

**CITY OF SULPHUR SPRINGS, TEXAS**

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
CITY COUNCIL**

**MAY 1, 2018**

**7:00 p.m.**

Mayor John Sellers 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 John A. Sellers  
Mayor Pro Tem Oscar Aguilar  
Councilman Craig Johnson  
Councilman Clay Walker  
Councilman Freddie Taylor  
Councilwoman Emily Glass

Absent: None

Staff: Marc Maxwell, City Manager  
Gale Roberts, City Secretary  
Jim McLeroy, City Attorney  
Lesa Smith, Finance Director  
Gordon Frazier, HR Director  
Tory Niewiadomski, Community Development Director  
Jason Ricketson, Captain, SS Police Department

**PLEDGE AND INVOCATION**

Mayor Sellers 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 Sellers read the following proclamation and presented it to Dr. McDearmont:

**WHEREAS**, National Hospital Week is May 6–12, 2018, and the official theme is “Caring is Our Calling”; and

**WHEREAS**, Individuals all across the country will be celebrating this time-honored event; and

**WHEREAS**, the hard working people that compose our hospital and clinics, deserve universal regard and appreciation for keeping our community healthy;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, JOHN A. SELLERS**, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor and on behalf of the City Council of the City of Sulphur Springs do hereby proclaim May 6<sup>th</sup> through May 12<sup>th</sup> as

***“NATIONAL HOSPITAL WEEK”***

in our city. I encourage all residents to recognize the accomplishments and contributions of the associates at CHRISTUS Mother Frances Hospital – Sulphur Springs, Texas, and CHRISTUS Trinity Clinics and express their appreciation for the people, facilities and technologies that make trustworthy, reliable health care possible for our community.

It is so proclaimed this the 1<sup>st</sup> day of May 2018.

*And Mayor Sellers read the following proclamation and presented it to the Hi-Way Masters Riding Club.*

**WHEREAS**, today’s society is finding more citizens involved in motorcycling on the roads of our country; and

**WHEREAS**, motorcyclists are roughly unprotected and therefore more prone to injury or death in a crash than other vehicle drivers; and

**WHEREAS**, campaigns have helped inform riders and motorists alike on motorcycle safety issues to reduce motorcycle related risks, injuries, and, most of all, fatalities, through a comprehensive approach to motorcycle safety; and

**WHEREAS**, it is the responsibility of all who put themselves behind the wheel to become aware of motorcyclists, regarding them with the same respect as any other vehicle traveling the highways of this country; and it is the responsibility of riders and motorists alike to obey all traffic laws and safety rules; and

**WHEREAS**, urging all citizens of our community to become aware of the inherent danger involved in operating a motorcycle, and for riders and motorists alike to give each other the mutual respect they deserve.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, John A. Sellers**, Mayor of the City of Sulphur Springs, Texas, do hereby proclaim the month of May as

**“MOTORCYCLE SAFETY and AWARENESS MONTH”**

in this city. Further, I urge all residents to do their part to increase safety and awareness in our community.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have set my hand and caused the Seal of the City to be affixed this 1<sup>st</sup> day of May in the year 2018.

**MANAGER’S REPORT**

**SUNSET STREET** – We have begun designing the Sunset Street improvements. The project will include new water mains, new sewer mains and a new concrete street from Connally to Houston. The \$275,000 CDBG grant is matched with \$132,000 of city funding. We will submit construction drawings in June and begin work in the fall.

**CANTEX FORCE MAIN** – In April, staff began preparing the sealed bid packet for pipe and fittings for this project. This will be the final capital improvement project in the 2013-2017 C.I.P. It will replace 2,400 linear feet of aging sewer force main and 2,900 feet of gravity main. Currently the main passes through the middle of the hospital complex. This would be a nightmare if the main ever ruptures. The proposed route would go around the hospital complex rather than through it. One-third of the city’s sewage passes through this line.

**CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN** – I will propose the 2018-2022 Capital Improvement Plan at the June city council meeting.

**WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT** – The work at the wastewater treatment plant is on schedule. The three primary clarifier basins have been constructed, and the effluent troughs are now finished as well. Other concrete structures adjacent to the clarifiers are finished. Now all of the pumps and associated pipe works and wiring need to be constructed. I expect to bring the clarifiers online in July, weather permitting.

**CROSSTOWN TRAIL** – We have begun receiving reimbursements on this project from TxDOT. This grant-funded project will connect Buford Park to Coleman Park as well as the high school/civic center complex with a concrete path. It will also replace the sidewalk on the north side of Connally Street.

**CLAIMS** – We did not have any workers compensation claims or liability claims in April. We did, however, submit a claim to TML for damage to two police cars. Two vehicles collided causing \$5,966 in total damages.

**REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES** – Finance Director Lesa Smith will not give a year-to-date report of revenues and expenditures since April concluded only yesterday.

**H.O.M.E PROGRAM** – We have three H.O.M.E projects ongoing. The H.O.M.E program replaces old dilapidated homes owned by low income persons with new homes.

Elsewhere around the city, employees:

- Sold 2,365 gallons of AvGas and 6,888 gallons of JetA fuel.
- Conducted 13 building inspections, 30 electrical inspections, 19 plumbing inspections, 7 mechanical inspections and issued 42 building permits.
- Repaired library lighting.
- Repaired Highway 11 lift station.
- Prepared the Celebration Fountain for the coming season.
- Supervised the replacement of three library air conditioning units.
- Rebuilt the Coleman Lake waterfall pump.
- Repaired 6 water main ruptures.
- Replaced 2 water meters.
- Treated wastewater effluent to a daily average total suspended solids reading of 1.48 mg/L.
- Unstopped 18 sewer mains.
- Repaired 11 sewer mains.
- Washed 75,000 feet of sewer mains.
- Flushed 35 dead-end water mains.
- Made 9 street repairs following utility repairs.
- Patched 71 potholes.
- Replaced 2 stop signs.
- Cleaned storm drains 2 times.
- Installed cemetery signs on Houston Street.
- Conducted spring clean-up, removing 80 40-yard containers of trash and much more green waste that will be burned this summer.
- Hosted the United States Police K-9 Association Region 20 trials. Our very own Buddy Williams and his dog Kilo won first place in narcotics.
- Made 61 arrests, wrote 528 citations, recorded 55 offences, and responded to 36 accidents.
- Made 6 felony arrests in the special crimes.
- Responded to 147 fire rescue calls including 2 structure fires.

- Conducted 57 fire inspections and prepared 57 pre-fire plans.
- Performed preventative maintenance on 77 fire hydrants.
- Treated 125 million gallons of potable water.
- Checked out 2,655 items from the library and another 554 eBooks.
- Processed 528 tickets through municipal court.
- Responded to 197 animal control calls and achieved an adoption rate of 23%.
- Fertilized and aerated athletic fields.
- Mowed Coleman Dam and around Coleman Lake.

**DISCUSSION/ACTION ON THE CONSENT AGENDA**

Consider for approval the regular City Council meeting minutes of April 3, 2018; the Special City Council meeting minutes of April 23, 2018; the Planning and Zoning Commission meeting minutes of April 16, 2018; the Zoning Board of Adjustments and Appeals meeting minutes of April 17, 2018; and the Economic Development Corporation meeting minutes of March 26, 2018. There was no one to speak to the issue. Councilman Walker made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Councilman Taylor seconded and the vote was unanimous.

**The motion carried.**

**DISCUSSION/ACTION ON PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE SECOND AND FINAL READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 2723 FOR A REZONING REQUEST BY MARK HILL TO REZONE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 876 CAMP STREET, BEING FURTHER DESCRIBED AS LOT 1-A OF BLOCK 24-5 OF THE WILLIAMS ADDITION, FROM LIGHT COMMERCIAL (LC) TO SINGLE FAMILY ATTACHED (SFA).**

Community Development Director Niewiadowski presented the staff report. This property is located at the southwest corner of League and Camp Street. Adjacent properties are currently zoned Multi-Family to the south and west, Heavy Commercial to the north and Single Family (SF-6) to the east. The Land Use Plan identifies the area as residential which is consistent with this request. This appears to be a transitional area with single family and some multi-family uses in close proximity. Single-Family Attached (SFA) would be an appropriate transition in this area between Multi-Family and Single Family (SF-6). There was no one else to speak to the issue. Councilman Taylor moved to adopt the ordinance on the second and final reading. Councilman Walker seconded and the vote was unanimous.

**The motion carried.**

**DISCUSSION/ACTION ON APPOINTMENT OF CITY COUNCIL PLACE 6**

City Attorney McLeroy read the requirements and laws regarding filling a vacancy on the City Council. City Secretary Roberts stated that four people had shown interest in being appointed. The interested parties were Robin Patrick, Doug Moore, Brad Burgin, and Craig English. Councilman Walker spoke in favor of Doug Moore. Councilman Taylor spoke in favor of Brad Burgin. There no others mentioned. The members of the City Council wrote their individual choice on a piece of paper and passed it to Mayor Sellers. There were 5 votes for Doug Moore and 1 vote for Brad Burgin. Councilman Walker moved to appoint Doug Moore to Place 6. Councilman Johnson seconded. City Attorney McLeroy interjected this is an appointment to fill the vacancy until the regular election next May. Councilman Walker amended his motion to appoint Doug Moore to fill the vacancy in Place 6 until the regular election conducted May 2019. Councilman Johnson seconded and the vote was unanimous.

**The motion carried.**

**DISCUSSION/ACTION ON RESOLUTION NO. 1149 FINDING THAT ONCOR DELIVERY COMPANY LLC'S APPLICATION FOR APPROVAL OF A DISTRIBUTION COST RECOVERY FACTOR PURSUANT TO 16 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §25.243 TO INCREASE DISTRIBUTION RATES WITHIN THE CITY SHOULD BE DENIED; FINDING THAT THE CITY'S REASONABLE RATE CASE EXPENSES SHALL BE REIMBURSED BY THE COMPANY; FINDING THAT THE MEETING AT WHICH THIS RESOLUTION IS PASSED IS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC AS REQUIRED BY LAW; REQUIRING NOTICE OF THIS RESOLUTION TO THE COMPANY AND LEGAL COUNSEL**

City manager Maxwell presented the staff report. Oncor representative was in the audience and available to answer any questions. On April 5, 2018, Oncor Electric Delivery Company LLC (“Oncor or Company”) filed an application for approval of a distribution cost recover factor (“DCRF”) to increase distribution rates with each of the cities in their service area. In the filing, the Company asserts that it is seeking an increase in distribution revenues of \$19,002,177. The resolution authorizes the City to join with the Steering Committee of Cities Served by Oncor (“OCSC”) to evaluate the filing, determine whether filing complies with law, and if lawful, to determine what further strategy, including settlement, to pursue. There was no one to speak to the issue. Councilman Walker moved to approve the resolution as presented. Councilman Taylor seconded and the vote was unanimous.

**The motion carried.**

**DISCUSSION/ACTION ON FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 2724 FOR A REQUEST BY THE HOPKINS COUNTY HOSPITAL DISTRICT TO REZONE LOTS 3, 4, AND 5 OF BLOCK 409-1 FROM MULTI-FAMILY (MF) TO PROFESSIONAL OFFICE (PO)**

The properties are located at the northwest corner of Medical Circle and Church Street. Adjacent properties are currently zoned Multi-Family/Heavy Commercial to the north, Professional Office to the south and west, and Multi-Family/Heavy Commercial to the east. The uses of property are primarily part of the Hospital District and related office type uses. The Land use Plan identifies the area as public/semi-public which is consistent with this request. This appears to be a more consistent request with the surrounding land uses and part of the hospital campus utilization. There was no one to speak to the issue. Councilman Taylor moved to approve the ordinance on the first reading. Councilwoman Glass seconded and the vote was unanimous.

**The motion carried.**

**VISITORS AND PUBLIC FORUM**

Jeannie Perkins addressed the City Council.

**ADJOURN**

With all business complete the meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.