

CITY OF GLADEWATER  
CITY COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION  
MINUTES  
APRIL 17, 2014  
6:00 P.M.

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

STAFF PRESENT: Sean Pate, Melba Haralson, Paul Jaap, Wayne A. Smith, Robert Vine, Donna Blalock

GUESTS PRESENT: Nick Foster, Christian Allen, Chris Aylor, Deborah Johnston, Charity Robinson, Wayne Shott, Christopher Day, John Ringler, Linda Wells, Marilyn Kelley, Mark Carpenter, Shelia Faggans

- I. CALL TO ORDER – Mayor Wells called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.  
a) Invocation – Mayor Pro-tem Owens  
b) Pledge of Allegiance – Councilmember Shipp

II. CITIZENS COMMENTS

None

- III. CONSIDERATION of Consent Agenda  
a) Minutes – March 27, 2014 and April 3, 2014  
b) Investment Report for quarter ending March 31, 2014

Councilmember Burlison move to approve, seconded by Councilmember Anderson. Carried 7-0.

IV. PRESENTATION by Dr. J.P. Richardson regarding upcoming G.I.S.D. bond election

Dr. Richardson, G.I.S.D. Superintendent, offered to answer questions anyone may have regarding the upcoming bond election. He addressed concerns regarding the loss of Perryman Fields should the bond pass and presented a site map drawn up by their architect for 9 possible baseball/softball fields versus 5 fields currently. He said the school is willing to lease the property to the city in similar fashion as the one we currently have.

Mayor Wells stated for the record that he and his wife are in favor of the bond and said the city will see to it that kids have a place to play ball.

Mayor Pro-tem Owens said we need to appoint a sports complex committee tonight. We need to involve the baseball association then ideas will be presented in a workshop with the Council.

Councilmember Niemann said we may need a committee but it is premature to do so until after the election.

Councilmember Shipp said he would be in favor of a committee but wants to do it right.

Councilmember Watson said we should form a committee now because he believes the bond will pass and hopes more citizens will show up and vote yes if we have plans in place.

Councilmember Anderson said he agrees with Mayor Pro-tem Owens that we should involve the baseball association, but we don't need to form a committee before the bond passes.

Councilmember Burlison said he is in favor of forming a committee. His only worry is if taxpayers can support it financially and stated surrounding areas use our fields but do not pay city taxes. Mayor Pro-tem Owens said kids pay fees to play that covers part of the upkeep. He added that Union Grove bailed the Gladewater association out after an individual took money from the association.

Councilmember Shipp said this could be a joint venture with the city, county, school, private donations, etc.

Councilmember Niemann gave assurance that whether the bond passes or not the city will continue to look at the field situation.

City Manager Pate stated we already have a reinvestment committee and this falls under those parameters. He said we can invite the baseball and softball associations, then have a workshop with the Council.

- V. CONSIDERATION of project acceptance for modifications/expansion of the existing water treatment plant

John Ringler, KSA Engineers, stated the water treatment plan project is complete and is in good shape. The Council has to accept the project in order to release retainage to the contractor.

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

- VI. PUBLIC HEARING regarding a request from GWS East Texas RP, LLC for a restricted commercial zoning to sell beer and wine for on-premise consumption at West Pacific Pizza located at Lots 1-3, NCB 8, more commonly known as 220-224 W. Pacific Street

Mayor Wells opened the public hearing at 6:27 p.m.

Wayne Shott, owner of West Pacific Pizza, stated other restaurants have the ability to serve beer with meals. He offered to answer any questions and requested approval.

Councilmember Burlison asked why the Council has to approve each of these requests piece-mill. City Manager Pate said it is state law that it cannot be within 300 feet of a school or church and we have to make sure it is zoned properly.

With no other comments the public hearing was closed at 6:38 p.m.

- VII. CONSIDERATION of a request from GWS East Texas RP, LLC for a restricted commercial zoning to sell beer and wine for on-premise consumption at West Pacific Pizza located at Lots 1-3, NCB 8, more commonly known as 220-224 W. Pacific Street

Councilmember Shipp moved to approve the request, seconded by Councilmember Niemann. Carried 7-0.

- VIII. CONSIDERATION of a resolution suspending for 45 days the effective date proposed by CenterPoint Energy Resources Corp., Beaumont/East Texas Division ("CenterPoint") in its application filed on or about March 31, 2014 pursuant to section 104.301 of the Gas Utility Regulatory Act

City Manager Pate explained this 45 day delay will give CARD attorneys time to review the requested rate increase.

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

- IX. CONSIDERATION of blanket permit for 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Gusher Days Festival, including special permit for public consumption of alcoholic beverages during Gusher Days events April 18-19, 2014

City Manager Pate stated that Chief Vine brought it to his attention that our current ordinance 112.01 prohibits alcohol consumption in public but the Council can give special permission for festivals and events. He said the area will be confined to downtown.

Councilmember Burlison asked if we are using the GEDCO map. City Manager Pate said the Council can define the area. Gusher Days organizer Nick Foster said the defined area will be downtown from around the War Memorial on Pacific to Dean Street, over to Commerce Street to Walter Derrick Avenue.

Several Council members expressed appreciation to Chief Vine for catching the ordinance violation and complimented him on the fine job he and his department are doing.

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

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X. CONSIDERATION of Lake Board appointment

Councilmember Shipp moved to appoint Todd Tefteller per unanimous recommendation of the Lake Board. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Niemann. Carried 7-0.

XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION pursuant to Government Code 551.074 for annual performance evaluation of City Manager, City Secretary, Municipal Judge, and City Prosecutor

The Council recessed into executive session at 6:53 p.m.

XII. RECONVENE into open session and take any action necessary regarding performance evaluations of City Manager, City Secretary, Municipal Judge, and City Prosecutor

The Council reconvened into open session at 9:00 p.m. Mayor Pro-tem Owens made the following motion with regard to;

- a) City Prosecutor Barry Wallace – Postpone evaluation until next meeting since Mr. Wallace could not be in attendance;
- b) Municipal Judge Donna Blalock – Give an exceeds expectations rating and increase annual salary to \$19,000.
- c) City Secretary Melba Haralson – Give an exceeds expectations rating, move to Step 12, Grade 22 of the Performance Pay Plan and increase monthly car allowance to \$500.
- d) City Manager Sean Pate – Give an exceeds expectations rating and increase annual salary by 2 ½ %.

Motion was seconded by Councilmember Burlison. Carried 7-0.

XIII. CITY MANAGER REPORT

- a) Update 12" water main project

City Manager Pate said the project is being redesigned due to minor re-routing as two property owners were not willing to negotiate.

XIV. ADJOURN

Councilmember Shipp moved to adjourn at 9:04 p.m., seconded by Councilmember Burlison. Carried 7-0.

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HAROLD R. WELLS, MAYOR

ATTEST:

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MELBA HARALSON, CITY SECRETARY