

## REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING – April 11, 2016

The City Council of the City of La Grange met in Regular Session on Monday, April 11, 2016 in the City Hall Council Chambers with the following members present: Councilmember Bonnie Busch, Mayor Pro tem John Cernosek, Councilman John Eilert, Councilman Pat Janca, Councilmember Kathy Weishuhn and Councilmember Violet Zbranek. Mayor Janet Moerbe, Councilmember Deborah Bradley, and Councilman Arnold Romberg were absent. Staff present: City Manager Shawn Raborn, Chief of Police Jackie Skelton, and City Secretary Lisa Oltmann. Visitors: Tom Hudson with Subway, and Jeff Wick with the *Fayette County Record*.

Mayor Pro tem John J. Cernosek called the meeting to order. The Pledge of Allegiance to the United States and Texas was recited and Councilmember Kathy Weishuhn gave the invocation.

The first item was to discuss and or consider a request from Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church to close the 800 block of N. Franklin on May 15<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 am until 5:00 pm. A request was received from Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church to block/close the 800 block of N. Franklin St. from 10:00 am until 5:00 pm on Sunday, May 15<sup>th</sup> for their 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Homecoming Picnic. Staff recommends approval of this request. **MOTION** Councilmember Weishuhn, **SECOND** Councilman Pat Janca to approve staff's recommendation. Motion carried.

The next item was to discuss and or consider appointment of Mr. Keith Lund to the Main Street Board. The Main Street Board is requesting that Mr. Keith Lund with Camp Lone Star be appointed to the Main Street Board to fill a vacancy created by the recent resignation of Ms. Phyllis Fritsch. The Advisory Board would like the term to begin on April 12, 2016. Mr. Lund has been very involved with several Main Street events including Schmeckenfest and is willing to be a member of the Main Street Advisory Board. **MOTION** Councilman John Eilert, **SECOND** Councilmember Bonnie Busch to approve the Main Street Board's request. Motion carried.

The next item was to discuss and or consider approval of March 2016 minutes. **MOTION** Councilmember Violet Zbranek, **SECOND** Councilman Janca to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

The next item was to discuss and or consider a rate request proposed by CenterPoint Energy Entex. A request was received from CenterPoint Energy Entex to increase the current base residential rate. Entex is proposing to increase the base residential gas rate by \$1.14 per month effective May 30, 2016. Entex is framing the issue as a gas reliability infrastructure program ("GRIP") adjustment and not as a rate increase. The end result is that the customer bill will increase from the current base rate of \$20.07 to \$21.21. This item is for information purposes only tonight and will be

brought back at a later date for formal action. City Manager noted that over the past 10 years the base rate has increased from \$11.75 to \$21.21.

The next item was a report on Active Projects. City Manager Raborn reviewed the report. The Lynnwood Underground project was started and the first phase should be completed the early part of next week with being able to tie into the system. The water line replacement project on Walnut Street between Lester and Madison has been completed and staff is working with H&C Construction to reclaim the blocks impacted by the project. The Soccer Field lighting project should be completed and operational this week. The Library should be painted within 6-8 weeks. The MS150 Bike Race Fundraiser from Houston to Austin will be held this weekend. Asst. City Manager Frank Menefee, Jr. is working with O'Malley Engineering to review a request from Fayette Water Supply to allow their water to be "wheeled" thru our system. There are several items which need to be reviewed to assist in determining the outcome of this request. The city pool has been drained, cleaned, and refilled. The curbside bulky items pickup will be held on Saturday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> and the city wide brush cleanup will be the week of April 25-April 29<sup>th</sup>. A note was received from Mr. Bill Wagner, the newly appointed Superintendent of LGISD, regarding the partnership between the school and the Randolph Recreation Center in hosting a debate contest at the Recreation Center. LGISD is very appreciative and complimentary regarding the partnership. City employees Bo Janda, Jr. and Danny Moerbe recently attended classes regarding mosquito control hosted by the Texas Mosquito Control Association. The information received at the class noted the importance of individuals to be sure to drain all standing water on their own property to help control mosquitoes.

#### City Manager Reports

Sales tax is down 16% for the year.

KW sales is also down and water sales are constant.

#### City Council Committee Reports

The Main Street Merchants' Meeting will be held on April 21<sup>st</sup>. May is Historical Preservation Month.

#### Chief of Police Report

City officers will be assisting with traffic control during the MS 150. On Sunday morning there will be a slight detour for individuals driving west to Austin. This will detour is being done for safety reasons.

At 6:25 PM a **MOTION** was made by Councilmember Weishuhn, with a **SECOND** by Councilmember Violet Zbranek that the meeting be adjourned. Motion carried.

---

Lisa Oltmann, City Secretary

These Minutes Approved by City Council on:

---

---

John J. Cernosek, Mayor Pro tem

### **REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING – April 25, 2016**

The City Council of the City of La Grange met in Regular Session on Monday, April 25, 2016 in the City Hall Council Chambers with the following members present: Mayor Janet Moerbe, Councilmember Bonnie Busch, Councilmember Deborah Bradley, Mayor Pro tem John Cernosek, Councilman John Eilert, Councilman Pat Janca, Councilman Arnold Romberg, Councilmember Kathy Weishuhn and Councilmember Violet Zbranek. Staff present: City Manager Shawn Raborn, Sgt. Steve Pohorelsky, and City Secretary Lisa Oltmann. Visitors: James Dolezal.

Mayor Janet Moerbe called the meeting to order. The Pledge of Allegiance to the United States and Texas was recited and Deacon Mike Meismer of Sacred Heart Catholic Church gave the invocation.

Under public petitions James Dolezal addressed the council with concerns regarding the proposed replat of property for the proposed new Fayette County EMS facility. His concerns included how the water flow from the lot in question would be handled so it would not cause problems on his adjacent property. He also was concerned if an environmental study might be done. Mayor Moerbe and City Manager Raborn thanked Mr. Dolezal for his comments and concerns and informed him that these concerns should be asked/brought forward to the county as they would be the property owner. Mr. Dolezal also thanked the council for their time.

The first item was to discuss and or consider preliminary replat of property located at 104 E. St. Hwy 71 Bypass. The City of La Grange has received a request from LCRA to subdivide/section out a 2 acre tract from their property located at 104 E. St. Hwy 71 Bypass. The newly created tract is intended to be the future home of the Fayette County EMS. The City of La Grange asked all property owners within a 200' radius of the LCRA tract if they were in favor of or opposed to granting this request. There were a total of thirteen (13) letters sent out. The majority of the ballots returned were in favor of this replat. **MOTION** Councilmember Kathy Weishuhn, **SECOND** Councilman Pat Janca to approve the preliminary replat request. Motion carried.

The next item was to discuss and or consider authorizing the City Manager to proceed with the modification to the Randolph Recreation Center. Staff is requesting

council authorization to proceed with the expansion of the exercise room at the Randolph Recreation Center into the current sitting room. Staff has been working with Cutright and Allen on the use of the space. The budget estimate to complete the renovation is \$30,000 with city staff doing the demolition and serving as the general contractor. The funds for the improvements will come out of budget Capital Improvement Fund allocated for facility improvements. **MOTION** Councilman John Eilert, **SECOND** Councilmember Weishuhn to approve staff's request. Motion carried.

The next item was to discuss and or consider authorizing staff to proceed with the replacement of the play structures at White Rock Park and Kruschel Park. Staff is requesting council authorization to proceed with the replacement of the play structures at White Rock Park and Kruschel Park. The existing play structures are both over 20 years old and are not ADA Compliant. The new play structures will be ADA compliant. We included funding in the current Capital Improvement Fund Budget to upgrade the play structures but the amount budgeted was not enough to fund both structures. The EDC has agreed to partner with the City of La Grange to upgrade the play structures at White Rock and Kruschel Parks. The total project cost is estimated at \$120,000 and will be cost shared equally with the EDC. With the EDC partnership we will have funding to complete both play structures this year. Mayor Moerbe asked if staff would look into the possibility that there be a wheelchair swing platform or similar type of play structure equipment included in at least one of the parks if not both. **MOTION** Councilman Arnold Romberg, **SECOND** Councilmember Bonnie Busch to approve this request. Motion carried.

#### Committee Reports

There were no reports at this time.

#### City Manager Report

It is anticipated that the punch list for the Historic Casino Hall project would begin being reviewed next week.

After all of the recent rains and flooding, mosquito control is being aggressively pursued. The newspaper has an article in Tuesday's edition reminding individual property owners that their help is needed in this. City staff is placing larvicide out and working on remedies where there is standing water.

There have also been sixteen (16) weed lot letters sent out to individuals regarding their need to have these areas mowed.

The tents from the MS150 are still up at the Fair Grounds, the heavy rain and flooding has delayed the process of taking them down.

April 23<sup>rd</sup> was the Residential Curbside Bulk Pickup day. This week April 25-April 29 is the Spring Clean Up Week and city crews will be picking up one free load of limb/brush for residents during this time. The city will also have roll-off containers at the warehouse for residential utility customers to utilize for hard to dispose of items. These containers will be available Monday thru Saturday, April 25 – 30, 2016.

Fayette County has been declared a disaster area. The Red Cross is here helping individuals as needed. The city is only a facilitator with declaration. Contact information can also be found on the city website for individuals.

At 6:33 PM as pursuant to Section 551.072 Real Property, council went into closed executive session to discuss and or consider acquisition of real property off Hwy 77N. and off Mode Lane.

At 6:45 council went into open session. **MOTION** Councilman Romberg, **SECOND** Councilmember Weishuhn to authorize the purchase of property located off Hwy 77N. There was no action required at this time regarding property off Mode Lane.

At 6:47 PM a **MOTION** was made Councilman Eilert, with a **SECOND** by Councilmember Weishuhn that the meeting be adjourned. Motion carried.

---

Lisa Oltmann, City Secretary

These Minutes Approved by City Council on:

---

---

Janet Moerbe, Mayor