The City Council of the City of La Grange met in Regular Session on Monday, August 12, 2019 in the City Hall Council Chambers at 155 E. Colorado St. with the following members present: Mayor Janet Moerbe, Councilmember Bonnie Busch, Mayor Pro tem John J. Cernosek, Councilmember Jan Dockery, Councilman John Eilert, Councilman Pat Janca, Councilman Ken Taylor, Councilmember Kathy Weishuhn, and Councilmember Violet Zbranek. Staff present: City Manager Shawn Raborn, Chief of Police David Gilbreath, and City Secretary Lisa Oltmann. Visitors: Billy Beth Baker, Cleo Wenske, Luther Harrison, Katy Michalke, Kellie Smith, Phil Oestreich, Bob Heath, Sherrie Tolbert, Deborah Frank, Larry Jackson, Ralph Rosenberg, Bob Carroll, Tom Hudson, Candy O’Meara, Stacey Norris and others.

Mayor Moerbe called the meeting to order. Next were pledges to the US and Texas Flags. Pastor Kolbe Hill of The Remnant Church gave the invocation.

Under petitions, Ken Dernehl, Rita Dernehl, and Deborah Frank spoke.

CONSENT AGENDA

Discuss and or Consider approval of July 2019 minutes.

A motion was made by Councilman Taylor and seconded by Councilmember Zbranek to approve the Consent Agenda Item as presented. Motion carried.

REGULAR AGENDA

Discuss and or consider approval of preliminary replat at 121 S. College owned by First Baptist Church. The City of La Grange has received a request from First Baptist Church to Replat the property located at 121 S. College into two tracts. The First Baptist Church would like to market the property two ways. One tract with two buildings, and as two individual tracts with one building on each lot. Both lots meet the minimum size requirements required by City of La Grange Ordinances. There were 20 letters sent to property owners within a 200’ radius of this address asking if the owners are in favor of or opposed to the subdivision request. There were six (6) letters returned in favor of granting this request, two (2) letters that were opposed to granting this request, and twelve (12) letters not returned. Motion Councilman Janca, Second Councilmember Weishuhn to approve this request. Motion carried.

Presentation by Samaritan’s Purse on development of the Hope Hill Neighborhood. Mr. Brent Graybeal, Manager of US Recovery and Development with Samaritan’s Purse appeared before council and gave a presentation on the organizations plans to develop the Hope Hill neighborhood. Key components which Samaritan’s Purse will use in developing the neighborhood include investing up to $9 million for the project, including home, road and construction utilities; construct 30-35 homes for homeowners that qualify for the rebuild program; only accept applications from persons who owned their home and were residing there at the time of Hurricane Harvey; not accept applications from renters; conduct case management interviews with each applicant that includes an in-depth financial history; hire licensed contractors to build the homes; and comply with all state and local ordinances and codes. Other individuals with Samaritan’s Purse in attendance were Chris and Cindy Barton and Luther Harrison.

A Public Hearing on Annexation of Hope Hill Development was then held. This is the second of two required public hearings. The Public Hearing was opened at 6:50 pm. Following comments, the hearing was closed at 6:56 pm.

Discuss and or consider approval of project agreement between Fayette County and the City of La Grange for the Texas Hurricane Harvey Program Community Development Block Grant Program-
Disaster Recovery Appropriation related to water system improvement project(s) awarded to the County by the Texas General Land Office (GLO). Fayette County received CDBG-DR funding in the Method of Distribution in the amount of $942,778 for infrastructure projects in La Grange. We have identified the upgrade of the water line from Well Station D to Well Station B as the project that will have the most impact in the impacted area. We will be upgrading the line from a 6-inch line to a 14-inch line. The funds must be expended so that 70% of the beneficiaries are low to moderate income (LMI) by census block group. The total amount available for construction and engineering is $867,378 with engineering fees capped at 15%. The estimated construction cost of the project is $916,000. The local investment is estimated to complete the project as designed is $186,022. Staff recommends that we allocate up to $250,000 in the event the project comes in over the engineers estimate. The match funds will come from the Water Improvement Bond proceeds. Staff requests council approval to enter into a project agreement with Fayette County that will allow for funding to complete the installation of the new water line between Well Station D and B. An updated Infrastructure Project Agreement was provided to council. Motion Councilman Eilert, second Councilman Taylor to approve this item. Motion carried.

Discuss and or consider approval of a Community Development Block Grant Program – Disaster Recovery Interlocal Agreement (ILA) between Fayette County, Texas and the City of La Grange, Texas. Fayette County is requesting that we also approve an Interlocal Agreement that outlines the responsibilities related to the above-mentioned grant project. An updated Community Development Block Grant-Disaster Recovery Interlocal Agreement (“ILA”) Between Fayette County, Texas and The City Of La Grange, Texas was provided to council. Motion Councilman Taylor, second Councilman Janca to approve the Interlocal Agreement. Motion carried.

Discuss and or consider authorizing staff to sign the Letter Of Intent and Community Partnership Playground Agreement with KaBoom in the event the Adventure Course project is approved. Staff has submitted a grant application to KaBoom for an Adventure Course at White Rock Park. Rebuild Texas has partnered with KaBoom to build Playscapes and Adventure Courses in communities impacted by Hurricane Harvey. The total cost of the project is covered by funding provided by Rebuild Texas. The local commitment is to engage the community to assist in the design of the course and install the equipment on build day. The process has moved very fast over the 30 days. City Manager Raborn was initially contacted by Casey Paskus, Community Outreach Coordinator with KaBoom on July 10th. Janet Rangel and City Manager Raborn reviewed possible options and what would be the best addition to the current recreational opportunities and decided to target the 10 and older age group. The adventure course would be a welcome and needed addition to our recreation program. Mrs. Rangel has coordinated the initial team of volunteers that will be needed to spearhead and construct the Adventure Course. A conference call was held with KaBoom and the initial volunteer group last week. This conference call went very well and the group is excited to participate in the project. An updated KaBoom! Letter of Intent was provided to council which excluded the fundraising line item. Staff is requesting council authorization to sign the letter of intent with KaBoom. The letter of intent does not commit KaBoom to fund the project but only to move the project to the next step of funding consideration. Motion Councilmember Weishuhn, second Councilmember Zbranek to approve this item. Motion carried.

Chief of Police Update
In the 2019-2020 budget year, the department anticipates adding and/or replacing some equipment which would include E-ticket writers for the safety of the police officers. The investigation continues on the theft/burglary which occurred at Kleiber-Ford. Chief Gilbreath nominated Deputy CJ Lehmann for the Star of Texas Award thru The Office of The Texas Governor and he will be presented this award on September 11, 2019. Traffic Enforcement thru the Step Grant Program will begin in late fall. During the month of July the department responded to 435 calls.

City Manager Update
The many activities provided thru the summer by various city department were all well received and attended. Some activities included Movies On The Square, Summer Camps, a new splash pad, Summer Reading Program, Putt-Putt Golf in the Library and others. City crews are working to restripe the streets around the schools.

Discuss and or consider approval of proposed property tax rate and schedule Public Hearings.

Staff review of 2019-2020 FY Budget with City Council. The staff is pleased to present the City of La Grange, Annual Operating Budget for Fiscal Year 2019-2020. This budget reflects the ongoing mission of the La Grange City Council to maintain cost effective programs while continually focusing on preserving and enhancing the quality of life that is enjoyed by all La Grange Citizens. The proposed budget for the 2019-2020 Fiscal Year is service driven and balanced. City Manager Raborn made a few changes this year regarding how we show the capital expenditures in the General and Utility Fund. The capital improvement funds will be transferred to the specific Fund and all capital items will appear directly in the Department Budget. The total Budget will be down 2.65 percent over the total budget last year. Also added is a new section to the budget that incorporates the recently completed Comprehensive Plan 2018-2038. The plan section includes information regarding the current condition of the community and the implementation plan. The specific items that are identified in this year’s budget are referenced by the action plan number in the budget document. Staff is proposing to set the tax rate at .2093, which is the current tax rate. The average home value in La Grange according to the Fayette County Tax Appraisal District if $176,780. The annual taxes on the average homestead based on the current tax rate is $296.00 per year, $24.67 per month of .81 cents per day for city provided general fund services. Those include Police, Fire, Library, Parks and Recreation, Main Street, Building Inspections and Streets. The proposed budget does make a four percent adjustment to the base water rate, waste water rate and the pass through of the three percent residential sanitation rate increase from Waste Management. The current contract with Waste Management expires on October 31, 2021. Fiscal overview of the FY 2019-2020 Operating Budget:

<table>
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<th>Budget 2018-2019</th>
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City Manager Raborn reviewed with the City Council the proposed FY 2019-2020 Annual Operating Budget. The budget will be submitted for your review and consideration for first reading at the September 9, 2019 City Council meeting with final consideration and adoption on September 23, 2019. Public Hearing Schedule: First Hearing: August 26, 2019 at 6 pm at La Grange City Hall, 155 E. Colorado, La Grange, TX. Second Hearing: September 9, 2019 at 6:00 pm at La Grange City Hall, 155 E. Colorado, La Grange, TX. Motion Councilmember Zbranek, second Councilman Eilert to approve the proposed Property Tax Rate of $0.2093 and schedule the first public hearing on August 26, 2019 at 6:00 pm at La Grange City Hall, 155 E. Colorado, La Grange TX 78945, and the second public hearing on September 9, 2019 at 6:00 pm at La Grange City Hall, 155 E Colorado, La Grange, TX 78945. The members of the governing body voted on the proposal to consider the tax rate as follows: For: Councilmembers Cernosek, Dockery, Eilert, Janca, Weishuhn, Taylor, Busch and Zbranek. Against: None. Present and not voting: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

City Council Committee Reports
The Airport Advisory Board met on the 31st, and discussed 2 concerns – a courtesy car at the airport and buckling which is on the runway.

At 8:10 PM as pursuant to Section 551.074 Personnel Matters: Discuss City Secretary selection & hiring process council went into Closed Executive Session.

At 8:24 PM Council went into Open Session. No action was needed.

At 8:25 PM a motion was made by Councilmember Weishuhn, with a second by Mayor Pro tem Cernosek that the meeting be adjourned. Motion carried.

____________________________________
Lisa Oltmann, City Secretary
These Minutes Approved by City Council on:

____________________________________
Janet Moerbe, Mayor

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING – August 26, 2019

The City Council of the City of La Grange met in Regular Session on Monday, August 26, 2019 in the City Hall Council Chambers at 155 E. Colorado St. with the following members present: Mayor Janet Moerbe, Councilmember Bonnie Busch, Mayor Pro tem John J. Cernosek, Councilman John Eilert, Councilman Pat Janca, Councilman Ken Taylor, Councilmember Kathy Weishuhn, and Councilmember Violet Zbranek. Councilmember Jan Dockery was absent. Staff present: City Manager Shawn Raborn, Officer Justin Koehne, and City Secretary Lisa Oltmann. Visitors: Sarah Mabry, Mike Mabry, Sherri Tolbert, Mike McCather, Kim Newton, Jill Newton, George Burton, Tom Hudson, Shirley Hudson, Phil Oestreich, Rhonda Trousdale, Martha Langford, Paula Vogel, Richard Chernosky, Billy Beth Baker, Stacey Norris, A. Neale Rabensburg, and others.

Mayor Moerbe called the meeting to order. Next were pledges to the US and Texas Flags. Pastor Martha Langford of The First Presbyterian Church gave the invocation.

Under petitions, Sherrie Tolbert, Sarah Mabry, Rita Dernehl, Ken Dernehl, Brandon Schielack, and Neale Rabensburg spoke.

CONSENT AGENDA
Discuss and or consider approval of blocking off the square for La Grange Oktoberfest. The Advisory Board of La Grange Main Street is requesting permission for the closing of the following street sections to accommodate Trick or treat on the Square (Thursday, October 31) and Schmeckenfest (Thursday, December 5)for the safety of the public. 1) The entry to North Washington Street at Travis. 2) 100 & 200 blocks of West Colorado Street at Hwy 77 North to the intersection of North Washington. 3) Travis Street (Highway 71 Business) from Highway 77 West to Brown Street. Traffic will be detoured one block south to West Crockett to South Brown, then back onto Travis. 4) One half of the 200 block of North Washington to the Prosperity Bank parking lot entrance. They would like to begin blocking off the proposed streets at 3:00 pm for Trick or treat on the square and 4:00 pm for Schmeckenfest.

Discuss and or consider appointment to the Fayette County Appraisal District board of directors. Mr. Romberg is the current representative for the City of La Grange on the Tax Appraisal District Board of directors. Mr. Romberg is willing to continue to serve in this capacity.
Discuss and or consider approval of contract for assessment and collection services with the Fayette County Appraisal District. The contract with the Fayette County Appraisal District will expire on December 31, 2019. Staff recommends that the city renew the contract for assessment and collection services for 2020 and 2021.

A motion was made by Councilmember Weishuhn and seconded by Councilman Janca to approve the Consent Agenda Items as presented. Motion carried.

REGULAR AGENDA

Public Hearing on the Proposed Tax Rate. As part of the annual budget process we are required to hold two public hearings on setting the proposed tax rate. Staff is proposing to set the tax rate at .2093, which is the current tax rate. This is the first of the two public hearings. The Public Hearing was opened at 6:25 pm. Ken Dernehl spoke during the public hearing. The public hearing was closed at 6:28 pm.

Discuss and or consider on First reading an ordinance annexing the territory described herein, Hope Hill Addition 2019, to the City of La Grange, Fayette County, Texas, extending the boundary limits of said city to include the territory described herein within the city limits of said city and granting to all inhabitants of the territory described herein all of the rights and privileges of citizens of the City of La Grange while binding them by all the acts, ordinances, resolutions and regulation of the City of La Grange. Staff presented for consideration the annexation to one tract of property known as the Hope Hill 2019 Addition. As part of the annexation process we have held two public hearings to allow for the public to express their opinion on the annexation plan. This is the first of two required readings of the annexation ordinance. A motion was made by Mayor Pro tem Cernosek and seconded by Councilman Eilert to approve this ordinance on First Reading. A roll call vote was taken: Councilmember Busch against, Mayor Pro tem Cernosek for, Councilmember Dockery absent, Councilman Eilert for, Councilman Janca against, Councilman Taylor against, Councilmember Weishuhn for, Councilmember Zbranek against. Motion failed 3-4.

Discuss and or consider charge off of delinquent utility accounts. Our charge off dollar amount for this period is $12,741.76 and the number of uncollectible accounts has decreased from the prior period from 50 to 47. Office staff collected $8,276,249 out of a total sale of $8,288,991 which is a collection rate of 99.8%. A total of 36,516 bills were prepared and mailed for the period and 36,469 of those were collected and paid in full. Out of an average of 3,040 bills per month, there is an average of 325 which remain unpaid after the 15th of the month. On the 26th day of the month the Utilities office staff prepared a list of accounts which remain unpaid. An average of 30 accounts are left unpaid and are dispatched to be disconnected. The office staff works diligently to collect all unpaid bills. They maintained an excellent and outstanding record by collecting 99.8% of all bills mailed for the twelve month period covered in this report. This has been made possible by their adhering to our established disconnect policy. Enforcement of this policy is not always a pleasant job and therefore the office staff and disconnect servicemen are to be highly commended for their hard work and dedication Mayor Moerbe and City Manager Raborn expressed how proud they are of staff in doing the job they do and having a great collection rate. Motion Councilmember Zbranek, second Councilmember Weishuhn to approve this item. Motion carried.

Discuss and or consider contract with Perdue, Brandon, Fielder, Collins and Mott, LLP for the collection of Delinquent Utility Accounts. Staff is requesting council authorization to enter into an agreement with Perdue, Brandon, Fielder, Collins and Mott, LLP for the collection of delinquent utility accounts. The agreement is for the collection agency to receive 30% of the amount submitted for collection. While we have averaged only on $13,842 a year in uncollectable accounts over the past 5 years this will be an additional tool to collect our bad debt accounts. Motion Councilman Eilert, second Councilmember Zbranek to approve this item. Motion carried.
Discuss and or consider a Resolution Authorizing Representation in IRS Matter and Delegating Authority to Execute Form 2848 IRS Power of Attorney. The purpose of this resolution authorizing representation in the IRS matter concerning notice of proposed penalties for the late filing of IRS Forms 1094-C and 1095-C for the 2016 and 2017 federal tax years. We have not received a penalty notice from the IRS but have been requested to authorize TML to represent us in the event we receive the notice from the IRS. Motion Councilmember Weishuhn, second Councilman Janca to approve the resolution. Motion carried.

Discuss and or consider approval of lease of water tower space to New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC. Staff reviewed the draft lease agreement with New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC to utilize space on the water tower located on North Jefferson Street. New Cingular Wireless, LLC is managed by AT&T Mobility. The form of the lease agreement is the same as those we have with SCT Broadband and Colorado Valley Communications. The main difference is that the New Cingular Wireless agreement includes a 600 square feet ground site for the equipment room. Key Provisions of the agreement: Purpose is for the use of space on water tower and ground lease; the term would be for 5 years, with 4 renewals of 5 years each; consideration of $1,250 per month with 3% annual fee adjustment. Staff is in the process of finalizing the agreement and will present to council for formal consideration in September.

Discuss and or consider awarding of bid for the construction of a new restroom facility at White Rock Park to JB Locke Construction Co. Inc. Staff is requesting council approval of the restroom addition at White Rock park. We are recommending that the low bid in the amount of $282,100 submitted by JB Locke Construction Co., Inc. to be approved. A letter from Cutright and Allen architects was included in the council packet for review. Funds for this project are included in the FY 2019-20 Parks Department Budget. Bids were received from B&B Plumbing & Construction in the amount of $480,805.00; Bass Construction in the amount of $385,000.00; JB Locke Construction Co. Inc. in the amount of $282,100.00; and Perry Construction in the amount of $410,000.00. Based on conversation with staff, Cutright & Allen, Inc., Architects, recommend awarding the construction of the White Rock Park Restrooms to JB Locke Construction Co., Inc. with a bid of $282,100.00. Motion Mayor Pro tem Cernosek, second Councilman Taylor to approve staff’s request. Motion carried.

Staff Review of 2019-20 Annual Budget. Staff reviewed with council the Annual Operating Budget for fiscal year of 2019-2020. This budget reflects the ongoing mission of the La Grange City Council to maintain cost effective programs and services at current levels, while continually focusing on preserving and enhancing the quality of life that is enjoyed by all La Grange Citizens. The total budget is $15,071,932; with a Utility Budget of $9,922,840; General Fund of $4,918,572, Capital Fund of $0.00; Debt Serviced Fund of $230,520.

Discuss and or Consider approval on First Reading of An Ordinance Amending Chapter 13, Code Of Ordinances, City Of La Grange, Texas, As Recodified By Amending Article 13.02 Section 13.02.031 Subsection (1)(A) Establishing And Fixing The Charges And Fees For Water Service Furnished To Residential Locations Within The City Based On Water Usage And/Or Conservation And Subsection (2)(A) Establishing And Fixing The Charges And Fees For Water Service Furnished To Commercial Locations Within The City Based On Water Usage And/Or Conservation Authorizing The City To Collect Same And Providing For An Effective Date. Staff is proposing to increase the base residential water rate from $26.40 to $27.45 per month. The change is based on a four percent increase to recognize the debt service required to develop additional water supply and increased capital construction costs. The volumetric rate for residential water service will increase eight cents per thousand gallons based on the volume of water used. With the proposed rate modifications we are still below the average rates for cities our size in the State of Texas according to the annual TML water survey. The average bill for cities our size with a monthly consumption of 5,000 gallons is $40.15 compared to $34.35 in La Grange. We also
compare favorably with cities our size with a monthly water consumption of 10,000 gallons, $64.35 compared of $45.85 in La Grange.

Discuss and or Consider approval on First Reading of An Ordinance Amending Chapter 13, Code Of Ordinances, City Of La Grange, Texas, As Recodified On , By Amending Article 13.03 Section 13.03.001 Subsection (A) Establishing And Fixing The Charges And Fee For The Sewer Service Furnished To Certain Residential Locations; By Amending Chapter 13, Article 13.03., Section 13.03.001 (A)(1)(B) By Amending The Rate For The Use Of Standard Fixtures In A Single Dwelling; And By Amending Chapter 13, Article 13.03, Section 13.03.001 (A)(3)(B), By Amending The Rate For The Use Of Water In Excess Of 3,000 Gallons To Commercial Locations And Authorizing The City To Collect Same And Providing For An Effective Date. Staff is proposing to increase the base residential waste water rate from $11.98 to $12.46 per month. The volumetric rate for residential wastewater service will increase twelve cents per thousand. The current rate charged our commercial customers for waste water service is a base rate of $12.53 for the first 3,000 gallons of water usage and a $2.06 fee per thousand gallons of water in excess of three thousand gallons per month. The proposal is to increase the base rate to $13.03 and to increase the volumetric rate from the current $2.06 to $2.14 per thousand gallons in excess of the 3,000 minimum. With the proposed rate modification we are still below the average rates for cities our size in the State of Texas according to the annual TML waste water survey. The average bill for cities our size with an average consumption of 5,000 gallons is $33.50 compared to $19.78 in La Grange.

Discuss and or Consider approval on First Reading An Ordinance Amending Chapter 13, Code Of Ordinances, City Of La Grange, Texas, As Recodified On January 8, 2007, By Amending Article 13.04 Section 13.04.031, Subsection (1)(B) And (2)(B) Establishing And Fixing The Charges And Fees For Electric Service Furnished To Residential And Master Meter Dwelling Units; By Amending Article 13.04 Section 13.04.031, Subsections (C) Establishing And Fixing The Charges And Fees For Electric Service Furnished To Commercial Locations, Based On Electric Usage; Authorizing The City To Collect Same; And Providing For An Effective Date. As part of the budget process this year staff is proposing to modify the electric customer charge. The customer charge will increase from $11.50 per month to $12.50 per month. The rate change is needed to keep pace with inflation and due to the overall cost increases in providing this service. Staff is also reviewing the implementation of Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) as part of the FY 2019-20 Budget.

Discuss and or Consider approval on First Reading An Ordinance Amending Chapter 13, Garbage And Trash, Code Of Ordinances, City Of La Grange, Texas, As Amended By Amending Chapter 13, Section 13.05.014, Charges For Collections, By Increasing The Rates For Residences Utilizing Garbage Containers Of A Capacity Of 96 Gallons As Set Forth In Subsection (1) Of Section 13.05.014; Providing For An Effective Date Of Said Amended Ordinance. Staff is presenting for council consideration a solid waste utility rate change that will go into effect with the November 1st bill. The rate change is in accordance with our Waste Management contract that we entered into in 2014. The base rate for residential service will increase by 3% in accordance with the contract. The base residential rate will increase from $23.75 per month to $24.47 per month. The senior citizen rate will increase from $21.69 to $22.34 per month. The additional cart charge will be increasing from $6.97 to $7.18 per month. This is the fourth increase in the residential rate in five years and the third increase in commercial rate in five years. Commercial rates were reduced as part of the new agreement and will increase by three percent accordance with the contract. The current contract will expire in December 2021. The rate includes solid waste collection once a week, curbside recycling every other week, quarterly bulk curbside waste collection, two free brush collections a year and two additional cleanup opportunities a year. In addition after a holiday three extra bags, boxes or bundles that are outside the cart are collected a two additional charge. Holidays include New Year’s Day, Memorial Day, July 4th, Labor Day, Thanksgiving and Christmas. Motion Councilmember Weishuhn, second Councilman Janca to accept all 4 ordinances as presented on First Reading. A roll call vote was taken: Councilmember Busch for, Mayor Pro tem Cernosek for, Councilmember Dockery absent,
Councilman Eilert for, Councilman Janca for, Councilman Taylor for, Councilmember Weishuhn for, Councilmember Zbranek for. Motion carried 7-0.

City Manager Update
There will be no change in solid waste due to the Labor Day Holiday. City Inspections department is going thru town leaving door hangers regarding various concerns including cleaning up brush piles.

At 7:00 PM as pursuant to Section 551.074 Personnel Matters: Discuss City Secretary selection process council went into Closed Executive Session.

At 7:07 PM Council went into Open Session.

Discuss and or consider approval of the selection of City Secretary. Motion Councilmember Weishuhn, second Councilmember Zbranek to approve of the City Manager’s request to appoint Janet Bayer as City Secretary. Motion carried.

At 7:08 PM a motion was made by Councilmember Weishuhn, with a second by Councilman Eilert that the meeting be adjourned. Motion carried.

____________________________________
Lisa Oltmann, City Secretary
These Minutes Approved by City Council on:

____________________________________
Janet Moerbe, Mayor