

CITY OF GLADEWATER  
CITY COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION  
MINUTES  
JANUARY 21, 2016  
6:00 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Harold Wells, Mayor Pro-tem J.D. Shipp, Lana Niemann, Leon Watson, Dennis Robertson, Chris Bland, Elijah Anderson

STAFF PRESENT: Judy Van Houten, Rob Vine, Wayne A. "Snuffy" Smith, Casey Chambers, Al Harrison, Rhonda Smith

GUESTS PRESENT: Christian Allen, Nick Foster, Randy Koss, Ellis Hayden, Matt Sturkie, Larry Seery, Patsy Callaway, Mary Anne Cumbie, Daniel A. Morales, Scott Owens, David Sturkie, Chris Aylor, John Paul Tallent

I. CALL TO ORDER – Mayor Wells called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

- a) Invocation – Councilmember Robertson
- b) Pledge of Allegiance – Councilmember Bland

II. CITIZENS COMMENTS

Randy Koss, 1601 S. Tyler Road said the city has not flushed the lines in his area for months. He requested that the city set-up a schedule to start flushing the lines again.

III. CONSIDERATION of Consent Agenda

- a) Minutes –December 14, 2015, December 15, 2015, December 17, 2015, December 21, 2015 and January 8, 2016
- b) Investment report for quarter ending December 31, 2015
- c) Restatement of 457 Deferred Compensation Plan
- d) Ordinance to order City officer's election for May 7, 2016
- e) Joint election agreement with G.I.S.D.
- f) Tax collection contract with G.I.S.D.

Councilmember Niemann asked to pull out Item F to discuss separately. Councilmember Watson moved to approve the remainder of the consent agenda, seconded by Councilmember Bland. Carried 7-0.

Item F – Councilmember Niemann moved to approve Item F with the understanding that over the next year more review needs to be done regarding costs associated with this service. Motion seconded by Councilmember Bland. Carried 7-0.

IV. CONSIDERATION of awarding bid for Loop 485 sewer line replacement project

Chris Aylor, KSA Engineers presented the bid tabulation and stated the low bid was \$183,082 by Belt Construction.

Mayor Pro-tem Shipp noted David Lawler Construction's bid is only \$160 more and the City has had a positive experience with them on several projects in the past. He asked Chris Aylor if KSA had ever worked with Belt Construction and Chris answered that they have not. Mayor Pro-tem Shipp said it doesn't make sense to go with a company we've never worked with when there is only \$160 difference.

Councilmember Bland asked if we are required to go with the lowest bid and Mayor Pro-tem Shipp replied that we are not. Mayor Pro-tem Shipp then made a motion to award the bid to David Lawler Construction for \$183, 241, seconded by Councilmember Watson. Carried 7-0.

V. PUBLIC HEARING regarding request by Dr. Kenneth Skipper to subdivide Lot 3, Block 6 of the Everett Woodland Addition

Mayor Wells opened the public hearing at 6:10 p.m. With no public comments, the public hearing was closed at 6:10 p.m.

- VI. CONSIDERATION of request by Dr. Kenneth Skipper to subdivide Lot 3, Block 6 of the Everett Woodland Addition

Councilmember Watson made motion to approve, seconded by Councilmember Anderson. Carried 7-0.

- VII. CONSIDERATION of a request by Daniel Morales for waiver of interest fees for mowing liens from 1986, 1993 and 1995 on property located at Lot 19-C, Block 1, Delay Addition, Gladewater, Texas

Mr. Morales explained that he wasn't aware of the liens against the property when he purchased it. He is trying to sell the property for \$2,500 but with the liens and other costs associated with selling he will be in the hole. He asked the council if they would forgive the interest on the liens.

Mayor Pro-tem Shipp made motion to forgive the interest and just charge Mr. Morales the \$533.62 total for the liens, seconded by Councilmember Robertson. Carried 7-0.

- VIII. CONSIDERATION of amendment to ordinance 0-15-24, which amended Gladewater Code of Ordinances §154.006 – Certificate of Occupancy

Councilmember Niemann moved to table this item until the March meeting to give the Council more time to review, seconded by Councilmember Watson. Carried 7-0.

Mayor Pro-tem Shipp said he would like to take a moment to thank Inspector Al Harrison for his dedication to the city. He was in attendance at last month's meeting even though he had just lost his father earlier that day. Councilmember Bland echoed the sentiment and explained to everyone that the Council learned of the situation just minutes before the meeting last month. All of the Council thanked Al for his dedication and expressed gratitude for his commitment to the City.

- IX. CONSIDERATION of ordinance to amend §150.01 – Adoption of International Building Code and §150.011 – Codes Adopted, of the Gladewater Code of Ordinances

Councilmember Niemann explained that nothing in the existing code is changing. We will still be using the 2009 codes, she then moved to approve, seconded by Councilmember Watson. Carried 7-0.

- X. CONSIDERATION of ordinance to amend §91.01 – Fire Prevention Code, of the Gladewater Code of Ordinances

Councilmember Niemann once again explained that nothing in the existing code is changing and moved to approve, seconded by Councilmember Watson. Carried 7-0.

- XI. CONSIDERATION of resolution to designate City Council Chambers/Municipal Court Chambers, City Hall lobby/Court Clerk's Office as the premises of a government court or offices utilized by the court for purposes of firearms possession

Police Chief Vine explained that government offices are not the same as other public offices and therefore the signage that people typically see prohibiting firearms can't be used at City Hall.

Councilmember Niemann read the wording again that addresses the areas where firearms would be prohibited. Councilmember Watson made motion to approve, seconded by Councilmember Anderson. Carried 7-0.

- XII. CONSIDERATION of nominations for Upshur County Board of Directors

Mayor Pro-tem Shipp explained that two newly appointed board members have resigned. We have received recommendations for two qualified people with experience and willingness to serve; Richard Stolle and Conrad Coppedge.

Mayor Pro-tem Shipp moved to nominate them, seconded by Councilmember Watson.  
Carried 7-0.

- XIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION pursuant to Government Code §551.074 regarding city secretary position and salary

The Council recessed into executive session at 6:25 p.m.

- XIV. RECONVENE INTO OPEN SESSION and take any action necessary regarding city secretary position and salary

The Council reconvened into open session at 6:45 p.m. Councilmember Bland moved to take no action and to table this item until the February meeting, seconded by Councilmember Anderson. Carried 7-0.

- XV. ADJOURN

Mayor Pro-tem Shipp moved to adjourn at 6:47 p.m., seconded by Councilmember Robertson. Adjourned by consensus.

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HAROLD R. WELLS, MAYOR

ATTEST:

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MELBA HARALSON, CITY SECRETARY