

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING – July 9, 2018

The City Council of the City of La Grange met in Regular Session on Monday, July 9, 2018 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, and Councilmember Kathy Weishuhn. Councilmember Deborah Bradley, and Councilmember Violet Zbranek were absent. Staff present: City Manager Shawn Raborn, Chief David Gilbreath, and City Secretary Lisa Oltmann. Visitors: Tom Hudson, Jim & Norma Bowman, Jason McBroom, Joe Reagan, Harvey Busch, Sarah Mabry, Judy Stolle, Cleo Wenske, Richard Chernosky, Mike Mabry, Connie Welker, Patricia Null, Kellie Smith, Ralph Rosenberg, Shirley Hudson, Ken Dernehl, Bettye Beth Baker, Bradley C. Loehr, Justin Lopez, Larry Jackson, Neale Rabensberg and others.

Mayor Moerbe called the meeting to order. Jim Bowman of First Presbyterian Church gave the invocation.

Under petitions, Shirley Hudson addressed the council regarding a water issue; and Ken Dernehl addressed the council regarding Hope Hill.

The first item was to discuss and or consider award of bid for water line improvements project funded under the Texas Department of Agriculture, Community Development Block Grant Program. There were seven bids received for the installation of replacement water lines and fire hydrants on Camp from Franklin to Jackson, Milam from Camp to Roitsch, Madison from Pearl to Roitsch, and Madison from Camp to Pearl. Staff is recommending that the bid be awarded to the low bidder Palasota Contracting, LLC of Bryan in the amount of \$249,751. The CDBG grant was awarded in the amount of \$300,000 and required a local match of \$45,000. The additional funds needed to complete the project and the city match portion of the project will be paid out of the \$125,000 budgeted in the Capital Improvement Fund for grant match projects in the FY 2017-18 Annual budget. The project is anticipated to begin in October and should be completed by July of 2019. Bradley Loehr, P.E. with BEFCO Engineering, Inc. addressed the council regarding this item. Attachment #1. **MOTION** Mayor Pro tem Cernosek, **SECOND** Councilmember Weishuhn to approve award of bid for the water line improvement project funded under the Tx Dept. of Agricultural, Community Development Block Grant Program to Palasota Contracting, LLC. Motion Carried.

The next item was to discuss and or consider allocation of funding to social service agencies. In the FY 2017-2018 budget council allocated \$24,500 to local social service agencies. Those requesting funds are as follows: CARTS in the amount of \$6,000; Family Crisis Center in the amount of \$5,500; Combined Community Action-Senior Nutrition Services and Community Services (emergency services) in the amount of \$7,000; Court Appointed Special Advocates For Children in the amount of \$5,500; and The Children's Advocacy Center in the amount of \$3,500. These organizations provide

needed and valuable services to the community. Staff recommends the funds be allocated as follows: CARTS-\$6,000; Family Crisis Center-\$5,000; Combined Community Action-\$6,000; Court Appointed Special Advocates-\$4,000, and The Children's Advocacy Center-\$3,500. Councilman Taylor noted that he had contacted some legal officials that work with Family Crisis Center, Court Appointed Special Advocates For Children, and The Children's Advocacy Center, and therefor **MOTION** that funds be awarded as follows: CARTS-\$6,000; Family Crisis Center-\$5,000; Combined Community Action-\$6,000; Court Appointed Special Advocates-\$4,000; and The Children's Advocacy Center-\$5,000. **SECOND** to this motion by Councilmember Weishuhn. Motion Carried.

The next item was to discuss and or consider a request from a local developer and TxDOT to connect to the city sanitary sewer system. It was noted that this item was for discussion only at this time. A letter requesting that city waste water service be extended to property located outside the city limits was received. TxDOT and a local development group have determined that the current sewer system is not adequate to meet the needs of the TxDOT facility and adjacent property to be developed. The letter received from the developer requesting the line extension includes that the developer would pay for all costs associated with the line extension. The estimated cost of the line extension is between \$425,000 and \$475,000. The extension of service outside of the corporate limits requires formal city council approval. The city would be responsible for maintenance of the lift station and the trunk line after the 1 year warranty period. The electrical cost to operate the lift station is approximately \$350 per year. The annual income from the line is estimated to be \$2,880 per year based on what is believed to be included in the development. Staff is presenting this item for general discussion at this time and will bring back for formal consideration at a later date.

The next item was to discuss and or consider blocking off the square for La Grange Oktoberfest. The Rotary Club of La Grange would like to host an Oktoberfest on Saturday, October 6, 2018. The event will begin at 3:00 PM and is expected to end by 8:00 PM. The Rotary Club of La Grange is requesting permission for the closing of the following locations to accommodate event set-up and for the safety of the public. 1. The inner parking area by the north entrance of the courthouse which will be utilized for the tent set-up and band to perform. 2. The inner parking area by the east entrance of the courthouse which will be utilized as a seating area for participants. The food and music portion of the event will be under the tent serving along the various craft beer stations. **MOTION** Councilmember Weishuhn, **SECOND** Councilman Taylor. Motion carried.

The next item was to discuss and or consider calling a special meeting for Monday, July 23rd at 6:00 p.m. At the June 11, 2018 city council meeting, the Regular City Council scheduled for July 23, 2018 was cancelled. Since that time, it appears that a city council meeting will be necessary on July 23, 2018 and staff is requesting that a Special Meeting be called for July 23, 2018. **MOTION** Councilman Eilert, **SECOND**

Mayor Pro tem Cernosek that a Special Meeting be called for July 23, 2018. Motion carried.

The next item was to discuss and or consider approval of June 2018 minutes. **MOTION** Mayor Pro tem Cernosek, **SECOND** Councilman Janca to approve the June 2018 minutes. Motion carried.

The next item was to discuss and or consider allocation of Tourism Funds. Councilmember Busch, Chair of the Tourism Committee reported that the committee met and considered seven funding requests, they are as follows: Friends of Monument Hill/Kreische Brewery-\$3,000 to advertise & support Texas Heroes Day Program; Fayette County Tourism Association- \$3,500 for website operations; Rotary Club of La Grange-\$6,000 for Oktoberfest; Texas Quilt Museum-\$5,700 brochure and matching online advertising program; Fayette County Sheriff's Posse-\$10,000 advertising 2018 event; Colorado Valley Quilt Guild-\$3,500 to advertise 2019 Quilt Show; Fayette County Fair Association-\$10,000 to advertise the 2018 Fair. The committee recommends that council fund the requests as follows: Friends of Monument Hill/Kreische Brewery-\$2,500; Fayette County Tourism Association- Table in or for additional information to be received; Rotary Club of La Grange-\$5,000; Texas Quilt Museum-\$5,700; Fayette County Sheriff's Posse-\$6,250; Colorado Valley Quilt Guild-\$3,500; Fayette County Fair Association-\$10,000. **MOTION** Mayor Pro tem Cernosek, **SECOND** Councilman Taylor to fund the requests as recommended by the Tourism Grant Committee. Motion Carried.

Chief Of Police Update

There were 80 pounds of medications dropped off as part of the Drug Take Back Program in six months, this includes the three drop boxes which are at the La Grange Police Department, City Hall and the Fayette County Sheriff's Office. The department is investigating a burglary which recently occurred at a local restaurant.

City Manager Update

The summer curbside bulk pickup will be held on July 28th. Sign up for the after school program at the Randolph Recreation Center will be held on August 1st. Following the recent rains, work will begin on Mosquito control.

At 6:33 pm a **MOTION** was made by Councilman Janca, 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