

CITY OF GLADEWATER
CITY COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION
MINUTES
MARCH 15, 2007
6:00 P.M.

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: Jerry Williams

STAFF PRESENT: Jay Stokes, Melba Haralson, Clay Robertson, Wayne Smith

GUESTS PRESENT: Stephen Mouton, Andrew Alexander, Jarrod Alexander, Harold Parks, Cathy Smith, Joseph McGee, Beverly Tallent, Brenda Brown, Rick Howell, Peggy Lantz, Tonya Page, Chris Meeks, John Choice, Doug Thacker, Deborah Pike, Mark Carpenter, B.K. Johnson, Netta Johnson, Marilyn Kelley

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Tallent called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and gave the invocation. Councilmember Owens led the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. CONSIDERATION OF CONSENT AGENDA

- a) Minutes – February 15, 2007
- b) Ratification of Investment Policy
- c) Water tap outside City limits at 5029 E. Lake Drive
- d) Blanket permit for Juneteenth Parade
- e) Resolution to accept bid for struck off properties in James M. Talent Survey, Upshur County; R74108 and R74144
- f) Main Street Board appointment - Reba Smith to replace Karen Peden

Mayor Pro-tem Derrick questioned the blanket permit for the Juneteenth parade, stating that last year two parades were held on the same day; one downtown and one in the Red Rock community. He said we are one City and we should have one unified parade. Mr. Derrick stated he would prefer that this issue be tabled until we get clarification from the two groups of parade organizers, since the parade is not until June. Councilmember Owens expressed agreement.

Deborah Pike, one of the organizers of the downtown parade said that the Red Rock parade last year was not for Juneteenth, it just happened to be on the same day. She said they have already invited the Red Rock group to join them downtown. She explained that having the parade downtown is more visible and accessible to the public. She did not understand the problem and asked for approval.

Councilmember Jimmy Williams moved to approve the consent agenda with a stipulation that there be only one Juneteenth parade in the City that day, since two separate parades would cause a hardship for our police department. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Derouen. Carried 5-1 with Mayor Pro-tem Derrick opposed.

III. SPECIAL RECOGNITION of Steven Mouton

Mayor Tallent read a proclamation and commended him on his nomination to the Air Force Academy.

IV. CONSIDERATION OF FINANCIAL AUDIT for fiscal year 2006

Peggy Lantz, CPA with Jacks & Associates, presented an overview of the financial audit. She said the City was given a clean opinion, which is the highest rating possible.

With compliments to the staff, Councilmember Jimmy Williams moved to accept, seconded by Councilmember Parrish. Carried 6-0.

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- V. PUBLIC HEARING regarding a request to subdivide a 1.791 acre tract located in A-7, Thompson Allen Survey, Tract 17, more commonly described as the north side of Vesta Drive, just east of Highway 271 North

Mayor Tallent opened the public hearing at 6:21 p.m.

Tonya Page explained her request to subdivide 1.791 acres into three lots, approximately ½ acre each. She plans to build three starter homes priced for median incomes, about 1,400 square feet each with a two car garage. She offered to answer any questions. City Secretary Haralson stated that the request was unanimously approved by the Planning & Zoning Commission.

With no further comments, the public hearing was closed at 6:24 p.m.

- VI. CONSIDERATION of a request to subdivide a 1.791 acre tract located in A-7, Thompson Allen Survey, Tract 17, more commonly described as the north side of Vesta Drive, just east of Highway 271 North

Mayor Pro-tem Derrick moved to approve, seconded by Councilmember Derouen. Carried 6-0.

- VII. PUBLIC HEARING regarding the need to continue §131.05 of the Gladewater Code of Ordinances – Curfew, pursuant to Section 370.002 of the Local Government Code

City Manager Stokes explained that the City has long had this ordinance in place and the State now requires that each City review and renew it every three years. There is no change recommended to the existing ordinance.

With no further comments, the public hearing was closed at 6:25 p.m.

- VIII. CONSIDERATION to abolish, continue or modify §131.05 of the Gladewater Code of Ordinances – Curfew, pursuant to Section 370.002 of the Local Government Code

Councilmember Jimmy Williams moved to readopt the curfew ordinance with no changes, seconded by Mayor Pro-tem Derrick. Carried 6-0.

- IX. CONSIDERATION of ordinance to abandon alley located in NCB18, between Upshur Avenue and Quitman Street

City Secretary Haralson explained that Rick Howell is purchasing the building for a Subway Restaurant and the title search revealed an alley on the east side, which he needs for parking. She said apparently this alley must have been abandoned in the past but never properly recorded because there are structures built on top of it.

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

- X. CONSIDERATION of bids for the sale of the following equipment;

- a) 1980 Chevy 70 Series dump truck
- b) 1982 GMC 1-ton van with hydraulic lift bucket
- c) Ford 231 tractor with 776B front end loader

a) Councilmember Jimmy Williams moved to accept the single bid received from Steve Cruz for the 1980 Chevy 70 Series dump truck, seconded by Councilmember Owens. Carried 6-0.

b) There were two bids received for the 1982 GMC 1-ton van with hydraulic lift bucket; Walter Gordon \$500 and James Cooper \$250. Councilmember Derouen moved to accept the high bid of \$500, seconded by Councilmember Parrish. Carried 6-0.

c) There were four bids received for the Ford 231 tractor with 776B front-end loader; Charles Evilsizer \$750, Paul Allent \$300, James Cooper \$250, and Steve Cruz \$201. Councilmember Owens moved to accept the high bid of \$750, seconded by Councilmember Jimmy Williams. Carried 6-0.

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- XI. DISCUSSION of proposed location of Weldon Bumblebee Park at the request of Mrs. Pat Mays

Pat Mays was not in attendance. Item skipped.

- XII. CONSIDERATION of accepting donation of car by Joe Garner

City Manager Stokes explained that Joe Garner has a functional car with a salvage title that he would like to donate to the Police Department for use by the undercover narcotics officer.

Councilmember Jimmy Williams moved to accept the donation, seconded by Councilmember Owens, with expressions of appreciation to Mr. Garner. Carried 6-0.

- XIII. CONSIDERATION of draft ordinance related to failure to maintain financial responsibility

City Manager Stokes said this is the third meeting to discuss the proposed ordinance. It mirrors the City of Tyler's ordinance. Mr. Stokes asked for input on the draft ordinance and said it still needs to go to the City attorney. If satisfactory, the ordinance will be placed on the April agenda for adoption.

Mayor Pro-tem Derrick moved to proceed, seconded by Councilmember Jimmy Williams, who said the ordinance is detailed and designed to protect our citizens. Carried 6-0.

- XIV. CONSIDERATION of improvements at the Waste Water Treatment Plant

City Manager Stokes said the Wastewater Treatment Plant has a stellar track record of seven or eight years in a row without a violation, however there is equipment in need of repair or we will be headed for trouble. Chris Meeks, Veolia Water Project Manager, said three pieces of equipment used for the chlorine and sulfur dioxide treatment processes need to be replaced for an estimated cost of \$15,500.

Councilmember Derouen moved to approve replacement up to \$15,500, seconded by Councilmember Jimmy Williams. Carried 6-0.

- XV. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

- a) Update on grants
- b) FY 2008 discussion
- c) Modular homes

- a) City Manager Stokes gave an update on the following grants and applications;
 - 1) 2006 TCDP – approved for \$250,000 for water and sewer improvements in south Gladewater, plans forthcoming, hopefully by April meeting
 - 2) 2007/08 TCDP – presentation will be made March 21st by Mayor Pro-tem Derrick for water and sewer improvements along Old Hwy 80
 - 3) HOME – there is still a chance for 2007 with biennial funding
 - 4) Master Plan – has been declared administratively complete, should know in two months if we are funded
 - 5) TxDOT/UPRR – Ferry Street closing, contract signed by Union Pacific
 - 6) TxDOT/Main Street – running a week or two behind schedule, looks good
 - 7) Park grant (Weldon Bumblebee Park) – received a draft from the Staerker family and should close on the property by the next meeting
 - 8) Texas Capital Fund – still will be funded, getting newly requested information to them, slow process
 - 9) Water plant – John Ringler, KSA Engineers will be at the May City Council meeting
 - 10) TxDOT Aviation Division – will open bids March 20th, will be on the April agenda to award bid
- b) According to a recent newspaper article, mineral values could go down about 30% this year. Gas production is down county-wide, but oil production is up. A preliminary look at the numbers show that for every 10% the values drop it will cost us \$60,000. The appraisal district will get us the numbers as soon as they can.

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- c) This has not been a problem, but just to make you aware, there is a difference between modular homes and mobile or manufactured homes. Modular homes are built to IBC code standards and are constructed offsite and placed on a permanent foundation system. Manufactured homes are constructed to Federal HUD code standards and are issued titles. While we restrict manufactured homes to an approved mobile home park, there is no zoning issue with a modular home as long as size, etc. is conforming.

XVI. CITIZENS COMMENTS

None.

XVII. MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Tallent gave the following report;

- a) He referenced an article in the Texas Town & Country magazine regarding our Gusher Days Festival and thanked City Secretary Haralson for submitting it.
- b) The next City Council meeting will be Monday, April 23rd. Representatives from our Sister City in Kirovske, Ukraine will be here.
- c) There will be eight local representatives going to Austin, March 26-28th for Gregg County Days.
- d) The Main Street project looks great.
- e) Election day is Saturday, May 12th.
- f) The spring clean-up day is scheduled for Saturday, April 14th.
- g) As reported by the City Manager (above), we are applying for a \$250,000 grant to replace 3600 feet of water line in the eastern part of Gladewater. Our presentation will given by Walter Derrick on March 21st.

XVIII. ADJOURN

Councilmember Parrish moved to adjourn at 6:55 p.m. Adjourned by consensus.

JOHN PAUL TALLENT, MAYOR

ATTEST:

MELBA HARALSON, CITY SECRETARY