

City of Elm Springs Council Meeting February 22, 2018

The Elm Springs City Council met February 22, 2018 @ 6:30 p.m.

Mayor Harold Douthit called the meeting to order, followed by prayer, led by Derl Howerton, and the pledge of allegiance.

Roll call was taken and the following members were present: Allan Huddleston, Steve Roberts, Sarah Downum, Roberta Peters, Jeannie Burks, and Derl Howerton. City Attorney Jay Williams was also present.

The January minutes were presented for approval. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Derl Howerton and seconded by Allan Huddleston. Roll call was taken and all approved.

The January financials, including Sewer, were presented for approval. A motion to approve financials was made by Allan Huddleston and seconded by Jeannie Burks. Roll call was taken and all approved.

Reports

Police- Chief Hiatt gave the report. Court dates have been very busy. Mary Norman has been extremely busy so we are looking for a part time employee, working 20-29 hours weekly, to help both clerks. The qualifications are listed on the city's website. 3 cash drawers have been added so we now have 4 separate cash drawers to avoid mistakes.

An approval is needed to increase money for court cash from \$200.00 to \$400.00, dispersed over 4 boxes, \$100.00 in each box. A motion was made by Jeannie Burks and seconded by Steve Roberts to approve the increase of \$200.00 for court cash. Roll call was taken. All approved.

Mayor Douthit will be out of the country February 23rd, to March 5th.

Planning- Included in packet
There was 1 lot split.

Inspection- Included in packet

Ambulance- Included in packet

Elm Springs/Cave Springs Fire Dep't.- Included in packet

Mayoral Update

1. Work is progressing on Phase II of Elm Valley and East Lake project.
2. The Mayor received a note from the folks of the old "Wind Farm" property. There may need to be a correction if the Mayor stated earlier there would be ½ acre lots and should have said 1 & ½ acre lots are planned and may be annexed into the city of Elm Springs at a later date.
3. Inquiries have been received from residents of Camelot who are looking into opening a preschool/daycare facility in town. The Mayor has several properties in mind that may have potential and will be working with them regarding that.
4. The Mayor is still working with FEMA regarding reimbursement money and expects another \$70,000.00 to \$80,000.00 paid to us. One reason for the holdup is Sulphur Springs was listed on the work sheet instead of Elm Springs.

New Business

A change is needed to be in compliance with the labor laws. The \$100.00 being paid to Connie Newman for recording Planning minutes, should be converted over to an additional .58 cents hourly wage. Connie stated that in the past, Council members and Recorders received the same pay and that she wanted to be fair. After discussion, the Mayor stated that the Council needed to decide if Recorders of meetings, Connie Newman and Twila Taylor, should receive \$100.00, or \$200.00 monthly, to match Council members raise for 2018.

A motion was made to convert the recorder pay for \$100.00 per month to \$.58 cents per hour, added to the weekly wage regarding Connie Newman by Derl Howerton and seconded by Steve Roberts. Roll call was taken and all approved. Since the 58 cent increase replaces the \$100.00, no raise was given to Connie Newman. The pay would remain \$100.00 also, for Twila Taylor and no raise was given.

Old Business

1. There is a burned out trailer, that has set for 1-2 years with no cleanup, on Spring Lane that is unsightly. Matt Casey informed Casey Jackson there is a method to address that. The Mayor stated to avoid the expense of cleaning

up the property, Mayor Douthit will be in touch with the property owner to hopefully correct the situation.

2. There is a home where construction has not been completed. Allan Huddleston also voiced concern that it would be a hazard if there was an incident, requiring first responders, no one should enter the home since it is potentially unsafe. The Mayor hopes that issuing a situation will remedy the problem since it has been successful in previous cases.
3. Discussion was brought up regarding the lack of lighting at the intersection of Lake Rd. and Elm Springs Rd. Mayor Douthit will look into that.
4. David Gilbert was present & addressed the Council regarding the survey for the NACA Sewer line. It is still being worked on and there have been delays. A draft will be sent in to meet the April 1st deadline. Decisions regarding pumps, power phase, and line size are all a factor. Mr. Gilbert is working to get the best arrangement for the city.
5. Jay Williams mentioned since there is nothing in the budget regarding pay for a part time person to work 20-29 hours per week, at an anticipated \$10-\$12 per hour, that we need to get a budget approved with those perimeters.
A motion to approve the budget was made by Derl Howerton and seconded by Jeannie Burks. Roll call was taken and all approved.
6. Police Chief did say the phone system is being changed over to a less expensive system with numerous benefits and capabilities. Mayor Douthit commended Chief Hiatt regarding acquiring the new phone system.

With no other questions or comments a motion to adjourn was made by Roberta Peters and seconded by Sarah Downum. All approved. Meeting adjourned.