

City of Elm Springs Council Meeting January 25, 2018

The Elm Springs City Council met January 25, 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, Roberts Peters, Jeannie Burks, and Derl Howerton.

Sarah Downum was absent. The city attorney Jay Williams was not able to attend and was represented by his colleague, attorney Joel Kurtz.

The December 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 December financials (including Sewer) were presented for approval. Roll call was taken and all approved.

Reports

Police- Chief Hiatt stated that Officer Bonilla had an accident while in pursuit of a felon. He was not injured, but the patrol car has been totaled and will be replaced with a 2017 vehicle. The roof has been repaired and excess money was used for other improvements. Mayor Douthit asked everyone to follow him to the other side of the building to see the improvements that have been made.

Planning- Matt Casey covered the history for the Ordinance to amend certain use provisions. There have been several properties zoned commercial that are actually used for residences. We allowed for some exemptions. A zoning map is also in progress.

Inspection- Included in packet

Ambulance- Included in packet

Elm Springs/Cave Springs Fire Dept.- Included in packet

Mayoral Update

The Mayor reported that the state of the city hasn't changed much since last months report. The city account started out at the beginning of the month with \$884,717.00 and after all bills paid

\$918,869.00 was left, which is a good start for the year.

Regarding the sewer survey, not sure how much has been done so far, but it is in progress and should be completed this month. Acquisitions for right of ways and easements should begin after that and we anticipate getting the information to the Health Dept. by the end of March and hopefully we will have that done between April and May.

Regarding flood damage, we have received checks for \$7,000.00, and \$29,000.00. Paperwork has been signed for another \$12,000.00. 2 major projects are in progress. The sewer project where the creek washed out is in the final stages. \$74,000.00 was spent and the city will receive 75% of that back.

The Mayor will follow up on clean up of burned out residence.

Allan Huddleston asked if we had plat or plan for the Lake Rd subdivision. They do have a work permit to build just not the final plat.

New Business

The Mayor has been working on the sales tax issue for years. When an Elm Springs citizen purchases merchandise, they are charged the Springdale tax instead of Elm Springs tax. It makes no difference to the Post Office if the city of Elm Springs receives sales tax money. A resolution has been drawn up that will benefit the city so that we will have our own identity. We will send a letter to the Postmaster General requesting a last line change of the address. A motion to approve the Resolution was made by Derl Howerton and seconded by Jeannie Burks. Roll call was taken & all approved.

The Ordinance to amend certain use provisions was brought before the Council. A motion to suspend the rule and read by title only was made by Allan Huddleston and seconded by Roberta Peters. Roll call was taken and all approved. The Mayor read the Ordinance. A motion to pass the Ordinance was made by Jeannie Burks and seconded by Derl Howerton. Roll call was taken and all approved.

A motion to invoke the emergency clause was made by Allan Huddleston and seconded by Roberta Peters. Roll call was taken and all approved.

Regarding the Elmdale Estate subdivision, the engineer had left the firm and there had been a gap of communication. Drainage issues have been addressed, and dirt work has been approved. The second phase of Elm Valley is progressing very well.

With regard to the former windfarm property, variances had been given and now, they wish to reduce that to smaller lots. They were advised they would need to come before the planning Commission again for proposed ½ acre lots and wish to be annexed into the city.

The third subdivision west of the city is in the beginning stages. Matt Casey and the Mayor recommended they hire an engineer to help them.

The Mayor is excited about the new year.

Franchise fees that we have worked on are all in place and are being collected. It has made a significant change in the city's income.

With no other comments Derl Howerton made a motion to adjourn and seconded by Allan Huddleston. Roll call was taken and all approved.

The Meeting was adjourned.