

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING – March 9, 2015

The City Council of the City of La Grange met in Regular Session on Monday, March 9, 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, Bonnie Busch and Dr. Jerry Hurst.

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

The first item was to discuss and or consider approval of Certificate of Unopposed Candidates. Discutir y/o considerer la aprobacion del Certificado de Candidatos Sin Oposicion. February 27th at 5 PM was the deadline to file for either a place on the ballot or as a write-in candidate for the General Election to be held on May 5th. The following candidates are unopposed. Arnold Romberg-Councilmember Ward 1; John J. “Honza” Cernosek-Councilmember Ward 2; Bonnie B. Busch-Councilmember Ward 3; Pat Janca-Councilmember Ward 4. **MOTION** Councilman Calvin Kuehn, **SECOND** Councilmember Kathy Weishuhn to approve the Certificate of Unopposed Candidates. Motion carried.

The next item was to discuss and or consider engaging the services of Trlicek and Co. to conduct the audit for the City of La Grange for the years ending September 30, 2015, 2016, and 2017. The City of La Grange recently received a 3-year audit engagement letter from our current auditor, Trlicek & Co., P.C. Their performance and timeliness has been more than adequate over the past three years. In addition, they have agreed to only increase their fees by \$500 for their services. There, it is staff’s recommendation that the City of La Grange engage Trlicek & Co., P.C. as the auditors for the next three years. **MOTION** Councilman John Eilert, **SECOND** Councilman Pat Janca to approve staff’s recommendation. Motion carried.

The next item was to Tour the Historic Casino Hall. Due to the inclement weather, this tour was postponed till the next meeting weather permitting.

The next item was to discuss and or consider approval of February 2015 minutes. **MOTION** Mayor Pro tem John Cernosek, **SECOND** Councilman Arnold Romberg to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

Councilman John Eilert then reported on the Tourism Committee meeting which was held earlier in the day. The committee reviewed and approved an updated Tourism Application; they reviewed the February La Grange Visitors Bureau Activity which is

included in the council packet as well. The committee then discussed and/or considered 5 Tourism Grant requests. The committee recommends council approve funding the requests as follows: Faison Preservation Society in the amount of \$10,000 for repairing the historic Faison Home including the back museum room and the bedroom; The Best Little Cowboy Gathering in Texas in the amount of \$10,000 for advertising expenses for the 7th Annual Best Little Cowboy Gathering in Texas; The Fayette County Record in the amount of \$2,500 for an ad in their 2015 Fayette County Visitors Guide as well as purchasing an additional 1,500 copies of the guide to be distributed at the Visitors Center; the Citizens Police Academy Conference in the amount of \$2,500 to register convention guests, rental of the convention facility and convention related transportation costs; and Monument Hill & Kreische Brewery State Historic Sites in the amount of \$1,500 for printing & distribution 10,000 rack cards. **MOTION** Councilman Eilert, **SECOND** Councilmember Weishuhn to approve the committee's recommendation in funding these requests. Motion carried.

City Council Committee Reports

Main Street will host Uncorked on March 21st.

The Library Board met last Tuesday one board member has submitted their resignation. The Beautification Committee awarded Yard of the Month to Dr. Daniel White at 434 S. Washington Street.

City Manager Report

Thanked the Fayette County Record for their articles regarding the curb side bulk pick up which will be held on March 21 & 22.

The Fayette County Appraisal District is waiting for one entity to return the paper work regarding the city's purchase of the apartments which were located at 428 W La Fayette.

These apartments were previously damaged/destroyed by fire.

Hospice Brazos Valley will hold a "Celebration of Life" event on April 16th at the Fayette Public Library.

The rainy weather has delayed the Weikel-Schiller Ditch project.

H & C Construction is in town working on street repairs. It is anticipated that the seal coating should begin in June or July.

Utility usage was down for the month.

At 6:15 PM a **MOTION** was made by Councilmember Weishuhn, 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 – March 23, 2015

The City Council of the City of La Grange met in Regular Session on Monday, March 23, 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 Kathy Weishuhn. Councilmember Violet Zbranek was absent. Staff present: City Manager Shawn Raborn, Chief of Police Jackie Skelton, Ptlm. Andy Berger and City Secretary Lisa Oltmann. Visitors: Jeff Wick, Bonnie Busch, Harvey Busch, and Dick Frenzel

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and Rev. Walter Williams of the Gospel Lighthouse Church gave the invocation.

The first item was a review of the possible development of a K9 unit and the K9s4COPs program. K94COPs is a non-profit organization that is committed to providing detection dogs to law enforcement agencies at no cost. Chief Skelton & Ptlm. Berger reviewed this program with council. Additional information will be brought back at a later date.

The next item was to discuss and or consider a request from Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church to close the 800 block of N. Franklin on May 17th from 10:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. A request was received from Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church to block off the street for their 22nd Annual Homecoming Picnic. Staff recommends approval of this request. **MOTION** Councilman Calvin Kuehn, **SECOND** Councilman Pat Janca to approve staff's request. Motion carried.

The next item was to discuss and or consider a request from the First Baptist Church to close Lester Street to traffic for Easter Service from 8:30 a.m. till 12:30 p.m. A request was received from Pastor Smith of First Baptist Church to block off Lester Street from 8:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. on Sunday, April 5th. Staff recommends approval of this request. **MOTION** Councilmember Kathy Weishuhn, **SECOND** Councilmember Deborah Bradley to approve staff's request. Motion carried.

Chief Of Police Report

During the past few weeks there have been multiple cases of shop lifting which has occurred at a local business. As a result of the rainy weather, the number of accidents was also up for the past few weeks.

City Manager Report

City Manager Raborn then reviewed the active project report with council.
Sales tax continues on a positive note.
Due to unforeseen circumstances, the tour of the Casino Hall will need to be rescheduled.

At 6:47 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