

**CITY OF SHEPHERD
BOARD OF ALDERMEN
Regular Called Meeting
28 N. Liberty, Shepherd City Council Chambers
Monday, September 12, 2022, 6:30 PM
OFFICIAL MINUTES**

Regular Called Meeting:

Members Present: Charles Minton, Mark Porter, Curtis Ainsworth, Hayden Irwin, Ray Marrs, Yvonne Cones

Members Absent:

City Staff Present: City Secretary Debra Hagler, Larry Foerster

Others Present: Christi Andrews, Clint Headley, Jamie White, Robert Findley & Family, M. Stephenson with the Middle School JROTC, Shantal, Douglas Bradley and Daughter Savanna.

CALLED TO ORDER /INVOCATION

Mayor Minton called the meeting to order. Larry Foerster led in prayer. The pledges were recited, and the Middle School JROTC presented the flags.

PUBLIC INPUT: Douglas Bradley-Retired Security Officer and a 22-year veteran brought his daughter to the meeting. They are fans of the library and wanted to make a few comments. Mr. Bradley stated he would like to see more programs to keep kids away from drugs. Ms. Savanna expressed that she thinks the library should be open more. At least until 5:00. Council member Ms. Yvonne Cones stated that the library hours were temporarily changed to accommodate the Full Time Employee being on vacation.

PUBLIC INPUT FOR ITEMS NOT LISTED ON AGENDA: NONE

REPORTS:

Terri MacIntyre was issued a "Welcome Back" as she had been away on vacation. Deputy Headley presented a written report. He was asked about any ordinance violations.

Public Hearing for the tax rate and budgets for the 2022-2023 year. No one from the public was present to speak. The attorney asked the proposed tax rate and was given a response. The Mayor concluded the Public Hearing.

OLD BUSINESS

Discuss and take action on road maintenance request from Shantal Pope at 2400 E. Beverly

Mark Porter made a motion to table this item for additional information or additional quotes. Curtis Ainsworth seconded, and the motion passed with a unanimous vote. Ms. Pope explained that when it rains the road cannot be traveled in a car. The price quoted from Public Works Director Jamie White was \$65,000 for base and rock- 2 culverts will be needed. The approximate length of the road is 1800 feet. Ray Marrs asked where does the water go? The response was drainage from The Ragsdale Subdivision come across this road as natural drainage. Ms. Pope's home is the only one on this road at the current time. Jamie is to get additional quote on clay for the next meeting.

Discuss and take action to extend the sewer on S. Byrd as request by Mr. Hall.

Mark Porter made a motion to agree to extend the sewer line if Mr. Hall is willing to pay the cost. Ray Marrs seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. The price for pipe is estimated to be \$3454. This will be an extension of approximately 340 feet. Jamie is confident that it will make grade.

NEW BUSINESS

Discuss and take action necessary on concerns from Ashley Cisnerois regarding signs in the Cherry Creek Subdivision and the change in the school bus stops.

No Action was taken on this item as Ms. Cisnerois was not present to present her concerns.

Discuss and take action necessary on request from Guendy Overturff to create a parking area on the street at 40 Knighton for a multi-family home.

Curtis Ainsworth made a motion to table this item for more information. Yvonne Cones seconded, and the motion passed with a unanimous vote. Ms. Guendy's husband was present to answer questions. Jamie was instructed to get with Ms. Overturff regarding this parking area as it looks like it will be entirely on the Overturff's property.

- Note: Mark Porter had an emergency and left the meeting

Discuss and take action needed regarding a Manufactured Home Variance for Robert Findley on his 1.4-acre tract on Shoemaker Road.

No action was taken on this item. Mr. Findley expressed his appreciation to the City for installing some no dumping signs. Mr. Findley had not made a final decision of the use of this property therefore he asked many questions. There was no action required after listening to Mr. Findley.

Discuss and take action needed regarding a Manufactured Home Variance request on Ross Ave- Block 32- Lot 6&7 for Daniel Landaverde

No Action was taken on this item. No one was present with information.

Discuss and take action regarding Manufactured Home Variance request for Rolondria Web on Seals Ave

Yvonne Cones made a motion to grant this variance if Ms. Web is compliant with the permitting requirements. Hayden Irwin seconded, and the motion passed with a unanimous vote. Ms. Web has purchased three lots. Part of her property is bordered by an undeveloped road. She has intentions of installed a Manufactured Home on one of these lots and eventually a new home on one of the other lots. The size of the three lots are 1.77 acres, 1.08 acres and .277 of an acre.

Discuss and take action needed regarding Enrique Cuellar to install a Tiny Home at 184 Burrell.

No action was taken on this item. Mr. Cuellar was not present to discuss this matter.

Discuss and take action to allow Samantha Matocha to live in an RV while she is renovating the existing home at 101 Mimosa.

No Action was taken on this item. Ms. Matocha was not present. This property was recently addressed by Deputy Headley. There are squatters in the home, and each received a citation. They claim to have lived in this home for the past 4 years although with no utilities. The home has been owned by a Company and it seems. Ms. Matocha just purchased this home at an auction. She will have to address the issue of squatters before she can begin work on her new home.

Discuss and take action to approve Ordinance #338 Regarding Entergy Rate increase

Custis Ainsworth made a motion to approve this Ordinance which will deny the request from Entergy regarding a rate increase. Ray Marrs seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Discuss and take action to contract with Greater East Texas Community Action Program "Water Assistance Program" a non-profit organization that pays utilities for qualifying citizens

Yvonne Cones made a motion to contract with this organization. Curtis Ainsworth seconded, and the motion passed with a unanimous vote. The contract requires the City to agree to not disconnect a client they are working with and have pledged to pay their bill.

Discuss and take action to accept the 2021 Audit as presented

Mark Porter made a motion to accept the Audit as presented. Curtis Ainsworth seconded, and the motion passed with a unanimous vote. The Mayor addressed this agenda item out of order to accommodate Mr. Brooks. The auditor stated that the City's finances are healthy and in good shape. He also gave several recommendations, many of which he has given in the past which result from limited staff.

Discuss and take necessary steps to create a Police Department

Curtis Ainsworth made a motion to take necessary steps to research this. Hayden Irwin seconded the motion. It passed with a unanimous vote. Curtis also made a motion to have a public hearing on this matter at the next meeting. Ms. Yvonne Cones seconded, and the motion passed with a unanimous vote as well. The Attorney is to draft an ordinance to establish a police department and to create a position as Chief of Police. This topic was discussed and prepared for during the budget workshops. Funds were placed in the budget in the expectations that a Police Department will be approved. With the interlocal agreement with the Pct 2. Constable Department players, procedures and equipment have been set in place. The City and her needs are big enough to justify their own Police Department.

Discuss and take action to approve the 2022-2023 tax rate of .17674 per \$100.00 which will create no new revenue.

Yvonne Cones made a motion to approve this tax rate. Ray Marrs seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Discuss and take action to approve the 2022-2023 budgets.

Curtis Ainsworth made a motion to approve the budgets as presented. Ray Marrs seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. The General Fund, The Utility Fund and the EDC budgets were presented and approved. The Police Department was included in this budget.

Minutes:

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

Payment of the Bills:

Custis Ainsworth made a motion to pay the bills. Ray Marrs seconded, and the motion passed with a unanimous vote.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

ADJOURNMENT: 8:18pm

Curtis Ainsworth made a motion to adjourn, and Yvonne Cones seconded. The motions passed with a unanimous vote.

Charles Minton, Mayor
Prepared by City Secretary, Debra Hagler