

**CITY OF SULPHUR SPRINGS, TEXAS**

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE**

**CITY COUNCIL**

**APRIL 1, 2008**

**7:00 p.m.**

Mayor Yolanda Williams 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 Yolanda Williams  
Mayor Pro Tem Oscar Aguilar  
Councilman Clay Walker  
Councilman Gary Spraggins  
Councilman Chris Brown

Absent: Councilman Garry Jordan  
Councilman Freddie Taylor

Staff: Marc Maxwell, City Manager  
Gale Roberts, City Secretary  
Jim McLeroy, City Attorney  
Peter Karstens, Director of Finance  
Johnny Vance, Dir. Community Development  
Craig Vaughn, Director of Utilities  
Gordon Frazier, Human Resources Director

**PLEDGE AND INVOCATION**

Mayor Williams led in the pledge of allegiance and Councilman Spraggins led in the invocation.

**MANAGER'S REPORT**

**ROCKDALE ROAD II** - The second phase of the Rockdale Road project is on hold for awhile. The Capital Construction Division is presently relocating water and sewer lines along Arbala Road, S.H. 19, and Holiday Drive in preparation for the construction of the S.H. 11 extension from Wal-Mart to S.H. 19. TxDOT let that contract recently to A.K. Gillis & Sons, Inc., and work should begin soon. We probably won't return to the Rockdale Road project until school is out for the summer. At that time the Capital

Construction Division will begin work on 880 feet of reinforced concrete road. The project has a budget of \$223,707.

**HOUSTON STREET** - When we are done relocating utilities for the S.H. 11 project, the Capital Construction division will begin replacing water lines and sewer lines on Houston Street. The actual street reconstruction won't begin until next year.

**MAIN STREET** - We should be sending the construction plans out to bid in the next 10 days or so.

The Capital Construction Division installed electrical conduit below ground in T-Bone Alley. Oncor has begun the process of relocating the electric utilities to T-Bone Alley.

We also installed conduit for cable television, a grease collection line and a grease trap to serve future restaurants on Main Street, Connally Street, and the West side of the square.

**CLAIMS** – We had no worker's compensation claims in March, but we did have 2 liability claims. One claimant seeks damages for an ankle injury allegedly sustained at Kids Kingdom. That claim was denied by TML. Another claimant seeks damages resulting from a sewer blockage. That claim is pending with TML. I expect it to be denied.

**REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES** - Finance Director, Peter Karstens will offer a report on revenues and expenditures.

**MISCELLANEOUS** – Elsewhere around the City, employees:

- Repaired 34 potholes and 21 utility cuts.
- Unstopped storm drains at various locations.
- Swept 112 streets.
- Conducted 13 health inspections and 100 public nuisance inspections.
- Conducted 37 building inspections, 57 electrical inspections, 50 plumbing inspections, 38 mechanical inspections, 18 miscellaneous inspections and issued 10 building permits.
- Submitted proposed rules for downtown façade grant program to Downtown Revitalization Board.
- Replaced burnt-out bulbs at ball fields and repaired other electrical problems.
- Installed a gate at the airport.
- Reset school zone lights to daylight savings time.
- Replaced electrical service at College Street water tower.
- Unstopped 57 sewer mains.
- Installed 3 new manholes.

- Repaired 8 water mains.
- Repaired 8 fire hydrants.
- Replaced 10 water meters.
- Calibrated flow meters at wastewater treatment plant.
- Treated wastewater to a daily average total suspended solids reading of 4.24 mg/L.
- Performed preventative maintenance on wastewater filters, chlorine contact chamber and lift station pumps.
- Performed preventative Maintenance on Carter Street water tower.
- Flushed 41 dead-end water mains.
- Performed preventative maintenance on water treatment filters, and water pumps.
- Opened the gates at Lake Sulphur Springs 3.5 feet for flood control.
- Checked out 4,272 books tapes, etc.
- Sold 9,520 gallons of jet fuel and 2,170 gallons of AvGas.
- Performed repairs on airport fuel trucks and self-service pump.
- Continued to assist with the development of the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Bluegrass Music Show to be held in conjunction with the 2008 Folk Festival.
- Responded to 88 fire/rescue calls including 2 structure fires.
- Conducted 37 fire inspections.
- Performed preventative maintenance on 112 fire hydrants.
- Treated 111 millions gallons of drinking water.
- Received 52 dogs and cats at the animal shelter and returned 5 to their owners.
- Found homes for 29 dogs and cats for an adoption rate of 61%....Kudos!
- Received police training on Spanish language, crisis communication, first aid, cultural diversity, use of force and handicapped parking violations.
- Seized 5 pounds of cocaine.
- Worked 52 accidents, made 90 arrests, recorded 75 offenses and wrote 574 citations.
- Processed 650 tickets through Municipal Court.
- Prepared ball fields for upcoming season.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

The following items on the Consent Agenda were reviewed: Consider for approval regular City Council meeting minutes of March 4, 2008; special City Council meeting minutes of March 11, 2008; Planning and Zoning meeting minutes of March 17, 2008; Zoning Board of Adjustments meeting minutes of March 18, 2008; the Downtown Revitalization Board meeting minutes March 18, 2008; and the Economic Development Corporation meeting minutes of February 25, 2008. There was no one to speak to the issue. Councilman Brown moved to approve the consent agenda as presented. Councilman Spraggins seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

**The motion carried.**

**DISCUSSION/ACTION ON PUBLIC HEARING FOR SECOND AND FINAL READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 2540 AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 2050, ARTICLE 15, HEAVY COMMERCIAL DISTRICT, SECTION 15.200 TO INCLUDE SMALL ANIMAL CLINICS WITH NO OUTDOOR KENNELS**

Small animal clinics are required to be located in Light Industrial zoning. This ordinance would allow small animal clinics **with no outdoor kennels** to be located in Heavy Commercial zoning. Community Development Director Johnny Vance was available to answer any questions and present the staff report. There was no one else to speak to the issue. Councilman Spraggins moved to adopt the ordinance on the second and final reading. Mayor Pro Tem Aguilar seconded and the vote was unanimous.

**The motion carried.**

**DISCUSSION/ACTION ON FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 2541 SETTING REDUCED SPEED LIMITS FOR INTERSTATE HIGHWAY 30 DURING CONSTRUCTION**

The Texas Department of Transportation has requested this ordinance to reduce the speed limit on IH 30 from 70 mph to 60 mph through the construction zone. The construction zone is approximately six (6) miles long beginning at Loop 301 and ending at the west city limit boundary. Recently two Texas Department of Transportation workers were killed while working in a construction zone. There was no one to speak to the issue. Councilman Spraggins moved to approve the ordinance on the first reading. Councilman Brown seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

**The motion carried.**

**DISCUSSION/ACTION ON ACCEPTING THE CERTIFICATE OF UNOPPOSED CANDIDATE FOR PLACE 6 AND ADOPTING THE ORDER OF CANCELLATION OF THE ELECTION FOR PLACE 6**

In accordance with Section 2.053(a) of the Texas Election Code the City Council can accept a Certificate of Unopposed Candidate and adopt an Order of Cancellation of Election. There was no one to speak to this issue. Councilman Spraggins moved to accept the Certificate of Unopposed Candidate for Place 6 and adopt the Order of Cancellation of the Election for Place 6. Mayor Pro Tem Aguilar seconded and the vote was unanimous.

**The motion carried.**

**DISCUSSION/ACTION ON USE OF AMPLIFIED EQUIPMENT FOR RELAY FOR LIFE**

Cory Young, the American Cancer Society 2008 Logistics Chairman for the Relay For Life event, requested permission from the City Council to use amplified equipment after 10:00 p.m. on May 9<sup>th</sup>. Relay For Life will be a twelve-hour event beginning at 7:00 p.m. May 9<sup>th</sup> and ending at 7:00 a.m. May 10<sup>th</sup>. There was no one to speak to the issue. Councilman Brown made a motion to approve the request. Councilman Spraggins seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

**The motion carried.**

**DISCUSSION/ACTION OF REQUEST FOR SPECIFIC USE PERMIT AT 219/221 MAIN STREET**

Patrick Murray has made application for a Specific Use Permit for the purpose of selling alcoholic beverages by the drink. Director of Community Development Johnny Vance was available to answer questions and present the staff report. The facility is located at 219/221 Main Street and is zoned Central Commercial which meets the requirements to apply for a Specific Use Permit. Mr. Murray was available to answer any questions. There was no one else to speak to the issue. Councilman Spraggins made a motion to approve the Specific Use Permit request. Mayor Pro Tem Aguilar seconded and the vote was unanimous.

**The motion carried.**

**VISITORS AND PUBLIC FORUM**

None.

**ADJOURN**

With all business complete the meeting was adjourned at 7:09 p.m.