

## **MINUTES OF THE POINT BLANK CITY COUNCIL**

**July 16, 2024**

The Point Blank City Council met in regular session on Tuesday, July 16, 2024, at the Point Blank Civic Center in Point Blank, Texas.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Mark Wood, Mayor  
Mel Basham  
Mike Pagel  
Matt Smith  
Jim Woods

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT: Gary Wulf

OTHERS: Penny Fiederlein  
Kelly Hoot

### **CONVENED**

Mayor Wood called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m. A quorum was present, and the meeting was called to order.

Mayor Wood commented that Mr. Wulf was unable to attend the meeting tonight.

### **READING OF SECTION 42.05 OF THE PENAL CODE, DISRUPTION OF A MEETING OR PROCESSION**

Mayor Wood did not read Section 42.05 of the Penal Code.

### **SWEARING IN OF NEWLY ELECTED ALDERMEN**

Ms. Hoot swore in Jim Woods, as Alderman Place #3.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Mayor Wood informed the Council that Judge Faulkner had signed a county disaster declaration as a result of the damage from Hurricane Beryl. Therefore, the mayor signed a disaster declaration for the city so residents will qualify for FEMA assistance.

Mayor Wood said the county has a huge problem with trees since the hurricane and they are removing trees from the roadways first. It may be several weeks or months before everything is cleaned up. He had a meeting with FEMA last week and asked about hiring a mulching company and having residents bring their tree limbs to a common area to have it mulched or burned.

There is so much red tape involved that it probably isn't worth it.

### **MINUTES**

Mayor Wood said the minutes of the June 10th meeting needed Council approval. Mayor Wood asked for a motion to approve the minutes.

Mr. Smith made a motion to approve the June 10, 2024, minutes.

Mr. Pagel seconded the motion which passed (4 ayes, 0 nay).

### **CONSIDERATION, DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE VOTE ON STREET REPAIRS**

Mayor Wood said that everyone took pictures of the street damage and sent them to him. He said he probably received 400 photos of street damage. The issue will be to prove that the damage was caused by the flood. FEMA is allowing the city to group several damaged areas into one in order to meet the \$3,900 threshold. The Council agreed that there has been a lot of damage done to the streets.

Mr. Pagel said there was an area on the road by the park in North Woods where two big holes have occurred since the rain.

Mr. Smith mentioned that street repairs were done by the resale shop and those repairs have not lasted two years. The repaired area has really fallen apart since the flooding. He suggested using the chip and seal mixture there to keep it from getting worse.

Mayor Wood said he had gotten a quote to do one mile of Governor Wood and seal it and the price was about \$5000. He will get a quote on it.

### **UPDATE ON SHORT TERM RENTALS**

There were no updates on the STRs.

### **UPDATE ON GRANTS**

Mayor Wood informed the Council that the block grant has officially begun. The city received its first bill from the grant writer (GrantWorks) in the amount of \$8,970. The environmental impact study should be completed soon.

The MIT-MOD grant is still on hold. The Housing and Urban Development Dept. wanted an additional survey to make sure it is an economically challenged area.

### **CONSIDERATION, DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE VOTE ON TEXAS MUNICIPAL LEAGUE CYBER LIABILITY AND DATA BREACH RESPONSE COVERAGE**

Mayor Wood distributed a handout from TML on the proposed increase in cost of the cyber liability coverage. He informed the Council that this service was added to the insurance policy several months ago for a cost of \$43.75 per quarter. As of September 1<sup>st</sup>, TML is increasing the

rate to \$1000 per year or \$250 per quarter. Mayor Wood asked the Council if they wanted to continue the coverage or drop it on September 1.

Mr. Smith made a motion to discontinue the Cyber Liability coverage.

Mr. Pagel seconded the motion which carried (4 ayes, 0 nays).

### **CONSIDERATION, DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE VOTE ON ANNUAL REVIEW OF MAYOR PRO-TEM**

Mayor Wood explained that Mel Basham has served as Mayor Pro-tem for the past few years. He said she has served the city well but the position needs to be reviewed annually and the Council has not done it. He asked the Council to decide whether they would like Ms. Basham to continue as Mayor Pro-tem or nominate someone else.

Mr. Smith made a motion to maintain Ms. Basham as Mayor Pro-tem.

Mr. Woods seconded the motion which carried (4 ayes, 0 nays).

### **CONSIDERATION AND DISCUSSION OF FY25 BUDGET**

Mayor Wood distributed copies of the proposed budget for FY25. He informed the Council that this was the first of three readings of the budget before it would be approved in September. The proposed budget is \$184,820 and that does not include any grants or FEMA funds. He asked the Council to review the budget and make any recommended changes at the next meeting when the budget is reviewed the second time.

### **LEDGER REPORTS**

Mayor Wood reviewed the ledger reports.

The balances are:

First State Bank Checking Account	\$214,493.29
First State Bank Grant Account	\$2,875.02
Petty Cash	\$13.60
First National Bank Savings Account	\$137,691.67

Sales tax for the month was \$9,066.49

Mayor Wood said the city is \$5,456.06 above where we were last year in sales tax revenue.

### **MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Wood did not have any other comments.



### **COMMENTS FROM ALDERMEN**

Mr. Smith suggested having each subdivision come up with a common area where trash could be taken and the garbage trucks could pick the garbage up from that area. This would keep the heavy trucks off of the streets three times a week.

Council discussed charging a franchise fee to the trash companies.

Mayor Wood asked the city secretary to contact the three waste management companies that serve the area and discuss this with them. The trash companies are Piney Woods Sanitation, Pro Star Waste, and Waste Management.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

There was no executive session.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Wood said if there were no additional comments, he would like to ask for a motion to adjourn.

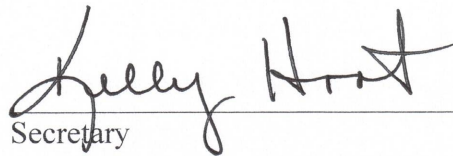
Ms. Basham made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Mr. Woods seconded the motion which passed (4 ayes, 0 nays).

The meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.



Mayor



Secretary