

## REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING – June 8, 2015

The City Council of the City of La Grange met in Regular Session on Monday, June 8, 2015 in the City Hall Council Chambers with the following members present: Mayor Janet Moerbe, Councilmember Bonnie Busch, Councilmember Deborah Bradley, Mayor Pro tem John Cernosek, Councilman John Eilert, Councilman Pat Janca, Councilman Arnold Romberg, Councilmember Kathy Weishuhn, and Councilmember Violet Zbranek. Staff present: City Manager Shawn Raborn, Chief of Police Jackie Skelton, Frank Menefee, Jr. and City Secretary Lisa Oltmann. Visitors: Ken Dernehl, Greg Covington, Neale Rabensburg, Todd Johnson, and Pastor Candy O'Meara.

Pastor Candy O'Meara of St. Paul Lutheran Church gave the invocation. Under Public Petitions, Ken Dernehl, Greg Covington & Neale Rabensburg addressed the council regarding the proposed shared use facility between Bluebonnet Trails, Tejas Healthcare, and La Grange ISD located at 543 N. Jackson Street. These individuals have questions/concerns regarding this proposed venture and would additional information. At this time according to the information relayed to the city the proposed used would be allowed in a commercial zoned area, which is the way 543 N. Jackson is currently zoned. Mr. Dernehl stated that he had received a call today from Dr. Albers with LGISD that there would be a public meeting regarding this venture this Wednesday at 6PM.

The first item was to discuss and or consider a request from Ms. Joan Lovell for the city to share in the cost to repair damaged sewer line. This item is being brought back for consideration following the direction of the council. As reviewed with council, Ms. Joan Lovell filed a claim against the city regarding a sewer line issue and the claim was denied by our insurance provider. As directed by council, staff made contact with Mr. Cernoch regarding the issue to determine what percentage of responsibility each party may have regarding the claim. Mr. Cernoch does not feel that he is in a position to assess responsibility of the claim. Staff would suggest that we each bear fifty percent of the cost of the repair and that we receive a release of claim and liability from Ms. Lovell prior to the disbursement. **MOTION** Councilman Arnold Romberg, **SECOND** Councilman Pat Janca to approve staff's suggestion. Motion carried.

The next item was a presentation of new Fire Department breathing apparatus. Chief Frank Menefee, Jr. and Todd Johnson reviewed the new breathing apparatus with the City Council. There have been many improvements made to the breathing apparatuses which are currently being used by the Fire Department. These improvements include functionality, weight, and safety concerns. The department is looking into acquiring 18 new breathing apparatuses.

The next item was to discuss and or consider a request from the Juneteenth Parade Committee to close Pearl Street to traffic for the annual Juneteenth Parade. A request was received from the La Grange Juneteenth Committee to block off Pearl Street from

8:00am until 11:00 am on Saturday, June 20<sup>th</sup>. Staff recommends approval of this request. Staff noted that there will be a modification to the route this parade has previously taken. **MOTION** Councilman Janca, **SECOND** Councilmember Kathy Weishuhn to approve staff's recommendation. Motion carried.

The next item was to discuss and or consider appointment of Calvin Kuehn to the Zoning Board. The zoning board/commission shall consist of five (5) citizens of La Grange, each to be appointed or reappointed by the mayor and confirmed by the city council. There is currently one vacant position on the Zoning Board/commission due to the resignation of Brian Varner. Mayor Moerbe recommends that Calvin Kuehn be appointed to fill this vacancy. **MOTION** Mayor Pro tem John J. Cernosek, **SECOND** Councilmember Violet Zbrank to approve this recommendation. Motion carried.

The next item was to discuss and or consider a resolution cancelling the July 27<sup>th</sup> City Council Meeting. Historically the City of La Grange has cancelled the 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting during July as all necessary business for the City of La Grange can be included in the 1<sup>st</sup> meeting of the month. **MOTION** Councilman Romberg, **SECOND** Councilmember Weishuhn to approve this resolution cancelling the July 27<sup>th</sup> City Council Meeting. Motion carried. **Attachment #1**

The next item was to discuss and or consider approval of May, 2015 minutes. **MOTION** Councilmen Romberg, **SECOND** Councilman Janca to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

#### Tourism Committee

Councilman John Eilert, Chair of the Tourism Grant Committee, reported that the committee met earlier on Monday and reviewed four (4) requests. The committee recommends council award the request as follows: Friends of Monument Hill-Texas Heroes Day in the amount of \$2,250 for advertising, Oktoberfest-Rotary Club of La Grange in the amount of \$6,000 for advertising, Juneteenth on the Square in the amount of \$2,000 for advertising, and Fayette County Fair Association in the amount of \$10,000 for advertising. **MOTION** Councilman Eilert, **SECOND** Mayor Pro tem Cernosek to approve the requests as recommended by the Tourism Grant Committee. Motion carried.

#### City Council Committee Reports

Main Street will host the Flag Day Celebration this Saturday, June 13<sup>th</sup> on the Fayette County Courthouse Lawn starting at 9AM.

The Beautification Committee awarded Yard of the Month to Morlene Johnson at 152 E. Milam Street.

#### Chief of Police Report

The La Grange Police Department will host the Texas Citizens On Patrol Convention this weekend. It will be held at the Randolph Recreation Center starting on Friday. There was a theft on 1 phone at the local AT&T store.

City Manager Report

Utility Sales are holding while water sales have dropped drastically due to the rains. The quarterly bulk trash pickup provided by Republic Services will be held the weekend of June 27<sup>th</sup>.

Movie Night on the Square when well this past Friday. The movie Frozen was shown.

At 6:58 PM as pursuant to Section 551.072 Real Property, council went into closed executive session to discuss and or consider acquisition of real property on Mode Lane.

At 7:10 PM Council went into Open Session. There is no action to be taken at this time.

At 7:11PM a **MOTION** was made by Councilmember Zbranek, with a **SECOND** by Councilmember Bradley 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 – June 22, 2015**

The City Council of the City of La Grange met in Regular Session on Monday, June 22, 2015 in the City Hall Council Chambers with the following members present: Mayor Janet Moerbe, Councilmember Bonnie Busch, Councilmember Deborah Bradley, Mayor Pro tem John Cernosek, Councilman John Eilert, Councilmember Kathy Weishuhn, and Councilmember Violet Zbranek. Councilman Romberg arrived after the meeting had started. Councilman Pat Janca was absent. Staff present: City Manager Shawn Raborn, Chief of Police Jackie Skelton, and City Secretary Lisa Oltmann. Visitors: Ken Dernehl, Neale Rabensburg, Juanet Copeland and Jeff Wick.

Under Public Petitions Juanet Copeland spoke and noted that she is opposed to the proposed reuse of the building located at 543 N Jackson which is currently owned by La Grange ISD.

The first item was to discuss and or consider a partnership with the La Grange Volunteer Fire Department to purchase new breathing apparatus. As presented by Chief Menefee at the last council meeting, the Fire Department is in the process of purchasing 18 new self-contained breathing apparatus. The purchase price is approximately \$130,000 and the request is to split the cost of the units. The \$65,000 city portion of the purchase will be funded out of the Fire Department Capital Improvement Fund. The current balance in the fund is \$171,030 and we allocate \$25,000 to the fund each year as part of the annual budget process. **MOTION** Mayor Pro tem John J. Cernosek, **SECOND** Councilmember Kathy Weishuhn to approve this request and partner with the Fire Department to split the cost of the new breathing apparatus with the city portion being \$65,000. Motion carried.

The next item was the active project status report. City Manager Shawn Raborn reviewed this report with council. It was noted that due to the weather/rain, there are several projects which have been delayed. One of the delayed projects is the Weikel Schiller Ditch Improvements; it is not known when this phase might be able to be started. The CDGB 2012 project replacing water lines on South Franklin, Lowerline and Milam has been completed. H&C Construction has been delayed with the reclaiming process of the streets due to the rain. It is anticipated that they will begin the reclaiming the last week in June. The Casino Hall project is still on schedule for substantial completion by late October. The city continues the process to acquire the property next to the Randolph Recreation Center; there are some concerns with the estate which is the owner of record for this property. City Manager Raborn then reviewed the sales tax report and noted that there continues to be a slight downward turn in the sales tax received. Councilman Romberg arrived at the meeting.

#### City Manager Report

The quarterly curb side bulk pickup will be held Saturday, June 27<sup>th</sup> starting at 7AM. There will be a community forum held on Thursday, June 25<sup>th</sup> from 6-7:30 at the Randolph Recreation center regarding the proposed reuse of the La Grange ISD building located at 543 N. Jackson St. by Tejas Health Care and Blue Bonnet Trails. Bids for banking services are currently being accepted. Staff is looking at the possibility of modifying the after hour collection process regarding accounts which have been disconnected for nonpayment.

#### Chief of Police Report

Theft cases continue. There were 2 reported cases of shop lifting at HEB and Dollar General recently.

The COP Conference which was held in La Grange went well. There were 116 attendees. Many positive comments were received from individuals attending on the polite, courteous individuals in La Grange and also how clean and neat the city itself is.

The Budget Workshop was then held. Some of the projects anticipated for the upcoming fiscal year include implementation of a document management system, implementation of a Fiber Connection between city facilities. The Police Department anticipates implementing a Body Camera System. Staff will look at installing lighting at the soccer/football field at White Rock Park and hope to partner with the La Grange EDC on this project. Staff also anticipated an upgrade of the play structures at Kruschel Park and White Rock Park. It is anticipated that there will be minimal increases for water, and sewer services as well as the electrical base rate.

At 6:49 PM a **MOTION** was made by Councilman John Eilert, with a **SECOND** by Councilmember Weishuhn 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