

City of Elm Springs

Council Meeting

May 25, 2017

The Elm Springs City Council met on Thursday, May 25, 2017 at 6:30 p.m. Mayor Douthit called the meeting to order followed by prayer, led by Dixon Platt and the pledge of allegiance. Roll call was taken. The following members were present: Sarah Downum, Roberta Peters, Jeannie Burks, Steve Roberts, and Allan Huddleston. Also present was Attorney Jay Williams. Derl Howerton was absent.

The minutes from May 25, 2017 meeting were presented. Allan Huddleston made a motion to approve the minutes. Motion seconded by Jeannie Burks and approved by all.

The Financials, (including Sewer), were presented. Jeannie Burks made a motion to approve the financials. Sarah Downum seconded the motion and approved by all.

Reports

Police-To be presented later in meeting by Chief Hiatt.

Planning- Matt Casey reported property line adjustments, Camelot drainages issues and, laying ground work for accessory structure ordinance changes were topics discussed at last meeting.

Inspection- Included in packet

Sewer- Included in packet

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

Ambulance- Included in packet

Mayoral Update

1. Miranda Taylor has been terminated / Mary Norman introduced as new court clerk.
2. Regarding roads in Benton Co.; Gov. Asa Hutchison has declared this a disaster; Mayor is hopeful FEMA will address situation and see the needs; Emergency repairs made to Downum and Snavelly Rd. culvert and Sewer line off Scott Hill west of bridge that washed out; Continuing work on numerous issues caused by recent flooding.
3. Working on chip and seal for streets.
4. Received confirmation by mail Sewer Bond interest lowered from over 4 % - 2.75%.
5. We now have \$55,000.00 of the required \$ 58,000.00 down payment for the NACA agreement . Our attorney is in the process of conducting contract negotiations regarding the amount of monthly payments.

New Business

The Mayor addressed the public regarding the Camelot flooding issues. After problems are identified and responsibilities are established, we will implement a plan to alleviate the situation. The Mayor stated that the City of Elm Springs will do what is required.

1. Tim Heilman presented potential plans to remedy flooding issues in Camelot. Mayor Douthit opened public comment to Camelot residents to speak regarding their issues. There were several comments and questions from the residents that voiced their concerns and were very informative.
2. Because there is a limit to Mayoral expenditures and repairs need to be made in a timely manner, Mayor Douthit asked Jay Williams for advice as to what the procedure should be to get approval regarding spend money on urgent repairs of flood damage. Jay Williams advise as follows:
 - A. Get bids & request council authorize expense not to exceed a certain amount
 - B. Call for a special meeting
 - C. Wait for next council meetingThe mayor will take Jays' advice and get bids for Council to approve.

Chief Hiatt presented the Police report at this time.

1. There have been several rear end accidents mainly due to construction
2. A new police car is needed
3. Chief Hiatt has acquired equipment thru a military program over last 18 months.

Mayor Douthit & Chief Hiatt have used personal vehicles to pick up these items.

After 1 yr. we can sell items and this money will allow the city to purchase a new police car.

Old Business

The Mayor stated that, with the excess money from these sales, along with the 988 fund, we can purchase a Bobcat excavator. This equipment would allow city workers to perform duties faster and safer.

Uses:

1. Clean ditches
2. Clean plugged culverts
3. Pick up brush

Council approval is needed before negotiations to purchase necessary equipment can be made.

David Gilbert presented the process needed to address the flooding issues before solutions can be reached. He stated caution needs to be taken in making changes to solve the problems so that it doesn't cause bigger problems. He also addressed questions from concerned residents. The recent excessive rains appear to be a 100 yr. event.

A resident voiced concerns about saving trees and was advised to speak to the Planning Commission.

The Mayor asked the Council to consider points made earlier regarding finances. The city has had money left over each month, for several months, after all bills have been paid.

With no other business or public comments, Sarah Downum made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Roberta Peters. Meeting adjourned.