

**CITY OF SULPHUR SPRINGS, TEXAS
REGULAR MEETING OF THE
CITY COUNCIL**

MAY 7, 2019

7:00 p.m.

Mayor John A. 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 Emily Glass
Councilwoman Erica Armstrong
Councilman Jimmy D. Lucas
Councilman Norman Sanders
Councilman Freddie Taylor
Councilman Doug Moore
Councilman Elect Jeff Sanderson

Absent: None

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

PLEDGE AND INVOCATION

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

PRESENTATIONS, PROCLAMATIONS, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, registered nurses in the United States constitute our nation's largest health care profession; and

WHEREAS, the depth and breadth of registered nursing profession meet the different and emerging health care needs of the American population in a wide range of settings; and

WHEREAS, the American Nurses Association, as the voice for registered nurses in this country, is working to chart a new course for a healthy nation that relies on increasing delivery of primary and preventative health care; and

WHEREAS, a renewed emphasis on primary and preventative health care will require better utilization of all of our nation’s registered nursing resources; and

WHEREAS, professional nursing has been demonstrated to be an indispensable component of the safety and quality of care of hospitalized patients; and

WHEREAS, the demand for registered nursing services will be greater than ever because of the aging of the American population, the continuing expansion of life-sustaining technologies, and the explosive growth of home health care services; and

WHEREAS, more qualified registered nurses will be needed in the future to meet the increasingly complex needs of health care consumers in this community; and

WHEREAS, the cost-effective, safe, and high-quality health care services provided by registered nurses will be an increasingly important component of the health care delivery system in the future; and

WHEREAS, along with the American Nurses Association, CHRISTUS Mother Frances Hospital – Sulphur Springs, has declared the week of May 6 – 12 as National Nurses Week, with the theme “**4 Million Reasons to Celebrate,**” a nod to nurses sheer numbers and an open invitation to #ThankaNurse for enriching our lives and the world we live in.

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, Texas, do hereby proclaim the week of May 6 – 12, 2019 as

“National Nurses Week 2019”

a week to honor the registered nurses who care for all of us and celebrate registered nurses’ accomplishments and efforts to improve our health care system and show our appreciation for the nation’s registered nurses not just during this week, but at every opportunity throughout the year.

PROCLAMATION

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 7th day of May in the year 2019.

MANAGER'S REPORT

CROSTOWN TRAIL – The Capital Construction Division constructed a retaining wall at Coleman Park. Otherwise, the project is on hold until Connally is done or nearly done.

SPRING CLEANUP – The annual spring cleanup was a successful event. In total, Sanitation Solutions hauled off 1,970 cubic yards of debris. We also accumulated a significant pile of brush and tree limbs to be burned later. We counted 643 vehicles bringing

debris to the cleanup.

COLEMAN PIER - The Pier at Coleman Park has finally been rebuilt. JH3 Construction built the pier at a cost of \$26,342. We purchased the Cypress lumber at a cost of \$9,494.60. Insurance paid \$7,500 as a result of our claim for fire damage. Our net cost was \$28,336.60.

SUNSET STREET – Cement stabilization did not occur in April as planned. I am hopeful it will happen this month, and then the concrete work will begin.

WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT – Rainy weather is beginning to take its toll on the wastewater plant reconstruction project. We had planned to have the new aeration basins operational in June. It will likely be July before they are completed. Once all of this is completed our aeration capacity will be greatly enhanced. This is the heart of our wastewater treatment process.

CONNALLY STREET – Water main installation is under way. Atmos is also replacing their gas main at this time.

CLAIMS – We had one workers compensation claim in April. A police officer twisted his knee during a traffic stop. He has not returned to work, and no estimated return to work date has been determined.

We had one small liability claim for a plumbing bill. TML denied the claim.

We submitted a claim for hail damage. TML has identified several roofs at Coleman Park that need to be replaced.

REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES – Finance Director Lesa Smith will give a year-to-date report of revenues and expenditures.

Elsewhere around the city, employees:

- Sold 3,212 gallons of AvGas and 11,095 gallons of JetA fuel.
- Cleaned storm drains and catch basins 3 times.
- Repaired 921 potholes.
- Replaced 6 stop signs and 2 street signs.
- Hauled street sweeper material to the landfill.
- Cleaned out a drainage area at the end of Lakeview Drive.
- Demolished a burned house at 114 S. League.
- Demolished entry signs at the entrance to Stonebriar subdivision due to safety concern.



- Repaired one aerator, one bar screen and one sludge pump at the wastewater treatment plant.
- Repaired the airport fountain.
- Treated wastewater effluent to a daily average total suspended solids reading of 1.34 mg/L.
- Repaired 5 water mains and replaced 15 water meters.
- Unstopped 32 sewer mains.
- Repaired 10 sewer mains.
- Washed 70,000 feet of sewer main.
- Operated Lake Sulphur Spring's flood gates 8 times due to rain.
- Treated 124 million gallons of potable water.
- Responded to 210 calls for fire/rescue including 1 structure fire and 3 vehicle fires.
- Conducted 39 fire inspections and reviewed 39 pre-fire plans.
- Responded to 184 calls for animal control and achieved a 44% adoption rate.
- Responded to 2,241 calls for police, responded to 44 accidents, made 72 arrests, recorded 70 offences and wrote 460 citations.
- Conducted 47 building inspections, 22 electrical inspections, 20 plumbing inspections, 2 mechanical inspections, and issued 45 building permits.
- Checked out 2,738 items from the library, and an additional 700 eBooks.
- Prepared all softball/baseball fields for league play.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ON THE CONSENT AGENDA

Consider for approval the regular City Council meeting minutes of April 2, 2019; the Planning and Zoning Commission meeting minutes of March 18, 2019; the Zoning Board of Adjustments and Appeals meeting minutes of March 19, 2019; the Downtown Revitalization Board meeting minutes of March 26, 2019; and the Economic Development Corporation meeting minutes of March 25, 2019. There was no one to speak to the issue. Mayor Pro Tem Glass made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Councilman Taylor seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

The motion carried.

At this time Mayor Sellers moved Item 09 to be next on the agenda

DISCUSSION/ACTION ON THE HIRING OF AN ARCHITECTURAL FIRM TO DESIGN AND PRODUCE CONSTRUCTION DRAWINGS FOR THE H. W. GRAYS BUILDING IN PACIFIC PARK ON RECOMMENDATION OF THE SELECTION COMMITTEE AFTER QUALIFICATIONS WERE REVIEWED AND RATED

City Manager Maxwell presented the staff report. Nine proposals were received and reviewed by the committee which consisted of Mayor John A. Sellers, Councilman

Freddie Taylor, Finance Director Lesa Smith, Community Development Director Tory Niewiadomski, and City Manager Marc Maxwell. The committee selected Nceptive to provide architectural design services for the H. W. Grays building. The committee also negotiated a fee of \$32,500 for design, engineering services, and some construction oversight. There was a general discussion. There was no one else to speak to the issue. Councilman Taylor made a motion to approve the selection of Nceptive. Councilwoman Armstrong seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

The motion carried.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ON PUBLIC HEARING FOR SEND AND FINAL READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 2744, ADOPTION OF THE ORDINANCE, AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE AND SALE OF CITY OF SULPHUR SPRINGS, TEXAS LIMITED TAX NOTE, SERIES 2019; TO PROVIDE FUNDS FOR THE PURPOSE OF PAYING CONTRACTUAL OBLIGATIONS INCURRED TO FUND ACQUISITION OF EQUIPMENT AND VEHICLES FOR MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENTS, RENOVATIONS OF EXISTING MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS AND FOR COSTS OF ISSUANCE OF THE NOTE; BEARING INTEREST AT THE RATES HEREINAFTER SET FORTH; PRESCRIBING THE FORM OF THE NOTE, LEVYING AD VALOREM TAXES FOR THE PAYMENT OF PRINCIPAL AND INTEREST ON THE NOTE; MAKING CERTAIN OTHER COVENANTS OF THE CITY WITH RESPECT TO THE NOTE, THE FUNDS FROM WHICH SAID NOTE IS BE PAID AND THE PROJECTS TO BE FUNDED WITH THE NOTE; AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF A PAYING AGENT/REGISTRAR AGREEMENT, A PURCHASE AGREEMENT FOR THE NOTE AND AGREEMENTS FOR MUNICIPAL ADVISORY AND BOND COUNSEL SERVICES; AWARDING SALE OF SAID NOTE; AND ENACTING OTHER PROVISIONS RELATING THERETO

Finance Director Smith presented a brief staff report and introduced Financial Advisor Mark McLiney with SAMCO Capital. Bids were received and City National Bank was selected with an interest rate of 1.888%. There was a brief discussion. There was no one else to speak to the issue. Councilman Moore moved to adopt the ordinance on the second and final reading. Councilman Lucas seconded the motion and the vote as follows:

Ayes: Armstrong, Lucas, Sanders, Taylor, Glass, Moore
Nays: none
Abstain: Sellers

The motion carried.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ON PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE SECOND AND FINAL READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 2745 AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE AND SALE OF CITY OF SULPHUR SPRINGS, TEXAS GENERAL OBLIGATION REFUNDING BONDS, SERIES 2019; TO PROVIDE FUNDS FOR THE PURPOSE OF REFUNDING OUTSTANDING OBLIGATIONS OF THE CITY ISSUED FOR VARIOUS PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS AND PAYING COSTS OF ISSUANCE OF THE BONDS; BEARING INTEREST AT THE RATES HEREINAFTER SET FORTH; PRESCRIBING THE FORM OF BOND; LEVYING AD VALOREM TAXES FOR THE PAYMENT OF PRINCIPAL AND INTEREST ON THE BONDS; MAKING CERTAIN OTHER COVENANTS OF THE CITY IN REFERENCE TO THE BONDS AND THE FUNDS FROM WHICH SAID BONDS ARE TO BE PAID; AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF A PAYING AGENT/REGISTRAR AGREEMENT, ESCROW AGREEMENT, BOND PURCHASE AGREEMENT AND AGREEMENTS FOR MUNICIPAL ADVISORY AND BOND COUNSEL SERVICES; AWARDED SALE OF SAID BONDS; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND ENACTING OTHER PROVISIONS RELATING THERETO

Finance Director Smith presented a brief staff report. Financial Advisor Mark McLIney with SAMCO Capital presented the results. There is a \$1,024,073.00 savings represented in the refunding summary. There was a brief discussion. There was no one else to speak to the issue. Councilman Moore moved to adopt the ordinance on the second and final reading. Councilman Sanders seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

The motion carried.

DISCUSSION/ACTION RESOLUTION NO. 1167 DENYING THE DISTRIBUTION COST RECOVER FACTOR (“DCRF”) TO INCREASE DISTRIBUTION RATES, AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF SULPHUR SPRINGS TO JOIN WITH THE STEERING COMMITTEE OF CITIES SERVED BY ONCOR (“OCSC”) TO EVALUATE THE FILING, DETERMINE THE FILING COMPLIES WITH LAW, AND IF LAWFUL, TO DETERMINE WHAT FURTHER STRATEGY, INCLUDING SETTLEMENT, TO PURSUE

City Manager Maxwell presented the staff report. There was no one to speak to the issue. Councilman Sanders moved to approve the resolution as presented. Councilman Moore seconded and the vote was unanimous.

The motion carried.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ON EXISTING TAX ABATEMENT WITH OCEAN SPRAY CRANBERRIES

City Manager Maxwell presented the staff report. There was a lengthy discussion. There was no one else to speak to the issue. Councilwoman Armstrong moved to table this item. Councilman Lucas seconded and the vote was unanimous.

Motion carried to table the item.

VISITORS AND PUBLIC FORUM

Marty Brown of Wisconsin addressed the City Council regarding various items.

Bridgette Cooper, Erica Cook, and Brittany Abron spoke in favor of work being done in Pacific Park.

Bryan Bell suggested more police presence and city activities in Pacific Park.

Jay Julian addressed the issue with Ocean Spray Cranberries.

Valanderous Bell stated that the City Manager is aware of the needs of Pacific Park and is working on the issues, as witnessed earlier in the meeting by hiring an architectural firm for the H. W. Grays building.

ADJOURN

With all business complete the meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.