

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

28 N. Liberty Shepherd Texas- Shepherd City Hall Council Chambers  
Monday, July 22, 2019 6:30 PM

**OFFICIAL MINUTES**

**Regular Called Meeting**

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

**Members Absent:**

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

**Others Present:** Rick Hanna, Eli Hernandez, Representatives of the Tribe including Tony Averitt, Raj Dalwadi, Jimmy Jett, Mr. and Mrs. Jason Church and their seven children, Pat Reynolds, Buddy Roher, Isaac Addison, Clay Jones, one more lady that I didn't catch her name.

**CALLED TO ORDER /INVOCATION**

Mayor Charles Minton called the special called meeting to order and thanked the council for their cooperation in rescheduling the Council meeting in consideration of his work schedule. Mark Porter led in prayer. The pledges were stated.

**PUBLIC INPUT:**

**PUBLIC INPUT FOR ITEMS NOT LISTED ON AGENDA:**

**Mr. Buddy Roher:** He stated that Ragsdale incorporated into the City of Shepherd in 1976 and the roads haven't been touched since then. He reminded those present that they have to City Sewer services either. He then addressed his displeasure about a new resident that buys storage building contents for a living and it's scattered over this property. He also stated there are animals on this property that are in the sun most of the day and states that is animal cruelty. Mr. Roher was informed that Deputy Constable Neil Adams is already working with the homeowner to gain compliance.

**Clay Jones:** He stated he purchased the property that used to be Charley's Tire. He stated he now has opportunity to utilize the property. He has a man working for him from Louisiana that will be staying temporarily on the property while working for Mr. Jones. The property has been broken into and the AC stolen. He was building a fence to secure the property and he got stopped for not having a permit. He was upset at the manner in which this happened. He stated he would gladly have visited City Hall to purchase a permit with just a simple phone call to inform him of the necessity but he was displeased that the fence contractor was not allowed to finish the job.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Discuss and take action to begin procedures to change the effluent at the Sewer Plant.**

Shannon Bailey made a motion to proceed. Yvonne Cones seconded. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Flag Presentation by Houston Commandery No. 95**

No representatives were present at the meeting.

**Discuss and take action on a Resolution of Support for the passage of H.R. 789 to clarify that the Tribe can enjoy the opportunity for tribal economic development on terms that are equal and fair and to protect jobs.**

Yvonne Cones made a motion to show the Tribe support by a resolution of support. Shannon Bailey seconded and the motion passed with a unanimous vote. Tony Averett- Executive Director of Economic Development addressed the board. He had the public relations director and the IT guru with him as well as other representatives from the tribe. A presentation was shown on the TV screen. The tribe asked for support for passage of H.R. 789 which will allow them to continue with the electronic bingo. The representative's spoke of how part of the monies received has been returned to the local community through various programs. They stated they purchased several manufactured homes recently for people who had lost their home in recent storms. Mr. Averett informed the board that 9 of their employees are from San Jacinto County but many people pass through our City headed to the Naskila Gaming.

**Presentation by Alan Mooneyham, representing the US Census Bureau.**

Mr. Mooneyham was not present

**Discuss and take action regarding the water pipe issue that keeps happening in front of Paula Moore's house at 120 S. Railroad.**

Shannon Baily made the motion that Jamie fixes this problem. Mark Porter seconded and the motion passed with a unanimous vote. In conversation with Jamie earlier in the day he told Mayor Minton that he believes that he can have this problem fixed within 30 days.

**Discuss and take action on request from Jason Church to approve a 10 acre tract of land on Dirden Road to be divided into lots no smaller than half an acre each to be sold as a package deal with a manufactured home.**

Shannon made a motion that the City is open to the idea of subdividing this property if it meeting requirements and follows all procedures. Mark Porter seconded and the motion passed with a unanimous vote. Mr. Church explained that he has 8-10 acres that he wants to see to Clayton Homes. Clayton Homes will subdivide the property and then sell the lots and a home as a package deal. The attorney states that even though each lot will be individually owned it is a subdivision by definition. He asks about drainage and suggests the land be surveyed and approved by an engineer. The board did not grant the variances stating this is outside their normal procedure of granting a variance but they did commit to saying they are open to the idea.

**Discuss and take action if necessary to authorize the city attorney to file a lawsuit to collect the Hotel Occupancy Taxes owed the City by Rajesh Dalwadi and Aumsai Corporation.**

Mark Porter made a motion to table this item for 3 months with Raj paying \$4000.00 a month plus keeping the current taxes current and if he fails to fulfill his agreement the City will move forward full throttle with a lawsuit. The City has received no payment since 2017. Raj asked for a payment plan and stated he would pay this off within 6 months. Dividing the balance by 6 months is equal to the \$4000.00 a month. He was told no checks. Mr. Dalwadi agreed to this.

**Discuss and take action to set Residential Building Permit Fees.**

Yvonne Cones made a motion that we accept option 2. Mark Porter seconded and the motion passed with a unanimous vote. The fees were changed so that they were based on something besides evaluation. Synergy explained that option 2 is the cheaper of the options and it does not hurt their overhead. This option is based on square footage evaluations. Eli stated that by choosing this option it is also showing the citizens that "we" are listening and scaled back the fees. The need to cross train was discussed and the need to communicate.

**Discuss and take action to update the Drought plan as required by TCEQ.**

Amanda Addison made a motion to table this. Mark Porter seconded and the motion passed with a unanimous vote. Discussion was made to see if our emergency management coordinator might have this document as well as checking with our engineers to review the current document and make suggested changes.

**Discuss and take action to set Culvert specs.**

Shannon Bailey made a motion to table this and get Jamie involved with suggest fee revisions. Mark Porter seconded by adding that Shannon should get involved with the process as well. The motion passed with Yvonne Cones abstaining from the vote. Shannon agreed to assist in getting a procedure written to be presented back to the council with will include a fee schedule.

**Discuss and take action to hire a part time person for the Public Works Department.**

Yvonne Cones made a motion to honor Jamie's suggestion and hire Travis Hopkins for the Part time position. Amanda Addison seconded and the motion passed with a unanimous vote.

**Discuss and take action to set a budget workshop for the 2019-2020 budgets.**

Yvonne Cones made a motion to set the workshop on August 19 at 6:30 pm. Mark Porter seconded and the motion passed with a unanimous vote.

**APPROVE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

S made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Yvonne Cones 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:**

Yvonne Cones stated she is very glad that Shannon was present. (Shannon has had a recent surgery)

**ADJOURNMENT**

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

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Charles Minton, Mayor  
Prepared by City Secretary, Debra Hagler