

CITY OF GLADEWATER
CITY COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION
MINUTES
NOVEMBER 21, 2013
6:00 P.M.

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

STAFF PRESENT: Sean Pate, Melba Haralson, Paul Jaap, Casey Chambers, Richard Cates, Robert Vine

GUESTS PRESENT: Mark Carpenter, Rebecca Jaap, Nick Foster, Ed Parton, Donnie Reynolds, Blair Swaim, Margaret Bell, Slim Matthew

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

- a) Invocation – Councilmember Anderson
- b) Pledge of Allegiance - Councilmember Niemann

II. CITIZENS COMMENTS

None

III. CONSIDERATION of Consent Agenda

- a) Minutes –October 17, 2013
- b) Blanket Permit for the annual Chamber of Commerce Christmas Parade December 2, 2013
- c) Resolution approving membership in the Longview Metropolitan Planning Organization and designating the Mayor of Gladewater as a voting member of the Longview Metropolitan Planning Organization Transportation Policy Board
- d) Resolution authorizing filing a grant application with East Texas Council of Governments for a Regional Solid Waste Grant Program and authorizing Sean Pate to act on behalf of the City in all matters related to the application
- e) Resolution authorizing the adoption of the city of Gladewater FBP Cafeteria Plan

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

IV. PUBLIC HEARING regarding a request to transfer ownership of an existing Specific Use Permit for a medical clinic located at Abstract 179, L.J. Rigsby Survey, Tract 5, Section 2, more commonly known as 112 N. Lee Street

Mayor Wells opened the public hearing at 6:03 p.m.

Blair Swaim, realtor with Burns Commercial Real Estate Brokers of Tyler, stated he has been commissioned to sell the building currently leased by UT Health Center at 112 N. Lee Street. He said they are in the process of renewing the lease with UT Health Center for five years, so the existing use will not change. Mr. Swaim said he was taking proactive steps to ensure the Specific Use Permit could be transferred to a future owner.

With no other public comments the public hearing was closed at 6:05 p.m.

V. CONSIDERATION of a request to transfer ownership of an existing Specific Use Permit for a medical clinic located at Abstract 179, L.J. Rigsby Survey, Tract 5, Section 2, more commonly known as 112 N. Lee Street

Mayor Pro-tem Owens moved to approve the request contingent upon the lease continuing with the current occupant, if not the issue needs to come back to Council. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Burlison. Carried 7-0.

VI. CONSIDERATION of a Resolution establishing a public newspaper of general circulation to be the official newspaper for the City of Gladewater

Councilmember Shipp said staff has provided information on circulation and cost as requested. He said since we are not required to name an official newspaper, we should just allow staff to run ads as they see fit. Councilmember Burlison said even if it is not required, it is an honorary designation. Mayor Pro-tem Owens said he would like to name the

Gladewater Mirror as the official newspaper since the rates are lower and the more we can save on legal notices the better. He said when we need a wider audience we can use both papers (Longview News-Journal). Councilmember Burlison commented that the Longview News-Journal does not cover our local news like the Gladewater Mirror. Councilmember Niemann said she believes in supporting local business, however when advertising for jobs, etc. and a wider circulation is needed staff can decide which paper is needed.

Councilmember Watson moved to approve the resolution to name the Gladewater Mirror as the official newspaper for the City, however staff can still use other newspapers when needed. Motion was seconded by Mayor Pro-tem Owens. Carried 6-1 with Councilmember Niemann opposed.

VII. CONSIDERATION of request for funding from the Gladewater Youth Basketball Association

City Manager Pate said he received a call from the president of the Gladewater Youth Basketball Association stating they would like to get on the list of youth organizations receiving grants from the city. He said they meet at the Methodist Church gym and have a spectacular turnout of kids. Mr. Pate said even though the budget is set, if the Council wants to fund them this year staff can attempt to find funding. He said there are some organizations that don't utilize all of their funds.

Mayor Pro-tem Owens said it was an oversight that we have not funded GYBA and he would like us to find money in the current budget. Councilmember Shipp agreed.

Mayor Pro-tem Owens moved to approve the grant of \$2,500, seconded by Councilmember Watson. Carried 7-0.

VIII. CONSIDERATION of ballot for Gregg County Appraisal District Board of Directors

Mayor Pro-tem Owens moved to cast our 34 votes to A.P. Merritt, seconded by Councilmember Niemann. Carried 7-0.

IX. CONSIDERATION of ballot for Upshur County Appraisal District Board of Directors

Mayor Pro-tem Owens moved to cast our 112 votes to Darrell McKnight, seconded by Councilmember Burlison. Carried 7-0.

X. CONSIDERATION of Resolution authorizing financing for the procurement of a Backhoe/Loader and Sewer Jetter Trailer

Public Works Director Paul Jaap presented information on the current equipment that is worn out and recommended the purchase of a 2013 Cat 416F Backhoe Loader for \$76,897 and a new Sewer Jetter Trailer in the amount of \$56,722. City Manager Pate recommended financing with Austin Bank, which provided the best bid of 1.5% interest for a 3 year note. Mr. Pate said most sewer clogs occur in the winter months. He said we will keep the existing JCB backhoe as a backup and sell the older John Deere.

Councilmember Watson moved to approve financing at Austin Bank for 3 years at 1.5%, seconded by Mayor Pro-tem Owens. Carried 7-0.

XI. CONSIDERATION of an Ordinance amending §51.45 of the Gladewater Code of Ordinances – Tampering, Damaging or Blocking Water Meter

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

XII. CONSIDERATION of Ordinance to establish street names and addresses for hangars at Gladewater Municipal Airport

City Manager Pate said we received a request from SWEPCO through the City Inspector that hangars at the airport need to have addresses in order to locate service. A map was presented from ETCOG that assigned 911 addresses based on the alphabetical street names designated by the Airport Board.

Councilmember Burlison moved to approve, seconded by Mayor Pro-tem Owens. Carried 7-0.

XIII. CONSIDERATION of Ordinance to codify Gladewater Municipal Airport Rules and Regulations

City Secretary Haralson stated that Ordinance 93-16, adopted November 18, 1993, establishing the Airport Rules and Regulations has not been codified. There is no change to the existing rules, this action is simply needed to codify.

Mayor Pro-tem Owens commented that we need to do some comparative research on our hangar fees to make sure they are in line with standard rates.

Councilmember Niemann moved to approve the ordinance, seconded by Mayor Pro-tem Owens. Carried 7-0.

XIV. CONSIDERATION of Board appointments

Airport Board – Councilmember Watson stated that since Garnet McClure has missed 3 consecutive meetings this year he should come off the board according to attendance requirements of Resolution 94-13. He moved to appoint Mark Carpenter to fill that place. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Burlison. Carried 7-0. Mayor Pro-tem Owens moved to reappoint Alfred Lacy, Ed Parton and Terry Bewley. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Watson. Carried 7-0.

Board of Adjustments – Councilmember Niemann moved to pull out Elijah Anderson for a separate vote and moved to reappoint Jerry Stone, J.L. Elder and Weldon Davis. Motion seconded by Mayor Pro-tem Owens. Carried 7-0. Mayor Pro-tem Owens moved to reappoint Elijah Anderson, seconded by Councilmember Burlison. Carried 6-0-1 with Anderson abstaining.

Cemetery Board – Mayor Pro-tem Owens moved to reappoint Wanda Allard, Mary Nell Holt and Britta Tipton and to appoint Rebecca Jaap to replace Pat Mouton. Motion seconded by Councilmember Watson. Carried 7-0.

Lake Board – Mayor Pro-tem Owens moved to reappoint Jim St. John, Neta Clifton and Rocky Hawkins, seconded by Councilmember Watson. Carried 7-0. (Note: There is one vacancy remaining on this board due to Kevin Clark's resignation.)

Library Board – Councilmember Burlison moved to reappoint Darren Richardson, Vi Melton and Brenda Kaster and to appoint Julie McDaniel to replace Barry Cook. Motion seconded by Mayor Pro-tem Owens. Carried 7-0.

Main Street Board – Mayor Pro-tem Owens moved to reappoint Monty Graham, Mark Armstrong and Robert Johnson and to appoint Nick Foster to fill the vacant position. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Watson. Carried 7-0.

Planning & Zoning Board – Mayor Pro-tem Owens commented that we need to look back on the attendance record as it appears Harry Sutphen missed 3 consecutive meetings in 2012 as well as Marlene Downing. He said we need to make all folks aware that attendance is expected. Chairman Margaret Bell explained to the Council that P & Z has had a lot of extra called meetings and they attempted to set the extra meetings when most could attend. Mr. Sutphen's job caused him to miss quite a bit last year but not this year. Mayor Wells asked if there has been any problem obtaining a quorum. Mrs. Bell responded that it has not been a problem this year.

Mayor Pro-tem Owens moved to reappoint Linda Dougan, Mark Friend, Sheila Faggans and Harry Sutphen. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Watson. Carried 7-0.

Councilmember Shipp requested that the attendance record also include special called meetings. He said we should perhaps come back and amend the policy to include 75% attendance rate over a 12 month period.

Historical Preservation Liaison – Councilmember Burlison said he has a problem voting on one individual and believes we need a board. Councilmember Shipp asked if this position should be assigned to an existing board, such as Main Street. Mayor Pro-tem Owens said he believed this position was necessary for certain grants. City Secretary Haralson explained it was necessary for a grant we received several years ago but the position has never been filled.

Councilmember Niemann moved to appoint Elaine Roddy for one year to see if it is a viable position. Motion seconded by Councilmember Anderson. Carried 6-1 with Burlison opposed.

XV. CITY MANAGER REPORT

- a) Update 12" water line project – We were able to get beyond environmental, now working on right of way acquisitions.
- b) Update on Siemens project – 62% complete with water meter installation. Staff is learning software. We were able to identify several continuous leaks and left door hangers to notify residents.
- c) Update on Texas Capital Fund grant – We did not get funding for the Commerce Street sidewalk project. In the meantime, GEDCO has been approached with doing a partnership.
- d) Update on Interim Main Street Director – A search committee has been formed, comprising of 1 member from each of the 4 sub-committees of the Main Street Board. Also the downtown restroom restoration looks great. They are working on the cut-out designed by Monty Graham and the trolley has been restored thanks to Bill Fishburn.

XVI. ADJOURN

Councilmember Shipp moved to adjourn at 7:10 p.m., seconded by Councilmember Anderson. Adjourned by consensus.

Harold R. Wells, Mayor

Attest:

Melba Haralson, City Secretary