

CITY OF SULPHUR SPRINGS, TEXAS

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE
CITY COUNCIL**

SEPTEMBER 1, 2015

7:00 p.m.

Mayor Kayla Price 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 Kayla Price
Mayor Pro Tem Emily Glass
Councilman Craig Johnson
Councilman Oscar Aguilar
Councilman Freddie Taylor
Councilman John Sellers

Absent: Councilman Clay Walker

Staff: Marc Maxwell, City Manager
Gale Roberts, City Secretary
Jim McLeroy, City Attorney
Gordon Frazier, Director Human Resources
Jay Sanders, Police Chief
Roger Feagley, Executive Director EDC

PLEDGE AND INVOCATION

Mayor Price led in the pledge of allegiance to the United States Flag and the Pledge to the Texas Flag. Mayor Pro Tem Glass led in the invocation

PRESENTATIONS, ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PROCLAMATIONS

Mayor Price apprised every one of the upcoming funeral services for past City Councilman and Mayor Stephen Bonner and asked that we keep the family in our prayers at this sorrowful time.

Mayor Price also gave a big “**THANK YOU**” to all the volunteers that serve on boards and commissions as well as all the city employees for their dedication and service.

Councilman Aguilar stated the St. James Benefit Rodeo would be held September 12th

beginning at 3PM at the Hopkins County Civic Center. There is a \$10 admission fee for the rodeo which should be a challenging and interesting event. Homemade Mexican food will be offered at \$5 per plate and other homemade items will be available as well.

Councilman Taylor stated the VF Outlet Mall would conduct a Women's Night Out fashion show September 19th and men are welcomed to attend also. There will a special 20% off sale that evening during and after the fashion show.

Mayor Price reminded us that Homecoming Week for the Wildcats will kick-off on Main Street Saturday, Saturday 5th, and will be filled with lots of fun things to do for everyone.

Finance Director Karstens stated the business office will open Tuesday at noon contingent upon delivery of asphalt.

MANAGER'S REPORT

STREETS, WATER AND SEWER - The Davis Street waterline replacement project is nearly complete. I expect it to be finished by Friday. After the water main is finished we will prepare the street for asphalt repaving in the summer paving program. This project replaces 1,500 feet of water main on North Davis Street from Park to Glover.

The annual summer paving program is about to kick off. Texana Land and Asphalt anticipates paving the following streets this month:

Live Oak	Helm to Dead-end	\$91,779
Waco	Industrial to Lee	24,600
Vonda	Mockingbird to Wright	35,042
League	Main to Bellview	78,272
Carter	College to Fuller	17,057
S. Davis	Kyle to Lee	82,529
Woodlawn	Locust to Mulberry	57,601
West/Joyce	Shannon to McCann	41,435
Jill	College to dead-end	52,721
S. Moore	Tate to Barbara	54,909
Finney	League to Sunset	<u>25,325</u>
TOTAL		\$561,270

The Rockdale Road reconstruction project is underway. The water line installation is nearly complete. After that, the street will be reconstructed with reinforced concrete. You might recall that in the past five years we have replaced two out of four segments of Rockdale Road (on the north side of the interstate).

Bill Bradford Road is on-deck. At an estimated cost of \$1.4 million, this is a major project. It will include a new water main, a new sewer main, drainage improvements and a new asphalt street.

CLAIMS – We did not have any worker’s compensation claims in August.

We had one liability claim in August relating to the death of Tony Chance Ross. We have submitted it to the TML risk pool.

We submitted a claim to TML for damage at the water treatment plant from a recent lightning strike.

CITY BUSINESS OFFICE – We’re almost done. Move-in day is set for this weekend.

WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT - Total suspended solids (TSS) came in at 1.44 mg/L, well within the limit of 12 mg/L.

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

Elsewhere around the city, employees:

- Patched 111 pot holes... take that Scott Keys.
- Replaced several signs in school zones around town.
- Painted crosswalks and school zone lines at all schools.
- Trimmed trees that were blocking the view of signs in all school zones.
- Re-programmed school crossing lights.
- Boom shredded several streets around town.
- Shredded at the airport.
- Cleaned up crash site at the airport.
- Fertilized all grass and trees downtown.
- Trimmed trees and shrubbery downtown.
- Repaired the fountain.
- Stained downtown benches.
- Removed the stains from vandalism on the Hopkins County Veterans Memorial.
- Repaired beacon light at the airport.
- Repaired crosswalk lights on Church Street.
- Performed preventative maintenance on numerous items at the wastewater treatment plant.
- Repaired entry gate at Coleman Park.

- Repaired 23 ruptured water mains.
- Replaced 13 water meters.
- Unstopped 18 sewer mains.
- Repaired 4 sewer mains.
- Flushed 36 dead-end water mains.
- Performed preventative maintenance on various mechanisms at the water treatment plant.
- Opened 17 code enforcement investigations.
- Sold 1,560 gallons of AvGas and 4,100 gallons of JetA fuel.
- Processed 629 tickets through municipal court.
- Placed 100 cubic yards of top dressing on fields at Coleman Park.
- Sprayed athletic fields with pre-emergent.
- Responded to 125 fire/rescue calls including 1 structure fire.
- Performed preventative maintenance on 83 fire hydrants.
- Issued 41 weed/brush citations.
- Made 96 arrests, recorded 106 offenses, responded to 33 accidents, and wrote 629 traffic citations.
- Achieved a 40% adoption rate at the animal shelter.
- Made 4 felony arrests in the special crimes unit.
- Checked out 3,641 materials from the library.
- Began holding Story Time on first and third Fridays at 10:30 a.m.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ON THE CONSENT AGENDA

Consider for approval the regular City Council meeting minutes of August 4, 2015; the Special City Council meeting minutes of August 4, 11, 18, and 21, 2015; the Planning and Zoning Commission meeting minutes of August 17, 2015; the Zoning Board of Adjustments meeting minutes of August 18, 2015; the Downtown Revitalization Board meeting minutes of August 18, 2015; and the Economic Development Corporation meeting minutes of June 22, 2015. There was no one to speak to the issue. Councilman Johnson made a motion to approve the minutes as presented with an amendment to the Zoning Board of Adjustments item regarding the signage at the Potato House which should include the following verbiage: “*the sign approval is pending permit submission and approval*”. Mayor Pro Glass seconded and the vote was unanimous.

The motion carried.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ON FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 2667, THE APPROPRIATIONS ORDINANCE FOR THE CITY OF SULPHUR SPRINGS FISCAL YEAR 2015-2016

Finance Director Peter Karstens presented the staff report. This is the same budget as

presented during the budget workshops with the addition of one expenditure item of \$100,000 for master planning the city. Several general fund revenue items were increased which have come in higher over the past several months. The net results were to increase the general fund cash and fund balances by \$143,000 and change in cash and fund balances for FY2016 by a reduction of \$24,745. Due to these changes the Enterprise Fund cash balance went up by \$5,255. There was a brief discussion. There was no one else to speak to the issue. Councilman Johnson moved to approve the ordinance on the first reading with the exception of adding \$10,000 from the administration budget (or wherever the Finance Director deems necessary) to increase the city secretary's salary. Councilman Sellers seconded and the vote was unanimous.

The motion carried.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ON FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 2668, SETTING THE TAX RATE FOR THE CITY OF SULPHUR SPRINGS

Finance Director Peter Karstens presented the staff report. The property tax rate is set at 44¢ per \$100 of valuation as discussed at the budget workshops. The taxes in the ordinance are assessed property as of January 1, 2015, though they are due after the tax rate is set. There was no one to speak to the issue. Mayor Pro Tem Glass moved that the property tax rate be increased by the adoption of a tax rate of \$0.44 per \$100 which is effectively a 1.35 percent increase to the tax rate. Councilman Taylor seconded and the vote was unanimous.

The motion carried.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ON FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 2669, SETTING THE SEWER RATE FOR THE CITY OF SULPHUR SPRINGS

Finance Director Peter Karstens presented the staff report. As noted in the workshops the sewer rates will again increase 2% this year to fund part of the engineering on the proposed \$14 million of improvements at the Wastewater Treatment Plant but at a lesser rate than last year. There was no one to speak to the issue. Councilman Aguilar moved to approve the ordinance on the first reading. Councilman Taylor seconded and the vote was unanimous.

The motion carried.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ON FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 2670, AUTHORIZATION OF UPDATED SERVICE CREDITS

Human Resource Director Gordon Frazier presented the staff report. It is recommended that the city continue with the updated service credits for all full time employees. We choose this annually so we have the option to discontinue at any time which we have done for periods in the past. The Texas Municipal Retirement System (TMRS)

contribution rate has dropped from 6.9% to 5.95% with the updated service credits and 5.57% without them. There was a brief discussion with questions by Councilman Johnson which were addressed by Mr. Frazier. There was no one else to speak to the issue. Councilman Johnson moved to approve the ordinance on first reading. Mayor Pro Tem Glass seconded and the vote was unanimous.

The motion carried.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ON THE FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 2671, A REQUEST BY HOPKINS COUNTY MEMORIAL HOSPITAL TO REZONE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 100 THROUGH 120 AIRPORT ROAD AND THE ADJACENT LOT TO THE SOUTH FROM SINGLE FAMILY (SF) TO LIGHT COMMERCIAL (LC)

Community Development Director Shepard presented the staff report. The Hopkins County Memorial hospital has purchased the lots in the described area and has plans for development. The area will be platted into one lot and the development site will require a wooden fence adjacent to the residential property. There was a brief discussion about the land use plan. There was no one else to speak to the issue. Councilman Aguilar moved to approve the ordinance on first reading. Councilman Taylor seconded and the vote was unanimous.

The motion carried.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ON A REQUEST BY HOPKINS COUNTY MEMORIAL HOSPITAL TO PLAT PROPERTY AT 100 AIRPORT ROAD, BEING FURTHER DESCRIBED AS LOTS 1, 3, 3-10, 4, 5, AND 0.21 ACRES OF BLOCK 409

Community Development Director Shepard presented the staff report. The Hopkins County Memorial Hospital has purchased the lots in the described area and would like to plat them into one lot for development. The property is located at the corner of Airport Road and Church Street. There was no one else to speak to the issue. Councilman Taylor moved to approve the plat as presented. Mayor Pro Tem Glass seconded and the vote was unanimous.

The motion carried.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ON THE FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 2672, A REZONING REQUEST BY OWNER TIM KELTY FOR PROPERTY LOCATED 810 GILMER STREET, BEING FURTHER DESCRIBED AS LOT 18 OF BLOCK 47-002, HEAVY COMMERCIAL (HC) TO LIGHT COMMERCIAL (LC)

Community Development Director Shepard presented the staff report. This property is part of two lots of two different zonings. Part of Lot 18 is currently Heavy Commercial which will be zoned to Light Commercial to match the current zoning of Lot 4-10. There

was a brief discussion about the zoning south and east of the property. There was no one else to speak to the issue. Councilman Johnson moved to approve the ordinance on first reading. Mayor Pro Tem Glass seconded and the vote was unanimous.

The motion carried.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ON ASSET FORFEITURE BUDGET

Chief Sanders presented the Police Department Asset Forfeiture Budget to the City Council. Asset Forfeiture money is acquired from cash and liquidation of forfeited property from narcotic related activities. There was no one to speak to the issue. Councilman Taylor moved to approve the budget as presented. Councilman Johnson seconded and the vote was unanimous.

The motion carried.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION BUDGET

Roger Feagley, Executive Director of the Economic Development Corporation, presented the staff report to the City Council. There was no one else to speak to the issue. Councilman Sellers moved to approve the Economic Development Corporation budget as presented. Councilman Taylor seconded and the vote was unanimous.

The motion carried.

VISITORS/PUBLIC FORUM

None.

ADJOURN

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