

**CITY OF SHEPHERD
BOARD OF ALDERMEN
Regular Called Meeting
28 N. Liberty, Shepherd City Council Chambers
Monday, August 12, 2024, 6:30 PM
OFFICIAL MINUTES**

REGULAR CALLED MEETING:

Members Present: Charles Minton, Susan Daniels, Mark Porter, Yvonne Cones, Curtis Ainsworth,

Members Absent: Ray Marrs

City Staff Present: City Secretary Debra Hagler, City Attorney Kenneth LaVergne, Terri MacIntyre, Matthew Greer

Others Present: The family from Oak Lane, Capt. Baker, Billy LaCoste,

CALLED TO ORDER /INVOCATION

Mayor Minton called the meeting to order, Kenneth LaVergne led in prayer and the pledges were recited.

PUBLIC INPUT: None

PUBLIC INPUT FOR ITEMS NOT LISTED ON AGENDA:

REPORTS:

Library: Terri presented a quarterly report. She also stated that she ended up under budget with the Summer Reading Program. An explanation of the Peep Diorama was requested. Mrs. Cones mentioned the Dolly Parton Program. Kudos were expressed to Terri for all the different programs she has implemented and acknowledged the lack of sufficient help.

Police: Capt. Baker represented the Police Department in Chief Headley's absence. The Chief prepared a written monthly report. No discussion or questions were asked.

Public Works: Matthew updated the progress on the sewer grant project stating a possible start after October. The plan is to open bids in October. He mentioned the additional grant for a Ground Storage Tank. He reported the clarifier had to be drained in response to a maintenance issue. He stated the O'Reilly's, and the Dollar General Market are on track. He discussed the new generator that was purchased and installed at the Sewer plant because of Hurricane Beryl complications knocking out the existing one. He mentioned the Sanitary Control Easements are almost complete. Matthew and his team were commended for their actions during Hurricane Beryl by keeping the water and sewer going and the debris clean up.

OLD BUSINESS:

Discussion and possible action on selection of new city attorney.

Yvonne Cones made a motion to select Mr. Kenneth LaVergne from the Liles Parker Law Firm out of Kingwood Texas. Mark Porter seconded the motion and with a unanimous vote the motion passed.

Mrs. Cones took the opportunity to asked Mr. LaVergne if he was willing to which is he responded yes. The Mayor and Mayor Pro Tem had a lunch interview with Mr. LaVergne. Mr. LaVergne attended a previous special called meeting to meet the remaining portion of council and as part of his interview. The firm that Mr. LaVergne works for was one of the suggested firms by previous city attorney Larry Foerster.

NEW BUSINESS

Discuss and take action to grant a Manufactured Home Variance at 260/270 N. Ross Ave for Delsy Gonzales for a 2023 Cavco Home.

No Action was taken on this item as Delsy Gonzales was not present.

Discuss and take action to grant a Manufactured Home Variance for 1995 home to be placed at 70 Oak Ln.

Mark Porter made a motion to table this item and to obtain an inspection from Bureau Veritas. Yvonne Cones seconded. The motion passed with a unanimous vote. This home is a 1995 renovated home. The Mayor pointed out that this home is 29 years old. Questions were asked about the electrical system. Was the wiring replaced? The home will sit on two lots. City Attorney Kenneth stated the Ordinance needs to be revisited to change HUD inspection to a City Inspection since HUD no longer has inspectors. The council stated they want to see photos and have an inspection of the home.

Discuss and take action on a variance request from Curtis Ainsworth for a storage container at 58 Myrtie.

Susan Daniel's made the motion to approve this request. Yvonne Cones seconded. The motion passed with Curtis Ainsworth abstaining from the vote. Curtis Ainsworth stated the container is planned to be 40 feet. It will be installed near his existing garage and a roof will connect the two. He plans the open space to be an area to park his tractor.

Discuss and take action to fill the vacancy on the EDC Board following Jody Cronin's resignation.

Curtis Ainsworth made the motion to appoint Wendell Williams to the EDC board to fill this vacancy. Susan Daniels seconded, and the motion passed with a unanimous vote. Wendell Williams was the EDC's board's recommendation.

Discuss and take action to order an election.

Curtis Ainsworth made a motion to order an election. Susan Daniels seconded, and the motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Discuss and take action to set a budget workshop.

Curtis Ainsworth made a motion to set the workshop for August 22 at 10:00am. Yvonne Cones seconded, and the motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Discuss and take action to purchase a crane truck using ARPA funds.

Susan Daniels made the motion to work with Curtis Ainsworth and a budget of \$50,000.00 to purchase a crane truck. Mark Porter seconded, and the motion passed with a unanimous vote. Matthew presented a truck to council that he wished to purchase as it will save money being spent with one of the city vendors and the investment will pay for itself within a short amount of time. He further explained that one of the crew has valuable experience doing what we currently pay this vendor to do. Matthew had obtained some quotes and wished to purchase a used truck for \$43000.00 with a 3-year warranty. Upon finding out it had a gas motor there were some objections from the council, so they gave Matt a budget and suggested he work with Curtis to find a diesel crane truck.

Minutes:

Yvonne Cones made a motion to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Curtis Ainsworth seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Payment of the Bills:

Mark Porter made a motion to pay the bills. Susan Daniels seconded, and the motion passed with a unanimous vote.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The first day of school was mentioned. The reserves will be helping with traffic for the first few days.

ADJOURNMENT: 7:19pm

Curtis Ainsworth made a motion to adjourn, and Yvonne Cones seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Charles Minton, Mayor
Prepared by City Secretary, Debra Hagler