

CITY OF SULPHUR SPRINGS, TEXAS

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE
CITY COUNCIL**

FEBRUARY 7, 2017

7:00 p.m.

Mayor Emily Glass called the regular meeting of the Sulphur Springs City Council to order at 7:00 p.m. The following council members and staff were present:

Mayor Emily Glass
Mayor Pro Tem Clay Walker
Councilman Craig Johnson
Councilman Oscar Aguilar
Councilman Freddie Taylor
Councilwoman Kayla Price-Mitchell
Councilman John Sellers

Absent: None

Staff: Marc Maxwell, City Manager
Gale Roberts, City Secretary
Jim McLeroy, City Attorney
Peter Karstens, Finance Director
Russ Nuss, Director of Public Works
Jay Sanders, Police Chief
Robert Lee, Director of Utilities
Eric Hill, Fire Chief
Danny Haywood, Driver, SSFD

PLEDGE AND INVOCATION

Mayor Glass led in the pledge of allegiance to the United States Flag, the Pledge to the Texas Flag, and Councilman Taylor led the invocation.

PRESENTATIONS, ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PROCLAMATIONS

Mayor Glass read the proclamation declaring February as Black History Month in the City of Sulphur Springs, Texas. It read as follows:

WHEREAS, 2017 marks the 91st annual celebration of Black History since Carter G. Woodson, a noted scholar and historian instituted Negro History Week in 1926. He chose the second week of February to coincide with the birthdays of President Abraham Lincoln and the Black 19th century abolitionist Frederick Douglass; and

WHEREAS, the first official Black History Month was announced in 1976 by President Gerald R. Ford, who urged Americans to “seize the opportunity to honor the too-often neglected accomplishments of Black Americans in every area of endeavor throughout our history;” and

WHEREAS, Black History Month affords the special opportunity to become more knowledgeable about Black heritage, and to honor the many Black leaders who have contributed to the progress of our nation; and

WHEREAS, such knowledge can strengthen the insight of all our citizens regarding the issues of human rights, the great strides that have been made in the crusade to eliminate the barriers of equality for minority groups, and the continued struggle against racial discrimination.

NOW, THEREFORE I, EMILY GLASS, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor, and on behalf of the City Council of the City of Sulphur Springs, Texas, do hereby proclaim the month of February as

“BLACK HISTORY MONTH”

and urge all residents to join together in making this a period of rededication to the principles of justice and equality for all people.

Signed and sealed this 7th day of February 2017.

MANAGER’S REPORT

BILL BRADFORD ROAD - The concrete is in place nearly to Como Street. By the next city council meeting we should be nearing completion. We began in February 2016.

LOCUST STREET - The Capital Construction Division has constructed 95% of the water and sewer mains on Locust Street. They should finish by the end of the week. Then the process of connecting all of the homes to the water main begins. We should be ready to start the street improvements in about a month. After that will be South Moore Street.

WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT - Work has begun at the wastewater treatment plant. The contractor has excavated on very large hole to accommodate 3 new

clarifiers.

CLAIMS – We had one minor workers’ compensation claim in January, and no liability claims.

WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT - Total suspended solids (TSS) came in at 4.13 mg/L, well within the limit of 15 mg/L.

REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES – Finance Director Peter Karstens will present a year-to-date summary of revenues and expenditures.

Elsewhere around the city, employees:

- Treated 125 million gallons of water from Cooper Lake and Lake Sulphur Springs.
- Sampled and tested water from the distribution system.
- Flushed 36 dead end water mains.
- Repaired 14 ruptured water mains.
- Unstopped 20 sewer mains.
- Repaired 10 sewer mains.
- Washed 85,000 feet of sewer mains.
- Raised 5 manholes on College Street.
- Replaced runway lights at the airport.
- Removed dead trees in city parks.
- Patched 100 potholes.
- Cleared storm drains.
- Made 41 street repairs following utility repairs.
- Removed Christmas decorations.
- Checked out 2,776 items from the library, and provided 1,269 hours of computer time.
- Checked out 342 e-books.
- Conducted 10 building inspections, 7 electrical inspections, 5 plumbing inspections, 1 mechanical inspection and issued 25 building permits.
- Sold 4,698 gallons of AvGas and 4,886 gallons of JetA fuel.
- Responded to 168 animal control calls achieving an adoption rate of 47%.
- Made 4 felony arrests in the Special Crimes Unit.
- Responded to 34 accidents, made 57 arrests, wrote 625 citations and recorded 51 offences.
- Responded to 137 fire/rescue calls including 3 structure fires.
- Performed preventative maintenance on 76 fire hydrants.
- Performed 67 fire inspections/surveys.
- Replaced 5 street signs.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ON THE CONSENT AGENDA

Consider for approval the Planning and Zoning Commission meeting minutes of January 10, 2017; the Zoning Board of Adjustments meeting minutes of January 10, 2017; the Downtown Revitalization Board meeting minutes of January 10, 2017; and the Economic Development Corporation meeting minutes of November 28, 2016. There was no one to speak to the issue. Councilman Johnson made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Councilwoman Price-Mitchell seconded and the vote was unanimous.

The motion carried.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ON REPORT REGARDING TRAFFIC STOPS AND ARRESTS

Police Chief Sanders presented the staff report. In accordance with Article 2.132(b) of the Texas Code of Criminal Procedures Law Enforcement Policy agencies must submit information collected to the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement Officer Standards and Education (TCLEOSE). There was no one else to speak to the issue. Councilman Johnson moved to approve the report as presented. Councilwoman Price-Mitchell seconded and the vote was unanimous.

The motion carried.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ON RESOLUTION NO. 1122 APPROVING THE SUBMISSION OF A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE HOMELAND SECURITY DIVISION FOR ENHANCING TACTICAL COMMUNICATIONS AND DESIGNATING THE MAYOR AS THE SIGNATORY OFFICIAL

Police Chief Sanders presented the staff report. This grant requires no local match and, if approved, would be used to purchase a mobile repeater and integrated communications headsets for special response operations. This equipment will be used by the Special Response Team (SWAT) to enhance local and regional two-way radio communications with other public safety agencies in emergency situations. There was no one to speak to the issue. Councilwoman Price-Mitchell moved to approve the resolution as presented. Councilman Taylor seconded and the vote was unanimous.

The motion carried.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ON RESOLUTION NO. 1123 SUPPORTING THE CLOSURE OF A PORTION OF SOUTH TEXAS STREET BETWEEN SHANNON ROAD AND TEXAS FM 2297 AND REROUTING THE INTERSECTION OF TEXAS STREET AND TEXAS FM2297

City Manager Maxwell presented the staff report. Hopkins County Fire Chief Andy Endsley addressed the City Council saying the approval of this resolution would slow

down traffic and make the intersection safer. UPS and the one property affected have no problem with this road closure. City Attorney McLeroy stated we would need to come back with a resolution that states the exact measurements of said road closure. There was brief discussion. There was no one else to speak to the issue. Councilman Taylor moved to approve the resolution as presented. Councilman Sellers seconded and the vote was unanimous.

The motion carried.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ON AUTOMATIC AID AGREEMENT FOR FIRE PROTECTION WITH HOPKINS COUNTY

Fire Chief Hill presented the staff report. This proposed agreement would have Hopkins County Fire Department automatically respond to all fire/rescue calls within the city limits to assist with structure fires, motor vehicle accidents, grass fires, and other emergencies. There was a brief discussion. There was no one else to speak to the issue. Councilman Sellers moved to approve the agreement with Hopkins County. Councilwoman Price-Mitchell seconded and the vote was unanimous.

The motion carried.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ON RESOLUTION NO. 1124 SUPPORTING THE PROPOSED TRINITY OAKS APARTMENTS AND APPROVING APPLICATION SUBMITTED BY NIFF OAKLAKE TRINITY OAKS, LP, TO THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

Dan Algeier, Chief Operating Officer for the National Inter-Faith Foundation (NIFF), presented the staff report. NIFF Oaklake Trinity Oaks, LP, would like to make application for the rehabilitation of an existing property comprised of 24 units. All 24 units will be for low-income tenants if the grant is received. This resolution confirms the City of Sulphur Springs, Texas, supports the application to the TDHCA. There was a brief discussion. There was no one else to speak to the issue. Councilwoman Price-Mitchell moved to approve the resolution as presented. Councilman Taylor seconded and the vote was unanimous.

The motion carried.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ON MOTION TO APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF A SULPHUR SPRINGS FIRE DEPARTMENT FIRE TRUCK

Fire Chief Hill presented the staff report. The City of Sulphur Springs budgeted this year for a new fire truck for the Sulphur Springs Fire Department. Sulphur Springs Fire Department formed an apparatus committee of four individuals within our department to research Top Mount Pumper specification for trucks. A committee made up of Danny Haywood, Billy Bob Hughey, Jay Stonaker and Bruce Millard, considered six

manufactures and four showed interest in providing a pumper for the City. The four companies were Rosenbauer, Pierce, HME and Sutphen. Ferrara and E-One did not show interest. The committee started in November 2015 and finished the research in January 2016. After the lengthy process the committee delivered the specifications from the companies and what was desired for the pumper. The City of Sulphur Springs currently owns two apparatuses that are Sutphen. A 75' Sutphen Tower and a Sutphen top mount pumper. Both are excellence apparatuses with quality service from the company.

1. Rosenbauer \$445,000.00
2. Pierce \$496,557.00
3. HME \$463,143.00
4. Sutphen \$428,843.00

Sutphen Corporation is a member of Buy Board which has already pre-bid the Pumper. This keeps the City from having to go out for bids on the pumper. However, being such a big purchase we would like the City Council's approval for the pumper. Some items on the pumper include Custom 4 door 10 inch raised cab, 450 9L Cummings engine, an 85,000 BTU A/C unit, and Allison Gen 5 EVS3000. There was a brief discussion. There was no one else to speak to the issue. Councilwoman Price-Mitchell moved to approve the purchase of the new fire truck. Councilman Johnson seconded and the vote was unanimous.

The motion carried.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ON RESOLUTION NO. 1121 CALLING FOR ELECTION FOR CITY COUNCIL PLACES 6 AND 7, NAMING ELECTION JUDGES, AND SETTING DATES FOR EARLY VOTING

LA DISCUSIÓN EN LA RESOLUCIÓN EL NUMERO 1121(S) PIDIENDO LA ELECCIÓN 6 Y 7, LLAMANDO A JUECES DE ELECCIÓN, Y PONIENDO FECHAS PARA LA VOTACIÓN TEMPRANA

City Secretary Roberts presented the staff report. This resolution calls for a City Council election for Places 6 and 7 to be held Saturday, May 6, 2017. The resolution also sets the dates for making application for place on ballot, for early voting and for mail ballot deadlines as well as naming the Early Voting Election Clerk and the Election Judges. This resolution was presented in English and Spanish. There was no one else to speak to the issue. Councilman Taylor moved to approve the resolution(s) as presented. Councilman Johnson seconded and the vote was unanimous.

The motion carried.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ON BOARD APPOINTMENT TO THE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION

One of the members of the Planning and Zoning Commission has moved outside the city limits and the extraterritorial jurisdiction (ETJ). Residential requirements are living inside the city limits or its ETJ. Terms are for two years and this person's term would have expired June 2017. There was a brief discussion. There was no one to speak to the issue. Councilman Johnson moved to appoint Ben Spraggins to the Planning and Zoning Commission. Councilman Taylor seconded and the vote was unanimous.

The motion carried.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ON ADDENDUM #4 TO THE CONTRACT WITH GARVER ENGINEERING TO PROVIDE CONSTRUCTION ADMINISTRATION FOR AN ADDITIONAL NINE (9) MONTHS AND CONSTRUCTION OBSERVATION FOR THE WASTEWATER PLANT REHAB PROJECT FOR AN ADDITIONAL SEVEN (7) MONTHS AT THE END OF THE CURRENT TWENTY-FOUR (24) MONTH ADDENDUM TO THE CONTRACT

Utilities Director Robert Lee presented the staff report. Garver Engineering has completed the tasks per their contract to design the rehab of the wastewater plant, prepare the contract and bid documents and direct the bid process. Bids were opened and Gracon was selected as our contractor. A contract with Gracon has been signed and a Notice to Proceed was issued for December 15, 2016. An Addendum to Garver's contract was negotiated and signed to provide construction administration and observance for the twenty-four (24) month period originally anticipated for construction. However, Gracon requested more time to complete the project and after negotiations, agreed to deduct \$120,000 from their contract to reimburse the City for the additional cost of providing construction administration and observance for the additional construction time. Garver agreed to provide construction administration for an additional nine (9) months and to provide construction observance for an additional seven (7) months for the \$120,000 offered by Gracon. Staff determined seven (7) months of additional construction observance would be adequate since the project should be substantially complete and City personnel could perform those duties for the remaining time of construction. This is a highly technical project and requires a high level of construction administration and observance all the way to substantial completion. Gracon has agreed to deduct \$120,000 from their contract to offset the amount of this addendum, so there will be no additional cost to the City. There was a general discussion. There was no one else to speak to the issue. Mayor Pro Tem Walker moved to approve Addendum #4. Councilwoman Price-Mitchell seconded and the vote was unanimous.

The motion carried.

VISITORS AND PUBLIC FORUM

None.

ADJOURN

With all business complete the meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m.