

**CITY OF SHEPHERD
BOARD OF ALDERMEN
Regular Called Meeting
28 N. Liberty, Shepherd City Council Chambers
Monday, March 13, 2023, 6:30 PM
OFFICIAL MINUTES**

Regular Called Meeting:

Members Present: Charles Minton, Mark Porter, Curtis Ainsworth, Ray Marrs, Yvonne Cones, Susan Daniels

Members Absent:

City Staff Present: City Secretary Debra Hagler, Larry Foerster

Others Present: Lindsey Marrs, Gil Smith, Mr. Lee, TDEM Rep-Tim Kramer, Eddie Ray, Matthew Greer

CALLED TO ORDER /INVOCATION

Mayor Minton established a quorum called the meeting to order. Yvonne Cones led in prayer. The pledges were recited.

PUBLIC INPUT:

The Mayor Reminded those present that there is a 3-minute limit, no action can be taken on non-agenda items.

Tim Kramer representing TDEM invited council to the "Roadshow" on March 22, 2023, from 1:00pm-4:00pm.

PUBLIC INPUT FOR ITEMS NOT LISTED ON AGENDA:

None

REPORTS:

Clint Headley: Deputy Headley mentioned his appreciation that Solomon got rid of the junk vehicles behind Pat's Stop N Drive. He also spoke about a public nuisance issue at 101 Mimosa. He reported that the Sheriff Department had made an arrest connected with the thefts of the local Dollar General stores. Mainly Cigarettes were being targeted. He stated that he helped with traffic for the Baseball Opening Day Parade.

PUBLIC HEARING: Ordinance #343 to abandon a portion of the alley of Block 54.

Mr. Lee asked for clarification of which Block this was. There were no other comments in this public hearing.

OLD BUSINESS

Discuss and take action to adopt Ordinance #343 to approve the abandonment of a portion of the alley in Block 54 of the Shepherd Townsite and to authorize the sale of this portion of alley to Jefferson C. Langham Sr.

Susan Daniels made a motion to approve this Ordinance. Yvonne Cones seconded the motion and the motion passed with a unanimous vote. The Attorney gave a recap explaining that a Public Hearing is part of the process to abandon the alley and still provide a fee simple title if the property is to be sold. The City can set the appraised value using the SJC Appraisal Districts information. Mr. Langham will still be required to produce a survey in order to prepare a deed. He will also be required to pay for the legal fees and notices. This will allow for a more fruitful use of property and a greater tax base for the City.

Discuss and take action to adopt Ordinance #345 regarding alarm systems.

Yvonne Cones made a motion to adopt this ordinance. Curtis Ainsworth seconded the motion and it passed with a unanimous vote. This ordinance is an attempt to keep current contact information to citizens and businesses with an alarm system and to prevent the Law Enforcement Officers from being dispatched to false alarms. This Ordinance will need to be advertised to the Public.

NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Yvonne- Presentation of Senate Resolution No. 151

Ms. Yvonne stated that the Chamber of Commerce offices from San Jacinto County Day were invited to the Capital for a tour. She stated this was very interesting. They were presented with a resolution which is to be displayed in Shepherd City Hall's foyer.

Discuss and take action to select a grant administrator for application and management services related to 2023-2024 TxCDBG-CD.

Yvonne Cones made a motion to select Raymond K Vann & Associates as they have been tried and true. Curtis Ainsworth seconded the motion and the motion pass with Susan Daniels abstaining from the vote. The other applicant was Patrick Wilkshire.

Discuss and take action to select an engineer for application and engineering services related to 2023-2024 TxCDBG-CD.

Curtis Ainsworth made a motion to select Goodwin Lasister Strong as the engineering service for these grant funds. Yvonne Cones seconded the motion and the motion passed with a unanimous vote. Integrated Marketing was the other applicant.

Discuss and take action on variance request from Lindsey Davidson to place a portable building beside Donny Marr's shop on Hwy 150 to be used as a Barber Shop

No Action was taken on this item. This doesn't meet the Ordinance or Building Codes to comply with safety. Lindsey requested to install a 2019 12x20 storage building which will be used as a Barber Shop. She stated this will help Shepherd grow and there is a need for this in our community. It was explained that portable buildings tend to devalue, plus the safety issues create the reasons to discourage Portable Buildings for Commercial Use. To grant a variance for one could set a precedence. Because of these factors the Council was not inclined to make a motion to grant a variance, therefore Ms. Lindsey was not granted approval.

Discuss and take action to grant a Real Estate Variance for Gil Smith

Yvonne Cones made a motion to allow the attorney to research De- annexation. Curtis Ainsworth seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Discuss and take action on request from Larry Hammond representative of the Masonic Lodge to use the Community Center for a fund raiser-waive fees on April 29th.

Mr. Hammond withdrew his request before the meeting. No action was taken on this item.

Discuss and take action on questions from William Lee regarding status on drainage in the Dixon Subdivision as well as junky yards and to discuss future growth of city plans for the City.

No Action was taken on this item. It was merely a discussion item.

Discuss and take action to appoint a Municipal Judge.

No Action was taken on this item.

Discuss and take action on requests from Mike Rose to install new streetlights on Finger.

Yvonne Cones made a motion to install 3 lights. Susan Daniels seconded, and the motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Discuss and to contract and appoint a background investigator (Ray Atchley or Chief Sparks) to conduct a background check on Clint Headley as part of the Shepherd Police Department Chief position.

Curtis Ainsworth made a motion to appoint Ray Atchley to conduct this background check on Clint Headley as Chief of Police. Ray Marrs seconded the motion and it passed with a unanimous vote.

Discuss and take action hire a public works director.

Yvonne Cones made a motion to hire Matthew Greer. Curtis Ainsworth seconded, and the motion passed with a unanimous vote. Matthew has a B sewer license and a C water license.

Minutes:

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

Payment of the Bills:

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

ADJOURNMENT: 8:22

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