

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING – April 13, 2015

The City Council of the City of La Grange met in Regular Session on Monday, April 13, 2015 in the City Hall Council Chambers with the following members present: Mayor Janet Moerbe, Councilmember Deborah Bradley, Mayor Pro tem John Cernosek, Councilman John Eilert, Councilman Pat Janca, Councilman Calvin Kuehn, Councilman Arnold Romberg, Councilmember Kathy Weishuhn, and Councilmember Violet Zbranek. Staff present: City Manager Shawn Raborn, Chief of Police Jackie Skelton, Ptlm. Andy Berger and City Secretary Lisa Oltmann. Visitors: Jeff Wick, Bonnie Busch, Dr. Jerry Hurst, Neale Rabensburg, and others.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and Dr. Jerry Hurst of the First Presbyterian Church gave the invocation.

The first item was a presentation of the City of La Grange Annual Audit Report. Mr. Greg Trlicek of Trlicek & Co., P.C., presented the audit report. Mr. Trlicek reported that the city is in good financial standing. He also thanked the city staff for their assistance while the auditors were gathering information for the audit.

The next item was to discuss and or consider acceptance of the City of La Grange Audit Report. **MOTION** Councilmember Violet Zbranek, **SECOND** Councilman Arnold Romberg to accept the audit. Motion carried.

The next item was to discuss and or consider a Temporary Special Use Permit from Tejas Health Care to place two (2) 14' X 70' manufactured buildings on their property located at 753 E. Travis. A Temporary Special Use Permit Application and request was received from Tejas Health Care asking permission to have two (2) 14' X 70' manufactured homes/buildings placed on their property located at 753 E. Travis St. These two buildings would be used for office space. Staff sent letters to all property owners within 200 feet of the proposed lot. There were a total of eighteen (18) letters sent out. Of these eighteen (18) there were ten (10) returned which were in favor of the Temporary Special Use Permit, one (1) returned which was not in favor of the Temporary Special Use Permit, and there were seven (7) letters which were not returned. The permit will allow the placement of the two (2) manufactured homes on the property to be used as temporary office space for a period of 24 months, the units must be skirted and meet tie down requirements. The manufactured homes will be required to be removed at the end of the 24 months unless extended by the city council. **MOTION** Councilman Romberg, **SECOND** Councilmember Kathy Weishuhn to approve this Temporary Special Use Permit from Tejas to allow two (2) manufactured homes to be placed at 753 E Travis for a period of 24 months. Motion carried.

The next item was to discuss and or consider plat of property located in the 800 & 900 blocks of Horton Street which is owned by Bill Karisch. The City of La Grange

received a request from Bill & Patricia Karisch to replat their 30 acre tract located in the 800 & 900 blocks of N. Horton St. This request is for Phase 1 of the proposed Meadow Hills Subdivision and includes Lots 1-5 which are adjacent to Horton Street. Each of these lots would be approximately 80' X 120' which meets and/or exceeds the required lot size in the City of La Grange. Letters were sent to all property owners within a 200' radius of Phase 1 asking if they were in favor of or opposed to granting this request. There were thirteen (13) letters sent out. There was one (1) letter returned in favor of granting this request, there was one (1) additional letter which was also in favor of granting the request but they did have some concerns, there were two (2) letters returned which were not in favor of granting this request and there were (9) letters which were not returned. It was noted that this plat is for Phase 1 of this multi-phase project. Mr. Bill Karisch did state that there would be some deed restrictions on these lots in regards to home size, types of homes, etc. **Motion** Councilman Romberg, **SECOND** Councilman Pat Janca to approve the plat of Phase 1 of the Meadow Hills Subdivision. Motion carried.

The next item was to discuss and or consider final replat from Jana Kulhanek to subdivide her property located at 708 E. Pecan. The City of La Grange City Council approved a preliminary replat request from Jana Kulhanek to have her property located at 708 E. Pecan Street sub-divided into 2 separate lots. This preliminary request was approved at the January 12, 2015 City Council Meeting. This item is now being brought back for final consideration and/or approval. There were no changes made following the preliminary approval. **MOTION** Councilman Calvin Kuehn, **SECOND** Councilmember Zbranek to approve this replat. Motion carried.

The next item was to discuss and or consider final replat from Daniel A. White, MD to subdivide his property located at the corner of E. Pearl Street & N. Monroe Street. The City Council of the City of La Grange gave preliminary approval to have the property located at the corner of E. Pearl Street & N. Monroe Street which is currently owned by Daniel A. White MD into two separate lots on January 26, 2015. This item is now being brought back to council for final consideration and/or approval. **MOTION** Councilman Janca, **SECOND** Councilmember Zbranek to approve this replat. Motion carried.

The next item was to discuss and or consider plat of property owned by CP Homes located at 2519 Von Minden Road. A request was received from CP Homes to affirm the replat of the property located at 2519 N. Von Minden. The tract will total 2 acres and will be site of the new Assisted Living Facility. The City Council of the City of La Grange approved this replat of this tract in October of 2013. Staff recommends approval again of this replat. **MOTION** Councilman Romberg, **SECOND** Councilmember Weishuhn to approve staff's recommendation. Motion carried.

The next item was to discuss and or consider approval of contract for Election Services Between Fayette County Elections Administrator And City Of La Grange, Texas, Relating To A General Election To Be Held On May 9, 2015. Early Voting will be at city hall with city staff conducting the early voting. The Fayette County Elections Administrator will conduct elation day activities. Staff recommends approval of the Elections Services contract between the Fayette County Elections Administrator and the City of La Grange, Texas relating to the General Election to be held on May 9, 2015. **MOTION** Councilmember Weishuhn, **SECOND** Councilmember Deborah Bradley to approve staff's recommendation. Motion carried. **INSERT #1**

The next item was to discuss and or consider appointment of an Election Judge and an Alternate and setting the salary for them, while working the City Officer's election to be held on May 9, 2015. Discutir y/o considerer la designación de un Juez Electoral y un Jeuz Alternative y la determinación del sueldo de los ayundantes electorales para la elección citada para el día 9 de mayo de 2015. Dina Bell, the County Elections Administrator has contacted Patricia Settle and Rosemarie Willrich to inquire if they would be willing to be the presiding and alternate/associate judge of the City Election to be held on May 9, 2015. Ms. Settle, if approved would be willing to be the presiding judge. Ms. Willrich, if approved would be willing to be the alternate/associate judge. It is staff's recommendation that these two individuals be approved for the presiding judge and the alternate/associate judge. In 2009 and in 2013 the City of La Grange paid \$10.00 per hour for all election workers with the election Judge receiving an additional \$50.00 for set up and delivery of election return information. It is staff's recommendation that the City of La Grange once again pay \$10.00 per hour for all election workers with the election Judge receiving an additional \$50.00 for set up and delivery of election return information. **MOTION** Councilmember Weishuhn, **SECOND** Councilman John Eilert to approve staff's recommendations. Motion carried.

The next item was to discuss and or consider authorizing staff to submit a K9s for Cops Program Grant application to obtain a K9 for the La Grange Police Department. At the last city council meeting, staff reviewed with council the K9s4COPs program. K9s4COPs is a non-profit organization that is committed to providing detection dogs to law enforcement agencies at no cost. Staff is now requesting authorization to proceed with developing and submitting a grant application to obtain a K9 for the La Grange Police Department. City Manager has checked with TML and the insurance cost to have a K9 is less than \$200 per year. The Police Department has estimated that the startup costs at \$8,000 and the annual cost to have a K9 unit at around \$7,500 per year. Staff recommends approval. **MOTION** Councilman Romberg, **SECOND** Councilman Janca to authorize staff to proceed with developing and submitting a grant application to obtain a K9 for the La Grange Police Department. Motion carried.

The next item was to discuss and or consider approval of the March 2015 minutes. **MOTION** Councilman Eilert, **SECOND** Councilman Weishuhn to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

City Council Committee Reports

Main Street will host the Annual Merchants Meeting on April 23rd.

The Beautification Committee awarded Yard Of The Month to Jo Ann Zapalac at 504 N. Jefferson.

City Manager Report

The MS150 Bike-A-Thon will be this weekend.

Sales Tax was up for this past period. Staff does not anticipate this upward trend to continue.

The Library is looking at updating/modifying policies as they relate to deaccessioning items. This will be discussed in more detail at the board's April 23rd meeting.

The purchase of the property located at 428 W. La Fayette has been completed.

At 6:45 council recessed to go to tour the Casino Hall and resume the council meeting at that location. At 6:50 council reconvened and toured the Casino Hall. Completion of this restoration project is anticipated to be in October.

At 7:10 PM a **MOTION** was made by Councilman Eilert, with a **SECOND** by Mayor Pro tem John 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 – April 27, 2015

The City Council of the City of La Grange met in Regular Session on Monday, April 27, 2015 in the City Hall Council Chambers with the following members present: Mayor Janet Moerbe, Councilmember Deborah Bradley, Mayor Pro tem John Cernosek, Councilman John Eilert, Councilman Pat Janca, Councilman Calvin Kuehn, Councilman Arnold Romberg, Councilmember Kathy Weishuhn, and Councilmember Violet Zbranek.

Staff present: City Manager Shawn Raborn, and City Secretary Lisa Oltmann. Visitors: Jeff Wick, Bonnie Busch, Dr. Rick Spencer, and Neale Rabensburg.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and Dr. Rick Spencer of the Second Baptist Church gave the invocation.

The first item was to discuss and or consider rescheduling the May 25th City Council Meeting. **MOTION** Councilman John Eilert, **SECOND** Councilmember Kathy Weishuhn to approve a Resolution to reschedule the May 25th City Council Meeting to Tuesday, May 26th. Motion carried.

The next item was to discuss and or consider updated Main Street Advisory Board Bylaws. Council would like to have Main Street consider modifying Article V section 4 to read “A maximum of three (3) unexcused absences will be permitted in a calendar year.” instead of “A maximum of three (3) absences will be permitted in a year.”. **MOTION** Councilmember Weishuhn, **SECOND** Councilman Pat Janca to table this item. Motion carried.

The next item was to discuss and or consider a request from Ms. Verlia Mosley to block off the inner loop of the square on June 20th from 5pm until 10pm in conjunction with a community gathering to raise awareness of Juneteenth. The purpose of this gathering is to raise community awareness of Juneteenth. **MOTION** Councilmember Weishuhn, **SECOND** Councilmember Deborah Bradley to approve this request. Motion carried.

The next item was to discuss and or consider a rate request proposed by CenterPoint Energy Entex. This item is being presented for informational purposes at this time. Staff will bring this item back at the next city council meeting for formal action. 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 \$2.30 per month effective May 30, 2015. 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 \$17.89 to \$20.19.

City Council Committee Reports

The Main Street Merchants meeting was held on April 23, 2015. There were several awards presented which included Volunteer of the Year to Keith Lund, Building of the Year to the Law Office of Oeltjen, Schovajsa, and Klesel, and Texas Treasures Business awards to Weikel’s Bakery, Fayette Electric Cooperative and Lincke Floor Company. The Library Board met and continues to update their policies.

City Manager Report

The City Election is on May 9th, with early voting taking place at this time. April 27 & 28th early voting is 7am-7pm, April 29, 30, May 1, 4 & 5 from 8am-5pm.

Staff is working to inform the public on mosquito control. One of the main practices that the public can do to help control mosquitoes is to dispose of any accumulated standing water. At this time, a city can only spray for mosquitoes after there has been a case of West Nile Virus. The city is still larviciding where this can be done. The larvicide is safe and will not harm animals.

There have been over 42 grass/weed letters sent out since April 1st as a result of the rainy weather. The rain is hindering the ability of individuals to mow their lawns. The swimming pool has been drained; next it will be replastered and painted. Tejas is working with the La Grange ISD to utilize the schools facility on N. Jackson street which was previously the site of Fayette Memorial Hospital. Staff is working with Tejas to have one of their representatives to come to the city council meeting and inform council of their plans. The Randolph Recreation Center will have the sign up for their summer programs on May 6th. Demolition on the "La Fayette Apts." at 428 W La Fayette has started.

Mayor Moerbe informed council that Memorial Services for Judge Dan Beck will be on Saturday, May 2nd in Flatonia.

At 6:18 PM a **MOTION** was made by Councilman Calvin Kuehn, 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