

**REGULAR MEETING
MAY 11, 2020**

The Linden City Council met in regular session on Monday, May 11, 2020 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 Frank Lanier, Chuck Evans, Mike Berry, Kenny Hamilton, and City Councilwoman Jeanie Stevens. The following guests were present: Terressa Wall, Algera Anderson, Bob Swisher, Luci Trahan, Christophe Trahan, Lynn Reynolds, and Jamie Jeans.

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

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

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

LEDC Update: Mr. Trahan stated Open Hearts had been on hold, but is now full speed. He stated on the 15th he will finalize submissions. EDC loan holders were given 60 days with no interest due to the pandemic and late fees were forgiven. He stated the auditor was rescheduled for the June city council meeting. He added the sales and use tax was up 4.5% from last May.

Mr. Swisher discussed the grant administrator for the Downtown Revitalization and Main Street Grant. He stated GrantWorks submitted the only package and he recommended we go after this grant. He stated the grant will be 50% street and 50% sidewalks with ADA access. This would all be within the Main Street area and would be up to \$500,000.00 with a variable match of 8-10%, which would be \$50,000.00 or less.

Motion by Mr. Berry, seconded by Mr. Hamilton to adopt a resolution awarding GrantWorks as the grant administrator for the Downtown Revitalization and Main Street Grant. All yeas.

Mr. Swisher discussed the storm damage and way forward guidelines. He stated city workers had burned several hundred tons of debris. They will work on the park as time is available. He stated the park is about 70% cleaned up at this point and timber has been taken to Ward Timber. He stated another cutter will take timber out of Crowe Heath Park to Atlanta. He stated damages in the RV Park to car and RV were filed on personal insurance.

Mr. Swisher discussed the need for the council to designate an authorized manager for the visa credit card to make additions/deletions to the account.

Motion by Mr. Hamilton, seconded by Mr. Lanier to adopt a resolution naming the city administrator as manager over the Visa credit card account. All yeas.

Ms. Anderson stated she is holding off on gatherings, but maybe resume second Saturdays this summer. She will be seeking board members for Main Street. The board is a two year term. She stated on the 18th interviews for the Librarian position will be set up. She is working on a street index, rating streets as commercial/residential.

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

Mr. Swisher went over the report for Mr. Luzio, stating there had been lots of water leaks due to trees pulling up the lines. He stated sewer line on Banger Street has been repaired, which was due to tree damage from the storm.

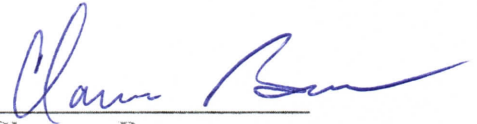
Mr. Swisher stated the auditors are coming May 19th for a one day field work on the audit. He stated they will hopefully be at the June meeting to go over the audit with the council. He stated the GLO grant is 80% planned. He stated the survey is done and the water project is on the way to the USDA for final approval. He stated July/August as possible digging dates on both projects. He stated the Milstep project is on hold for now. He stated there were three that submitted qualifications which the city pays for on the design of the building front and the parking lot. He stated that Christus has frozen capital investments for now.

Mayor Burns stated citizens thanked him for the sirens that warned of the approaching storm and had asked him about storm shelters available.

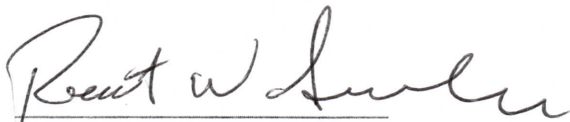
Motion by Ms. Stevens, seconded by Mr. Evans to go into executive session. All yeas.

The council returned from executive session with no action taken.

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



Clarence Burns
Mayor



Robert W. Swisher
City Administrator