

CITY OF SULPHUR SPRINGS, TEXAS

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE
CITY COUNCIL**

APRIL 2, 2013

7:00 p.m.

Mayor Craig Johnson called the regular meeting of the Sulphur Springs City Council to order at 7:01 p.m. The following council members and staff were present:

Mayor Craig Johnson
Mayor Pro Tem John Sellers
Councilman Clay Walker
Councilman Oscar Aguilar
Councilman Freddie Taylor
Councilman Gary Spraggins
Councilwoman Kayla Price

Absent:

Staff: Marc Maxwell, City Manager
Gale Roberts, City Secretary
Peter Karstens, Finance Director
Jim McLeroy, City Attorney
Shane Shepard, Community Development Director
Gordon Frazier, Human Resources Director

PLEDGE AND INVOCATION

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PROCLAMATIONS

Mayor Johnson entered a “Mayors Day of Recognition for National Service” proclamation for the record which proclaims April 9, 2013 as National Service Recognition Day.

Mayor Pro Tem Sellers announced the History by Foot Tour which will be held April 20th. The tour is sponsored by the Downtown Business Alliance and the times are 9A and 1045A. Tickets are available at the two banks downtown and the Genealogical Society.

He also announced the Healthcare Foundation would be sponsoring an event at the historic Ashcroft home, now owned by Charles Moore, on April 23rd from 530P – 7P. There will be two tours conducted by mayor Pro Tem Sellers and he stated this is a once in a lifetime opportunity to tour the home.

MANAGER'S REPORT

THE SQUARE – Work on Jefferson Street has begun!

NEW CITY HALL – The foundation for the addition is completed and steel for the structure is being erected. Installers are placing drywall and plaster in the original building, and we have begun picking paint colors.

SPRING CLEANUP - The annual Spring Cleanup event will begin Monday, April 15 and extend through Saturday, April 20th. The same rules apply as in previous years, no household hazardous waste, no tires. Bring a water bill and a photo ID for proof of residency. The location is the same as always, about a quarter-mile east of Flow Serve. Hours of operation are 7am to 7pm.

CLAIMS – The City had no Workers' Compensation claims in March. We did, however, have one liability claim filed when one of our taller trucks struck a low-hanging awning.

PEAVINE PINION POND - The project is nearly completed. Expect a ribbon cutting ceremony with the Chamber of Commerce Adult Leadership Class in the near future. The 2012/2013 Chamber of Commerce Adult Leadership Class chose the Peavine Pinion Boardwalk as their project. They have raised more than \$15,000 for the project.

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

MISCELLANEOUS – Elsewhere around the City, employees:

- Conducted 63 public nuisance inspections and 10 public health inspections.
- Conducted 26 building inspections, 21 electrical inspections, 10 plumbing inspections, 1 mechanical inspection, 5 miscellaneous inspections and issued 26 building permits.
- Patched 216 potholes and made 13 extensive street repairs resulting from utility repairs.
- Removed trees from streets after recent storms.
- Built stages for various events.
- Replaced 4 stop signs and 6 street signs.
- Swept 42 streets.

- Replaced over 200 feet of sewer line on Lee Street.
- Flushed 37 dead-end water mains.
- Treated 109 million gallons of drinking water.
- Replaced discharge pipe in water treatment plant pump house.
- Installed rebuilt electric motor on #1 pump at Cooper Lake pump station.
- Adjusted school zones lights to accommodate daylight savings time.
- Cleaned out lift station at Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP).
- Repaired sludge press.
- Dewatered 675 cubic yards of sludge.
- Achieved a daily average total suspended solids reading of 8.35 mg/L.
- Responded to 145 fire/rescue calls including 3 structure fires.
- Performed preventative maintenance and testing on 80 fire hydrants.
- Attended canine training, homicide investigation training and emergency preparedness.
- The Special Crimes Unit made 10 felony arrests.
- Processed 536 tickets through Municipal Court.
- Sold 1,019 gallons of AvGas and 4,425 gallons of JetA fuel.
- Served 145 Saturday patrons at the library.
- Made 99 arrests, responded to 45 accidents, recorded 58 offences and wrote 567 citations.
- Responded to 216 animal control calls and achieved a 66% adoption rate at the animal shelter.
- Hosted a 38-team softball tournament.
- Placed 32 loads of red dirt on infields at Coleman Park.
- Inspected and tested irrigation systems in preparation for spring and summer.
- Repaired 7 water main ruptures.
- Replaced 30 water meters.
- Made 3 new water taps and 1 sewer tap.
- Unstopped 31 sewer mains and repaired 7 sewer mains.
- Washed 84,000 feet of sewer mains.

CONSENT AGENDA

The following items on the Consent Agenda were reviewed: Consider for approval the City Council meeting minutes of March 5, 2013 and Special meeting minutes of February 26, 2013; the Downtown Revitalization Board meeting minutes of March 12, 2013; and the Planning and Zoning Commission meeting minutes of March 18, 2013. There was no one to speak to the issue. Councilman Spraggins moved to approve the consent agenda as presented. Mayor Pro Tem Sellers seconded and the vote was unanimous.

The motion carried.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ON FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 2632, AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SULPHUR SPRINGS, TEXAS, AMENDING ARTICLE 13 OF THE ZONING ORDINANCE AND PROVIDING FOR ALLOWABLE LAND USES IN THE CENTRAL COMMERCIAL DISTRICT

Mayor Johnson moved to deny this ordinance. Councilman Spraggins seconded. Tammy Olague had a couple of questions which were answered by City Manager Maxwell. Charles Oxford commented on the language of the ordinance. There was no one else to speak to the issue. The vote was unanimous.

The motion to deny carried.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ON PLAT REQUEST BY THE TRUSTEES OF DAVIS STREET BAPTIST CHURCH FOR A REPLAT OF LOTS 20 AND 20A OF BLOCK 17, BEING FURTHER DESCRIBED AS PROPERTY LOCATED ON THE WEST SIDE OF SOUTH DAVIS STREET BETWEEN ROBERTSON STREET AND JARBO STREET, INTO ONE LOT

This plat, if approved, would create Lot 1 of Block 1 of the Davis Street Baptist Church West Addition. The lot is currently served by water, sewer, and existing streets though Robertson Street does not have curb and gutter. The zoning map had indicated that Lot 21B was part of the plat but the plat clearly indicates that only Lots 20 and 20A are included in the creation of Lot 1. Community Development Director Shepard indicated the church plans to build a parking lot. Charles Oxford questioned the number of lots. There was no one else to speak to the issue. Councilman Spraggins moved to approve the plat. Councilman Taylor seconded and the vote was unanimous.

The motion carried.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ON CHANGE ORDER TO REFACE BROKEN LIMESTONE FOUNDATION BLOCKS AT THE OLD POST OFFICE

Finance Director Karstens presented the staff report. The limestone foundation needs additional work that was not included in the original specifications. The contractor has made several attempts to repair the limestone but patching changes the color, the stones are too porous to paint, and none of it would match the quality of the restoration of the building. The proposal is to take the limestone blocks which sit on either side of the front stairs, have them cut into 4-inch blocks the exact size of those blocks needing resurfacing and then re-face the ones that are chipped. The front wall sections on either side of the front stairs will be replaced with cast stone of the same type to be used on the new addition which will match the limestone. It will cost \$37,125 to repair the limestone as described. The preliminary estimate to replace the walls on either side of the front stairs with cast stone depends on several factors but ranges between \$13,000 and \$20,000. There was a brief discussion about the proposed change order. There was no one else to speak to the issue. Councilman Spraggins moved to approve the Change Order with a

cap of \$57,125. Councilman Taylor seconded and the vote was unanimous.

The motion carried.

VISITORS/PUBLIC FORUM

Wilfred Pobursky addressed the City Council stating he would like to see the people of Sulphur Springs picking up trash on Sundays after church from 2P – 6P. Sulphur Springs is a beautiful place to live and its citizenry should help to keep it clean. He also suggested the litter law and turn signal law be enforced.

ADJOURN

With all business complete the meeting was adjourned at 7:24 p.m.