

## REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING – January 12, 2015

The City Council of the City of La Grange met in Regular Session on Monday, January 12, 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, and Councilmember Violet Zbranek. Councilmember Kathy Weishuhn was absent. Staff present: City Manager Shawn Raborn, Chief of Police Jackie Skelton and City Secretary Lisa Oltmann. Visitors: Jeff Wick, Charles Maitland, Rev. Dennis Hill, and Rev. Kolby Hill and Quinton Gonzales.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and Rev. Dennis Hill of The Remnant Church gave the invocation.

The first item was to discuss and or consider a resolution authorizing the submission of a Community Program Application. The City of La Grange is currently in the process of developing a grant application to submit to the Texas Department of Agriculture Office of Rural Affairs for funds under the Texas Community Development Program. Staff is proposing to submit a grant application to upgrade water lines in the area bounded by North Jefferson Street, Roitsch LN., Guadalupe Street, and North Jackson Street. This project will assist in improving water service and fire protection to this area of town. The total cost of this project is estimated to be \$316,250, with \$275,000 being provided by grant funds and a local match of \$41,250. The local match funds are proposed to be provided by \$41,250 included in the FY 2015-2016 capital improvement fund budget. If we are successful in receiving the grant the local funds will not need to be available until the fall of 2016. We should receive notification of funding award by the early part of next year. **MOTION** Councilman John Eilert, **SECOND** Councilmember Violet Zbranek to approve the resolution to submit a grant application to upgrade water lines in the area bounded by North Jefferson Street, Roitsch LN., Guadalupe Street, and North Jackson Street. Motion carried. **INSERT #1**

The next item was to discuss and or consider a request from The Remnant Church to connect to the city sanitary sewer system. A request was received from The Remnant Church located at 2010 North von Minden requesting that city waste water service be extended to their property located outside the city limits. The church has seen significant growth over the past few years and the current sewer system is not adequate to meet the needs of the growing facility. A letter from The Remnant Church requesting the line extension with the understanding that they will be responsible for all costs associated with the line extension was also reviewed by council. The estimated cost of the line extension is between \$70,000 and \$90,000. The extension of service outside of the corporate limits requires formal city council approval. Staff recommends approval of this

request. **MOTION** Councilman Calvin Kuehn, **SECOND** Councilmember Deborah Bradley to authorize staff to proceed on with this project. Motion carried.

The next item was to discuss and or consider a preliminary replat from Jana Kulhanek to subdivide her property located at 708 E. Pecan Street into two lots. Ms. Kulhanek has requested to have her property located at 708 E. Pecan Street subdivided into 2 separate lots. The lot with Ms. Kulhanek's home will meet all of the current set back and lot size requirements. The newly created lot would meet the minimum lot size of 7000 square feet, it will exceed the required frontage requirement however it will be approximately 9' short of the required 100' depth requirement. The City of La Grange asked all property owners within a 200' radius of this location if they were in favor of or opposed to granting this request. There were 10 individuals in favor of granting this request, 1 individual was opposed to granting the request, and there were 10 individuals who did not respond if they were in favor of or opposed to this request. **MOTION** Councilmember Zbrank, **SECOND** Councilman Pat Janca to grant preliminary approval of this replat request. Motion carried.

The next item was to discuss and or consider a preliminary replat from Bill and Lisa Roitsch to subdivide the Roitsch Estate at 777 Roitsch LN. into 3 separate tracts. A request was received from Bill & Lisa Roitsch to subdivide the Clarence & Leona Roitsch at 777 Roitsch Lane into 3 separate lots. Tract 1 will be approximately 0.774 acres and will face Roitsch Lane. Tract 2 will be approximately 0.941 acres and will have a 30' access strip off of Roitsch Lane. Tract 3 will be the remainder of the original lot and will be approximately 2.628 acres. The City of La Grange asked all property owners within a 200' radius of this location if they are in favor of or opposed to granting this request. There were 4 individuals in favor of granting the request if the lots remained single family residential lots and there were not duplexes or trailer homes placed on the lots. There were 7 individuals in favor of the request. There was 1 opposed and 1 individual did not reply if they were in favor of or opposed to this request. **MOTION** Councilman Janca, **SECOND** Councilmember Bradley that this preliminary request be approved. Motion carried.

The next item was to discuss and or consider the appointment of Ms. Joy Robinson to the La Grange Housing Authority's Board of Commissioners. The La Grange Housing Authority's Board of Commissioners is recommending the appointment of Ms. Joy Robinson as Tenant Commissioner. She will be taking over the vacant spot left due to the death of Ms. Linda August. Ms. Robinson is a resident of the Housing Authority and has been for the last several years. She is very highly recommended and has been an exemplary tenant. **MOTION** Mayor Pro tem John J. Cernosek, **SECOND** Councilmember Zbrank to approve this recommendation. Motion carried.

The next item was to discuss and or consider amending FY 2014-2015 Equipment Fund to include the purchase of a new police vehicle. Staff is requesting council

approval to amend the Equipment Fund Budget in the amount of \$35,000 for the purchase of a new patrol vehicle for the Police Department. The approved budget does include two vehicles but the 2007 Crown Vic with 96,996 miles also needs to be replaced. The current balance in the Equipment Fund is \$479,088. **MOTION** Councilmember Zbranek, **SECOND** Councilmember Arnold Romberg to approve amending the FY 2014-2015 Equipment Fund to include the purchase on one additional police vehicle. Motion carried.

The next item was to discuss and or consider authorizing staff to make application to the La Grange Economic Development Corporation to assist in funding of a splash pad and park improvements adjacent to the Randolph Recreation Center. The grant application submitted to the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department to build a splash pad adjacent to the Randolph Recreation Center was not approved. In order to get the project completed in a timely manner staff is requesting council approval to request funding in the amount of \$150,000 from the EDC to complete the project. We are estimating that the total project cost at \$300,000 which will also include additional parking at the Recreation Center. The City portion of the project will come from budgeted Capital Improvement Funds for this project. **MOTION** Councilman Romberg, **SECOND** Councilmember Bradley to approve staff's request. Motion carried.

The next item was to discuss and or consider authorizing staff to make application to the La Grange Economic Development Corporation to assist in funding of improvements adjacent to the new Casino Hall. Staff is requesting council approval to request assistance from the La Grange EDC to develop the new parking lot adjacent to the new Casino Hall. The new parking lot will not only serve the Casino Hall but also add additional parking for those visiting the Quilt Museum and shopping the square. The total project is estimated to be \$200,000 and staff is requesting that the EDC consider funding half of the project. **MOTION** Councilman Romberg, **SECOND** Councilman Janca to approve staff's request. Motion carried.

The next item was to discuss and or consider allocation of Tourism Funds. The La Grange Roadrunners Square Dance Club and staff had a misunderstanding regarding the due date of the Tourism Grant Fund. The application was submitted toward the end of December instead of the December 1<sup>st</sup> due date. Staff is submitting the request for consideration now due to the event taking place in March. The tourism grant committee was unable to meet prior to the meeting and the item is being brought directly to council for consideration. Funds would be used to advertise their event. The tourism grant committee had allocated \$1,000 to this project in 2012, 2013, and 2014. **MOTION** Councilman Eilert, **SECOND** Councilman Romberg to approve this request. Motion carried.

The next item was to discuss and or consider approval of December 2014 minutes. **MOTION** Mayor Pro tem Cernosek, **SECOND** Councilmember Bradley to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

#### Chief of Police Report

Andy Berger was hired as a part-time officer and he began work on January 5<sup>th</sup>. La Grange Ford had 48 tires stolen off of new vehicles on their parking lot. There have been a few additional burglaries within the city limits; however these do not appear to be random acts. It appears that those burglarized were acquainted with the individual/individuals that had burglarized their premises.

#### City Manager Report

The active project report was reviewed with council. The new recycling 96 gallon containers are in the process of being delivered to residences. Republic Service will service the new containers beginning the week of January 19<sup>th</sup> and will service the carts every other week. Sales tax was positive the last reporting period. Utility sales were down for the December billing.

#### City Council Committee Reports

The Beautification Committee awarded Yard Of The Month to James & Norma Bowman at 139 W Pecan St.

The Library Board met and it was noted that there were over 100 individuals which attended the Library Christmas Open House.

At 6:40 PM a **MOTION** was made by Mayor Pro tem Cernosek, with a **SECOND** by Councilmember Zbranek that the meeting be adjourned. Motion carried.

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Lisa Oltmann, City Secretary

These Minutes Approved by City Council on:

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Janet Moerbe, Mayor

### **REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING – January 26, 2015**

The City Council of the City of La Grange met in Regular Session on Monday, January 26, 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 and City Secretary Lisa Oltmann. Visitors: Jeff Wick, Margo Johnson and Janetta Morris

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and Rev. Jonathon Smith of The First Baptist Church gave the invocation.

The first item was to discuss and or consider a preliminary replat of property owned by Daniel A White MD at the corner of E. Pearl Street and N. Monroe Street. The City of La Grange had received a request from Daniel A. White MD to have his lot which is located at the corner of E. Pearl Street and N. Monroe Street subdivided into two lots. If subdivided; both lots would be approximately 92.5' X 165' which exceeds the current requirements for both the lot dimensions as well as the total square footage. City staff sent letters to all property owners with a 200' radius of this location if they were in favor of or opposed to granting this request. There were 21 letters sent out. There were 17 letters returned in favor of granting this request, and there were 4 letters which were not returned. **MOTION** Councilmember Kathy Weishuhn, **SECOND** Councilman Pat Janca to approve this preliminary replat. Motion carried.

The next item was to discuss and or consider authorizing staff to develop an amendment to the current manufactured home ordinance to allow for the development of a specific use section related to medical services. The city has been approached by Tejas Health Care regarding the use of a manufactured home as an office at the clinic located at 753 E. Travis. Under our current ordinance a manufactured home cannot be located outside of a manufactured housing park. Staff has identified a possible way to allow for this use, but it will require that the current ordinance be amended. Staff would propose that we include a new section that would allow for the specific use of manufactured housing unit to be used in conjunction with medical services as a specific use. The council would have to approve each use on a case by case basis. Staff is requesting council direction with regard to proceed with the development of the modifications of the ordinance to bring back for consideration. **MOTION** Councilman Arnold Romberg, **SECOND** Councilmember Weishuhn for staff to proceed with the development of modifying the current ordinance. Motion carried.

The next item was to discuss updated Municipal Service Agreement with the Texas Department of Transportation. Staff is presenting for consideration an updated Municipal Maintenance Agreement with the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT). The City of La Grange and TxDOT have an existing agreement that outlines the responsibilities of each entity as it relates to the State Highways within our community. TxDOT is in the process of updating all of the current agreements and has presented the proposed updated agreement. **MOTION** Mayor Pro tem John J. Cernosek, **SECOND** Councilmember Violet Zbranek to approve the agreement. Motion carried.

**Insert #1**

The next item was to discuss and or consider blocking off the square for La Grange Uncorked. La Grange Uncorked will be held on Saturday, March 21, 2015. The event begins at 4 P.M. and is expected to end by 8 P.M. La Grange Main Street is requesting permission for the closing of the following locations to accommodate the performers 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 various wineries will be placed inside the merchant shops. **MOTION** Councilman John Eilert, **SECOND** Councilmember Weishuhn to approve this request. Motion carried.

The next item was to discuss and or consider the Order Calling for Election of City Officers. Discutir y/o considerer la authorization para La Orden de Eleccion de Representantes del Consejo Municipal. **MOTION** Councilmember Weishuhn, **SECOND** Councilmember Zbranek to approve the Order Calling for Election of City Officers. Motion carried.

The next item was to discuss and or consider authorizing staff to auction items that are no longer needed or obsolete. Staff is in the process of cleaning up various facilities and is requesting council authorization to dispose of various obsolete items. We are utilizing the old Ag building as the staging area and will dispose of all of the obsolete items prior to removing the building in a few months. The items will be added to GovDeals our on-line auction site within the next month. The purpose of the sale is to dispose of those small items that cannot be included in the usual auction process. Some items include obsolete computer monitors, an old phone system, old TV'S, old office chairs, shelves, excess office furniture, and a table hockey game. **MOTION** Councilman Calvin Kuehn, **SECOND** Councilmember Zbranek to approve staff to auction items that are no longer needed or obsolete. Motion carried.

#### City Council Committee Reports

Main Street will host Uncorked on March 21<sup>st</sup>.

Chief Jackie Skelton then presented the Racial Profiling data by the La Grange Police Department as required by Article 2.132 Texas Code of Criminal Procedures. This data included all traffic stops conducted by the La Grange Police Department from January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2014. As indicated by the tier 1 data, the La Grange Police Department does not have a problem regarding racial profiling practices. **Insert #2**

Chief Skelton gave his regular report. An infant skull was discovered within the City of La Grange in an empty lot on North Jefferson Street, a short distance south of Taquera Rio Verde on Saturday, Jan. 17<sup>th</sup>. This past Sunday, there were team member from Texas Search and Rescue combing thru the north side of La Grange looking for the

remains of the infant. None were found. The skull is currently at the ME's office, it is believed that the skull is that of a newborn to approximately one month old individual. Next, there will be testing performed to see how long the individual has been deceased. There will be an attempt to retrieve DNA from the skull. There will also be a facial reconstruction drawing performed by Texas DPS.

There were 2 burglaries and 3 theft cases the weekend of January 17-January 19. These cases have been solved and the items were recovered.

City Manager Report

The annual wellness fair is once again being planned with the county for city and county employees as well as their spouses.

There is only one block which still needs to be worked on for the water project on the south side of town.

The transformer for the Casino Hall has arrived.

At 6:40 PM a **MOTION** was made by Councilman Kuehn, with a **SECOND** by Mayor Pro tem Cernosek that the meeting be adjourned. Motion carried.

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Lisa Oltmann, City Secretary

These Minutes Approved by City Council on:

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Janet Moerbe, Mayor