

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

28 N. Liberty Shepherd Texas- Shepherd City Hall Council Chambers
Monday, September 9, 2019 6:30 PM

OFFICIAL MINUTES

Regular Called Meeting

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

Members Absent:

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

Others Present: Joe Williamson, Isaac Addison, Lula Fox, Caroline Smith, Jonathan Skinner, Gail Freeman, Ray Atchley, Helen & PJ Johnson, Pat Reynolds, Phyllis, The JROTC and Marice Stephenson, Alvie Ellis, Samatha Taylor, Lisa Alamazon, The Tanners

CALLED TO ORDER /INVOCATION

Mayor Charles Minton called the meeting and Public Hearing to order and stated that Shannon Bailey was running just a few minutes late. Mark Porter led in prayer. The Shepherd ISD JROTC presented the flags and the pledges were stated.

PUBLIC HEARING: Tax Rate and Budgets

There was no comments regarding the tax rate nor the budgets therefore the meeting continued

PUBLIC INPUT:

PUBLIC INPUT FOR ITEMS NOT LISTED ON AGENDA:

Gail Freeman: expressed her desire to know what the "new" rules and regulations are. She desires to have a short list of the "Do's and Don'ts" mailed to her as she doesn't use the computer much. The Mayor said the codes are on the City Website and it was mentioned that possibly they could be displayed in the Library.

Carolyn Smith: Inquired why her water is yellow. She was told they would come flush her lines.

OLD BUSINESS:

Discuss and take action on concerns from Bill Arrendell regarding flooding of the Masonic Building

No Action was taken on this item. Mr. Arrendell was not present therefore being perceived that he is satisfied. Mr. Arrendell has been concerned with the sewer lines backing up at the Masonic Lodge. The Public Works Department discovered and repaired a sink hole that was allowing infiltrations into an 8 inch sewer main when the area has rainfall. The Public Works Supervisor discussed with him that gutters on the Lodge Building would be beneficial as well as the fact that the foundation has settled causing the need to step down into the building when entering which indicated that the sewer lines inside the building are probably damaged.

NEW BUSINESS:

Discuss and take action regarding Johnathan Skinner's concerns about the bridge on Hill Street.

Mr. Skinner stated that he has experience as a combat engineer for the marines and giving regulations from TXDOT regarding bridges. He addressed his concerns regarding the safety of a bridge on Hill St and the School Bus traffic. TXDOT representatives met onsite with Jamie and school employees and stated this does not meet the definition of a bridge because it is two large culverts with designated space in between. Mr. Skinner also mentioned the growth on the culverts. At this time the City is satisfied with TXDOT's response that the culverts are in compliance and therefore not a safety risk.

Discuss and take action on request from Lisa Almazan to temporarily reside in a camper trailer until her Certificate of Occupancy can be obtained for 57 Old Oak Lane.

No action was taken on this item. Ms. Almazan started by addressing a lady in the audience and firmly stating she takes offense to being call "trashy." She added, "It's not neighborly or Godly." Ms. Almazan went on to add that she has had

some issue with her builder. She added that at this point all of her required inspections have been completed. She asked for a variance to reside in her RV until she can obtain her Certificate of Occupancy. The Mayor addressed her request by telling her that she is addressing the wrong audience. Since her neighborhood has a Civic club that restricts this then the Council cannot grant the variance she had requested. She stated the Club is not meeting.

At 7:05 the Council excused themselves to enter into executive session to discuss Personnel matter pertaining to the budget. The Audience was asked to step outside. Mr. Pat Reynold objected very strongly that the wrong agenda was put out for the audience. He was told that the correct agenda had been posted. It was also explained to him that in any meeting the Council has the privilege to choose to enter into executive session.

**Council entered into executive session at 7:07pm
Council adjourned Executive session at 7:28pm**

Discuss and take action to adopt the rollback tax rate of .2286 per/\$100 as the 2019-2020 tax rate.

Yvonne Cones made a motion to adopt the effect tax rate of .2117. Mark Porter seconded and the motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Discuss and take action to adopt the 2019-2020 Budget.

Shannon Bailey made a motion to adopt the Budget as presented and with the discussed changes. Yvonne Cones seconded and the motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Discuss and take action to adopt the 2019-2020 EDC Budget.

Yvonne Cones made a motion to adopt the EDC Budget as presented. Shannon Bailey seconded and the motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Discuss and take action necessary regarding pay rates of City Employees.

Yvonne Cones made a motion to raise the Public Works Supervisor pay rate \$2.00 per hour. Shannon Bailey seconded and the motion passed with a unanimous vote. Amanda Addison made a motion to give all the other employees a 1% raise in pay. Shannon Bailey seconded and the motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Discuss and take action to set Rates and Fees for the Water and Sewer Department.

Mark Porter made a motion to increase the base water rate by \$5.00. Yvonne Cones seconded and the motion passed.

Discuss and take action to install GPS gadgets on City Vehicles and Equipment.

Mark Porter made a motion to table this item as it was not discussed in the budget process. Amanda Addison seconded this. The motion passed with Mrs. Cones abstaining from the vote.

Discuss and take action on the City Vehicle Policy.

Mark Porter made a motion to limit the use of City Vehicles to the Supervisor and the person on call. Shannon Bailey seconded and the motion passed with Mrs. Cones voting against.

Discuss and take action necessary regarding threats from hacking and ransomware.

No Action was needed on this item. The Mayor informed the council that the City has a firewall and software that gives some defense. The Attorney stated that there is a new state law that will require every government employee to train in this area.

Discuss and take action necessary regarding mapping requirements.

No Action was taken on this item. Efforts will be made to obtain a map with the ETJ to put online.

APPROVE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

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

APPROVE MONTHLY PAYMENT OF BILLS

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

Announcements and Discussion:

The Mayor announced that a burn ban is in effect.

The Attorney asked for permission to review subdivision platting requirements. Mr. Tanner took this opportunity to address the council and express his displeasure at the evaluation set on his building project and he complained about how aggressive Eli had been to him. The Council agreed to address this.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Charles Minton, Mayor
Prepared by City Secretary, Debra Hagler