXECUTED TO THE PERSON NAMED BELOW.

Community Development Director Wilkinson explained that the City had forty tax properties for sale, and staff recommends approval of twenty of the bids received for those properties. There was a tie bid on one property and the attorney recommends breaking the tie with a coin flip. Director Wilkinson also explained the process of the tax sales, noting that the Interlocal Agreement for approval of these tax sales has been approved by the other taxing entities.

Jose Hernandez and Chaetrain Qualls both bid \$1,000 for the property at 1210 Bowie Street. For the coin flip, Commissioner Hinojosa called "heads" on behalf of Mr. Hernandez. The coin flip by Mayor Rogers landed "tails", and the bid was awarded to Chaetrain Qualls.

Commissioner Taylor made the motion to approve Ordinance No. 1692 - approving sale of 1917 Beaver St., 1210 Bowie St., 2018 Bowie St., 2925 Bowie St., 2330 Eastland St., 1021 Houston St., 1130 Houston St., 1429 Houston St., 2600 St. James St., 1904 Lexington St., 3011 Luna St., 2610 Maiden St., 1021 Mansard St., 2727 Mesquite St., 809 Paradise St., 2401 Pearl St., 1713 Turner St., 1717 Turner St. 1507 Violet St., and 3219 Wichita St.

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

NOMINATION TO NORTEX REGIONAL REVIEW COMMITTEE

City Manager Jarosek explained that at a Special Meeting on June 7, the Commission had accepted the resignation of Phil McCuiston from the Nortex Regional Review Committee and nominated Pat Bryant for the Governor's appointment to that position. The Regional Review Committee Chairman vetted the application and returned it, recommending that the city appoint an elected official.

Commissioner Hinojosa nominated Commissioner Ferguson for Governor Appointment to the Nortex Regional Review Committee.

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

CONTRACT FOR AMBULANCE BILLING COLLECTIONS

City Manager Jarosek explained that the City has had a contract for EMS billing with Intermedix for the past five years. With this new contract, EMS will receive equipment upgrades with updated software that will be current with the new Medicare and Medicaid requirements. The contract is a three year contract.

Following discussion of the terms of the current contract compared to the new contract, Commissioner Taylor made the motion to approve renewal of contract for ambulance billing collections with Intermedix Corporation.

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

CHANGE ORDER TO STREET DEPARTMENT REPLACEMENT BUILDING PROJECT

Commissioner Spears explained that at the June regular meeting, the commission authorized replacement of a damaged storage shed for the street department. Mr. Spears proposed extending the roof of that building northward to create more covered space and spray-on insulation for the building under construction. Cost of the storage space will be \$17,000, and spray-on insulation will cost \$9,464.

Following discussion and the pros and cons of building now or in the FY 2017 budget, Commissioner Spears made the motion to approve change order to street department replacement building project in the amount of \$26,464.

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

WILBARGER COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT BUDGET

Sandy Burkett, Wilbarger County Chief Appraiser, noted that the City's portion of this FY2017 budget would be approximately \$47,584, up from \$44,930 in FY 2016.

Mayor Rogers discussed the raises in payroll costs since 2011, noting that the proposed budget included five employees. There was also discussion of home appraisals and the use of Pritchard and Abbott. Appraisal Board Chairman Wayne Ward explained that any unused budget is returned to the taxing entities.

Commissioner Taylor made the motion to approve Wilbarger County Appraisal District Budget.

Commissioner Hinojosa seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 4-1, with Mayor Rogers voting against the motion.

WICHITA-WILBARGER 9-1-1 DISTRICT BUDGET

City Manager Jarosek explained that the FY2017 budget is a large reduction due to lump sum payments in the current years' budget. The 9-1-1 District budget is funded by fees on the telephone bills. They maintain the 9-1-1 system in Wichita and Wilbarger County's.

Commissioner Spears made the motion to approve Wichita-Wilbarger 9-1-1 District FY2017 proposed budget.

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

RECESS

Commissioner Taylor made the motion to take a brief recess at 8:12 pm.

RESUME MEETING

The meeting resumed at 8:22 pm.

ORDINANCE NO. 1691

AMENDING 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; 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 explained that this will amend the FY2016 Budget to expected revenues and expenditures, noting that the General Fund is expected to have a net income of \$184,253, and the Enterprise Fund expected net income of \$343,541. Total expected Revenue over Expenditures for FY2016 is \$1,184,605. An additional budget amendment will be prepared before the end of the fiscal year.

Commissioner Hinojosa made the motion to approve second reading of Ordinance No. 1691 amending FY 2015-2016 budget.

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

FY 2016-2017 BUDGET WORKSHOP

City Manager Jarosek noted that the revenue forecasts remain conservative for the FY2017 budget and no significant program scope changes are included in the Scenario "A" except for the two percent salary increases authorized by the commission. Capital improvement program costs are reflected in Scenario "B".

Tax appraisals were received and the effective tax rate of \$0.37737 was discussed as well as the tax rate needed to generate the same revenue as FY2016.

Department Budgets were previewed and changes in Scenario "B" noted:

- Legislative – advertising budget moved to department 5149.
- City Manager – increased travel expense
- City Secretary – Scenario B remains on furlough.
- Legal fees increase from the current year.
- Health – no changes
- Street – Scenario B includes additional mowing on Highway 287 / Seal Coat \$284,474 / ¾ ton pickup with a service bed \$34,000 / ground pounder and box blade.
- Police – Animal Control is in PD budget / replace air conditioner / 2 patrol Ford SUV's
- Fire Department – matching funds for wearing apparel and grant
- Cemetery – additional \$16,000 for extra help mowing / new mower / dump truck
- Municipal Court – no change
- Aquatics Center – no change
- EMS – new ambulance
- Parks – Hire of Equipment \$16,000 / roof on two buildings / new mower / new HVAC at Orbison building.
- Purchasing – no change
- Finance – no change
- Community Development – Gibson Building and ole pants factory demo / North Vernon plan cleanup / new mower
- Facilities Maintenance – paint Armory Building / old City Hall roof / weatherize the Bowden building.
- Special Items – EEOC Salary moved from Fire Department / advertising moved from legislative
- Main Street – increase due to lack of funding in the current year / "B" includes ½ of salary from Hot Funds Budget.
- Utility Billing – repair sidewalks at City Hall / fund for CPA and Auditor
- Water – contract mowing around the wells in town / bulk water purchases from Bingham / utility trailer \$5,000, ram hoe for backhoe \$15,000, tamper for backhoe \$10,000, and hydrostop valve for water leaks \$105,420 / ¾ ton pickup with service bed.
- Wastewater – Lift station pumps \$15,000 / pumps and controls for main influent \$126,000 / generator \$24,706
- Sanitation – repair road to dump ground / new street sweeper.

Digital Recording on file

The Commission will consider all of these requests and discuss them further at the Special Meeting scheduled for August 2.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – DELIBERATION REGARDING SECURITY DEVICES

Commissioner Spears made the motion to enter Executive Session – Government Code, Title 5, Chapter 551- Section 551.076 – Deliberation Regarding Security Devices at 10:28 pm.

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

RESUME REGULAR SESSION

Commissioner Hinojosa made the motion to resume regular session at 10:38 pm.

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

ACTION FOLLOWING EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was no action following executive session.

ADJOURN

Commissioner Hinojosa made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:39 p.m.



Joe Rogers
Mayor

ATTEST:



Linda Byers
City Secretary