

CITY OF GLADEWATER
CITY COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION
MINUTES
AUGUST 16, 2018
6:00 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor J.D. Shipp, Mayor Pro-tem Elijah Anderson, Farrell Alexander, Brandy Flanagan, Nick Foster, Dennis Robertson, Quyen Tong

STAFF PRESENT: Ricky Tow, Judy Van Houten, Amanda Hill, Tamara Alex, Donna Blalock, Susan Thomas, Al Harrison, Rob Vine, Christina Stanger

GUESTS PRESENT: Christian Allen, Robert Haberl, Jim Bardwell, Don Greenwood, Jan Greenwood, Marsha Valdetero, Diane Turner, Martin A. Pessink, Chris Whitfield, Lola May, Jon Keller, Scott Owens, Dianne Vaught, Todd Clifton, Penny Gunn, Margaret Larkins, Jeremy Buechter, Linda Harrison, John Paul Tallent, Lois Reed, Memori Ruesing

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

- a) Invocation – Councilmember Robertson
- b) Pledge – Councilmember Flanagan

II. CITIZENS COMMENTS

Jan Greenwood, 428 N. Main, Gladewater, Texas – She opened her business in Gladewater during the beginning of the Main Street program. It seems to her that when the program really gets going the Main Street Manager is let go and they have to start all over again. There needs to be a “We, We, We” attitude not an “I, I, I” attitude with regards to the board members. She would also like to see term limits for the board members as it was in the past.

Diane Turner, 112 S. Main Street, Gladewater, Texas – She is the owner of Antiques II. For many years she was associated and involved with GADA. The “Holiday Open House” was started by GADA as a customer appreciation night. In the past 3 years the Main Street Board has taken over and turned the event into something that downtown merchants do not want. She also feels there is a need for “new blood” on the Main Street Board and would like for the term limits to be imposed as the “By-laws” are written.

Margaret Larkins, 416 N. Main, Gladewater, Texas – She is the owner of two stores downtown: Good Old Stuff and Gladewater Antiques Mall. This past year at the “Holiday Open House” theft was rampant. There were people all over the stores with children breaking things and eating all the food they had prepared for their customer appreciation event. She doesn’t want to see the city lose another good Main Street Manager.

III. CONSENT AGENDA

- a) Minutes – July 19, 2018, July 31, 2018, August 9, 2018
- b) Blanket Permit for Fire Department 5K Fundraiser in conjunction with Anytime Fitness
- c) Blanket Permit for 16th Annual Adaptive Sports Fest to be held September 22, 2018
- d) Blanket Permit for 45th Annual Arts & Crafts Festival to be held September 15-16, 2018
- e) Resolution Amending Authorized Representatives – TexPool
- f) Resolution Authorizing a Designated Representative for the Texas Street Rehabilitation Project
- g) Resolution Authorizing a Designated Representative for the ETCOG Solid Waste Grant for 2018-2019

City Clerk Van Houten brought to the council's attention a typo in the minutes for July 19, 2018. The date for the Budget Workshop should read July 31, 2018 but instead reads August 31, 2018. She asked the council to approve the minutes with this correction. Councilmember Flanagan made a motion to approve the consent agenda with the corrected date; seconded by Mayor Pro-tem Anderson. Motion carried 7-0.

IV. PUBLIC HEARING regarding the proposed budget for fiscal year 2019

Mayor Shipp opened the public hearing at 6:18 p.m.

Scott Owens – He voiced appreciation for the council's stance on not raising taxes again this year. The city needs to look at other ways to increase revenue without raising taxes. In his opinion there are 3 entities in the city that have overlapping responsibilities – Chamber of Commerce, GEDCO and Main Street. We need to find a way to bring these 3 entities together. He is in favor of changing GEDCO to a 4B Corporation instead of a 4A Corporation.

With no further comments Mayor Shipp closed the public hearing at 6:24 p.m.

V. DISCUSSION / CONSIDERATION of awarding CDBG Waterline Construction Contract

Jeremy Buechter gave an update on the bid opening. There were only 2 bidders on the project and both were higher than expected. His recommendation is for the city to re-bid instead of awarding. Councilmember Tong asked what cost would be involved in re-bidding. The only cost would be advertising according to Jeremy.

Councilmember Robertson made a motion to not act in awarding the contract and to re-bid instead; seconded by Councilmember Foster. Motion carried 7-0.

VI. CONSIDERATION of agreement with ETCOG for City 9-1-1 Database Maintenance

City Manager Tow indicated this is an annual agreement to continue the maintenance on the equipment and data. Councilmember Flanagan pointed out that the city received a discount because we've been staying on top of the maintenance.

Councilmember Foster made a motion to enter into agreement with ETCOG for City 9-1-1 Database Maintenance; seconded by Councilmember Robertson. Motion carried 7-0.

VII. CONSIDERATION of Memorandum of Understanding between City of Gladewater and Community Loan Center for Affordable Small Dollar Loans available to city employees

City Manager Tow explained that this is a program sponsored by ETCOG that is similar to "title loans". It was discussed with a number of city employees and there are none participating in this type of activity currently. His recommendation is to not approve. Councilmember Foster pointed out that the agreement was for payroll deductions which would be handled internally.

Councilmember Alexander made a motion to not consider the Memorandum of Understanding between City of Gladewater and Community Loan Center; seconded by Councilmember Tong. Motion carried 7-0.

VIII. CONSIDERATION of proposals for City of Gladewater depository services

City Manager Tow explained that every 5 years the city requests bids for our depository services. The current contract expires August 31, 2018. City National Bank came in with the best proposal and that is his recommendation at this time.

Councilmember Alexander made a motion to award our city depository services to City National Bank; seconded by Councilmember Flanagan. Motion carried 7-0.

- IX. CONSIDERATION of agreement with GISD for up to two School Resource Officers for the 2018-2019 school year

City Manager Tow informed the council that this is an annual contract between the City and the school district for up to two SROs. We currently have just one officer and will fill-in with “off duty” officers.

Councilmember Flanagan made a motion to approve the agreement with GISD for up to two School Resource Officers; seconded by Councilmember Robertson. Motion carried 7-0.

- X. CONSIDERATION of agreement with UGISD for one School Resource Officer for the 2018-2019 school year

City Manager Tow said this is for one part time School Resource Officer. The City does provide the vehicle for this position.

Councilmember Foster made a motion to approve the agreement with UGISD for one School Resource Officer; seconded by Mayor Pro-tem Anderson. Motion carried 7-0.

- XI. CONSIDERATION of appointment to fill two vacancies on the Main Street Board

Christina Stanger gave the Main Street Board’s recommendation of appointing Terri Searsy and John Paul Tallent. Mayor Shipp then asked for any applicants who were present to come speak if they wished – going in order of how they were listed in the council packet.

Martin Pessink - he is new in town and hopes to be viewed as the objective outsider. He spent 28 years in Municipal Government. While in Pittsburg he worked with the Main Street Program on a lot of stuff they did in town. He knows ordinances and state law as well as the grant process. He is a team builder and a resource builder. He knows how to get out and find resources.

John Paul Tallent – was born and raised here. He was in the building business for 45 years. He is just interested in Gladewater. He’s been here all his life. Gladewater is his home. He wasn’t looking to get on a board at his age but he feels the need to help “get things done”.

Jan Greenwood – she isn’t one to toot her own horn but when something is important she works really hard. She believes in getting things done.

Lola May – former GADA member who helped raise a lot of money for advertising. She put herself thru SFA. She has the experience to help evaluate businesses for tourism and customer service. She served on the GEDCO board and loved attending classes in Austin. She would love to see “Bricks in Bloom” return to Gladewater. She loves to volunteer and would love to be on the Main Street Board.

Penny Gunn – she is a business owner downtown. She would like to serve on the Main Street Board so that downtown merchants are represented. She has been on regional and national boards which are outlined in her application. She is excited about the oil derrick restoration. To her the store owners are “Main Street” and have made Gladewater the Antique Capital of East Texas.

Councilmember Flanagan thanked everyone who applied. She outlined the state recommendations for qualifications to serve on a “Main Street Board” as: having a background in archeology, architecture, history, economic development, heritage

tourism, public administration and urban planning. She recommends John Paul Tallent, Lola May, Penny Gunn and Martin Pessink be considered by the council.

Councilmember Tong indicated that Lola May and John Paul Tallent stand out to him. He loves Lola's ideas and John Paul can get things done.

Councilmember Robertson wishes that all 5 who spoke would be appointed as everyone has something to offer. John Paul Tallent and Lola May are his picks.

Councilmember Flanagan would like the "By laws" to be reviewed to make sure the term limits are being followed.

Mayor Shipp indicated that the term limits were removed for the Main Street Board around 2010 as they were the only board with such limits and it made better sense to be consistent with all boards.

Councilmember Alexander made a motion to appoint John Paul Tallent and Lola May to the Main Street Board to fill the two vacancies; seconded by Councilmember Foster. Motion carried 7-0.

XII. CONSIDERATION of request to change the boundaries for the City of Gladewater Main Street Program

Main Street Manager Christina Stanger discussed the proposed revised map. The idea is to remove residential areas that do not have historic houses. They are looking to go north of Highway 80 in order to possibly restore the brick streets in the future. The hospital building downtown would be in the new area.

Councilmember Tong asked what the process is to make this change and whether or not the Main Street Board is in agreement. Ms. Stanger said the process is very easy. She will submit the map with the requested changes and it will be changed. She also indicated that the board is in agreement with this recommendation.

Councilmember Flanagan made a motion to approve the request to change the boundaries for the City of Gladewater Main Street Program; seconded by Councilmember Tong. Motion carried 7-0.

XIII. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

1. Airport TxDOT Grant – Chris Whitfield updated the council on the bid opening. City Manager Tow explained that this project was already approved by the council so no further action is needed by them.
2. Road improvements – work has started using the new trailer. It is a slow moving process but everything is moving forward and looking good. We are getting more requests coming in for repairs on other streets.
3. TCEQ – finished their inspection of the WTP a little over a month ago. There are two projects still in process with one being the raw water motor pumps needing some repairs and the second is the issue south of the Sabine River where we are still on a boil water notice. We have since had an inspection at the WWTP. SPI was on-site for that inspection and we are working with them. Waiting on the Water Development Board approval to go to bid on the project.
4. Budget – still a work in progress.

XIV. EXECUTIVE SESSION pursuant to Government Code §551.074 regarding performance evaluation of Municipal Judge

The Council recessed into executive session at 7:13 p.m.

CITY OF GLADEWATER
CITY COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION
MINUTES
AUGUST 16, 2018
PAGE 5

- XV. EXECUTIVE SESSION pursuant to Government Code §551.074 regarding performance evaluation of Municipal Judge

{This item was listed twice in error}

- XVI. RECONVENE INTO OPEN SESSION and take any action necessary regarding performance evaluation of Municipal Judge

The Council reconvened into open session at 7:56 p.m. and took the following action:

Councilmember Flanagan made a motion to not renew Judge Donna Blalock as the Municipal Judge when her term expires September 30, 2018 and to authorize staff to begin advertising the position; seconded by Councilmember Foster. Motion carried 7-0.

- XVII. ADJOURN

Councilmember Robertson made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Councilmember Foster. Adjourned by consensus at 7:57 p.m.

J.D. Shipp, Mayor

Attest:

Judy Van Houten, City Clerk