

CITY OF GLADEWATER
CITY COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION
MINUTES
MAY 15, 2008
6:00 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor John Paul Tallent (outgoing), Mayor Pro-tem Walter Derrick, Jimmy Williams, Scott Owens, Richard Parrish, Jr., John Lee Ussery (incoming)

MEMBERS ABSENT: Joe Derouen, Jerry Williams

STAFF PRESENT: Jay Stokes, Melba Haralson, Chad Hogue, Patrick Kirkpatrick, Jacob Garland, Farrell Alexander, Richard Ross, Chris O'Connor, Judy Hagle, Sherry Roberts

GUESTS PRESENT: Bennie R. Moore, Bridget R. Moore, Bobby J. Moore, Deborah Pike, Melba Hooper, Barbara Smith Mackey, Mary Jane Williams, Wanda Allard, Margaret C. Bell, Judith Burlison, Delbert Burlison, Jimmy Davis, Beverly Tallent, Alfred Lacy, Norma Lacy, Lisa Owens, Charles Meadows, Linda Reed, Steve Faught, Carol Ussery, Keren Alexander, Cindy Rowe, Jan Parupia, Denise Hill, Judy Banner, David Cleveland, B.K. Johnson, Roscoe Lockett, Elijah Anderson, Jackie D. Wood, Marilyn Ussery Carla Ussery Haley, Doug Thacker, Chris Meeks, Lanita Smith, Butch Smith, Marcel Derrick, Royce Clay, Mark Carpenter

I. CALL TO ORDER

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

II. CONSIDERATION OF CONSENT AGENDA

- a) Minutes – April 10 and April 29, 2008
- b) Ordinance to adopt S-12 Supplement to Gladewater Code of Ordinances
- c) Permit the East Texas Korean War Veterans Association Chapter #286 to install and maintain a flag pole and grave enhancements at the gravesite of Medal of Honor recipient Travis E. Watkins
- d) Tax Abatement transfers for Texas Die Casting

Councilmember Jimmy Williams moved to approve, seconded by Mayor Pro-tem Derrick. Carried 5-0.

III. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS to outgoing Mayor John Paul Tallent

David Cleveland, Executive Director of East Texas Council of Governments gave special recognition to Mayor Tallent for his service to Region VII over the last seven years. Mayor Tallent served on the Executive Committee and was the 1st Vice Chairman this year. He has served six years on the Regional Review Committee and was the ETCOG Region VII Citizen of the Year in 2004. Mayor Tallent served with distinction, energy and insight and does not avoid the difficult issues. Mr. Cleveland then presented Mayor Tallent with a plaque of appreciation.

Mayor Pro-tem Derrick expressed profound appreciation for Mayor John Paul Tallent and his service to the City of Gladewater. Mr. Derrick said he was a hard worker, native son and a friend to the community. He then presented Mayor Tallent with a plaque, which was graciously accepted. He said he loved serving the City and deeply appreciated the City Council and all employees.

IV. OATH OF OFFICE for newly elected Mayor and City Council members

City Secretary Haralson administered the Oath of Office to Mayor Walter Derrick, Councilmember Jimmy Williams and Councilmember John Ussery and presented each of them with a Certificate of Election.

V. CONSIDERATION of appointment of Mayor Pro-tem

Councilmember Parrish moved to appoint John Ussery as the Mayor Pro-tem for one year, seconded by Councilmember Jimmy Williams. Carried 4-0-1, with Mayor Pro-tem Ussery abstaining.

VI. RECOGNITION of Lee Public Library volunteers

Librarian Judy Hagle offered words of praise for the library volunteers and presented Certificates of Appreciation to Gerry Rivers, who has 226 volunteer hours and Lisa Owens, who has 195 volunteer hours.

VII. CONSIDERATION of a recycling program at the request of Judy Burlison

Judy Burlison, 3067 E. Lake Drive, said that Allied Waste is willing start a recycling program for the City on a 6 month trial basis. This program is modeled after Kilgore and is sponsored by the Gladewater Rotary Club and one other service group, plus volunteers. It will be held the 2nd Saturday of each month at Gladewater City Hall. Mrs. Burlison then asked for the Council's approval.

Councilmember Owens commented that other large communities have tried this and have not been successful. At first he thought it would not be feasible, but he commended Mrs. Burlison for sticking with the program and finding a way to make it happen. He then moved to approve the 6 month trial and the location of the City Hall parking lot. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Jimmy Williams. Carried 5-0.

VIII. CONSIDERATION of a request by the American Legion Post #281 for;

- a) Sign mounting boards at four entrances into Gladewater
- b) Handicap ramp at the Boy Scout Hut

Linda Reed, of American Legion Post #281, said they would like to seek donations to erect sign boards at the four major entrances of Gladewater for civic clubs or non-profit organizations to post emblem signs with times and locations of meetings. Secondly, she said the American Legion has been meeting at the Boy Scout Hut and it is not handicap accessible. With the Council's permission to move forward before they seek donations for both of these projects.

City Manager Stokes said the key to the entrance signs is getting TxDOT's permission to use their right-of-way.

Councilmember Jimmy Williams moved to allow the American Legion Post #281 to move forward on the projects. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Parrish. Carried 5-0.

IX. CONSIDERATION of Lake Board request regarding community sponsorship to paint and maintain picnic tables in Lake Gladewater Park

Denise Hill and Jan Parupia said they would like to let school children paint the picnic tables. Ms. Parupia said she will do the base coat with All-State Coatings. The kids will use non-toxic craft paint, which will be waterproof after the clear coat is put on.

Lake Warden Richard Ross said he has no problem with the project and it was approved by the Lake Board. He suggested that they start with one small table so we can see how it looks before proceeding.

Councilmember Jimmy Williams moved to allow the project, under the supervision of the Lake Warden, with the stipulation that they do one table and get Lake Board and City Council approval before going forward. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Ussery. Carried 5-0.

X. CONSIDERATION of Cemetery Board's request to appropriate funds in the fiscal year 2009 budget for part-time grounds maintenance

The Cemetery Board requested that this item be tabled until the Budget Workshops. Councilmember Ussery so moved, seconded by Councilmember Owens. Carried 5-0.

XI. CONSIDERATION of entering into a telecommunications lease with Metro PCS

City Manager Stokes said the lease is not ready and requested to table. Councilmember Jimmy Williams moved to table, seconded by Councilmember Owens. Carried 5-0.

XII. DISCUSSION of Veolia Water repair and maintenance expenditures

Chris Meeks, Project Manager of Veolia Water, said some of the big ticket items that cause the repair and maintenance to go over budget are; \$20,000 for 250 water meters, high service pump at the Water Treatment Plant for \$22,000, \$4,000 for a lift station pump, large amounts of rain have caused \$2,000-\$4,000 in road damage that has to be repatched, patching material has increased due to oil prices, W. Lake drainage collapsed 60" culvert, and finally \$15,000 for Hampton and Hackberry drainage.

Councilmember Jimmy Williams commented that the cost of material is the City's and the labor is on Veolia. City Manager Stokes said he doesn't think we should spend the \$21,000 was budgeted to put in valves from the Gay Avenue water tower to the Wastewater Treatment Plant this year. We can re-budget for it again next year. Mr. Stokes stated that as of this date we are at 107% of the Repair and Maintenance budget.

XIII. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

- a. Hampton/Hackberry drainage update
- b. Update on grants

With regard to Item A - City Manager Stokes said there will be a meeting May 14th with all property owners, John Ringler of KSA Engineers, Veolia Water and himself. He said one property owner has a concern and we are researching the cost of his request. If it is over budget then we will have to bring it back to Council.

With regard to Item B – We are close to wrapping up the Airport Project and will have a ribbon cutting when done. The Main Street project is down to the punch list, which will finish next week. We took the first round of applications this week for the HOME grant and only received 4-5 applications. We may get funding for one more home, but we haven't received official notification yet. Tim Glendening has started work on the Master Plan grant. There's nothing new to report on the Weldon-Bumblebee Park as it is still being reviewed by the State.

XIV. CITIZENS COMMENTS

None.

XV. ADJOURN

Councilmember Parrish moved to adjourn at 7:08 p.m., seconded by Councilmember Ussery. Adjourned by consensus.

WALTER DERRICK, MAYOR

ATTEST:

MELBA HARALSON, CITY SECRETARY