

CITY OF GLADEWATER  
CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL SESSION  
MINUTES  
DECEMBER 11, 2014  
6:00 P.M.

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: Chris Bland

STAFF PRESENT: Sean Pate, Melba Haralson, Robert Vine, Al Harrison

GUESTS PRESENT: Anita Corbell, Dr. J.P. Richardson, Mark Carpenter, Pat Watson, Dennis Robertson, Max Copeland, Connie Copeland

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Wells called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

II. PUBLIC HEARING regarding a proposed ordinance to amend the zoning ordinances to define a use of property as transitional housing; to define the districts where such uses are permitted; and to provide that such use requires a special use permit

Mayor Wells opened the public hearing at 6:00 p.m.

City Manager Sean Pate gave a brief background of behavioral clinics and the lack of regulations for them. He explained the City cannot prohibit them from coming in but can regulate where they can be located through zoning and specific use permits. He went over specifics of the ordinance and said future applications will require public hearings both before the Planning & Zoning Commission and the City Council. The ordinance has been approved unanimously by the Planning & Zoning Commission.

Max Copeland spoke in opposition to the group that was going to come to the old Texan Nursing Home, stating they lived just a few feet away from the facility.

Anita Corbell asked if the specific use permit addresses each type of housing. Mr. Pate affirmed that it did.

Inspector Al Harrison commented that not only will the Council be able to regulate where these type facilities are located, but they can place conditions on them.

Councilmember Owens spoke regarding the hardship placed on the school system when an influx of kids come in with behavioral or mental health issues. He said we need to slow the process down to protect the school and students.

Mayor Wells said we never had a problem when it was a nursing home and there are no problems that he is aware of with the 3 existing homes in residential areas.

With no other public comments, Mayor Wells closed the public hearing at 6:18 p.m.

III. CONSIDERATION of ordinance amending the zoning ordinances to define a use of property as transitional housing; to define the districts where such uses are permitted; and to provide that such use requires a special use permit

Councilmember Owens moved to adopt, seconded by Mayor Pro-tem Shipp. Carried 6-0.

IV. ADJOURN

Mayor Pro-tem Shipp moved to adjourn at 6:20 p.m., seconded by Councilmember Owens. Adjourned by consensus.

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HAROLD R. WELLS, MAYOR

ATTEST:

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MELBA HARALSON, CITY SECRETARY