

CITY OF GLADEWATER  
CITY COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION  
MINUTES  
JULY 17, 2008  
6:00 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Walter Derrick, Mayor Pro-tem John Ussery, Jimmy Williams, Joe Derouen, Jerry Williams, Scott Owens, Richard Parrish, Jr.

STAFF PRESENT: Jay Stokes, Melba Haralson, Larry Player, Farrell Alexander

GUESTS PRESENT: Carol Ussery, Charles Meadows, B.K. Johnson, Brenda Brown, Gene Keenon, Eunice Daniels Hector, John Choice, Mark Carpenter, James M. Ford

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Derrick called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Mayor Pro-tem Ussery gave the invocation and Councilmember Owens led the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. CONSIDERATION OF CONSENT AGENDA

- a) Minutes – June 19, 2008
- b) Resolution authorizing the filing of a grant application with the East Texas Council of Governments for a Regional Solid Waste Grants Program
- c) Consideration of water service outside the city limits at 11212 FM 2685
- d) Investment Report for quarter ending June 30, 2008

Mayor Pro-tem Ussery moved to approve, seconded by Councilmember Parrish. Carried 6-0.

III. PUBLIC HEARING regarding demolition of structures at;

- a) Abstract 200, G.A. Thomason Survey, Tracts 20-28, more commonly known as 2204 E. Broadway
- b) Lots 1-15, Blocks 133-135, Wood Heights Addition, more commonly known as 608 Virginia Street

Mayor Derrick opened the public hearing at 6:05 p.m.

Structure a) There were no public comments.

Structure b) Dub Floyd, stated the property is owned by his mother and he will have a contractor tear the house down. He explained that the delay was due to an arson investigation and trial. City Manager Stokes said we certainly always hope for voluntary compliance, but recommended that the Council go ahead and approve the demolition in case something falls through.

Inspector Larry Player said we will have to wait a minimum of 30 days after the demolition order is approved to start work.

Councilmember Owens said he knows Dub Floyd to be a man of his word and suggested we give him 60 days to have the demolition done. Mr. Owens also commented that he appreciated Mr. Player bringing demolition requests before the Council and would like to see him become even more aggressive in this area.

Mark Carpenter, 2301 Woodbine, commented that he asked Mr. Player how he could help with abandoned cars. He was told that it used to be handled by the police department and now it's part of code enforcement. Mr. Carpenter said he would like to see it go back to the police department to take pressure off Mr. Player.

With no further comments, Mayor Derrick closed the public hearing at 6:12 p.m.

CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

July 17, 2008

Page 2

IV. CONSIDERATION of demolition of structures at;

- a) Abstract 200, G.A. Thomason Survey, Tracts 20-28, more commonly known as 2204 E. Broadway
- b) Lots 1-15, Blocks 133-135, Wood Heights Addition, more commonly known as 608 Virginia Street

Structure a) – Councilmember Owens moved to approve demolition, seconded by Councilmember Derouen. Carried 6-0.

Structure b) – Councilmember Owens moved to give Mr. Floyd 60 days, then to proceed with City demolition, seconded by Councilmember Jimmy Williams. Carried 6-0.

V. CONSIDERATION of street sweeper service

City Manager Stokes said Longview Bridge & Road subbed out B Z & Sons Sweeping and Washsing (Bob & Zack Stumpf) to do street sweeper work at the airport and they approached him about doing work for the City. He said the City of Jefferson is using his service once a month and he's doing a good job. Mr. Stokes said our curbs have a lot of growth and gaps in overlay. Earlier in the week Mr. Stumpf gave an impressive demonstration of the sweeper. He recommended a thorough one-time sweep. We are not sure how many curb miles there are in Gladewater, but a rough estimate of 4 curb miles will cost \$4,500. Mr. Stokes recommended using funds budgeted for street work and get the entire city done initially.

[Councilmember Jerry Williams entered the meeting at 6:15 p.m.]

Mayor Derrick was impressed with the demonstration and said it will be the beginning of the end of unsightly curbs. Mayor Pro-tem Ussery and Councilmember Owens commented that it needs to be widely publicized so cars will be off the street. Councilmember Derouen and Councilmember Jimmy Williams voiced agreement. Councilmember Jimmy Williams added that our city is in pitiful shape and the residents don't help by blowing grass and leaves into the street.

Councilmember Jimmy Williams moved to permit City Manager Stokes to go forward to whatever extent necessary to procure services for the single event street sweeping. Motion was seconded by Mayor Pro-tem Ussery. Carried 7-0.

VI. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

- a) Hampton/Hackberry drainage update
- b) Update on Gay Avenue drainage
- c) Update on grants
- d) National Night Out update
- e) FY 2009 budget calendar
- f) TML annual meeting in October
- g) Special recognitions
- h) Update on new lot at Lake Gladewater

City Manager Jay Stokes gave the following report;

- a) The Hampton/Hackberry drainage project looks good. The property owners fully cooperated and sod is down in both yards.
- b) Don Bouse, Engineer from Stokes & Associates said Dual Construction is doing a good job. So far 1,000 out of a total of 1,300 feet of pipe has been replaced. He said there is a little erosion under the bridge but no damage is noted. Mr. Bouse said we are in good shape to have the work done before school starts.
- c) City Manager Stokes gave progress updates on the Main Street grant, Airport grant, HOME grant, Weldon Bumblebee Park grant, 2006 TCDP grant, Texas Capital Fund grant, and the Master Plan grant.

CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

July 17, 2008

Page 3

- d) Chief Farrell Alexander said the National Night Out event will be held on October 7<sup>th</sup>. Asst. Chief Clay Robertson will be heading up the event and is looking for hosts and donations.
- e) The budget workshop will be held July 24<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. at the Gladewater Center for Community Education.
- f) The TML Conference will be held this year in San Antonio on October 29-31<sup>st</sup>. Any Council member that wishes to attend should let us know quickly so reservations can be made.
- g) We have a lot to be proud of in Gladewater. 1.
  - 1. Fire Chief Wayne Smith is in his 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> year instructing at Texas A & M Fire School.
  - 2. The recycling program is going really well; servicing 168 households this month according to organizer Judy Burlison.
  - 3. City Secretary Melba Haralson is the Northeast Texas Municipal Clerk of the Year. She is competing against 15 other regions in the State for the TMCA clerk of the year. An announcement will be made in October.
  - 4. Police Chief Farrell Alexander has utilized the services of Gregg County inmates to remodel/repaint the Police Department. It looks great.
  - 5. GEDCO Director and Main Street Manager Lon Welton has been elected President of North East Texas Economic Development Roundtable, which represents 23 counties.
  - 6. Mayor Walter Derrick is the Gregg County appointee to the East Texas Council of Governments Executive Committee.
  - 7. Harry and Jamie Ballard have volunteered to maintain the City Hall sign planter box.
  - 8. Saturday, August 2<sup>nd</sup> at 9:00 a.m. the track and field at Weldon School will be named the "Walter Derrick Sports Complex".
- h) No bids were received on the new lake lot. This will be discussed at a later date.

VII. CITIZENS COMMENTS

None.

VIII. ADJOURN

Councilmember Parrish moved to adjourn at 6:50 p.m., seconded by Mayor Pro-tem Ussery. Adjourned by consensus.

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WALTER DERRICK, MAYOR

ATTEST:

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MELBA HARALSON, CITY SECRETARY