

**CITY OF SULPHUR SPRINGS, TEXAS**

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE**

**CITY COUNCIL**

**NOVEMBER 2, 2010**

**7:30 p.m.**

Mayor Spraggins called the regular meeting of the Sulphur Springs City Council to order at 7:33 p.m. The following council members and staff were present:

Mayor Gary Spraggins  
Mayor Pro Tem Johnson  
Councilman Clay Walker  
Councilman Oscar Aguilar  
Councilman Freddie Taylor  
Councilman Charles Oxford

Absent: Councilman Chris Brown

Staff: Marc Maxwell, City Manager  
Gale Roberts, City Secretary  
Jim McLeroy, City Attorney  
Johnny Vance, Director of Community Development

**PLEDGE AND INVOCATION**

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

**MANAGER'S REPORT**

**HOUSTON STREET** - Phase 3 is about to get started. We are now in negotiations with Kansas City Southern (KCS) regarding utility easements under the KCS spur. There is a chance that we can do some work east of the spur prior to the completion of the easement negotiations, but we won't be able to perform any construction west of the spur until after we have the easements in-hand.

**MUNICIPAL AIRPORT** - The runway reconstruction project is nearing completion. The concrete runway has been 95% constructed, and the contractor is working on the

cross-taxiways. This \$3.85 million project is 90% grant funded. Expect the runway project to be completed this December.

**GILMER AT CONNALLY** - The concrete has been poured and we are just waiting for the brick contractor. We think we'll be done in about 10 days.

**STATE HIGHWAY 11 AT ARBALA ROAD** - TXDOT completed the second traffic survey; again the intersection did not meet the warrants for a traffic signal.

**REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES** – Finance Director Peter Karstens will not present a year-to-date of revenues and expenditures as we have just started the new fiscal year.

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

- Repaired 18 water mains and installed 4 water taps.
- Replaced 18 water meters.
- Unstopped 21 sewer mains.
- Repaired 5 sewer mains.
- Washed 8,000 feet of sewer mains
- Installed 1 sewer tap.
- Responded to 104 fire/rescue calls including 4 structure fires.
- Performed preventative maintenance on 87 fire hydrants and repaired 2.
- Conducted 45 fire inspections.
- Wrote 683 citations, recorded 77 offenses, made 91 arrests, and responded to 46 accidents.
- Hired reserve officer Justin Darrow.
- Seized 5 pounds of marijuana and 5.5 pounds of cocaine.
- Received police training in the areas of child abuse investigation, rabies control, evidence management and crime scene search.
- Made 5 felony arrests in the special crimes unit.
- Processed 756 tickets through municipal court.
- Treated 135 million gallons of drinking water.
- Installed generator at Coleman Water Tower.
- Began planning utility pole removal on the square.
- Performed preventative maintenance on various items at the wastewater treatment plant.
- Treated wastewater to a daily average total suspended solids reading of 1.86 mg/L.
- Pressed 1,530 cubic yards of sludge.
- Flushed 38 dead-end water mains.
- Performed preventative maintenance on various items at the water treatment plant.
- Made 16 street repairs and filled potholes at 23 various locations.
- Cleaned out various drainage ditches around the city.

- Installed several new street signs.
- Mowed several city lots and drainage ditches.
- Conducted 28 health inspections and 37 public nuisance inspections.
- Conducted 19 building inspections, 26 electrical inspections, 28 plumbing inspections, 13 mechanical inspections, 25 miscellaneous inspections, and issued 14 building permits.
- Abated 2 substandard structures, bringing the total to 452. One was rehabilitated by the owner, and the other burned to the ground.
- Sold 1,770 gallons of AvGas.
- Conducted a “familiarization tour” with bus tour operators.
- Published a visitors guide.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

The following items on the Consent Agenda were reviewed: Consider for approval the regular City Council meeting minutes of October 5, 2010; the special City Council meeting minutes for September 28, 2010; the Planning and Zoning Commission meeting minutes of October 18, 2010; the Downtown Revitalization Board meeting minutes of October 25, 2010; and the Economic Development Corporation meeting minutes of September 20, 2010. There was no one to speak to the issue. Councilman Taylor moved to approve the consent agenda as presented. Councilman Oxford seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

**The motion carried.**

**DISCUSSION/ACTION ON PUBLIC HEARING FOR SECOND AND FINAL READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 2583 PROHIBITING PARKING IN TWO SPACES ON NORTH DAVIS STREET ADJACENT TO THE WEST SIDE OF 229 MAIN STREET, MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY, FROM 8:00 A.M. UNTIL 10:00 A.M.**

This ordinance will create a designated zone for the temporary loading and unloading of vehicles only. The commercial interest in the area designates required access for the purpose of permitting loading and unloading of vehicles. There was no one else to speak to the issue. Councilman Oxford 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 PUBLIC HEARING FOR SECOND AND FINAL READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 2584 PROHIBITING PARKING ON BOTH SIDES OF HOUSTON STREET BETWEEN NORTH LEAGUE STREET AND CHURCH STREET, MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY EXCEPT FOR HOLIDAYS**

This is a truck route and the ordinance insures that sufficient room be given to the trucks traveling during business hours and enhances the safety of homeowners and their guests. The ordinance was changed by staff as directed by the City Council at the October 5, 2010 meeting. There was no one to speak to the issue. Councilman Oxford moved to adopt the ordinance as presented on the second and final reading. Councilman Walker seconded and the vote was unanimous.

**The motion carried.**

**DISCUSSION/ACTION ON FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 2585 A ZONE CHANGE REQUEST BY OWNER COY JOHNSON TO REZONE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 513 OAK AVENUE, BEING FURTHER DESCRIBED AS LOT 2A OF BLOCK 40-2, FROM MULTI-FAMILY (MF) TO PROFESSIONAL OFFICE (PO)**

This area is shown on the Land Use Plan to be used for commercial development. Changing the zoning of this property would help to begin that process. This rezoning is requested to accommodate business development in the downtown area. There was no one else to speak to the issue. Councilman Taylor moved to approve the ordinance on the first reading. Councilman Oxford seconded and the vote was as follows:

Ayes: Walker, Aguilar, Spraggins, Taylor, Oxford  
Nays: None  
Abstain: Johnson

**The motion carried.**

**DISCUSSION/ACTION ON FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 2586 AMENDING CHAPTER 25 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF SULPHUR SPRINGS, TEXAS, BY AMENDING SECTION 25-54, TRUCK ROUTES AND PARKING; REPEALING AND RESERVING SECTIONS 25-55 THROUGH 25-56; REPEALING ALL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; PROVIDING FOR A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION**

The proposed ordinance accomplishes the following:

- Establishes thru-truck routes in the City of Sulphur Springs. (map attached)
- Defines “through commercial vehicles” and requires them to use thru-truck routes.
- Maintains existing truck routes for local truck traffic.
- Requires the placement of signs on truck routes and thru-truck routes.
- Provides a penalty of up to \$500 for violating this ordinance.

There was a general discussion and City Manager Maxwell elaborated on the subject. David Niergarth addressed the City Council about the trucks that travel down College Street. There was no one else to speak to the issue. Councilman Taylor moved to approve the ordinance on the first reading. Councilman Oxford seconded and the vote was unanimous.

**The motion carried.**

**DISCUSSION/ACTION ON FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 2587 ESTABLISHING MAXIMUM, REASONABLE AND PRUDENT RATES OF SPEED FOR CERTAIN PORTIONS OF HIGHWAY 19**

In 2006 the City annexed 1,274.6 acres along its southern boundary. Since then, TXDOT has also constructed the new S.H. 11 bypass. These two events combined have caused TXDOT to conduct a review of speed limits along S.H. 19

The previous and proposed speed limits are as follows:

<b>From</b>	<b>To</b>	<b>Previous</b>	<b>Proposed</b>
Church St.	FM 2285	65	65
FM 2285	Jeldwen	60	60
Jeldwen	Airgas	55	55
Airgas	Woodbridge	50	50
Woodbridge	Cowboy Church	60	60
Cowboy Church	City Limits	70	65

The school zone times and speed limits will remain unchanged. There was no one else to speak to the issue. Councilman Oxford moved to approve the ordinance on the first reading. Councilman Taylor seconded and the vote was unanimous.

**The motion carried.**

**DISCUSSION/ACTION ON BIDS AND AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR CONCRETE PIPE BOX CULVERTS AND INLET BOXES FOR HOUSTON STREET PHASE III**

The box culverts will be installed from Jackson to the railroad eliminating the existing open ditch. The 48” RCP pipe will eliminate the open ditch west of the railroad. The 36” RCP pipe will replace existing underground pipe from Rosemont to Church Street. Inlets will be replaced at Rosemont and Church. The City advertised for bids October 2<sup>nd</sup>

and 9<sup>th</sup> opening bids on October 19<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. The City received one bid from Hanson Pipe and Precast. There was no one else to speak to the issue. Councilman Taylor moved to approve the bid as submitted. Councilman Oxford seconded and the vote was unanimous.

**The motion carried.**

**DISCUSSION/ACTION ON APPOINTMENT OF A CITY REPRESENTATIVE TO THE HOPKINS COUNTY VETERANS MEMORIAL COMMITTEE**

The Hopkins County Veterans Memorial Committee is planning for the long term viability of the organization and, by extension, the memorial itself. They are reaching out to the community organizations and asking them to appoint a person to the committee. They have asked the City to appoint someone. Since this memorial will reside on the square for decades, perhaps centuries, it is very important that the City appoint a position to the committee rather than name an individual. In this way we would ensure that we always have representation on the committee without any lapses, and without having to reappoint from time to time. Don Roundtree addressed the City Council on the importance of this position. He also gave information on when and where the meetings were held. There was no one else to speak to the issue. Mayor Spraggins moved to approve the position of the Mayor Pro Tem. 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 7:55 p.m.