

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING – December 12, 2016

The City Council of the City of La Grange met in Regular Session on Monday, December 12, 2016 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, and Councilmember Kathy Weishuhn. Councilmember Violet Zbranek was absent. Staff present: City Manager Shawn Raborn, Chief Jackie Skelton, incoming Chief David Gilbreath, and City Secretary Lisa Oltmann. Visitors: Tom Hudson, Robin Hudson, Lorine Charleson, Brenden Gilbreath, Chet Gilbreath, Jamie Gilbreath, Steven Gilbreath, Jessica Skelton, Jarrod Skelton, Steve & Chris Miller, members of the La Grange Police Department, and others.

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

The first item was to administer the Oath of Office to the incoming Chief of Police. Mayor Moerbe administered the oath to Charles David Gilbreath, the incoming Chief of Police. Chief Gilbreath was then pinned with the Chief of Police badge by retiring Chief Jackie Skelton.

The next item was to discuss the 2017 City Officer's Election. Mayor Moerbe stated the city officer's which are up for election in 2017. Councilman Arnold Romberg then stated that he is not intending to run for election in 2017. Councilman Romberg then expressed that it has been an honor to work with, and to be a part of this very effective council. Mayor Moerbe then expressed thanks and appreciation on behalf of council for all that Councilman Romberg has done for the council and city.

The next item presented was to discuss and or consider appointments to the Main Street Board. The Main Street Board is requesting that Mr. Gary Niesner and Ms. Anissa Menefee be reappointed to the Main Street Board for another 2 year term. **MOTION** Councilmember Kathy Weishuhn, **SECOND** Councilman Pat Janca that Mr. Niesner and Ms. Menefee be reappointed to the Main Street Board as requested by the Main Street Board. Motion Carried.

The next item presented was to discuss and or consider approval of November 2016 minutes. **MOTION** Councilman Janca, **SECOND** Councilman Romberg to approve the minutes as presented. Motion Carried.

The next item presented was a report on a Sign Ordinance. City Manager expressed thanks to the Main Street Design Committee which worked on this project and

reviewed sign ordinances for various other cities this helped with the creation of a working document for council to work from. This working document is also being reviewed by staff. Mayor Moerbe noted that council should carefully review the working document prior to meeting in January. There will be a General Services Committee meeting in January to review this information.

The next item was the Active Projects Report. City Manager Raborn reviewed this report with council. It was noted that the TTHM removal plan being considered was going thru the evaluation process today for the effectiveness of the proposed solution. Letters have been sent to property owners to repair inflow issues which were identified as a result of the Smoke Testing of the North Main Street area. The city is also addressing inflow issues at some manholes which were identified during this testing process as well. The ground storage tank for Well Station C is being fabricated and installation should begin in early 2017. Progress continues on the new well located at Well Station B. Updates are being made to the restrooms located at both the Randolph Recreation Center and the Fayette Public Library. City staff is in the process of painting the inside of the recently acquired VFW Hall and striping the parking lot there. Janet Rangel has prepared an online calendar for the VFW Hall showing reservations/bookings. Modifications are also being considered for rentals of the VFW Hall including the possibility for individuals to rent the facilities in smaller hour increments instead of all day.

City Manager Report

Schmeckenfest was a great event. Thanks to all who helped with the event including Main Street, Parks & Rec. Department, and the La Grange Police Department. Fayette Public Library will hold their open house on Wednesday, December 14th. Breakfast with Santa was held on Saturday, December 10th. This was also a great success, thanks were extended to the Randolph Recreation Center staff for this event. Information panels at the Historic Casino Hall will be installed beginning Wednesday.

Chief of Police Report

During the past several months, there have been 7 burglaries in La Grange. An arrest was made today regarding the burglary at Hengst Printing. Investigation continues to see if this arrest will close the remaining cases.

Chief Skelton then noted that this is his last City Council meeting to attend as Chief of Police. He said that it has been an honor and blessing to work with the council and the citizens of La Grange. He also expressed his thanks to the council noting that they have been very supportive of the police department. Mayor Moerbe on behalf of the council expressed her thanks and appreciation to Chief Skelton for all he has done for the police department and the City of La Grange.

City Council Committee Reports

The Beautification Committee awarded Yard of the Month to Jerry & Pam Hurst at 348 S. Jackson.

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

Lisa Oltmann, City Secretary

These Minutes Approved by City Council on:

Janet Moerbe, Mayor