

Regular Council Meeting

February 7, 2018

The regular meeting of the Arlington City Council was held on February 7, 2018 in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building. Present were Councilors: Diane Wetherell, Leslie Walborn, Denise Ball, Robert Christensen, Marshall Swope, Susan Jones, Attorney Ruben Cleaveland, Public Works Superintendent Tim Wetherell and Recorder Pam Rosenbalm. Absent: Mayor Jeffery Bufton. Guests include: Tory Flory, Marion Weatherford, Jim & Alcenia Wright, Leslee Hammer, Peter Mitchell, Riley Bennett, Marta Mikkalo, Lori Wyman, Jenny Smallfoot, Ethan Smallfoot, Julius Courtney, Leah Shannon, Kelly Margheim and Rita Miciak. Council President Ball called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance Recited

PUBLIC COMMENT: There was no public comment.

COMMUNITY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE UPDATE: Leslee Hammer was present and gave a detailed financial report for the Chamber. Marta Mikkalo stated the Chamber is concerned about the roses at the park, and whether or not they will go away due to budget constraints. Marta said the volunteer that was in Arlington last summer worked about 10 -15 hours a week. Marta also reported she has been in contact with the City of Condon, and they hire two employees for seven months; one for the golf course and one for their parks. Stating this is just one option of course.

CONSENT AGENDA: The consent agenda consisted of the following items: **a.** Approval of minutes-January 10, 2018. **b.** Approval of bills as listed. Councilor Walborn motioned to approve the consent agenda. Motion passed unanimously after a second by Councilor Christensen.

JIM WRIGHT-ARLINGTON SECURITY COMMITTEE: Jim Wright was present and stated at their last meeting; D.A. Marion Weatherford was present and explained how the legal process works. Jim stated communication is an important key between all the agencies. Marion Weatherford stated he had acknowledged that Arlington has been under a crime spree, and this committee is important. Marion stated there is a correlation between unemployment, drug abuse and crime. Susan questioned if there was any follow up on the arson from 4 years ago. Councilor Christensen and Ball stated the Gilliam County Sheriff's Office is still working on that.

CHARGE POINT-CHARGING STATION: Attorney Cleaveland stated he had sent a contract to Matt Geise at Charge Point but their Counsel was unable to review it, so they requested to be

on March's Agenda. Public Works Superintendent Tim Wetherell stated something to remember is, when the sprinklers come on, it is going to blow over the charging station. So whatever type of landscaping is there, will get wet, and be blown by the wind.

PPL FRANCHISE: Councilor Ball stated the Power Committee had met and their recommendations are before the Council. The first option is to hire a consultant to prepare an RFP for electrical service. The second option would be to hire a consultant to help establish a city owned electrical department. Lori Wyman from PPL was present and stated she would suggest a five to ten year lease to give the city time to review their options. Stating there is always an addendum stating there can be a change if in writing. There was a discussion on replacing equipment, and tax reform which should be lowering the rates. Lori said they are working on those rates at this time, and in addition to that, PPL had stated they would not raise their rates for 3 years. Lori stated this is a topic she had reported in an earlier meeting and feels that shows a huge commitment. Attorney Cleaveland stated the city needs to have a feasibility study, if they choose to move forward on either suggestion by the Power Committee. It was discussed the cost could be approximately \$80,000 to do that study. Recorder Rosenbalm questioned where that money would come from. Councilor Ball stated the city could apply for a grant. Consensus of the Council was for Attorney Cleaveland to make an offer to PPL for a 2 year franchise with a 2 year renewal option, if agreed to by both parties. Lori stated she would have hoped for a longer term regarding the Franchise, because she thinks it will take the city longer than 2 years and a 2 year renewal. She also stated she would hate to see the city get into a situation where now were at 4 years, and she doesn't know what the next renewal will look like.

ANDERSON PERRY & ASSOCIATES SIDEWALK GRANT: Public Works Superintendent Tim Wetherell stated he met with Brad Baird today, and there may be an issue with being reimbursed from the state, if the city has the engineering for the sidewalks done, before the funds have been received from the state. Brad will investigate this question and will update the Council when he knows more.

COUNCIL ACTIONS APPROVE OR DENY:

Resolution No. 683: Councilor Walborn motioned to approve Resolution No. 683. Motion passed unanimously after a second by Councilor Swope.

R.V. ORDINANCE DISCUSSION: Councilor Walborn questioned if there could be a variance granted from the Planning Commission, to steer away from the strict rules regarding the R.V. residency issue. Attorney Cleaveland stated he would need direction from the Council on whether or not to add the variance in regards to the R.V. owner. He would also need consensus of Council to begin the process of looking into the possibility of a variance, so the Planning

Commission could be involved. It was consensus of the Council to approve the variance portion. Councilor Christensen motioned to consider amendments to current Mobile Home Code. Motion passed unanimously after a second by Councilor Swope.

COUNCILORS REPORT:

- Councilor Jones had no report to give.
- Councilor Swope had no report to give.
- Councilor Christensen reported there will be fire meetings (fire department & fire services) in the next couple of weeks.
- Councilor Ball reported the sanitation department is fine; however, she stated Attorney Will Carey passed away at his home; and reported when and where the funeral services would be.
- Councilor Walborn reported the water and sewer departments are fine.
- Councilor Wetherell reported golf course is running fine.
- Public Works Superintendent Tim Wetherell stated our policy states the city needs to interview current city employees who are interested in his position first before posting outside. Councilor Ball suggested preparing an internal posting and then a public posting, if needed. Councilor's Walborn and Swope will meet with Tim and discuss the job description. Tim reported he has an estimate to repair the railing on the floating dock, there are 2 different finishes. The cost is estimated to be between \$8000 & \$9000. Tim also stated the Kubota tractor is heavily used and there was a discussion on replacing that. These 2 items are to be on March's Agenda which will give time for Tim and Recorder Rosenbalm to review the budget.

Regular meeting adjourned at 8:03 p.m.

Denise Ball, Council President

Pam Rosenbalm, Recorder

