

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING – October 10, 2016

The City Council of the City of La Grange met in Regular Session on Monday, October 10, 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, Councilmember Kathy Weishuhn and Councilmember Violet Zbranek. Councilman Arnold Romberg was absent. Staff present: City Manager Shawn Raborn, Chief Jackie Skelton, and City Secretary Lisa Oltmann. Visitors: Tom Hudson and Jerral Brown.

Mayor Janet Moerbe called the meeting to order. The Pledge of Allegiance to the United States and Texas was recited and Councilmember Bradley gave the invocation.

The first item was to discuss and or consider a resolution for Municipal Court Week. Municipal Court Week is November 7-11, 2016, a resolution recognizing the importance of Municipal Courts was presented for consideration. **MOTION** Councilmember Bradley, **SECOND** Councilmember Zbranek to approve the Municipal Court Week Resolution. Motion Carried. **Insert #1**

The next item was a discussed was a proclamation on the dedication of North Side Park in Memory of Sherman Griffin. The dedication will be held on October 22, 2016 at 11:00 AM. **Motion** Councilman Eilert, **SECOND** Councilman Bradley to approve this proclamation. Motion carried. **Insert #2**

The next item was to discuss and or consider approval of September 2016 minutes. **MOTION** Mayor Pro tem Cernosek, **SECOND** Councilman Janca to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

The next item was to discuss upcoming Main Street Activities. Stacey Norris, Main Street & Tourism Manager gave a report on Main Street and Tourism activities including both past and future activities. **Insert #3** Councilmember Weishuhn, council representative on the Main Street Board expressed thanks for all of the Main Street staff. Councilmember Weishuhn noted that the Main Street Board is very energetic and recruits many volunteers for different events, but the leadership and assistance from the Main Street/Tourism staff is an instrumental part in allowing this to be accomplished. The hours of operation are Monday – Friday 9-5, Saturday 10-5, and Sunday Noon-5. They have recently moved to the Historic Casino Hall located at 254 N Jefferson they are exploring different signage options to inform and direct visitors to the new location.

City Council Committee Reports

The Beautification Committee awarded Yard of the Month to Terry Belger at 606 S. Madison St.

Chief of Police Report

This past weekend there was a traffic stop which resulted in an arrest for Meth. There were 3 burglaries the past week. Various “get rich quick” scams are still going around, Chief Skelton reminded everyone be cautious with your confidential information including bank account information.

City Manager Report

The Fayette Public Library and Heritage Museum has a new exhibit display on schools. They will also be a part of the Annual Genealogy Lock-in which will be held on October 21st from noon till 10:40PM. “Shred It” will be held on October 15th at the La Grange Police Department from 9:00AM-Noon, individuals can bring confidential information there to be shredded. Bulk Pick Up will be held on Saturday, October 22nd and residents can place their item by the curb on Friday, October 21st and they will be picked up on the 22nd. Fall Clean Up will be held the week of October 24-October 29. The grant for the park adjacent to the Randolph Recreation Center has been submitted. As a result of the smoke testing infiltration study, staff is working with residents which have an open cleanout allowing infiltration, the city is also working on remedying locations where manhole covers are allowing infiltration.

At 6:45 PM a **MOTION** was made by Councilmember Zbranek, 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

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING – October 24, 2016

The City Council of the City of La Grange met in Regular Session on Monday, October 24, 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, Councilmember Kathy Weishuhn and Councilmember Violet Zbranek. Staff present: City Manager Shawn Raborn, Chief Jackie Skelton, and City Secretary Lisa Oltmann. Visitors: Jeff Wick, Kirk Pate, Vicki LaRue, Julie Maffei.

Mayor Janet Moerbe called the meeting to order. The Pledge of Allegiance to the United States and Texas was recited and Pastor J. Paul Bruhn of the First United Methodist Church gave the invocation.

The first item was to discuss and or consider a resolution of support for a county wide hotel tax. Julie Maffei, Kirk Pate, and Vicki LaRue addressed the council on behalf of the Fayette County Tourism Association regarding this item. The Fayette County Tourism Association (FCTA) became a 501C3 in 2013 and has worked toward uniting and strengthening the tourism industry in Fayette County. They are asking for resolutions from the cities in Fayette County in support of a county wide hotel tax which can be included with additional information to the senator and representative representing Fayette County in the state legislature. This is being done so that the congressmen might present legislation in favor of this tax. This tax would not apply to a lodging facility which is subject to a municipal hotel occupancy tax. FCTA has held public meeting with representative from the Texas Hotel and Lodging Industry coming to explain the details of a hotel occupancy tax. Resolutions have been received from the cities of Round Top and Carmine in support of this item. Resolutions have also been requested from the city of Flatonia as well as Schulenburg. It was noted that the chambers of commerce in the county are in favor of a county wide hotel tax. **MOTION** Councilmember Kathy Weishuhn, **SECOND** Councilman Arnold Romberg to approve the resolution of support for a county wide hotel tax. **Motion Carried.** Mayor Moerbe expressed thanks for the presentation from the representatives of FCTA on behalf of the council. **INSERT #1**

The next item was to discuss and or consider a resolution cancelling the December 26th City Council Meeting. **MOTION** Mayor Pro tem John J Cernosek, **SECOND** Councilmember Violet Zbranek to approve this resolution. **Motion Carried. INSERT #2**

The next item was to discuss and or consider a resolution calling a special council meeting for November 15, 2016. Staff is requesting council to call a special meeting for Tuesday, November 15th at 6 pm in the event an additional date is needed to interview Chief of Police candidates. **MOTION** Councilman Pat Janca, **SECOND** Councilmember Zbranek to approve staff's request. **Motion Carried. INSERT #3**

City Manager Report

Sales tax is up slightly for the same time period last year.

The Shred-It event was once again a success. It is estimated that 5,700 pounds of paper was shredded. Trick or Treat on the Square will be held on Halloween, Monday, October 31st. This event is once again being sponsored by Main Street. The playscapes at White Rock Park and Kruschel Park have been installed. The ADA transition pad for the playscapes is still needed and additional pea gravel is also needed before these projects are 100% complete. The pad for Water Well B-3 on North Main Street is complete. Weisinger Water Well Service is on site. Our Water Superintendent, Andy Blaha,

contacted the neighbors and provided them with a project schedule for the work being done at this wellsite. The dedication of North Side Park in Memory of Sherman Griffin was held on October 22nd. Thanks are extended to the Fayette County Record for their articles on this event. The dedication was attended by approximately 100 individuals. The park was decorated with mums by the city park's department.

At 6:23 PM as pursuant to Section 551.074 Personnel Matters, council went into closed executive session to discuss the Chief of Police selection and hiring process.

At 6:50 PM Council went into Open Session. There was no action required.

At 6:52 PM a **MOTION** was made by Councilmember Weishuhn, with a **SECOND** by Councilmember Zbranek that the meeting be adjourned. Motion carried.

Lisa Oltmann, City Secretary

These Minutes Approved by City Council on:

Janet Moerbe, Mayor