

CITY OF GLADEWATER
CITY COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION
MINUTES
JUNE 19, 2014
6:00 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Harold Wells, Mayor Pro-tem J.D. Shipp, Leon Watson, Lana Niemann, Elijah Anderson, Scott Owens

STAFF PRESENT: Sean Pate, Melba Haralson, Paul Jaap, Wayne A. Smith, Judy Van Houten, Michael Kirkwood

GUESTS PRESENT: Robert Haberle, Jim Bardwell, Nick Foster, Memori Ruesing, Linda Wells, Norma Lacy, Alfred Lacy, Charles Mouton, Margaret Larkins, Mark, May, Marilyn Bolden, Mark Carpenter, Jan Greenwood, Elaine Roddy, Mark Kutz, Madison Hood

I. CALL TO ORDER – Mayor Wells called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

- a) Invocation – Councilmember Anderson
- b) Pledge of Allegiance – Councilmember Niemann

II. CITIZENS COMMENTS

None

III. CONSIDERATION of Consent Agenda

- a) Minutes – May 19, 2014 and May 22, 2014
- b) TML MultiState Intergovernmental Employee Benefits Pool Interlocal Agreement
- c) TML MultiState Intergovernmental Employee Benefits Pool COBRA Continuation of Coverage Administrative Agreement

Councilmember Watson moved to approve, seconded by Councilmember Owens. Carried 6-0.

IV. CONSIDERATION of replacement member to East Texas Council of Governments Board of Directors

Mayor Pro-tem Shipp moved to appoint Councilmember Owens, seconded by Councilmember Niemann. Carried 5-0-1, with Owens abstaining.

V. DISCUSSION, CLARIFICATION and POSSIBLE REVISION to Gladewater Code of Ordinances §30.62 with respect to the Airport Board’s authority regarding lease of platted hangar sites

Alfred Lacy, Chairman of Airport Board, 200 Oak, stated the Airport Board doesn’t want random siting of hangars. The Board wants to make a recommendation on the site.

City Secretary Haralson explained the reason this came about was because the Airport Board called her actions into question by accepting lease money for platted hangar sites. She said the standard procedure for well over 20 years has been that persons interested in leasing ground space or hangars come to City Hall and pick out the site they want from an engineered site plan map. The sites are leased on a first come-first serve basis. The Airport Board is requesting that this procedure change so that they recommend the site instead of the prospective lessee picking out their own site. She said the current ordinance states *“The Gladewater Municipal Airport Advisory Board shall make recommendations to the City in respect to ground leases, construction, expansion, improvements, future plans and maintenance of the operation of the airport. The Airport Board shall review and approve the design of all hangars and buildings to be erected on the airport before a building permit will be issued.”* Clarification is needed due to a difference in interpretation of the ordinance. The Airport Board believes the ordinance gives them the authority to recommend the site, while staff believes the Airport Board gave recommendation on location of sites when the site plan was engineered, and those platted sites should continue to be leased on a first come first serve basis at City Hall. Building plans are still approved by the Airport Board before a building permit is issued.

Mayor Pro-tem Shipp gave an example that if it was his money he would want to choose where to build a home or lease an apartment. This is the same concept.

City Manager Pate said we have a plat of hangar sites. There should be no problem as long as they stay within the meets and bounds of the platted sites.

Councilmember Owens said he doesn't know why we need to change procedure, but we need to keep the lines of communication open.

Paul Jaap, Public Works Director/Airport Manager, said the Airport Board approves plans before a building permit is issued and it still needs Council approval, although it has never been to Council. He asked for clarification on that aspect.

Councilmember Owens moved that there be no change in the procedure followed for the last 20+ years, seconded by Councilmember Watson. Carried 6-0.

VI. CONSIDERATION of Main Street Board appointment

City Manager Pate stated in April the Main Street Board unanimously nominated Lois Reed to fill a vacancy.

Mayor Pro-tem Shipp moved to appoint Lois Reed, seconded by Councilmember Anderson. Carried 6-0.

VII. CONSIDERATION of a request from the Gladewater Juneteenth Celebration Association for a water slide rental for event to be held at Bumblebee Park on June 21, 2014

Marilyn Bolden asked the Council to rent an inflatable water slide for the kids for one day since the splash pad is not done yet.

Councilmember Owens asked what the cost would be and Ms. Bolden responded \$297. Councilmember Niemann questioned the city's liability. Councilmember Owens explained that state law won't allow the City to use tax dollars for renting a water slide and it would be a liability to the City. Each council member gave Ms. Bolden a personal donation to cover rental of the water slide.

VIII. CONSIDERATION of letter to Smith County ESD #2 regarding agreement negotiations

City Manager Pate stated there have been ongoing negotiations with Smith County Emergency Services District #2 for the past year. He said there is an undefined coverage area that our Fire Department services beyond our ETJ (extra territorial jurisdiction) for \$5,000 per year per an Interlocal Agreement. This was done primarily as a supporting role to the Winona VFD, but often Gladewater is the first responder and Winona never shows. He said we requested a map and they sent one that covers 23.4 square miles. The City of Gladewater is only 12.5 square miles. The requested coverage area is almost twice the size of Gladewater. Response time and personnel are a concern as well as leaving the City unprotected while on a call in Smith County. The funding is also a concern. Smith County ESD #2 allocates \$50,000 to Winona VFD to cover this same area.

Mayor Pro-tem Shipp explained we have been paying \$5,000 for an undefined area. We asked for a defined area and increased amount of funding. They gave us a map but didn't assign additional funding. He said Winona is getting about \$50,000 to cover the same area but questioned whether that was enough. He said we leave Gladewater open unless we can increase staff and equipment for a cost of about \$350,000.

Fire Chief Wayne Smith stated he drove the area to determine the response time and it was about 15 minutes, but there are bridges that won't carry the load of the trucks. He said the letter will ask them to redefine a smaller area. If no agreement is reached then we cannot leave Gladewater exposed.

City Manager Pate said there will be sticker shock. People that live in that area are not being well represented by Winona but they are paying taxes to SCESD, not to the City of Gladewater.

Councilmember Owens moved to ratify and send the letter to Smith County ESD #2, seconded by Councilmember Watson. Carried 6-0.

Marilyn Bolden said she lives in that area and cited a recent fire where Gladewater wasn't able to respond. She said Winona VFD came out but they didn't have any water. They are paying taxes but getting no service.

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Chief Smith clarified that Smith County calls are dispatched from Tyler. Mayor Pro-tem Shipp added that Smith County notifies Winona and we rely on Winona to notify us.

IX. CONSIDERATION of ordinance regarding permitting and inspection in the City's ETJ (Extra Territorial Jurisdiction)

City Manager Pate said there was a recent development in our ETJ on Highway 271 South. The way our city limits run out there is narrow. He said the charter is written to regulate health and safety in the ETJ. He said this ordinance is requested to simplify for staff. He said we will bring in Gregg County Fire Marshal to assist us with fire inspections.

Councilmember Watson moved to approve, seconded by Councilmember Anderson. Carried 6-0.

X. EXECUTIVE SESSION pursuant to Government Code 551.074 regarding:
a) Appointment of City Prosecutor
b) Vacancy of City Council Place 4

The Council recessed into executive session at 6:38 p.m.

XI. RECONVENE into open session and take any action necessary regarding;
a) Appointment of City Prosecutor
b) Vacancy of City Council Place 4

The Council reconvened into open session at 7:20 p.m. and took the following action;

Councilmember Owens moved to appoint Madison Hood as the City Prosecutor, seconded by Councilmember Watson. Carried 6-0.

Mayor Pro-tem Shipp moved that letters of interest and qualifications for vacant City Council Place #4 be sent to the City Secretary by close of business on July 10, 2014. A notice will be published in the newspaper as well as the city website. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Anderson. Carried 6-0.

XII. ADJOURN

Mayor Pro-tem Shipp moved to adjourn at 7:23 p.m., seconded by Councilmember Anderson. Adjourned by consensus.

HAROLD R. WELLS, MAYOR

ATTEST:

MELBA HARALSON, CITY SECRETARY