REGULAR MEETING JANUARY 9, 2017

The Linden City Council met in regular session on Monday, January 9, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. at the Mary Daughety Senior Citizens' Center, 507 S. Kaufman, Cass County, Linden, Texas.

Members present were: Mayor Clarence Burns; City Councilmen Kenny Hamilton, and Mike Berry; City Councilwomen Ruth Halleck, Jeanie Stevens, and Sue Lazara; and the following guests: Terressa Wall, Robert Luzio, Beverly Freeman, Frank Freeman, James Hitchcock, Lucy Heide, Terri Boland, Josh Lane, Anna Dewell-Eddings, Neil Abeles, Susan Sutton, Emily Henderson, Erin Wells, Larry Love, and Police Chief Alton McWaters.

The Mayor called the meeting to order, Mr. Swisher gave the invocation, and the Mayor welcomed the guests.

Public Comment: James Hitchcock stated he is going to request a manufactured home variance. Lucy Heide stated she is interested in being an LEDC board member when a position becomes available.

Motion by Mr. Hamilton, seconded by Ms. Halleck to approve the minutes from the previous meeting. All yeas.

Motion by Ms. Lazara, seconded by Ms. Stevens to approve the current bills and bank statements. All yeas.

LEDC Update: Mrs. Henderson stated the sales tax report was not available before the meeting. She then presented an outline providing LEDC information. She and Mrs. Freeman stated they will provide a financial statement from bank statements each month if the council wishes. They are still working on a comprehensive report for the past 10 years. She stated at the end of September 2017 there will be 3 openings for LEDC board members.

Mr. Swisher stated SWEPCO is asking for a rate hike. He recommended that the city prefer the rate remains the same as now.

Motion by Mr. Hamilton, seconded by Ms. Lazara to pass a resolution stating the SWEPCO rates remain the same. All yeas.

Mr. Swisher provided suggested by laws for the Main Street Program, stating there are other existing by laws. He provided state office and new hire suggestions.

Motion by Ms. Stevens, seconded by Ms. Lazara to adopt the Main Street by laws as presented. All yeas.

Mr. Swisher stated he feels there is a good mixture of knowledgeable members on the Main Street Advisory Board list he provided to the city council. He stated 7-11 people may serve on the board and that the city council appoints the members of the board.

Motion by Mr. Hamilton, seconded by Ms. Halleck to accept Mr. Swisher's recommendations for the Main Street Advisory Board. All yeas.

Chief McWaters went over the monthly police report with the council.

Mr. Luzio introduced Brian with Champion to provide the Oct/Nov report on responses. He then stated the water leaks have slowed down and that the water line on N Main has been moved. He stated the transducer on the water tower froze and was damaged. He stated he switched over to the old system. He stated an 8" valve on the old water tower froze and was busted. He added that the water line behind City Hall had frozen and busted. He went over the fire report, stating grass fires have gone up, medical and structure calls were about the same.

Mr. Swisher stated the new Main Street Manager is moving to Linden this weekend. He stated he has copies of the by laws for the board members. There will be a Main Street training January 24th-25th in Georgetown. He added there will be a MLK Parade on January 16th.

Mayor Burns stated that 5 families have moved into their new homes with the home program. He said there are 3 new applications and there will be bids coming in from contractors.

Motion by Mr. Berry, seconded by Mr. Hamilton to adjourn. All yeas.

Clarence Burns

Mayor

Robert W. Swisher City Administrator