

## REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING – April 10 2017

The City Council of the City of La Grange met in Regular Session on Monday, April 10, 2017 in the City Hall Council Chambers at 155 E. Colorado St. with the following members present: Mayor Janet Moerbe, Councilmember Bonnie Busch, Councilmember Deborah Bradley, Mayor Pro tem John J. Cernosek, Councilman John Eilert, Councilman Pat Janca, Councilman Arnold Romberg, Councilmember Kathy Weishuhn, and Councilmember Violet Zbranek. Staff present: City Manager Shawn Raborn, Chief of Police David Gilbreath, and City Secretary Lisa Oltmann. Visitors: Lance Zandonatti, Jason McBroom, Robin Hudson, Tom Hudson, Ken Taylor, E. Hungerford and Jess McDaniel.

Mayor Moerbe called the meeting to order. The Pledge of Allegiance to the United States and Texas was recited and Father Eric Hungerford of St. James Episcopal Church gave the invocation.

Under public petitions, Tom Hudson asked council to not vote on the sign ordinance at this meeting.

The first 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 \$2.04 per month effective May 30, 2017. 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 rate of \$21.20 to \$23.24. Next year CenterPoint Energy Entex will be required to submit a rate case to the Railroad Commission for consideration. Council authorized staff to bring back a resolution to delay the increase for 45 days.

The next item was to discuss and or consider on first reading an ordinance amending Chapter 3, Code of Ordinances, City of La Grange, Texas, As Recodified On January 8, 2007, By Amending Chapter 3, Article 3.11, Division 1, By Clarifying Section 3.11.001 General Definitions And Section 3.11.002 Prohibitions; And Adding Section 3.11.003 General Sign Provisions; Section 3.11.004 Illumination Standards; Section 3.11.005 Sign Maintenance Standards And Section 3.11.006 Sign Permitting, Fees, Review and Enforcement. Staff is presenting to council an updated sign ordinance for council consideration. The ordinance includes the key provisions that council indicated that they wanted to see in an updated ordinance. The ordinance that is being presented is still being reviewed and modified by the City Attorney. Any changes will be related more to ordinance structure than any material changes to the intent of the ordinance. Key Provisions: Updated the types of signs that are prohibited within the community. Includes general sign provisions for the development and number of signs on a site. Added general illumination standards to include that signs shall not allow for unshielded

upward transmission of light. Requirement that signs must remain in good condition. **MOTION** Councilman Arnold Romberg, **SECOND** Councilmember Bonnie Busch to approve the first reading of this ordinance. A roll call vote was taken: Councilmember Busch in favor, Councilmember Bradley in favor, Mayor Pro tem Cernosek against, Councilman Eilert in favor, Councilman Janca in favor, Councilman Romberg in favor, Councilmember Weishuhn in favor, Councilmember Zbranek in favor. Motion carried 7-1.

The next item was to discuss and or consider a request from Tejas Health Care to extend a Temporary Special Use Permit. The City of La Grange has received a request from Tejas Health Care for a Temporary Special Use Permit in order to continue to have two (2) 14' X 70' manufactured homes/buildings placed at 753 E. Travis St. for office space. These buildings are set up in accordance with City Ordinances. Staff is recommending that the time period for this Temporary Special Use Permit not exceed 24 months. There were 18 letters sent to property owners within a 200' radius of this address asking if the owners are in favor of or opposed to the Temporary Special Use Permit request. There were six (6) letters returned in favor of granting this request, two (2) letters that were opposed to granting this request, and ten (10) letters not returned. A Temporary Special Use Permit was originally granted by council in 2015 for these two buildings. Councilman Romberg stated he will be abstaining from voting on this request as he is a member of the Tejas Board. **MOTION** Councilman John Eilert, **SECOND** Councilmember Violet Zbranek to approve this request. Motion carried 7-0.

The next item was to discuss and or consider a preliminary replat request from the Thomas Bednar Estate regarding property at 255 N. Jackson. A request was received from the Thomas Bednar Estate, the owner of 255 N. Jackson Street to subdivide this lot into two (2) separate lots with one lot measuring 84.46' by 171.57' and the other lot measuring 73.69' by 171.91', the corner lot is approximately 6 ½ feet short of the required width frontage for a corner lot due to a Railroad (R.O.W.) There were fourteen (14) letters sent out to all property owners within a 200 foot radius asking if they were in favor of granting a variance for the width of the corner lot as well as subdividing the lot into two (2) separate lots. There were eight (8) letters returned in favor of granting the variance and replat request, one (1) letter against and five (5) letters not returned. The Board of Adjustment met on April 4, 2017 and granted the Variance request should Council approve the replat request. **MOTION** Councilman Romberg, **SECOND** Councilmember Zbranek to approve this preliminary replat request. Motion carried 8-0.

The next item was to discuss and or consider appointment of Jan Dockery to the Board of Adjustments. The Board of Adjustments is comprised of 5 members who reside within the City of La Grange. At this time there are two (2) vacancies on the Board of Adjustments. Mayor Moerbe recommends the appointment of Jan Dockery to the Board to fill the vacancy which was created by Steve Pesick's resignation. Work continues to fill the remaining vacant position. Current members of the Board of Adjustments are

Daniel Cernoch, Brad Cutright and Carol Averyt. **MOTION** Councilmember Kathy Weishuhn, **SECOND** Councilmember Busch to approve this request. Motion carried 8-0.

The next item was to discuss and or consider approval of March 2017 minutes. **MOTION** Councilmember Zbranek, **SECOND** Councilman Pat Janca to approve the minutes. Motion carried 8-0.

#### Chief of Police Update

The department is initiating a “Take Back Drugs” program. This program will allow for the safe disposal of unused prescription medication. It is anticipated that there will be two (2) locations in La Grange which will have containers available where individuals can bring these medications to in order to safely dispose of them.. The department will have an incinerator to safely dispose of the collected medications. Funds were received from the Citizens on Patrol organization as well as the County Narcotics unit to assist with funding the incinerator. April 29<sup>th</sup> is ‘National Prescription Take Back Drug Day’. The Citizens On Patrol organization assists the police department with various items including patrolling the town and also enforcing handicap parking. They are accepting applications for new members at this time and hope to have enough interested applicants so a training academy can be held.

#### City Manager Update

The report on Active Projects was reviewed. Active Projects include the completion of the Lynnwood Underground project. Changing the media system at one of the water wells to assist in reducing the TTHM levels. Completion of Well Station C Ground Storage Tank project. Continuing work on the water & waste water line replacement project on LaFayette Street along the railroad track. Selecting tile for the West Gym bathroom at the Randolph Recreation Center. Completing the Library restroom remodel project. A meeting has been set with Brad Cutright of Cutright and Allen regarding the City Hall Remodel project. This past Friday the final LCRA Step Forward project was completed at the pauper cemetery off of Mode Lane. The Recreation Department hosted the annual Easter Egg hunt at the library this past Saturday. This continues to grow each year, they are looking into hosting this at White Rock Park next year due to the large number of individuals participating in the hunt. Encouraged everyone to visit the library/museum and view the World War 1 display. Items will continue to be added to the display as they are received. The Main Street Department will be hosting two training opportunities on Thursday for businesses in La Grange. The session for Texas Friendly Hospitality training is sold out with 45 individuals registered.

At 6:33 PM a **MOTION** was made by Councilmember Weishuhn, with a **SECOND** by Councilmember Zbranek that the meeting be adjourned. Motion carried.

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Lisa Oltmann, City Secretary

These Minutes Approved by City Council on:

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Janet Moerbe, Mayor

### **REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING – April 24 2017**

The City Council of the City of La Grange met in Regular Session on Monday, April 24, 2017 in the City Hall Council Chambers at 155 E. Colorado St. with the following members present: Mayor Janet Moerbe, Councilmember Bonnie Busch, Councilmember Deborah Bradley, Mayor Pro tem John J. Cernosek, Councilman John Eilert, Councilman Pat Janca, Councilman Arnold Romberg, Councilmember Kathy Weishuhn, and Councilmember Violet Zbranek. Staff present: Chief of Police David Gilbreath, and City Secretary Lisa Oltmann. Visitors: George Burton, Tom Hudson, Eva Caine, Ken Taylor, Jason McBroom, J. Kubecka, Jesse McDaniel, William B., and others.

Mayor Moerbe called the meeting to order. The Pledge of Allegiance to the United States and Texas was recited and Pastor Marcia Keifer of Shared Lutheran Ministries gave the invocation.

Under Public Petitions Mayor Moerbe asked that comments be limited to three minutes. Tom Hudson spoke on the sign ordinance and took more time than was allotted. He was asked repeatedly to sit down and when this did not happen, he was escorted out.

The first item was to discuss and or consider awarding bid for the 2017 Street Reclaiming and Seal Coating Project to H & C Construction. Staff recommends that the 2017 seal coating and reclaiming project be awarded to H & C Construction in the amount of \$145,545.20. Funding for this project was included in the FY 2016-2017 Capital Improvement Fund Budget. The bids received for this project were from Clark Construction in the total amount of \$316,184.40 and H & C Construction in the total amount of \$145,545.20. H & C Construction has done numerous street seal coating and street reclaiming projects for the City of La Grange and their work has met the City's expectations. **MOTION** Mayor Pro tem John Cernosek, **SECOND** Councilman Pat Janca to approve staff's recommendation. Motion carried 8-0.

The next item was to discuss and or consider a request from Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church to close the 800 block of N. Franklin on May 21<sup>st</sup> from 10:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. The City received a request from Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church to block off the 800 block of N. Franklin on Sunday, May 21<sup>st</sup> for their 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Homecoming Picnic. Staff recommends approval of this request. **MOTION** Councilmember Kathy Weishuhn, **SECOND** Councilmember Violet Zbranek to approve staff's request. Motion carried 8-0.

The next item was to discuss and or consider second reading of An Ordinance Amending Chapter 3, Code Of Ordinances, City Of La Grange, Texas, As Recodified On January 8, 2007, By Amending Chapter 3, Article 3.11, By Replacing It In Its Entirety, Thereby Re-Structuring The Article In Order To Clarify Article 3.11, Adding Definitions, Adding Prohibitions, Re-Codifying And Expanding The Permitting And Review Process, Providing For Fees, Enforcement, Variances, And Providing For An Effective Date. Presented to council for final reading was an updated sign ordinance for consideration. The ordinance includes the key provision that council indicated that they wanted to see in an updated ordinance. The ordinance has been reviewed by the City Attorney. Key Provisions: Updated the types of signs that are prohibited within the community. Includes General sign provisions for the development and number of signs on a site. Added general illumination standards to include that signs shall not allow for unshielded upward transmission of light. Requirement that signs must remain in good condition. **MOTION** Councilman Pat Janca, **SECOND** Councilmember Bonnie Busch to approve the second and final reading of this ordinance. A roll call vote was taken: Councilmember Busch in favor, Councilmember Bradley in favor, Mayor Pro tem Cernosek against, Councilman Eilert in favor, Councilman Janca in favor, Councilman Romberg in favor, Councilmember Weishuhn in favor, Councilmember Zbranek in favor. Motion carried 7-1. **Attachment #1**

There were no council committee reports to present.

Mayor Moerbe reviewed the sales tax report and noted that sales tax was up 7%. It was also noted that the 'Shred It' event and the curbside large item pick up was this past Saturday and both services were well received and well utilized. This week, April 24-April 28, is the city wide brush pick up and residents also can take items to be discarded to the roll-off containers at the city service center.

At 6:18 PM a **MOTION** was made by Councilmember Weishuhn, with a **SECOND** by Councilmember Zbranek that the meeting be adjourned. Motion carried.

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Lisa Oltmann, City Secretary

These Minutes Approved by City Council on:

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Janet Moerbe, Mayor