

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING – October 13, 2014

The City Council of the City of La Grange met in Regular Session on Monday, October 13, 2014 in the City Hall Council Chambers with the following members present: Mayor Janet Moerbe, Councilmember Deborah Bradley, Mayor Pro tem John J. Cernosek, Councilman John Eilert, Councilman Pat Janca, Councilman Calvin Kuehn, Councilmember Kathy Weishuhn, and Councilmember Violet Zbranek. Councilman Arnold Romberg was absent. Staff present: City Manager Shawn Raborn, Chief of Police Jackie Skelton, Corp. Travis Anderson, Sgt. Troy Stevens, and City Secretary Lisa Oltmann. Visitors: Jeff Wick, Horace Drisdale, Rubie Jackson, Verlia Mosley, Jeff Kelly, Gloria H., Patricia Ellis, Korin Burnett, Emily Shaw, Ricky Fenix Sr., Marion Fenix, Sandy Scott, Jasmine Lewis, Rev. Grace Johnson, Gloria Wolford, Bobbie Johnson Houston, K. Henderson, Suzie Cunningham, Alfred Drescher, Charlie Ripper, Loydell Wied, and others.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and Councilmember Deborah Bradley gave the invocation.

The first item was a public hearing on designation of a Memorial Highway in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Under the Memorial Highway designation program signs are installed at both ends of the road segment that is being designated, but does not change the addresses of the businesses or residents. In discussion with Ms. Marek, with the TxDOT Yoakum District, the cost to design and install the signs was estimated at \$2,000. The cost is bore by the requesting entity and must be remitted prior to the project starting. Mayor Moerbe opened the Public Hearing at 6:02 PM. Many individuals spoke during the public hearing both in favor of the designation and also other possible suggestions. Those speaking included Bobbie Houston, Emily Shaw, Jeff Kelly, Brookshire Outland, Verlia Mosley, Charlie Ripper, Loydell Wied, Gloria Wolford and others. Mayor Moerbe thanked everyone for attending the meeting as well as those who spoke on the issue. Jeff Kelly also thanked the council for the time which has been given to this request. The Public Hearing was closed at 6:40 PM.

The next item was to discuss and or consider updated service contract with Republic Services for Solid Waste Services. City Manager Raborn presented for council consideration the contract to extend the current agreement with Republic Services for a period of seven years. They key provisions of the agreement include: Commercial rates will be reduced by 20% and then frozen for the next three years.; Republic Services will provide single stream recycling to all residential customers at no additional cost.; Republic Services will provide single stream recycling to commercial cart customers pending service capabilities at no additional cost.; Republic Services will provide single stream recycling to all city facilities at no additional cost.; Republic Services will provide quarterly, door to door bulk waste collection at no additional cost.; Future rate increases will be 3% per year. Staff recommends approval of the agreement pending final review

by legal staff. **MOTION** Councilmember Kathy Weishuhn, **SECOND** Councilman John Eilert to approve staff's recommendation. Motion carried.

The next item was to discuss an ordinance amending the peddlers ordinance to set the time and days of operation for door to door peddlers. In June, staff reviewed with council a draft of the new peddlers ordinance and since that time modifications have been made to the ordinance to address issues that were identified by council. Staff is once again presenting this issue back to council for review. It is anticipated that this item will be brought back at the next meeting for formal consideration. Chief Skelton noted that Corp. Anderson & Sgt. Stevens worked together on this project and this document is a result of their efforts. Council and staff then reviewed the proposed ordinance.

The next item was to discuss and or consider on Second and Final Reading An Ordinance Establishing A Program Response And Recovery Phases Of Comprehensive Emergency Management; Acknowledging The Office Of Emergency Management Director; Authorizing The Appointment Of An Emergency Management Coordinator; And Providing For The Duties And Responsibilities Of Those Offices; Identifying An Operational Organization; Granting Necessary Powers To Cope With All Phases Of Emergency Management Which Threaten Life And Property In The City Of La Grange; Authorizing Cooperative And Mutual Aid Agreements For Relief Work Between This And Other Cities Or Counties And For Related Purposes. The City of La Grange created our local Emergency Management Program in the Fall of 2013. The program has been developed and is under the direction of Corporal Travis Anderson. The local plan has been developed and staff has received all of the required training to operate the program. In reviewing the program with the state we need to adopt an ordinance that will formalize the local Emergency Management Program. **MOTION** Councilmember Kathy Weishuhn, **SECOND** Councilmember Violet Zbranek to approve this ordinance on second and final reading. A roll call vote was taken: Councilmember Bradley in favor; Mayor Pro tem Cernosek in favor; Councilman Eilert in favor; Councilman Janca in favor; Councilman Kuehn in favor; Councilman Romberg absent; Councilmember Weishuhn in favor; and Councilmember Zbranek in favor. The motion carried by a vote of 7-0. **Attachment #1**

The next item was to discuss and or consider approval of minutes for September, 2014. **MOTION** Councilmember Weishuhn, **SECOND** Councilmember Deborah Bradley to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

City Council Committee Reports

Main Street will host Trick or Treat on the Square on October 31st.

The Beautification Committee awarded yard of the month to Jason & Misty Wolfgang at 120 Rose Mayer Loop.

Chief Of Police Report

Wal-Mart has had theft of TV's recently.

Officers have been busy working wrecks the past 2 week, during this time, there were 17 wrecks.

National Night Out was on Tuesday, October 7th. Thanks to all who attended some of the events.

City Manager Report

Sales tax is up 14.73% for the monthly reporting period.

Water consumption was down for the 2013-2014 fiscal year, however budget was still met. Electric consumption was down for the month of September, but budget was also met.

Citywide Fall Cleanup is taking place this week. Brush is being picked up on the south side of town on Monday & Tuesday and on the north side of town on Wednesday and Thursday. Roll Off containers are also at the city service center and citizens and take bulky items there to be disposed of. "Shred It" Day will be held on Saturday, October 18th at the Police Department. Citizens can take document there to be shredded up for disposal.

At 7:15 PM a **MOTION** was made by Councilmember Bradley, with a **SECOND** by Councilman Janca 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 27, 2014

The City Council of the City of La Grange met in Regular Session on Monday, October 27, 2014 in the City Hall Council Chambers with the following members present: Mayor Janet Moerbe, Councilmember Deborah Bradley, Mayor Pro tem John J. 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, Corp. Travis Anderson, Sergeant Troy Stevens, Patrolman Justin Koehne and City Secretary Lisa Oltmann. Visitors: Jeff Wick, Ken Taylor, Glenn Altwein along with numerous representatives of the local VFW Post as well as the American Legion

Post, and Jeff Kelly and numerous individuals in support of designating a MKL Memorial Highway in La Grange, there were also many individuals for the public hearing on the Railroad Quiet Zone.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and Councilman Calvin Kuehn gave the invocation.

The first item was a Public Hearing on designation of a Railroad Quiet Zone. Mayor Moerbe opened the Public Hearing at 6:00 PM. Individuals which spoke in favor of a quiet zone were Joyce Kolbe, Anna Boyd, and Helen Lewis. Individuals which spoke in opposition of the quiet zone were Jim Jackson, Kathleen Covington, and Ken Taylor. Those in favor of a quiet zone stated that this would improve the quality of life and alleviate noise from the train. Those in opposition of a quiet zone stated safety concerns as well as the cost of the project as their main objections. Mayor Moerbe noted that the individual train conductors would still be able to sound the train horn if they feel that there is an emergency condition. Councilmembers voiced safety concerns. City Manager Raborn noted that the length of non-transversal delineators would vary at each intersection. The length would be anywhere from 10' to over 100' on each side of the crossings. The initial cost is estimated to be approximately \$45,000. The Public Hearing was closed at 6:29 PM.

The next item was to discuss and or consider a resolution establishing Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Highway. Staff presented a resolution for council consideration that would designate State Highway 71 Business a Memorial Highway in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Under the Memorial Highway designation program, signs are installed at both ends of the road segment that is being designated, but does not change the addresses of the businesses or residents. In recent discussion with Ms. Marek, with the TxDOT Yoakum District, the cost to design and install the new sign is estimated at \$1,500 this is lower than previously anticipated due to the fact that a smaller sign would need to be used due to the size of the right-of-way. Staff would recommend that if the council approves the resolution that we bear the cost associated with the sign installation. If approved by City Council, this request will also need to be approved by TxDOT and it is estimated that this will take between 120 and 150 days to receive approval and to have the signs installed. As reviewed with council previously the only open segments available for naming are Highway 77 from city limits to city limits and Business 71 from city limits to city limits. Mayor Moerbe thanked all who spoke at the public hearing at the previous city council meeting. Glenn Altwein addressed the council on behalf of the VFW and American Legion Posts and presented resolutions from each organization requesting a Memorial Highway Designation for the veterans. He was informed that as this was not an agenda item at this time, council could not take action regarding this request. Verlia Mosley and Jeff Kelly spoke asking for council to approve the item, they did however question that the resolution was presented to designate a portion of State Highway 71 Business. If possible, they would prefer Highway 77 as they

had originally requested due to the fact that it runs north and south and would provide some continuity as the City of Giddings had also designated Highway 77 going thru Giddings as a Memorial Highway in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King. Jr. **MOTION** Councilman Romberg to adopt the resolution as presented. **SECOND** Mayor Pro tem Cernosek. After council discussion. **MOTION** Councilmember Weishuhn, **SECOND** Councilmember Bradley to amend the Resolution to designate Highway 77 within the city limits in place of Highway 71. **Motion carried** 5-3 with Councilmember Weishuhn, Councilmember Bradley, Councilmember Zbranek, Councilman Janca, and Councilman Romberg in favor and Councilman Eilert, Mayor Pro tem Cernosek, and Councilman Kuehn opposed. The resolution was then changed to designate Highway 77. Council then voted on designating Highway 77 within the city limits of the city of La Grange, Texas to be known as MLK Jr. Memorial Highway. **MOTION carried** 6-2 with Councilman Eilert, Mayor Pro tem Cernosek, Councilmember Weishuhn, Councilmember Bradley, Councilmember Zbranek, and Councilman Romberg in favor and Councilman Kuehn, and Councilman Janca opposed. **INSERT #1**

The next item was to discuss and or consider approval of medical coverage with Humana. Staff reviewed insurance options with council and is requesting council authorization to renew coverage with Humana, the current provider. Staff is still in the process of finalizing the exact coverage, the renewal Humana plan TX 100/70 National is in the amount of \$545.62 for traditional coverage and Humana Health Savings Account TX 100/70 National is in the amount of \$399.30 as the high deductible plan. The traditional plan experienced a 2.3 percent increase and the high deductible plan experienced a 2.61 percent increase. Staff is evaluating the Humana Option 32 plan that would keep the cost flat. We will continue to use Fayette Savings as the provider of the Health Saving Accounts. Employees are encouraged to assist in controlling our insurance cost by participating in the Humana Vitality wellness program which will allow us to qualify for premium discounts. We are also working to expand the wellness program for the benefit of the employees. **MOTION** Councilman Romberg, **SECOND** Councilmember Zbranek to authorize City Manager Raborn to renew coverage with Humana for medical coverage not to exceed the renewal rate. Motion carried.

The next item was to discuss and or consider on first reading of An Ordinance Of The City Council Of The City Of La Grange, Texas Amending Chapter 4, Business Regulations, Article 4.04, Peddlers An Solicitors, Of The CODE OF ORDINANCES, CITY OF LA GRANGE, TEXAS, By Repealing Same And Thereafter Completely Replacing The Current Article 4.04, As Set Forth Herein, Thereby Expanding And Clarifying The Requirements For Conducting Solicitations By Peddlers, Solicitors, Itinerant Vendors And Handbill Distributors Within The Corporate Limits Of The City Of La Grange, Texas; Providing For Severability; and Providing For An Effective Date Hereof. **MOTION** Councilman Janca, **SECOND** Councilmember Weishuhn to approve this ordinance on first reading. A roll call vote was taken: Councilmember Bradley in favor; Mayor Pro tem Cernosek in favor; Councilman Eilert in favor; Councilman Janca

in favor; Councilman Kuehn in favor; Councilman Romberg in favor; Councilmember Weishuhn in favor; and Councilmember Zbranek in favor. The motion carried by a vote of 8-0.

The next item was to discuss and or consider approval of the Lease with the Head Start Program of Cen-Tex Family Services. The City of La Grange originally executed a lease agreement with the Head Start Program of Cen-Tex Family Services in 1994. It is the desire of Cen-Tex Family Services to have the lease with the City of La Grange renewed. The proposed lease is for a period of 10 years with the ability to renew the lease for two (2) additional five year terms. **MOTION** Councilmember Zbranek, **SECOND** Councilman Janca to approve this lease. Motion carried.

City Council Committee Reports

Main Street will sponsor Trick or Treat On The Square this Friday, October 31st from 4PM-6PM. There are 60 businesses participating. The Rotary Club will host games on the courthouse lawn. Street closures will begin at 3:30 PM.

Chief Of Police Report

Presented Life Saving Certificate and Citation to Sergeant Troy Stevens for going above and beyond the call of duty when a recent attempted suicide call was received by the Police Department. **INSERT #2**

City Manager Report

During the Fall Clean Up which was held recently, there were 22 brush piles picked up and 4 roll-off containers of items disposed of. There were also 15-20 containers disposed of at the “shred-it” event which was held on Saturday of the Fall Clean-Up Week.

The Randolph Recreation Center hosted wRECKing Night on Sunday, October 26th; there were approximately 175 individuals in attendance.

The Book Sale at the Library will continue thru November 2nd.

Mayor Moerbe, Emergency Coordinator Travis Anderson, and City Manager Raborn attended the Ebola Informational Meeting which was presented by St. Mark’s Medical Center. The hospital is prepared should anyone arrive with symptoms of Ebola. It was noted that at this time, the individual would be transferred to a center in Galveston as it is one of two (2) centers in Texas which is equipped to receive individuals which present symptoms of Ebola.

The Active Project Report was reviewed, there are 4 major projects which will be in progress shortly, they are the sidewalk project in the 100 block of Travis, the Electric project now working on Horton Street, the CDBG/Water Project which replaces the water line in S Franklin, Lowerline and Milam Streets, and the Weikel-Schiller Ditch Improvement project which will be an open channel with concrete walls and bottom. This will be done from the covered portion of the Weikel-Schiller ditch behind the Lynnwood addition till the LGISD Bus Barn.

At 7:17 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