



**CITY OF WHITEWRIGHT
City Council
Called Meeting
MINUTES
111 W. Grand
June 18, 2018
10:30 a.m.**

The City of Whitewright met for a Called Meeting, Tuesday, June 18, 2018 at 10:30 a.m. in the Whitewright Visitors Center, the same being open to the public with the following members present:

Councilmember Sarah Beth Owen
Councilmember Bart Bodine
Councilmember Rick Magers
Councilmember Randy Glover
Councilmember George Fenner

Others present: Mayor Jamie Lawrence, City Secretary Tona Shippet, Dwayne Henderson, Brandon Latimer, June Gail Purdom

1. Call meeting to Order and Establish a Quorum:

Mayor Lawrence called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. and established a quorum. Councilmembers Owen, Magers, Bodine, Glover, and Fenner were present.

2. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance:

Randy Glover gave the Invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Open Workshop: For planning purposes for upcoming budget and priorities of work for Whitewright.

3a. Public Works

3b. Fire/EMS

Public Works Director Brandon Latimer spoke regarding the budget for his department. Topics included pay rate for employees, equipment needs, vehicle replacement schedule, tracking work orders, and stocking parts for water/sewer repair.

The immediate needs wish list includes a portable or new building to be located at the sewer plant to store chlorine according to TCEQ guidelines. A minimum of two new pumps to use when repairing leaks are also requested. Attachments needed to clean ditches are also needed, but can be rented as necessary versus purchased.

A meeting with KSA about the new water tower will be setup to discuss details with the council, followed by a town hall meeting to present information to the community. Extending the ETJ and the resulting effect on the water system was also discussed.

Fire Chief Dwayne Henderson spoke regarding an idea to increase volunteer retention by providing an annual stipend for those who attend 25% of calls and attend 50% of scheduled training.

Code updating is a priority, with the expense being the labor to work on them, followed by council approval. A ladder truck is on the wish list, but is a lower priority. A vehicle replacement fund would be beneficial for all department. Radio communication needs to be improved, and research will be done to see if it's possible to lease instead of purchasing in order to be able to upgrade easily.

Historically, the City has done an annual one-time pay increase of 3% of yearly wages. Chief Henderson is considered a part-time employee and has not been eligible in the past, but asked if it would be possible to do so. Tona Shippet stated there was only one other permanent part-time employee in the library, so if the policy changed it should be for both employees.

General discussion included the suggestion of generating a monthly financial report for each department head, to allow them to know where they stand in the current budget and assist in creating future budgets. It was also proposed to issue debit cards to department heads, with a purchase limit, to allow them to purchase small items without seeking preapproval. Processing of old debts, such as court fees and water deposits, were described.

4. **Update council and discuss pending TASA sidewalk grant and funding:**

Councilmember Owen said she spoke with Kelly Selman after the 4A and 4B councils had met, and he had talked with TXDOT about our TASA grant. He was told the City had been issued the wrong agreement and the discussion about who was administering the grant was misinformed due to the incorrect agreement. It would also be possible to modify the project and get an answer back in under two weeks.

Mayor Lawrence has spoken with Michael Schmitz of Antero Group and was advised it would be easy to scale back the project's scope if needed. They had also reviewed the overlap between TASA's 80/20% funding and TXDOT's 100% funding project has also been taken into consideration. The TXDOT grant includes new sidewalks and ADA access along FM 151 from West of Carter Street to East of May Street and FM 898 from Grand Street to approximately 1 block South of Pine Street.

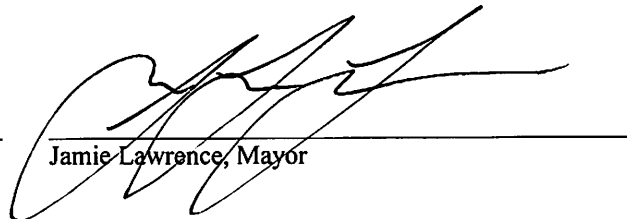
5. **Adjourn:**

Councilmember Glover made the motion to adjourn Councilmember Owen seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

ATTEST BY:



Tona Shiplet, City Secretary



Jamie Lawrence, Mayor