



CITY OF WHITEWRIGHT
City Council
Regular Meeting
Whitewright Visitor Center
111 W. Grand
February 7, 2017
Minutes

The City Council of Whitewright met for a Regular Meeting Tuesday, February 7, 2017 in the Whitewright Visitors Center, the same being open to the public with the following members present:

Councilmember	Bart Bodine
Councilmember	Russell Ponder
Councilmember	Ruby Howell
Councilmember	John Simon
Councilmember	Jason Summers

Others present: Mayor, Jeremiah Looney, Gwyn Jordan, Cathy Pierce, Beau Heistand, Brandon Latimer, Tona Shiplet, Laurie Summers, Martha Mangrum, Sarah Beth Owens, Roger Palmer, Cathy Pierce, Chris Ely, Mike Martin, Larry Jordan, Joshua Clouse, Joanna Duevel, Dwayne Henderson, Brandi Robertson, Wende Andrews, Chris Douglas, Jake Hartline, Mark Kline, Randy McBroom, Rick Magers, Connie Magers, Susan Armstrong, Laura Freer, Lance Freer, Cody Clouse, Zach Farmer, Evan Ratcliff, Chris Ratcliff, Ryan Kneels, William Ratcliff and Elijah Goodfriend.

1. Call meeting to Order and Establish a Quorum:

Mayor Looney called the meeting to order and established a quorum at 5:30 p.m.

2. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance:

Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance was given and led by Councilmember Jason Summers.

3. Recognition of Boy Scouts Troop in Attendance:

The local Boy Scout Troop had to attend a council meeting in order to obtain their next badge. They addressed the council and asked what they can do for our city.

4. Action Items:

4a. Approval of Minutes from the Called Meeting dated January 24, 2017:

Councilmember John Simon made a motion to approve the minutes from the January 24, 2017 meeting. Councilmember Russell Ponder seconded the motion. Motion carried. 5-0

5. Citizens Forum: *(State law prohibits the City Council from considering or deliberating on any item not listed on the posted City Council agenda. A person may address the Council on items not on the printed agenda. Comments are limited to three (3) minutes. The Council may not comment or deliberate regarding such statements or comments during this period. Any discussion of the subjects must be limited to a proposal to place the subject on the agenda for a future meeting. Sec. 551.042 of Open Meeting Act)*

Wende Andrew addressed the council with her concerns for the 3rd (third) year. She stated that there were major issues on Farley Street. The city needs to put signs up. Trucks have destroyed the street. Wende is willing to partner with the city to help resolve this issue. Sarah Beth Owen came before the council with her concerns. Sarah stated that on June 8th, 2016 that an email was sent from our elected Official – Place 1 Mr. Jason Summers to the elections office at Grayson County. Sarah read the email out loud to the board. Mr. Summers was using his position on the council to seek to verify voter registration and if Sarah voted in the last election. Sarah stated that there were three more emails going back and forth from Mr. Summers from his elected place 1 office. Ms. Owen also had two written statements from Tona Shiplet and Brandi Robinson stating that Mr. Summers came into city hall on Sept. 20th asking for Sarah's water bills for the past 2 to 3 years. On October 13th Mr. Summers wrote an email to the city secretary stating that he was preparing information for the November council meeting and asked for Sarah's water usage. Sarah stated that she was officially submitting her request for Mr. Summers resignation from city council.

6. Action Items:

6a. Consider and approve Planning and Zoning request for Joanna Duevel @ 207 N Sears allowing for a 4" setback on south property line and a 2' setback on the west property line in order to demolish and erect a garage in the same location and a fence to be built to match the existing fence on the south property line.

Councilmember Bart Bodine made a motion to approve the request. Councilmember John Simon seconded the motion. Motion carried. 5-0

6b. Consider and approve current bills for payment:

Councilmember Russell Ponder made a motion to approve the current bills for payment. Councilmember Bart Bodine seconded the motion. Motion carried. 4-1 (Councilmember Jason Summers voted nay on paying the current bills).

6c. Consider and approve Monthly Departmental Reports:

After each monthly report was reviewed, Councilmember John Simon made a motion to approve the Monthly Departmental Reports. Councilmember Ruby Howell seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0

6d. Consider and approve Police Departmental Racial Profiling Report:

Councilmember John Simon made a motion to approve the Police Departmental Racial Profiling Report. Councilmember Ruby Howell seconded the motion. Motion carried. 5-0

6e. Consider and approve Planning and Zoning Commission Members and Zoning Board of Adjustments Members:

Rick Magers will be head of the planning and zoning board. Jason Summers stated that he would like one name changed on the Planning and Zoning Commission. He requested that they remove Sarah Owen and move one of the alternates to that place. His reasons for this was related to issues brought up and her disregard for the laws and ordinances. Mr. Summers would like to see more water go under that bridge before they consider her for that position. Sarah stated that she has put a lot of time in the past few weeks compiling a planning and zoning book. Councilmember John Simon made a motion to approve the list as is. Councilmember Russell Ponder seconded the motion. Vote was 2 for – 3 against. Motion did not pass. Councilmember Jason Summers made a motion to approve the list but replace Sarah Owen's name with one of the alternates. Councilmember Ruby Howell seconded the motion. No count was taken. Mayor Jeremiah Looney stated that he would get with Rick and go over the names. Councilmember John Simon made a motion to table this item at this time. Councilmember Russell Ponder seconded the motion. Vote was 2 for – 3 against. Motion did not pass. Rick Magers made a statement that he feels the people on the list are all qualified and that we need to work together as a team. Councilmember Jason Summers made a motion to approve the planning and zoning commission – removing Sarah Owen's name and replacing it with one of the three alternates then leaving the board of adjustments as it is. Councilmember Ruby Howell seconded the motion. Motion carried. 3-2 (Russell Ponder and John Simon voted against the motion.)

6f. Consider and approve amendment of Whitewright Municipal Code, Chapter 4, Solid Waste:

Councilmember Ruby Howell made a motion to approve the amendment of the Whitewright Municipal Code Chapter 34, Solid Waste. Councilmember John Simon seconded the motion. Motion carried. 5-0

6g. Consider and approve estimate from Grayson County to repair Bois D'Arc street in Westside Mobile Home Park:

Councilmember Jason Summers made a motion to approve the estimate for the street repair on Bois D'Arc Street in the Westside Mobile Home Park. Councilmember John Simon seconded the motion. Motion carried. 4-1 (Russell Ponder voted nay). The council asked them to get a quote for all the roads.

7. EXECUTIVE SESSION – The Council may convene into Executive Session for: Deliberation on Personnel Matters: (Texas Government Code, Section 551.074) – deliberate the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of a public officer or employee. **Council Convened to Executive Session at 6:25.**

7a. City Secretary, Fire Chief, Police Chief, EMS Supervisor, and Public Works Supervisor:

7b. Police Personnel – PIP Review:

Council may re-convene into Regular Session:

8. Action Items: Consider and act upon items listed under Item 7 – Executive Session as necessary:

Council Meeting re-convened at 8:21 p.m.

8a. City Secretary, Fire Chief, Police Chief, EMS Supervisor and Public Works Supervisor:

Councilmember John Simon made a motion to add Cathy Pierce as the new city secretary pending she accepts the salary package offered to her and to approve Gwyn Jordan as city clerk. Councilmember Russell Ponder seconded the motion. Motion carried. 5-0

8b. Police Personnel – PIP Review:

Councilmember Jason Summers made a motion to terminate Susan Armstrong's employment with the City of Whitewright. Councilmember Russell Ponder seconded the motion. Motion carried. 5-0

9. Informational Reports: (These reports are for information only. No discussion is appropriate unless there is a specific item listed below or there is a request that the item be placed on a subsequent agenda as a discussion and action item. Sec. 551.0415 of Open Meetings Act):

9a. Mayor's Report:

Update on Projects Mayor Looney updated the Council that we were doing the creek bids on February 16, 2017. The civic center is 80% done so the police and EMS will be moving in there soon.

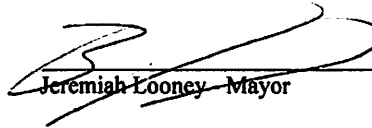
New Projects None
9b. Council Concerns – None

10. Adjourn:

**Councilmember John Simon made a motion to adjourn. Councilmember Jason Summers seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.
Meeting adjourned at 8:23 p.m.**

ATTEST BY:


Cathy Pierce – City Secretary


Jeremiah Looney Mayor