

**REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 11, 2019**

The Linden City Council met in regular session on Monday, February 11, 2019 at 6:00p.m. at the Mary Daughety Senior Citizens' Center, 507 S. Kaufman, Cass County, Linden, Texas.

Members present were: Mayor Clarence Burns; City Councilmen Frank Lanier, Chuck Evans, and Mike Berry; and City Councilwoman Jeanie Stevens. Councilman Kenny Hamilton was absent. The following guests were present: Bob Swisher, Terressa Wall, Algera Anderson, Eric Lee, Luci Trahan, Thomas Duncan, David Lorance, Clay Eddings, Kathy Boyles, Ben Woods, Lucky Boyd, Anna Barber, John Knapp, Catherine and Joey Knapp, Jo Anna Duncan, Cathy Watson, and Christophe Trahan.

Public Comment: Cathy Watson, Music City Texas Theater representative, updated the council about all the shows to be held there in the next few months.

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

Motion by Ms. Stevens, seconded by Mr. Berry to approve the minutes from the previous meetings. All yeas.

Motion by Mr. Evans, seconded by Mr. Lanier to approve the current bills and bank statements. All yeas.

Motion by Ms. Stevens, seconded by Mr. Evans to approve any donations given to the city for the library. All yeas.

LEDC Update: Mr. Gustafson stated a catwalk has been installed on the south billboard and that plans are to have the north and south billboards to have the same ads.

Ms. Anderson went over the renewal of 2 year board terms for half of the Main Street Board, consisting of Mr. Love, Mrs. Dowd, and Mrs. Knapp.

Motion by Mr. Lanier, seconded by Ms. Stevens to approve reappointment of the Main Street Board as presented. All yeas.

Mr. Gustafson stated Mr. Malthus Northcutt's seat had been vacated and that the LEDC Board has nominated Mr. Dave Stewart to fill this seat.

Motion by Mr. Lanier, seconded by Ms. Stevens to appoint Dave Stewart to the LEDC Board. All yeas.

Kathy Boyles stated there are two houses to be built by the TDHCA Home Program and that Shep Granberry-Graco Homes turned in the low bid. She stated one home will be a 3 bedroom-\$96,000.00 and the other a four bedroom-\$105,000.00. She then recommended the council hire Graco Homes as builder for the TDHCA Home Program.

Motion by Mr. Evans, seconded by Mr. Berry to hire Graco Homes as the builder for the TDHCA Home Program. All yeas.

Mayor Burns discussed the Building Maintenance Ordinance path with the council. Mr. Swisher stated other towns have several different options, stating he would like for the council to appoint a committee to work on this ordinance. He wants to try to come up with solutions with assistance for homeowners to repair homes in need of repairs. He further stated he felt that not allowing half fallen down homes to sit on a lot should be included in this ordinance. Police Chief Lee stated the department had gone inside several homes which had roofs falling in, missing floors, and some which had used syringes from narcotic use inside them. Mayor Burns recommended a Main Street Board member, a City Councilman, Mr. Swisher, and someone from the police department to be on this board.

Motion by Mr. Berry, seconded by Ms. Stevens to approve forming a committee to assist the council with rewriting the existing building ordinance. All yeas.

Mr. Swisher stated he has had several persons interested in renting or purchasing the Old Train Depot building, which was the old Sr. Citizen building. He stated the old police department building is in the dry. He added both buildings are habitable. He proposed lease or resale, stipulating the buildings were not to be demolished. He stated he feels a proposal committee should be formed.

Motion by Mr. Lanier, seconded by Ms. Stevens to form a committee and to have the Main Street Manager and Mr. Swisher oversee this committee. All yeas.

Allie Anderson – Main Street Manager stated Treasure Trails is coming up again and as for the Community Development Program, she has several persons interested in the old Milstep building. She stated the grant for drainage is coming up and soon she will be focusing on a “complete streets plan”.


Police Chief Lee went over the monthly report with the council, stating it was a relatively quiet month.

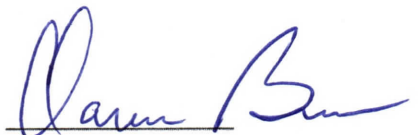
Robert Luzio, Public Works Director stated he picked up the sewer machine which was repaired, and it is working well. He stated water leaks have been worked on. He then went over the fire report.

Mr. Swisher stated TCEQ will be here tomorrow for a water inspection. He stated Mayor Burns had asked him to go over the 2025 Plan. He stated several things have been accomplished, although several were found to not be feasible. He stated there will possibly be a drop off day with Sanitation Solutions providing several dumpsters for a city cleanup. He stated the downtown railings will be painted before the Wildflower Trails Festival. Paving funding ideas will probably be discussed in 2022, after which burying utilities and paving streets will be done. He stated we did get approved for the General Land Office Grant for drainage funding, which will include stabilizing the erosion at the City Park.

Mayor Burns went over upcoming events with the council. He stated February 15th is deadline for filing for the May election. February 23rd is the date for the Martin Luther King Fish Fry Fundraiser. He added April 13th there will be a rededication at the Linden Cemetary and on April 26-27 is the Wildflower Trails Festival and Cass County Championship Rodeo. He added that possibly next Monday the committee for the Building Maintenance Ordinance, consisting of Allie Anderson, Bob Swisher, Jeanie Stevens, Mike Berry, and John Lorange will meet. It was then brought to his attention that Monday was a holiday, therefore a future date will be set for this committee meeting.

Motion by Mr. Lanier, seconded by Ms. Stevens to adjourn. All yeas.


Robert Swisher
City Administrator


Clarence Burns
Mayor