

MINUTES
CITY OF TEAGUE
BOARD OF ALDERMEN
REGULAR MEETING
AUGUST 21, 2017 6:00 P.M.

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ANNOUNCE QUORUM IS PRESENT: *The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by Mayor Earnest G. Pack and Quorum was announced with all the Aldermen seated at their respective places.*

2. INVOCATION: *Scott Matthews, First Baptist Church Pastor*

3. PLEDGE TO THE FLAG: *Alderman Ron Rasbeary*

4. VISITORS/CITIZENS COMMENTS: At this time, any person with business before the Council not scheduled on the Agenda may speak to the Council for a maximum of three (3) minutes. No formal action can be taken on these items at this meeting.

Brenda Ballew, City of Teague resident, expressed her appreciation for all that Chief Daniel Ramsey has done.

Jerry Ballew, City of Teague resident and President of the Neighborhood Watch Group, expressed his appreciation for the support Chief Ramsey, Lieutenant Philpott, Sergeant Keale and the entire Police Department has shown the group. He also commended the Police Department for being instrumental to the first annual National Night Out success. He also commended Chief Ramsey for hosting the first ever Citizens Police Academy. Mr. Ballew spoke about how hard it is to supervise people due to influences of personal emotions, help, friends, family, likes and dislikes. He respectfully requested that the Board of Aldermen leave their personalities and emotions at the door as they go into Executive Session to consider the employment of Chief Ramsey and that the Aldermen have an open mind and consider every possible route that would benefit the residents and all those concerned.

Jakari Levels, Chamber of Commerce Director and the All Smiles Coordinator for Teague Nursing & Rehabilitation, spoke of his relationship with Daniel Ramsey and how he has gotten to know him over the last couple of years. Mr. Levels expressed that Mr. Ramsey, to him, is not just the Chief but a father figure and made him a stronger person. He commended Chief Ramsey for the changes he has made in the community and stated that Chief Ramsey belongs in Teague and he asked that the Aldermen consider the good impact Chief Ramsey has made when making their decision.

Doris Neally, City of Teague resident and representative of B.T. Washington / J. A. Brooks Alumni Association, stated she concurred with the previous speakers and she has lots of respect for Chief Ramsey. She suggests and warned the Council to please not to get in the mode of micromanaging and allow the people you employed to do their jobs. She asked that each member remove anything they have personal from making the decision because none of us are perfect. She represented a thank you letter written by Beauford Daniel, President BTW /JAB Alumni Association, thanking the City of Teague for participating and hospitality during their 18th School Reunion.

Wallace Lanier, City of Teague resident, stated he was at the meeting for 2 reasons, first was because he had never been to a Council Meeting and since day one, Dan Ramsey has been nice and helped him with a personal child custody issue. Secondly, was to express his complaint on a Police Officer that he has personally witnessed him drinking and driving his personal vehicle, in Limestone County. He stated this Officer and another had just recently had a plot going at the Exxon that no matter what, if he pulled out of their drive way they would pull him over. He feels that this one officer just harasses him. Mayor Earnest G. Pack asked him if he had ever reported this issue and he replied no because he was told that since this is a small town it would not help the situation. Mr. Lanier stated that just today he met and spoke with Theresa Prasil, City Administrator / Secretary and was given the complaint forms. Mayor Pack asked Mr. Lanier to come back in the morning or as soon as he can and turn in the complaint form and you and Mrs. Theresa make a plan on how you will report this issue to the Chief or Lieutenant.



Dee King, City of Teague resident, spoke regarding her residency in Teague the last 3 years. She stated that she previously lived near Taylor, TX where Chief Ramsey came from prior to moving to Teague. She stated that you can ask anyone from there and they will speak of how fantastic he was and the bang-up job he did as the Chief in Taylor. She also stated that Chief is helpful and friendly. Mrs. Kings commented on how hard it is to get people to attend the Neighborhood Watch meetings, stating that Dan always attends them. When responding to post on Facebook he responds with integrity. She asks that the Board please look at the positive things he has done in the short time he has been Chief in Teague.

Jason King, City of Teague resident and Vice President of the Neighborhood Watch Group, informed the Board that he moved to Teague, just one county over from where he grew up, because of the great community it has now become. He commended the Police Chief and how he has amped up the Police force, brought the City into the 21st Century, is active in the community, along with Theresa he is big in the National Night Out and the Neighborhood Watch meetings.

Larry Dennis, City of Teague resident, thanked the Council for all they do for the community. Teague holds a special place in his heart and many changes have taken place in Teague. The City Council has hired great and outstanding people to lead the City. Never before has he ever felt that the City has a more organized Police Department. Stated that we need to focus on the positive and the Council needs to build on the positive and not the negative. Mr. Dennis spoke of the programs implemented under Chief Ramsey's leadership to include National Night Out and Neighborhood Watch Group. He asks that the Council reflect on the growth and welfare of the City and that too often we look at the issues and don't see the real problems and address the solutions.

Debbie Sanoja spoke about how it saddens her that the Chief is on the Agenda. She also stated that he is very active in the community with the Neighborhood Watch and National Night Out. She spoke of how Chief Ramsey has an open-door policy and will talk to anyone about anything. She complemented Chief Ramsey for treating her grandson, Case, like his own. She noted that on New Year's Eve at the Cub's Den, Chief Ramsey's wife Tammy came to a party by herself because the Chief was patrolling the streets with his officers. She spoke of the support Chief Ramsey recently provided her and her family during an issue. She asked that the Council please consider the good things that he has done not just the bad.

Scott Matthews, Chief Ramsey's Pastor at First Baptist Church, complemented the Council and the great work they have been doing. Brother Scott Matthews stated that Dan is a man of faith and in difficult matter he calls him and doesn't talk to anyone about the confidential matters but what he does know is Chief is a man of faith. He noted that Dan called him Saturday to come pray with him. He commented that we all fall short and that Dan does try to do the right thing.

Kayln Tieman, Police Officer, stated that she felt she needed to speak from an employee side regarding Chief Ramsey. Officer Tieman spoke of her work experiences including 10 years in the Military, stating she has been to war, wounded, lost a husband, worked for Navarro County Sheriff's Office and many civilian agencies concluding that she has never had leadership like she has with not only Chief Ramsey but also Lieutenant Philpott. She stated that he stands by his officers and behind closed doors if they do something bad he takes care of it and does not announce it to everyone. She thanked everyone for giving her the opportunity to work for Teague Police Department and had heard only good things about the Council and everyone, but she is not seeing that right now due to so much turmoil. She stated she does not know why in the short time she has been here it's like the way it is now but Chief Ramsey is fair to everyone. She commented on how she knows some of the employees don't get their way and don't like it and thinks it is unfair but this is not true they are upset because he is being fair.



5. CONSENT AGENDA:

- a. Approve Minutes from the July 21, 2017 Regular Meeting of the Board of Aldermen
- b. Approve Minutes from the July 26, 2017 Special Called Meeting of the Board of Aldermen
- c. Approve the check register for the month of July 2017
- d. Approve Financial Statement for July 2017
- e. Accept letter of resignation from Matt Stentz, Animal Control / Code Enforcement Officer effective August 11, 2017

Motion to approve the consent agenda was made by Alderman Nickleberry, seconded by Alderman Rasbeary. Motion carried 5-0.

6. OLD BUSINESS: *None*

7. NEW BUSINESS:

- a. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON APPROVING THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION'S 2017-2018 BUDGET:

Alderman Rasbeary noted that there was not a representative from EDC at the meeting.

Motion to approve the Economic Development Corporation's 2017-2018 Budget was made by Alderman Rasbeary, seconded by Alderman Hertenberger. Motion carried 5-0.

- b. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON EMPLOYING THE FIRM OF ANDERSON, MARX and BOHL TO CONDUCT THE AUDIT FOR THE 2016-2017 FISCAL YEAR:

Motion to approve and employ the firm of Anderson, Marx and Bohl to conduct the audit for the 2016-2017 Fiscal Year was made by Aldermen Rasbeary, seconded by Alderman Michaud. Motion carried 5-0.

- c. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON APPROVING SHARON LOPES AS THE DESIGNATED TRANSPORTATION OF ANIMALS FOR THE CITY OF TEAGUE TO ADKINS VETERINARY SERVICE AT A CONTRACTED RATE OF \$50.00 PER ANIMAL:

City Administrator Prasil explained that Ms. Lopes services would be for transportation only, the services would not include chasing and capturing the animals. Also stating that as discussed in the budget workshop the funds that were allocated for Animal Control / Code Enforcement were reallocated to the Police Department's budget.

Alderman Hertenberger inquired how the City's containers that the animals will be held in would get back to the City. Administrator Prasil replied with Ms. Lopes would transfer the animals to her personal containers before transporting.

Alderman Rasbeary asked for clarification on if the Police Officers would be the ones responsible for capturing the animals. Administrator Prasil replied with yes as was discussed in the Budget Workshop. Aldermen Rasbeary commenting he thinks this will take away from the Officers working the streets. Alderman Nickleberry replied with we took the position away due to the budget as we discussed in the Budget Workshop. Alderman Rasbeary stated he understands and just wants the citizens to understand that when the Officers aren't on the streets is because they are chasing an animal because our budget will not allow us to hire another one back.

Motion to approve Sharon Lopes as the designated transportation of animals for the City of Teague to Adkins Veterinary Service at a contracted rate of \$50.00 per animal was made by Alderman Nickleberry, seconded by Alderman Rasbeary. Motion carried 5-0.

Alderman Rasbeary made a statement that he just wants the citizens to understand that when the Police are out chasing these animals sometimes they won't be able to get to some of the calls.

City Administrator Prasil replied Officers will discontinue chasing animals to respond to emergency calls.

d. CONDUCT A PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE PURPOSE OF RECEIVING CITIZENS INPUT REGARDING THE 2017-2018 BUDGET:

Public Hearing opened at 6:40 P.M.

Administrator Prasil presented the 2017-2018 Budget totals for each fund.

Mayor Pack inquired if more money was being spent by the Police Department.

Administrator Prasil responded yes due to the recreation of the Secretary position, the new Police Department and Zelda the K9 dog.

Doris Neally, City of Teague resident, asked when was the last time we had an increase in sales tax.

Administrator Prasil replied with our projected sales tax revenue for next year is estimated to have a slight increase compared to the current years estimates.

Doris Neally, City of Teague resident, asked if we had seen the state of parts of our City, and stated that there is no way a Police Officer can enforce owners to clean up their property. She asked, what is the City planning on doing to enforce the codes to help clean up our City.

Administrator Prasil replied, we will be updating our Code of Ordinances that will allow the City to have more ability to enforce the codes.

Alderman Nickleberry stated that there is progress being made and that the City is enforcing the Ordinances pertaining to substandard properties. He also commented that a report is distributed monthly with the status of each property.

Public Hearing closed at 6:61 P.M.

e. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON APPROVING AND ADOPTING THE 2017-2018 PROPOSED BUDGET; AND APPROVING BUDGET ORDINANCE NO. 2017-08-21 OF THE CITY OF TEAGUE, TEXAS ("CITY") for FISCAL YEAR 2017-2018; FUNDING MUNICIPAL PURPOSES; AUTHORIZING EXPENDITURES; PROVIDING FOR: FINDINGS OF FACT; ENACTMENT; REPEALER; SEVERABILITY; FILING; AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND PROPER NOTICE & MEETING:

Motion to approve and adopt the 2017-2018 Proposed Budget; and approve Budget Ordinance No. 2017-08-21 of the City of Teague, Texas ("City") for Fiscal Year 2017-2018; funding municipal purposes; authorizing expenditures; providing for: findings of fact; enactment; repealer; severability; filing; an effective date; and proper notice & meeting was made by Alderman Rasbeary, seconded by Alderman Hertenberger. Motion carried 5-0.

f. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON APPROVING ORDINANCE NO. 2017-08-21(2) ADOPTING THE 2017 CITY OF TEAGUE TAX RATE OF .755572 PER \$100 OF VALUATION AND THE INTEREST AND SINKING RATE OF .138352 PER \$100 OF VALUATION AND MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONS RATE OF .699622 PER \$100 OF VALUATION:


Motion to approve Ordinance No. 2017-08-21 (2) Adopting the 2017 City of Teague Tax Rate of .755572 per \$100 of valuation and the Interest and Sinking Rate of .138352 per \$100 of valuation and Maintenance and Operations Rate of .699622 per \$100 of valuation was made by Alderman Rasbeary, seconded by Alderman Mims. Motion carried 5-0.

At 6:55 PM Open Session convened into Executive Session

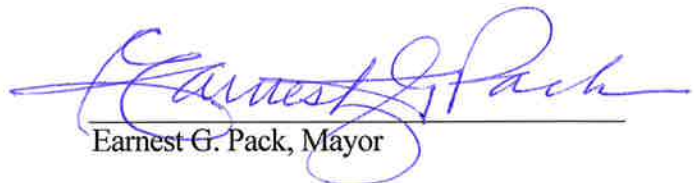
8. **ADJOURN INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION:** The Board of Aldermen will adjourn into executive session to consider the following items:
- a. **Consultation with attorney:** Conduct an executive session as authorized by Texas Government Code, Section 551.071(2) to consult with the City's attorney on a matter in which the duty of the attorney to the governmental body under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct of the State Bar of Texas clearly conflicts with the Open Meetings Act: Legal issues, requirements and procedures regarding the investigation and possible discipline of Police Chief Daniel Ramsey.
 - b. **Personnel Matters:** Conduct an executive session as authorized by Texas Government Code, Section 551.074(a) to deliberate the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of a public officer or employee, or to hear a complaint or charge against an officer or employee: Police Chief Daniel Ramsey.
9. **OPEN SESSION:** *At 8:37 PM Executive Session Adjourned into Open Session.*
10. **RECONVENE INTO REGULAR SESSION AND TAKE ACTION AS NECESSARY ON ITEMS DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION:**
- a. Consideration and possible action on the employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of a public officer or employee: Police Chief Daniel Ramsey.
Motion to table the consideration and possible action on the employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of a public officer or employee: Police Chief Daniel Ramsey was made by Alderman Rasbeary, seconded by Alderman Mims. Motion carried 5-0.
11. **ADJOURNMENT:** *At 8:45 PM motion to adjourn was made by Alderman Rasbeary, seconded by Alderman Nickleberry. Motion carried 5-0.*

The meeting adjourned.

The City of Teague,



Theresa Prasil, City Secretary / Administrator



Ernest G. Pack, Mayor