

**CITY OF SHEPHERD
BOARD OF ALDERMEN
SPECIAL CALLED MEETING**

28 N. Liberty Shepherd Texas- Shepherd City Hall Council Chambers
Monday, August 12, 2019 6:30 PM

OFFICIAL MINUTES

Regular Called Meeting

Members Present: Charles Minton, Shannon Bailey, Amanda Addison, Yvonne Cones

Members Absent: Mark Porter

City Staff Present: City Secretary Debra Hagler, City Attorney Larry Foerster

Others Present: Lula Fox, Caroline Smith, Gail and Jimmy Freeman, Joe Williamson, Ray Atchley, Neil & DeeDee Adams, Hayden & Bunny Irwin, Bill Arrendal, Cynthia Diese, Lion's Club representatives, Curtis Rose, Jamie White, Jimmy Jett, Pat Reynolds, Jeffery Wright, Roy Rose, Isaac Addison, Mrs. Roane, Michael Gray.

CALLED TO ORDER /INVOCATION

Mayor Charles Minton called the meeting to order and thanked the citizens for coming. He noted Mr. Porter absence. Shannon Bailey led in prayer. Houston Commandery No. 95, Jeffery Wright, Curtis Rose and Roy Rose presented the Flags and led the pledges.

PUBLIC INPUT:

PUBLIC INPUT FOR ITEMS NOT LISTED ON AGENDA:

Gail Freeman: inquired if it would be possible to mail the citizens a copy of any new Ordinances that pass. She stated that the Citizens need to be notified of any New Rules and New Permitting Procedures. An idea was suggested to make a note on the monthly water bill when there is anything new. The Mayor committed to doing a better job of communicating.

Cynthia Diese: signed up to speak but wanted to withhold her comments until the Item F discussion. Item F discussion is regarding Garage Sales and Flea Markets.

OLD BUSINESS:

Discuss and take action to set Culvert specs.

Yvonne Cones made a motion to accept the prices as presented. Amanda Addison seconded and the motion passed with a unanimous vote. The pricing will be \$660.00 determined by materials. It was pointed out that the cost of materials will fluctuate. Jamie will inspect the ditch to determine size. The Customer can use a contractor as long as the end results are to City Specifications. With the permit a final inspection will be required. Mr. Irwin stated that many of the ditches are not working correctly regarding the flow line. Mr. Skinner voiced his concerns regarding the culvert at Magnolia and S. Hill that has been destroyed by school bus traffic.

NEW BUSINESS:

Presentation from the Lion's Club to introduce their organization and inquire if there is interest in Shepherd to start a new club.

Representative of various neighboring Lions Clubs were present to introduce the club to Shepherd and inquire if there would be interest in starting a new club. Mark Roth and his wife Linda, Daniel Shank and Chris Gunstream were present. The club started in 1917 and became known for helping the sight impaired. Today their membership is about 4.5 million worldwide. They also help with diabetes and childhood cancer. The club forms and the members pay a membership fee and monthly dues. They also do local fundraisers. The funds are raised and spent locally. They typically meet in a restaurant or a church and do not have their own facility. No action was taken regarding this item.

Discuss and take action to allow Clay Jones to have one of his contract workers install a temporary travel trailer at 5300 Hwy 59 N to stay in temporarily while doing this job.

Amanda Addison made a motion to grant this variance. Shannon Bailey seconded and the motion passed with a unanimous vote. This is a temporary situation for a contract worker that will also double as security for the building which has already been broken into numerous times. The RV will be connected to City Sewer.

Discuss and take action necessary to address Bill Arrendell's concerns regarding the flooding at the Masonic Lodge.

No action was taken on this item. Mr. Arrendell stated that there have been issues with the sewer backing up into the Lodge Building for several years. He stated they are a non-profit organization and have been trying to absorb the cost. They rent out the bottom floor of the Lodge to other businesses. He stated they have tried to make the building look nice and have recently repainted and put a new roof on the building. He stated firmly, "I want it fixed." He says he is tired of the problem and doesn't want excuses... he wants action. Mr. Arrendell exited the building after his statements. The Public Works supervisor Jamie White stated that the City has some infiltration issues and he suggests having the lines vacuumed and run a camera system. He stated many of the manholes are below grade. He stated that City Hall and the Library suffer during these heavy rains too as a result of the sewer lines being too full to handle the rain waters. He ended by saying this can't be repaired overnight-- it is a work in progress.

Discuss and take action necessary to order an election and to determine the location of early voting.

Shannon Bailey made a motion to order an election and to allow the Election Office to handle the early voting. Yvonne Cones seconded and the motion passed with a unanimous vote. The Community Center will be open Election Day for voting. All early voting will be in Coldspring at the Election Office. The Election office requested to be able to handle all of the early voting as part of the joint election since the SISD requested that the school's early voting be held in the Election Office.

Discuss and take action necessary to implement commercial building setback lines.

Shannon Bailey made a motion to table this item for more research and examples. Amanda Addison seconded and the motion passed. The current Ordinance only addresses residential. The attorney agreed to send us examples from other Cities.

Discuss and take action necessary on Deputy Constable Neil Adams request to adopt an ordinance that would not allow flea markets or garage sales unless a permit is purchased and to control the number of times a year a permit can be purchased.

Amanda Addison made a motion to work on this ordinance more before making a decision. Yvonne Cones seconded and the motion passed with Shannon not casting a vote. After much discussion from citizens and Cynthia Diese who was present representing other citizens that could not be present the suggestions was that no permit would be required but that Garage Sales and Flea Markets could only be conducted Thursday, Friday and Saturday. All sale items must be put away and out of site any other day of the week. The City had no intention of stopping garage sales but is concerned that daily garage sales violate the nuisance ordinance and effects property values of neighbors. Questions were asked regarding whether this would govern businesses as well since the Impact Center is "trashy with rubbish items where it shouldn't be." Neil commended council. Council stated Neil would have discretion regarding this topic.

Discuss and take action to set library hours following the 3 month trial of staying open later.

The Library Director requested that we table this item until she could be present. Shannon Bailey made a motion to table this item. Amanda Addison seconded and the motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Discuss and take action to paint lines on the basketball court, replace the nets and upgrading to LED light fixtures.

Shannon Bailey made a motion to paint the line and replace the nets. Yvonne Cones seconded. The LED Lights were discussed but the decision was put off until a later date. Mr. Freeman suggested using an industrial paint like the ship channel uses. The public works department will handle the labor from this project.

Discuss and take action to move forward with the purchase of acreage adjoining the Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Amanda Addison made a motion to move forward with this opportunity. Shannon Bailey seconded and the motion passed with a unanimous vote. The owner of the property attended the previous EDC meeting. She is willing to work with the City to provide the necessary buffer and to assure the plant doesn't end up landlocked. The Mayor requested the Council consider entering into negotiations with her regarding approximately 6 acres of land. The EDC is willing to partner with the City to acquire the acreage.

APPROVE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Amanda Addison made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Yvonne Cones seconded, and the motion passed with a unanimous vote.

APPROVE MONTHLY PAYMENT OF BILLS

Shannon made a motion to pay the bills. Amanda Addison seconded, and the motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Announcements and Discussion:

None

ADJOURNMENT

Shannon Bailey made a motion to adjourn. Amanda Addison seconded, and the motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Charles Minton, Mayor
Prepared by City Secretary, Debra Hagler