

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING – January 10, 2011

The City Council of the City of La Grange met in Regular Session on Monday, January 10, 2011 in the City Hall Council Chambers with the following members present: Mayor Moerbe, Councilman Busch, Councilman Cernosek, Councilman Eilert, Councilman Kuehn, Councilman Romberg, Councilmember Weishuhn, Councilmember Zbranek and Mayor Pro tem Zimmerhanzel. Staff present: City Manager Shawn Raborn and Chief of Police Jackie Skelton. Visitors: Aileen Loehr.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and Reverend Ellis McKenzie gave the invocation.

The first item was to discuss and or consider an inter-local cooperation agreement between Fayette County and the cities of Schulenburg and Flatonia to create a Drug Enforcement Program. For the past year or so we have discussed and worked on the development of an expanded drug enforcement program between the cities of La Grange, Schulenburg, Flatonia and Fayette County. We now have an agreement to be considered that will allow for the development of the cooperative drug enforcement program. The key components of the agreement are:

- Hiring of an additional officer assigned to drug enforcement activities as part of the Fayette County Narcotics Unit.
- The City of La Grange will inject \$19,000 quarterly into the program for hiring of the position.
- The City will provide \$2,000 for unit transactions – buy money.
- The funds derived from the operation of the unit are allocated 2/3rd to the unit and 1/3rd to the County Attorney.
- Oversight of the unit will be by the Chiefs of Police of the participating cities and the Sheriff.
- The term of the agreement is three years.

Funds for the operation of the unit were included in this year's police department budget. Staff recommends approval of the agreement. **MOTION** Councilmember Violet Zbranek, **SECOND** Mayor Pro tem James Zimmerhanzel to approve staff's recommendation. Motion carried.

The next item was to discuss and or consider authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with Knight and Partners for City Council District Redistricting services. Since the last council meeting we have received a proposal from Bickerstaff, Heath, Delgado and Acosta to provide redistricting services. The proposal from Bickerstaff includes an initial assessment fee of \$3,750 plus GIS

service fees. The total cost of the service is not defined but will be based on the work load and charged at the regular hourly rates. After reviewing the two proposals staff is requesting council approval to enter into an agreement with Knight & Partners to assist with reviewing the census data to determine if we will have to redraw district lines based on the 2010 Census numbers. The fee to conduct the assessment is \$3,000 and the redistricting fee if required will be \$7,500 including the assessment. **MOTION** Councilmember Zbranek, **SECOND** Councilmember Kathy Weishuhn to approve staff's recommendation. Motion carried.

The next item was to discuss and or consider a resolution to suspend the proposed CenterPoint Energy Entex Rate Increase. As was discussed at the last council meeting, CenterPoint Energy Entex is proposing to increase the current base residential gas rate by \$7.25 per month. In December council suspended the current rate increase for a period of 90 days. Currently two groups of cities have formed to intervene in the proposed rate case. The Steering Committee of Cities is comprised of Aransas Pass, Bishop, Converse, El Campo, Elgin, Giddings, Goliad, Ingleside, Kingsville, La Coste, Mathis, Orange Grove, Point Comfort, Port Lavaca, Poteet, Runge, Taft and Kingsville. The other Alliance of CenterPoint Municipalities of cities included Bastrop, Kyle and New Braunfels and others. The two groups are currently in communication and have begun to coordinate efforts. The Steering Committee has retained experts to review the proposed rate change in order to determine what adjustments should be made to Centerpoint's proposed rates. The schedule is for the Steering Committee's experts to file direct testimony with the Railroad Commission by February 4th and the hearing on the merits will take place March 23-25th. After the hearing the parties will file briefs summarizing their positions in early April with an anticipated decision from the Commission in early June. Staff is bringing back for your consideration a resolution that will authorize the City of La Grange to participate with the Steering Committee of cities in the CenterPoint Energy Entex rate case. **MOTION** Councilman John Eilert, **SECOND** Councilmember Kathy Weishuhn to approve the resolution. Motion carried.

The next item was to discuss and or consider appointment to the Main Street Board. Mayor Moerbe is recommending that Councilmember Kathy Weishuhn be appointed to the Main Street Board to replace Councilman Arnold Romberg. Councilman Romberg has requested to be removed from this board as he is now the representative on the Fayette County Appraisal District Board. **MOTION** Mayor Pro tem Zimmerhanzel, **SECOND** Councilmember Zbranek to approve Mayor Moerbe's recommendation. Motion carried. Mayor Moerbe expressed thanks on behalf of the council to Councilman Romberg for the time he served on the Main Street Board.

The next item was to discuss and or consider approval of minutes for December 2010. **MOTION** Councilmember Weishuhn, **SECOND** Councilman Romberg to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

The Library Board met on Tuesday, Jan. 4th. During the month of December there were various movies shown at the Library.

The Beautification Committee met and awarded Yard of the Month to James & Diane Wessels at 399 W Hanacek LN.

CHIEF OF POLICE

The recent burglary at Dairy Queen has been solved and an individual has been arrested.

CITY MANAGER

The sidewalk project on the courthouse square will begin this week.

Staff received notification that the Texas Capital Fund program approved the preapplication to expand water and wastewater service to Carlton Industries and Katy Sweets. The formal application is due January 28th and a public hearing on the project will be held during the January 24th City Council Meeting.

The water line project on the south side of town is 50% complete.

At 6:30 as pursuant to Section 551.086 Competitive Electric Matters, council went into Closed Executive session to discuss Amended and Restated Wholesale Power Agreement between the City of La Grange and the Lower Colorado River Authority.

At 6:34 Council went into Open Session. No action is needed in open session.

At 6:35 a **MOTION** was made by Councilmember Zbranek, with a **SECOND** by Mayor Pro tem Zimmerhanel that the meeting be adjourned. Motion carried.

Lisa Oltmann, City Secretary

These Minutes Approved by City Council on:

Janet Moerbe, Mayor

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING – January 24, 2011

The City Council of the City of La Grange met in Regular Session on Monday, January 24, 2011 in the City Hall Council Chambers with the following members present: Mayor Moerbe, Councilman Busch, Councilman Cernosek, Councilman Eilert, Councilman Kuehn, Councilman Romberg, Councilmember Weishuhn, Councilmember Zbranek and Mayor Pro tem Zimmerhanel. Staff present: City Manager Shawn Raborn and Chief of Police Jackie Skelton. Visitors: Aileen Loehr, Rev. Grace Johnson, and Bill Rogers.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and Reverend Grace Johnson gave the invocation.

The first item was a public hearing on submission of a Texas Capital Fund Application to extend utility service to Carlton Industries and Katy Sweets Confectioners. The Public Meeting was opened at 6:00 PM. There being no one present to comment, the meeting was closed at 6:05 PM.

The next item was to discuss and or consider a resolution authorizing the submission of a Texas Capital Fund Application to extend utility service to Carlton Industries and Katy Sweets Confectioners. Staff has been working with Carlton Industries and Katy Sweets for the past month on expansion plans. The primary issue they are having at the current location is the lack of wastewater service to the facility which has become a limiting factor on plant expansion. Katy Sweets and Carlton Industries are planning to add 30 additional jobs within three years as the result of the expansion of utilities to the facility. We submitted a Texas Capital Fund pre-application in December and we were notified in January that we are in the funding range. The Capital Fund Application will be for \$750,000 and we estimate that the total cost of the project will approach \$1,000,000. This application will extend utility services to their property located on State Highway 71 approximately 2 miles west of town. The La Grange EDC has reviewed the project and passed a resolution to support the grant and provide up to \$250,000 to complete the project. The extension of wastewater service to the west of La Grange will allow for future economic development opportunities. **MOTION** Councilman John Eilert, **SECOND** Mayor Pro-tem James Zimmerhanel to approve this resolution. Motion carried.

The next item was to discuss and or consider Citizens Complaint procedures for the Texas Community Development Program. **MOTION** Councilmember Violet Zbranek, **SECOND** Councilmember Kathy Weishuhn to approve the Citizens Complaint procedure. Motion carried.

The next item was to discuss and or consider a resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with the La Grange Independent School District

to conduct a joint election for the May 14, 2011 elections for both authorities. Staff is requesting council approval to enter into an agreement with La Grange ISD to hold a joint election on May 14, 2011. Each entity will administer their respective elections and bear their respective costs. **MOTION** Mayor Pro tem Zimmerhanel, **SECOND** Councilman Arnold Romberg to approve staff's request. Motion carried. **ATTACHMENT #1**

The next item was to discuss and or consider amending the Equipment Fund Budget to purchase a new Street Sweeper. Our current street sweeper has been showing some signs of wear over the past several months. We recently had the unit inspected by Kinloch Equipment and Supply and they identified a number of items that need attention in the amount of \$80,057. The most immediate repair needs total over \$9,000. The current Elgin Whirlwind MV unit was purchased in July of 2002 for \$124,838 and has logged 15,153 miles and 1,760 hours on the sweeper engine. We have discussed internally a number of options and are proposing that a new street sweeper be purchased. A new street sweeping unit will cost from \$150,000 to \$180,000. We are currently working to determine the residual value of the current 2002 unit. The current balance in the Equipment fund is \$361,782 and with the current year payments due to the fund the balance will be approximately \$510,000. With the current year expenditures and this purchase the fund balance at the end of this fiscal year will be \$285,000. We are proposing to set the repayment schedule at ten years with an annual payment of \$22,401. The current interest rate for funds used by the departments from the equipment fund is set at 5 percent. Staff is requesting council authorization to begin the formal process to purchase a new street sweeper. Staff will bring back to council for their approval the purchase of the street sweeper. **MOTION** Councilmember Weishuhn, **SECOND** Councilman Arnold Romberg to approve staff's request to begin the process to purchase a new street sweeper. Motion carried.

The next item was to discuss and or consider a Tax Refund Application to Leon & Bonnie Hrachovy due to a late filed over 65 application. A request was received for this Tax Refund and the City of La Grange portion of the refund is \$31.56. **MOTION** Councilmember Zbranek, **SECOND** Mayor Pro tem Zimmerhanel to approve this refund. Motion carried.

The next item was to discuss and or consider appointment o the Fire Pension Board. A representative from the city council needs to be appointed to the Fireman's Pension Board. Mayor Pro tem Zimmerhanel is the current representative to the Fireman's Pension Board. **MOTION** Councilmember Weishuhn, **SECOND** Councilmember Zbranek to reappoint Mayor Pro tem Zimmerhanel to the Fireman's Pension Board. Motion carried.

The next item was a presentation of the Racial Profiling data by the La Grange Police Department as required by Article 2.132 Texas Code of Criminal Procedures. The time period for the traffic stops included in this report is January 1, 2010 through December 31, 2010. It was noted as a result of this report, that the La Grange Police Department does not have a problem regarding racial profiling practices. The continuing effort to collect police contact data will assure an on-going evaluation of the police department's practices.

The next item was to discuss and or consider awarding bid for Police Vehicles. Included in the FY 2010-11 Annual Budget was the purchase of two new police vehicles. The vehicles being replaced include a 2001 Ford Crown Victoria with 99,491 miles and a 2003 Ford Crown Victoria with 113,111 miles. Quotes were received from a number of vendors and we are recommending that we purchase two Ford Crown Victoria's in the amount of \$21,700 from La Grange Ford. **MOTION** Councilmember Weishuhn, **SECOND** Councilman John Cernosek to approve this recommendation. Motion carried.

CITY MANAGER

Concrete will be poured for the sidewalks at the courthouse tomorrow. Fayette County as well as the Cities of Flatonia and Schulenburg have also approved the narcotics officer agreement.

At 6:30 a **MOTION** was made by Councilmember Zbranek, with a **SECOND** by Mayor Pro tem Zimmerhanel that the meeting be adjourned. Motion carried.

Lisa Oltmann, City Secretary

These Minutes Approved by City Council on:

Janet Moerbe, Mayor

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING – February 14, 2011

The City Council of the City of La Grange met in Regular Session on Monday, February 14, 2011 in the City Hall Council Chambers with the following members present: Mayor Moerbe, Councilman Busch, Councilman Cernosek, Councilman Eilert, Councilman Kuehn, Councilman Romberg, and Mayor Pro tem Zimmerhanel. Council members Kathy Weishuhn and Violet Zbranek were absent. Staff present: City Manager Shawn Raborn, Chief of Police Jackie Skelton and Brett Wolff. Visitors: Aileen Loehr and Greg Trlicek.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and Reverend Darren Vail gave the invocation.

The first item was a Public Hearing on Texas Parks and Wildlife Small Cities Park Grant Program grant application to Kruschel Park which is located in the floodplain. Mayor Moerbe opened the public hearing at 6:02. The public hearing was closed at 6:08.

The next item was to discuss and or consider a resolution authorizing staff to submit a grant request to Texas Parks & Wildlife for improvements to Kruschel Park. Staff is requesting council authorization to submit an application to Texas Parks & Wildlife for the development of a splash pad and other park improvements at Kruschel Park. The project would require a 50 percent match and the application is due March 1st. The maximum grant amount is \$75,000. The local match will be budgeted in next year's Capital Improvement Fund budget. The grant award notification is not expected until December of 2011. **MOTION** Councilman John Eilert, **SECOND** Councilman Arnold Romberg to approve staff's request. Motion carried.

The next item was the presentation of the City of La Grange Annual Audit Report. Mr. Greg Trlicek, auditor for the City of La Grange presented the results of the 2009-2010 annual audit report. Mr. Trlicek reported that the City is in good financial standing in both the General Fund & Utility Fund.

The next item was to discuss and or consider acceptance of the City of La Grange Audit Report. **MOTION** Councilman Calvin Kuehn, **SECOND** Mayor Pro tem James Zimmerhanel to accept the audit report. Motion carried.

The next item was to discuss and or consider the Order Calling for Election of City Officers. **MOTION** Councilman Romberg, **SECOND** Councilman Kuehn to approve the order calling for the election of city officers. Motion carried.

The next item was the report on the 2011 Street Paving Program. This item is for discussion purposes only. It will be presented to council at a future meeting for approval. The total investment this year in street repair and maintenance is estimated to be at \$300,000. This amount includes the completion of work started in 2010 which includes reclaiming Rose Mayor Loop, Joe Hoefler Circle and parts of Guadalupe. We are also going to reclaim and rebuild the 200 block of River Street this year. The funding for these projects was included in the FY 2010-11 Capital Improvement Fund Budget.

The next item was to discuss and or consider a request from the Methodist Men of First United Methodist Church and the Boy Scouts of Troop/Pack 204 to name the Boy Scout building after long time scout supporter and original founder of Troop 204, Jack Pyburn. Mr. Pyburn passed away last year and because of his enormous contributions to the organization, the Methodist Men and the Boy Scouts of Troop/Pack 204 would like to name the Scout Hut in memory of Mr. Pyburn. It would be identified as "Jack Pyburn Memorial Scout Hut". **MOTION** Mayor Pro tem Zimmerhanel, **SECOND** Councilman Romberg to approve this request. Motion carried.

The next item was to discuss and or consider amending the Equipment Fund Budget to purchase a new street sweeper. Staff is requesting approval to amend the Capital Improvement Budget in the amount of \$176,520 for the purchase of a new street sweeper. **MOTION** Councilman Romberg, **SECOND** Councilman Eilert to approve this budget amendment. Motion carried.

The next item was to discuss and or consider the purchase of a new street sweeper. Over the past few weeks, staff has been looking at several street sweepers. Demonstrations were provided by Elgin Sweepers, Tymco, and Schwarze. Staff has determined that a regenerative air sweeper would best meet the needs of the City of La Grange. All of the above mentioned manufacturers build regenerative air sweepers and demonstrated their respective models. Prices obtained were either H-GAC or Buyboard contract prices. By purchasing the sweeper through either of these organizations, the City meets the state's bidding/purchasing requirements without advertising for formal, sealed bids; and the City does not have to accept the low bid. Because the City did not write specifications for the sweeper, the prices may not reflect a true apple to apple comparison. While all sweepers are similarly equipped, one sweeper may have additional, or fewer features than the other. Staff determined that it would be in the best interest of the City to purchase the Tymco regenerative air sweeper. Staff was impressed with the sweeper performance, the way it was designed and built, their service after sale program, and the attitude of the Tymco representatives that were involved in the demonstration. **MOTION** Mayor Pro tem Zimmerhanel, **SECOND** Councilman Harvey Busch to approve staff's recommendation. Motion carried.

The next item was to discuss and or consider approval of minutes for January 2011. **MOTION** Councilman Kuehn, **SECOND** Councilman John Cernosek to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

The next item was to discuss and or consider allocation of Tourism Grant Funds. Councilman Busch reported that the Tourism Grant Committee met earlier and reviewed 2 funding requests. The first request reviewed was from the City of

La Grange and the La Grange Chamber of Commerce in the amount of \$2,995. These funds would be used to purchase a 2 page feature story on La Grange in **Texas Live Magazine**. The second request was also submitted from the City of La Grange and the La Grange Chamber of Commerce in the amount of \$1,742. The funds would be used to purchase 1,000 reprints of the recent Texas Highway article of La Grange to be used for marketing purposes. It is their recommendation that council fund these 2 requests. **MOTION** Councilman Busch, **SECOND** Councilman Cernosek to approve the committee's recommendation. Motion carried. The Tourism Committee also had one additional item which was to discuss and or consider an agreement with the La Grange Area Chamber of Commerce for tourism services. Mayor Moerbe and City Manager Raborn recently met with members of the La Grange area Chamber of Commerce regarding the development of a formal agreement between the city and Chamber to provide basic tourism related services. The idea is to enter into a formal agreement that would cover the same services that the chamber currently provides to the city and receives payment for on a request basis every six months. Staff will bring back a formal agreement for council to consider and or approve at the next meeting.

CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

The Library board met recently and it was noted that once again circulation increased over the same time period of the previous year.

The Airport Board will meet this week.

La Grange Volunteer Fire Fighters and the Fayette County Fire Fighters held a training school this past weekend.

CHIEF OF POLICE

A case involving theft of Copper was solved.

The Explorers group attending competition in Lake Jackson and received 2 wards.

CITY MANAGER

Reviewed the October financial report.

Sales tax was up 5 percent.

KWH sales in January was down. Water usage was flat.

March 1st utility bills will be up dramatically due to the recent extended period of below freezing temperature.

At 6:50 a **MOTION** was made by Councilman Kuehn, with a **SECOND** by Mayor Pro tem Zimmerhanzel that the meeting be adjourned. Motion carried.

Lisa Oltmann, City Secretary

These Minutes Approved by City Council on:

Janet Moerbe, Mayor

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING – February 28, 2011

The City Council of the City of La Grange met in Regular Session on Monday, February 28, 2011 in the City Hall Council Chambers with the following members present: Mayor Moerbe, Councilman Busch, Councilman Eilert, Councilman Kuehn, Councilman Romberg, Councilmember Kathy Weishuhn and Councilmember Violet Zbranek and Mayor Pro tem Zimmerhanzel. Councilman John Cernosek was absent. Staff present: City Manager Shawn Raborn and Chief of Police Jackie Skelton. Visitors: Aileen Loehr and Jarrett Skelton.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and Father Joseph Varickamackal gave the invocation.

The first item was a presentation by the Law Enforcement Explorer Post. Jarrett Skelton gave a power point presentation of the competition that the group attended at Lake Jackson. There were 43 teams at this competition and they won 2 awards at this competition. They placed 3rd in “bomb scene search” and 2nd in “shoot don’t shoot”.

The next item was to discuss and or consider extending the lease with the La Grange Optimist club for one year. Staff is requesting that council consider extending the lease with the Optimist Club for one additional year. The lease is for the meeting room only and not the baseball field. **MOTION** Councilmember Violet Zbranek, **SECOND** Mayor Pro tem James Zimmerhanzel to approve staff’s recommendation. Motion carried. **Attachment #1**

The next item was to discuss and or consider a request to provide water service for a community garden project. Staff has received a request from Pastor Walter Lee of the First Presbyterian Church and a group of community volunteers to assist in the development of a community garden. At this time Mr. Weishuhn has agreed to let individuals utilize his property located at the corner of S Franklin and E Live Oak for a community garden. This is a project that staff has discussed for some time and now appears to becoming a reality. They have asked the city to participate in the project by providing water to the project. The cost of water to the site is anticipated to be less than \$50 per month on average. Staff recommends request to partner on the development of the community garden. Pastor Lee explained to the council that this was part of the program to reduce poverty.

Individuals will be given their own individual plat of land to plant their garden. Each plot will be approximately 4'X10'. They anticipate having between 25 and 35 plots available at this location. Individuals will also be given classes on gardening. **MOTION** Councilman John Eilert, **SECOND** Councilman Arnold Romberg to provide water for a community garden project. Motion carried 6-0 with Councilmember Kathy Weishuhn abstaining.

The next item was to discuss and or consider a request from Ms. Verlia Mosley to block off the 100 block of North Washington on Saturday, June 18th from 6 p.m. until midnight. This request is in conjunction with a community gathering. Staff will meet with Ms. Mosley regarding the gathering to ensure that it will not adversely impact the downtown neighbors. **MOTION** Councilman Romberg, **SECOND** Councilmember Weishuhn to approve this request. Motion carried. **ATTACHMENT #2**

The next item was to discuss and or consider a request from the La Grange Area Chamber of Commerce to block off the North side of the square on Saturday, March 19th from 7:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. for the Model A Ford Poor Boy Tour. The Chamber believes that parking on West Colorado Street closest to the courthouse along with the middle lane of parking on West Colorado should be enough spaces for the participants of the tour to park their cars. **MOTION** Councilmember Weishuhn, **SECOND** Councilman Romberg to block off the parking area in the middle section and next to the courthouse on W Colorado Street, excluding the spaces next to the businesses. Motion carried.

CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

The Main Street Merchants' meeting will be April 21st.

The Beautification Committee awarded yard of the Month to Artie Schulze at 405 E Roitsch LN.

CHIEF OF POLICE

A theft case was reported today and it has been solved.

At 6:40 a **MOTION** was made by Councilman 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

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING – March 14, 2011

The City Council of the City of La Grange met in Regular Session on Monday, March 14, 2011 in the City Hall Council Chambers with the following members present: Mayor Janet Moerbe, Councilman Harvey Busch, Councilman John Cernosek, Councilman John Eilert, Councilman Calvin Kuehn, Councilmember Violet Zbranek and Mayor Pro tem Zimmerhanzel. Councilman Arnold Romberg and Councilmember Kathy Weishuhn were absent. Staff present: City Manager Shawn Raborn and Chief of Police Jackie Skelton. Visitors: Aileen Loehr, Carroll Rogers, Jewel Wilson, and Jamison Davis.

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

The first item was an introduction by Carroll Rogers of the new Red Cross local representative. Jewel Wilson comes to La Grange as the new AmeriCorps VISTA worker. She will be here for approximately one year.

Mayor Moerbe welcomed Jamison Davis to the meeting. Jamison is working on his scouting badge.

At 6:05 as pursuant to Section 551.072 Real Property to discuss and or consider purchase of property and Section 551.071 Consultation with City Attorney about pending or potential litigation and claims, administrative hearings, settlement offers, or attorney-client privileged matters including the follow matters: consultation with attorney to receive legal advice concerning inter local agreement to establish county wide narcotics unit, council went into closed executive session.

At 6:16 Council went into Open Session.

The next item was to discuss and or consider an inter-local agreement between Fayette County and the cities of Schulenburg and Flatonia to create a Drug Enforcement Program. In January, the council approved the inter-local agreement between Fayette County and the cities of Schulenburg and Flatonia to create a Drug Enforcement Program. Since council approval a few minor changes have been made to the agreement and staff is requesting council to ratify the new agreement. The changes are all very minor. The key components are the same as in the original agreement:

- Hiring of an additional officer assigned to drug enforcement activities as part of the Fayette County Narcotics Unit

- The City of La Grange will inject \$19,000 into the program for hiring of the position to be paid quarterly
- The City will provide \$2,000 for unit transactions – buy money
- The funds derived from the operation of the unit are allocated 2/3rd to the unit and 1/3rd to the County Attorney
- Oversight of the unit will be by the Chiefs of Police of the participating cities and the Sheriff
- The term of the agreement is three years.

Funding for the operation of the unit were included in this year's police department budget. Staff recommends approval of the agreement. **MOTION** Councilman John Eilert, **SECOND** Mayor Pro tem James Zimmerhanel to accept the amended agreement. Motion carried. **INSERT #1**

The next item was to discuss and or consider a resolution to deny the rate request proposed by CENTERPoint Energy Entex. In December, the council approved a Resolution that suspended the proposed rate increase by CENTERPoint Energy Entex for a period of 90 days. Since that time we have joined the Steering Committee of Cities Served by CENTERPoint to protest the rate increase. Staff is now requesting that council deny the proposed rate increase so that the current rate structure will remain valid during the hearing process. **MOTION** Councilman John Cernosek, **SECOND** Councilmember Violet Zbranek to approve staff's recommendation. Motion carried. **INSERT #2**

The next item was to discuss the agreement with the La Grange Area Chamber of Commerce for Tourism services. This item was for discussion purposes only. Staff has been working on an agreement with the La Grange Area Chamber of Commerce to provide basic tourism related services. Some of the key components of the agreement would be as follows:

- The term of the agreement is for 18 months
- Staff has proposed a monthly fee of \$2,100 per month for tourism services. The chamber has proposed a fee of \$3,000 per month
- A convenient and attractive office in which to greet visitors which will be open during regular business hours Monday thru Friday or Tuesday thru Saturday.
- A courteous and responsive staff will be available to provide assistance and information to visitors.
- Brochures, booklets, maps, visitor guides and other informational material will be collected and maintained at the chamber office for distribution to visitors and prospective new businesses and residents.

- Website presence will be initiated and maintained providing information on La Grange area accommodations and services to the traveling public.
- Maintain a community calendar of events on the website.
- Coordination services will be provided to tour operators, including assistance with scheduling meals, lodging and visits to visitor attractions and assistance in securing local docents or guides for groups of visitors.

Council is asked to contact City Manager Raborn if they have any concerns regarding the agreement.

The next item was to discuss and or consider allocation of Tourism Grant Funds. Councilmember Harvey Busch reported that the Tourism Grant Committee met earlier this same date and reviewed the following requests:

LG Chamber of Commerce -Walking Tour Brochures	\$ 900
LG Chamber of Commerce -Tourism Brochures	\$2000
LG Area Chamber of Commerce -FCR Visitors Guide Ad	\$450
TCHCC-Slavnost/May Fest -Advertising	\$2500
Fayette Co Fair Association -Advertising	\$10,000
Fayette Heritage Museum-Microfilm Fayette Co Record	\$16,500
Backstage Inc.-Heart of the Tin Trunk	\$6000
Fayette Co Sheriff's Posse-Advertising	\$20,000
Fayette Co Dark Sky Explorers-Brochure	\$2500
Texas Rural Tourism-Promotion Services	\$8000

It is the recommendation that the requests be funded as follows:

LG Chamber of Commerce -Walking Tour Brochures	\$ 900
LG Chamber of Commerce -Tourism Brochures	\$2000
LG Area Chamber of Commerce -FCR Visitors Guide Ad	\$450
TCHCC-Slavnost/May Fest -Advertising	\$1600
Fayette Co Fair Association -Advertising	\$10,000
Fayette Heritage Museum-Microfilm Fayette Co Record	\$16,500
Backstage Inc.-Heart of the Tin Trunk	\$-0-
Fayette Co Sheriff's Posse-Advertising	\$7500
Fayette Co Dark Sky Explorers-Brochure	\$-0-
Texas Rural Tourism-Promotion Services	Tabled

MOTION Councilman Busch, **SECOND** Councilman Cernosek to fund the requests as recommended by committee. Motion carried.

CITY MANAGER REPORT

The police department is inquiring with DPS to see if it would be possible to have a driver's license office reopened in La Grange. At this time it does not look to promising.

Sales Tax was up for the month of February.

Utility reports were reviewed.

The Cowboy Gathering this pas weekend was well attended. This coming weekend there will be a Model A Ford "Poor Boy Tour" in La Grange.

CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Beautification Committee me and awarded Yard of the Month to Chip & Nikki Wied at 615 S College.

The Library Board met and circulation continues to grow.

At 6:50 a **MOTION** was made by Councilman Kuehn, 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

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING – March 28, 2011

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The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and Pastor Sid Roden gave the invocation.

The first item was to discuss and or consider a request from the Relay for Life planning committee to block off the 100 block of N Washington on April 12th for the Kick-off Rally for the 2011 Relay for Life Event. This event would take place from 5:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. **MOTION** Councilmember Zbranek, **SECOND** Councilmember Weishuhn to approve this request. Motion carried.

The next item was to discuss and or consider an agreement with the La Grange Area Chamber of Commerce for Tourism services. This agreement is

being brought back for council consideration from the previous meeting. The monthly fee has been left open for discussion. The Chamber has requested \$3,000 per month and staff proposed \$2,100 per month. After discussion with the chamber an amount of \$2,500 per month or \$30,000 per year would allow the chamber to provide the level of service we expect. The \$2,500 per month is approximately 20% of the total amount we collect each year. Key components of the agreement are:

- The term of the agreement is for 18 months.
- A monthly fee of \$2,500 per month for tourism services but is open for discussion.
- A convenient and attractive office in which to greet visitors which will be open during regular business hours Monday through Friday.
- A courteous and responsive staff will be available to provide assistance and information to visitors.
- Brochures, booklets, maps, visitor guides and other informational material will be collected and maintained at the Chamber office for distribution to visitors and prospective new businesses and residents.
- Website presence will be initiated and maintained providing information on La Grange area accommodations and services to the traveling public. Website must remain current.
- Maintain community calendar of events on website.
- Coordination services will be provided to tour operators, including assistance with scheduling meals, lodging and visits to visitor attractions and assistance in securing local docents or guides for groups of visitors.

Mayor Moerbe expressed her thanks to the chamber for organizing a group of docents which will provide tours of the courthouse on weekends. She along with members of the city council asked if the chamber would consider having the chamber open for a few hours such as from 10 a.m. till 2 p.m. on Saturdays. Jonathan Hernandez representing the Chamber said that the board would consider this request. **MOTION** Councilman Kuehn, **SECOND** Mayor Pro tem Zimmerhanel to approve the agreement with the La Grange Area Chamber of Commerce for Tourism services. Motion carried. **Attachment 1**

The next item was to discuss and or consider modifying the waste water volumetric rate plan for 2011 whereby only the two lowest readings of the three month averaging period are used to calculate the new volumetric rate. Staff is requesting council approval to modify the wastewater volumetric rate program for this year so that we will only use the two lowest months of usage in the new rate calculation. This is in an effort to reduce the impact on our customers who may have done some outside watering during the three-month wastewater winter

averaging period. By utilizing the two lowest months in the calculation the majority of our customer's consumption remained constant from last year to this year. **MOTION** Councilmember Zbranek, **SECOND** Councilmember Weishuhn to approve staff's request. Motion carried.

The next item was to discuss and or consider approval of the Certificate of Unopposed Candidates. **ATTACHMENT #2**

The next item was to discuss and or consider an order canceling the May 14, 2011 City Officer's Election. **MOTION** Councilman Eilert, **SECOND** Mayor Pro tem Zimmerhanel to approve the Certificate of Unopposed Candidates and to approve the order canceling the May 14, 2011 City officer's election. Motion carried. **ATTACHMENT #3**

The next item was to discuss and or consider a Tax Refund Application to Kervin & Allen Wenke due to a late filed homestead exemption. The City of La Grange portion of this refund is \$60.39. **MOTION** Mayor Pro tem Zimmerhanel, **SECOND** Councilmember Weishuhn to approve this request. Motion carried.

The next item was the Active Project Report. City Manager Raborn updated council on the current active projects. It was noted that staff will meet with O'Malley Engineering on Tuesday to review the preliminary engineering report for the development of the well field and pipeline route on the Water Well Project. Information will be presented to council in April regarding this project. An extension was received for completion of the Collection System project relating to the inflow & infiltration into the sanitary sewer system. The electric department is working of tree trimming on Feeder 4 from Rutersville to La Grange. The contractor for the street department is in the process of completing the reclaiming of the streets in Sunset Ridge. The Fair Association is still interested in working on the development of a new show barn at the Fairgrounds. Staff is working on the development of the Request for Qualifications for Architectural services for the Texas Parks and Wildlife Grant to renovate the Randolph Recreation Center. Staff will be submitting a grant application later this year to replace sidewalks on the north side of the 300 block of W Colorado and the east side of the 200 block of N Main.

CHIEF OF POLICE REPORT

There have been isolated incidents of "shots fired" calls received by the department.

There was a report of a stolen purse at a local business. Due to the security camera system at the business and the quick action of the police department, the purse was returned. A letter of appreciation recognizing Officer Joseph Gates for

his professional, polite and courteous manner in handling this situation was received from the individual whose purse had been stolen.

CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Councilmember Weishuhn reminded council of the upcoming Main Street Merchants Dinner.

Councilman Romberg reported that the Fayette County Appraisal District Board is updating their policy and procedures manual for members of the board.

CITY MANAGER REPORT

Registration for the Summer Recreation program will be on May 4th.

Landscaping is being at the Kruschel Park along with the entrance sign to La Grange.

Spring clean up was held this past week there were 200 loads of brush picked up as well as 5 roll off containers of hard to dispose of items collected.

Farmers Market is set to begin on May 7th.

At 6:40 a **MOTION** was made by Councilman Kuehn, with a **SECOND** by Mayor Pro tem Zimmerhanel 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 11, 2011

The City Council of the City of La Grange met in Regular Session on Monday, April 11, 2011 in the City Hall Council Chambers with the following members present: Mayor Janet Moerbe, Councilman Harvey Busch, Councilman John Cernosek, Councilman John Eilert, Councilman Calvin Kuehn, Councilman Arnold Romberg, Councilmember Kathy Weishuhn, and Councilmember Violet Zbranek. Mayor Pro tem James Zimmerhanel was absent. Staff present: City Manager Shawn Raborn and Chief of Police Jackie Skelton. Visitors: Aileen Loehr, Staci Brugger, and Kathy Kay.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and Councilmember Kathy Weishuhn gave the invocation.

The first item was to discuss and or consider a request from the Relay For Life planning committee to block off the square on September 24th for the 2011 Relay For Life event. A request has been received from the Relay For Life Planning Committee to block off the square for the September 24th 2011 Relay for Life event. The square would be partially blocked off beginning at 7:00 PM on Friday evening but will leave access to the businesses. They are requesting that the entire square be closed beginning at 2:00 PM on Saturday. Staff is presenting this item for discussion purposes to allow adequate time for the downtown merchants to review and comment on the plan. We will also be presenting this proposal for discussion at the April 21st downtown merchants meeting. This request will be brought back to council for formal consideration at the April 25th meeting. The Relay For Life planning committee is hoping to bring new life to the event by bringing it to a new location. Scott Byler, Community and Economic Development Coordinator will go visit with the local merchants to see if they have any concerns regarding closing the square for this event.

The next item was to discuss and or consider amending the FY 2010-11 Equipment Fund budget to purchase a used vehicle for the Recreation Department. Staff is requesting council approval to amend the Capital Improvement Budget in the amount of \$13,125 for the purchase of a used Ford F150 truck for the Recreation Department. Staff anticipated including a new vehicle in the FY 2011-12 budget for the Recreation Department but would request council approval to purchase a used vehicle this year. The vehicle under consideration is a used Ford F150 super cab with 43,900 miles. The current fund balance in the equipment fund is \$187,320. The balance at the end of the year is projected to be \$334,762. **MOTION** Councilman John Eilert, **SECOND** Councilmember Kathy Weishuhn to approve staff's request. Motion carried.

The next item was to discuss and or consider authorizing staff to auction items that are obsolete and are no longer being used. Duncan Auctioneers will be holding an area-wide auction on April 30, 2011 and they have invited the City of La Grange to participate again this year. We have had good luck in the past with getting top dollar for our used and obsolete equipment by selling them through Duncan and staff recommends that we do so again this year. Staff would like to sell Unit 406-Dept 516, 1995 ford F150 ½ ton flatbed truck. This vehicle has auto transmission, is in poor condition, the vehicle does run. **MOTION** Councilmember Weishuhn, **SECOND** Councilman Arnold Romberg to dispose of this piece of equipment. Motion carried.

The next item was to discuss and or consider approval of minutes for March 2011. **MOTION** Councilmember Violet Zbranek, **SECOND** Councilmember Weishuhn to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

The Library Board met last week and it was noted that this was the highest March circulation ever.

The Beautification Committee met and awarded Yard Of The Month to David & Sandra Weyand at 153 Ella LN. Committee Chair Zbranek thanked the city employees who helped with planting around the two entrance signs.

CHIEF OF POLICE

The MS150 will be in town this weekend. Investigation continues on the recent theft at Schmidt's in downtown La Grange.

CITY MANAGER

Sales tax was down slightly for the month of March.

Water pumped was up for the month, while KWH sales were down slightly.

At 6:40 a **MOTION** was made by Councilman 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

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING – April 25, 2011

The City Council of the City of La Grange met in Regular Session on Monday, April 25, 2011 in the City Hall Council Chambers with the following members present: Mayor Janet Moerbe, Councilman Harvey Busch, Councilman John Cernosek, Councilman John Eilert, Councilman Calvin Kuehn, Councilman Arnold Romberg, Councilmember Kathy Weishuhn, and Councilmember Violet Zbranek. Mayor Pro tem James Zimmerhanzel was absent. Staff present: City Manager Shawn Raborn, Asst. City Manager Frank Menefee and Chief of Police Jackie Skelton. Visitors: Aileen Loehr, and Bob Schmidt representing O'Malley Engineering.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and Pastor Daryl Hay gave the invocation.

The first item was a presentation on the Preliminary Engineering Report-Water Well Field Development Project. Bob Schmidt representing O'Malley Engineering gave a presentation to the council on the preliminary engineering report on the development of the water well field. O'Malley Engineering along with the City of La Grange have been working for approximately 15 years to locate the most advantageous way to have additional water supplied to the City of La Grange. Various options have been reviewed such as obtaining water from sources such the Colorado River and also lake water. After it was determined that these option would not work to supply water to the city, the City of La Grange then purchased a 121.44 acre tract in the Halstead community approximately 6 miles east of the City for a new water supply. A test well was constructed in 2009 on this site. The contractor's hydrologist report was based on data collected from this test well indicates that the water produced from the zone (of sands) tested between a depth of 580' and 620' in the Catahoula formation is of good quality and states that a well completed in this formation could be expected to produce at a rate of approximately 300 to 400 gpm. As per Fayette County Groundwater Conservation District the maximum volume of water that can be produced per year per acre of water rights (land) is 2 acre-feet (651,657 gallons). The District's rules also state that the District may revise downward the amount of water permitted per acre of land if subsequent date indicates the aquifer will not sustain an annual production rate of 2 acre-feet per acre of water rights. Based on this information, the maximum allowable annual production from the City's 121.44 acre tract is approximately 79.1 million gallons. It is the recommendation of O'Malley Engineering that 2 wells be developed to produce the rate of flow which will meet the requirements of both the Fayette County Groundwater Conservation District and TCEQ. Since it is not unusual for groundwater produced in Fayette County to contain an objectionable amount of hydrogen sulfide and iron it is believed to be prudent to plan for the cost for treatment of these constituents. Chlorination equipment used to disinfect the well water will be at the well field location itself. A small storage tank (approximately 100,000 gallons) is proposed at the well site also. A minimum of 2 transfer pumps are recommended to pump water through a transmission pipeline to the City. It is also anticipated that radio controls will be used to control the transfer pumps located at the remote well field. Three phase power will need to be extended to the site. This would be supplied by Fayette Electric Coop., Inc. as this location is within their service area. The proposed project also includes generators to supply emergency power for the water wells and for the well field plant pumping facilities in the case of an electrical power outage. Intruder resistant fencing will also be required around the wells and remote plant facilities. A driveway or driveways will be needed from the public road to the water wells and the remote plant facilities. There are 2 possible routes from the proposed remote wells to a new pump station to be located in the City. One route is to run the transmission line along Baumbach Road and Hatterman Road southward to Highway 71 and then westward along Highway 71 to the City.

There would be a new pump station with storage within the city. This would allow the abandonment of the Horton Street Pump Station. Initially one ground storage tank with a capacity of approximately 200,000 gallons is proposed to be constructed at the new pump station. It is projected that a minimum of 2 pumps will be required to be pump into the middle pressure plane and that a minimum of 2 pumps will be required to pump into the upper pressure plane. Chlorination equipment is proposed at the new pump station to boost the chlorine residual of the water conveyed from the remote well field. The proposed plan also includes a generator for emergency power to this pump station. Intruder resistance fencing will be required around the plant facilities. A driveway will also be needed from a public street. In order to properly and efficiently control all of the existing booster pumps and the new pump station in the City, new system-wide controls are needed. The probable project cost for all of the potential facilities that may be required to develop the new wells is estimated to be approximately \$6,210,000. If aeration and filtration of the water are not required, the total estimated probable project cost would be reduced to \$5,700,000. If the City proceeds with this project, O'Malley Engineering recommends that design and construction of the production wells be completed first. Upon completion of the wells and confirmation of their capacity and whether treatment is required, they recommend that design and construction of all other facilities proceed. It is estimated that completion of the wells will take approximately six months and the remainder of the work will take an additional 15 months for a total time of 21 months for project completion. **ATTACHMENT #1**

The next item was to discuss and or consider a request from Relay for Life planning committee to block off the square on September 24th for the 2011 Relay for Life Event. A request was received from the Relay for Life Planning Committee to block off the square for the September 24th 2011 Relay for Life event. The square would be partially blocked off beginning at 7:00 pm on Friday evening but will leave access to the businesses. They are requesting that the entire square be closed beginning at 2:00 pm on Saturday. This item was also discussed at the Main Street Merchants meeting which was held last week. Council along with staff desires to make sure that the downtown businesses are not adversely impacted by this closure. It is their recommendation that the south side of the square be left open until noon on Saturday the 24th; they are also recommending that the entire square not be closed until 3:00 pm on Saturday. They also request that no music be played after midnight. **MOTION** Councilmember Kathy Weishuhn, **SECOND** Councilman Arnold Romberg that these recommendations are followed and that staff works out the details with the Relay for Life Committee. Motion carried.

ASST. CITY MANAGER REPORT

Water consumption continues to be quite high for this time of year. If the weather conditions do not improve soon, we will need to go to voluntary water restrictions. Councilman Romberg suggested that an Adhoc committee could be formed to discuss ways to educate the community on water saving tips.

CITY MANAGER REPORT

The city pool has been cleaned and the new pump has been installed.

Bids for seal coating will be presented at the next council meeting.

The annual leak detention review was performed.

The CenterPoint Energy rate case was reviewed. The signatories agreed to a \$4.6 million increase in annual revenues. Additionally, the Settlement Agreement provides for a \$13.95 customer charge, which is less than the \$19.00 customer charge requested by the Company. As a result, the average monthly residential bill will increase \$2.75 under the settlement rates, as opposed to the \$4.02 increase sought by CenterPoint. On April 18, 2011, the Railroad Commission unanimously approved the Settlement Agreement. **ATTACHMENT #2**

At 7:15 a **MOTION** was made by Councilman 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

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING – May 9, 2011

The City Council of the City of La Grange met in Regular Session on Monday, May 9, 2011 in the City Hall Council Chambers with the following members present: Mayor Janet Moerbe, Councilman Harvey Busch, Councilman John Cernosek, Councilman John Eilert, Councilman Calvin Kuehn, Councilman Arnold Romberg, Councilmember Kathy Weishuhn, Councilmember Violet Zbranek and Mayor Pro tem James Zimmerhanel. Staff present: City Manager Shawn Raborn and Chief of Police Jackie Skelton. Visitors: Aileen Loehr.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and Reverend Dennis Hill gave the invocation.

The first item was to discuss and or consider awarding of bid for 2011 street seal coating project. Staff is recommending that the 2011 seal coating project be awarded to H&C Construction in the amount of \$122,805.28. Bid packages were sent to five potential bidders, but only H&C Construction of Shiner responded with a bid. The City of La Grange is requesting contractors to furnish all labor, materials, and equipment to re-surface an estimated 90,298 sy of paved streets. **MOTION** Councilmember Kathy Weishuhn, **SECOND** Mayor Pro tem James Zimmerhanzel to approve staff's request. Motion carried.

ATTACHMENT #1

The next item was to discuss and or consider authorizing staff to purchase 2 Police Vehicles in the FY 2011-12 Budget. Chief Skelton is requesting authorization to order two additional new police units for the police department as Ford will no longer produce the Ford Police Interceptor package vehicle. If the department is able to purchase these vehicles, we would have most of the additional equipment in stock which will help to keep cost down. Staff is proposing to replace a 2003 and 2004 patrol vehicle now in order to get the Ford Crown Vic Police Interceptor package. We have 2 police vehicles that will be paid for this year which will allow us to purchase the two additional vehicles without negatively impacting next year's budget. **MOTION** Councilman John Eilert, **SECOND** Councilmember Violet Zbrank to approve the purchase of two police vehicles in the 2011-12 Annual Budget. Motion carried.

The next item was to discuss and or consider authorizing staff to proceed with the obtaining bids for the drilling of water wells. Staff is requesting council authorization to proceed with the development of plans and specifications to obtain bids for the development of two additional water wells. We are continuing on the development of financing options and will have those in place before council approved the bid to construct the wells. **MOTION** Councilmember Zbrank, **SECOND** Mayor Pro tem Zimmerhanzel to approve staff's request. Motion carried.

The next item was to review the Redistricting Assessment Report developed by Knight and Partners. Last November we entered into an agreement with Knight & Partners to assist us in the redistricting process. With the release of the 2010 census data, Knight & Partners were able to complete the initial assessment and have determined that we will have to redistrict. **ATTACHMENT #2**. We will now begin the process to develop some alternatives that will meet the ten percent deviation rule as required.

The next item was to discuss and or consider a Resolution Of The City Of La Grange, Texas, Adopting Criteria For Use In The 2011 Redistricting Process,

And Providing For Related Matters. **MOTION** Councilmember Weishuhn, **SECOND** Councilmember Zbranek to approve this resolution. Motion carried.
ATTACHMENT #3

The next item was to discuss and or consider a Resolution Of The City Of La Grange, Texas, Establishing Guidelines For Persons Submitting Specific Redistricting Proposals During The 2011 Redistricting Process; And Providing For Related Matters. **MOTION** Councilmember Weishuhn, **SECOND** Councilmember Zbranek to approve this resolution. Motion carried.
ATTACHMENT #4

The next item was to discuss and or consider approval of minutes for April 2011. **MOTION** Councilman Calvin Kuehn, **SECOND** Councilman Arnold Romberg to approve the April 2011 minutes. Motion carried.

CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mayor Pro tem James Zimmerhanzel expressed thanks for the flowers which were sent to him from the city after his recent surgery.

The Library Board met previously. Circulation of library material continues to be high. The Friends of the Library Book Sale was held April 29-May 1. This event was well attended by the community.

The Beautification Committee met and awarded Yard of the Month to Elizabeth Tannler and her brother Brian Cox at 612 S Meyer.

The Appraisal Board met recently and appraisal notices are being sent out. There are a few protests regarding the notices. Field appraisers are using pictometry to assist with evaluate property.

CHIEF OF POLICE REPORT

Roger Wunderlich is no longer a reserve office with the City of La Grange as he is the new Precinct 2 Constable for Fayette County.

CITY MANAGER REPORT

The January Financial report was reviewed.

Water consumption is up drastically, however electric sales are flat.

The electric department will begin work on Feeder 4 this month replacing poles from Cedar Creek to Janssen Lane.

At 6:30 a **MOTION** was made by Councilman Kuehn, 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

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING – May 23, 2011

The City Council of the City of La Grange met in Regular Session on Monday, May 23, 2011 in the City Hall Council Chambers with the following members present: Mayor Janet Moerbe, Councilman Harvey Busch, Councilman John Cernosek, Councilman John Eilert, Councilman Calvin Kuehn, Councilman Arnold Romberg, Councilmember Kathy Weishuhn, Councilmember Violet Zbranek, and Mayor Pro tem James Zimmerhanel. Staff present: City Manager Shawn Raborn and Chief of Police Jackie Skelton. Visitors: Aileen Loehr.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and Rev. J Paul Bruhn gave the invocation.

The first item was to administer the Oath of Office to newly elected Council Officers. City Secretary Lisa Oltmann administered the Oath of Office to Mayor Janet Moerbe. Mayor Moerbe then administered the Oath of Office to F Arnold Romberg-Councilman Ward 1; John J “Honza” Cernosek-Councilman Ward 2; Calvin Kuehn-Councilman Ward 3; and James V Zimmerhanel-Councilman Ward 4.

The next item was to discuss and or consider selection of Mayor Pro tem. **MOTION** Councilman Calvin Kuehn, **SECOND** Councilman Arnold Romberg that James Zimmerhanel be reappointed as Mayor Pro tem. Motion carried.

The next item was to discuss and or consider approval of an agreement with La Grange ISD for transportation services. Staff is requesting council authorization to enter into an agreement with La Grange ISD for transportation services. The School Board amended its transportation policy to assist us in providing this service. The agreement will allow the city to contract with La Grange ISD to provide bus service for our summer recreation program. City Attorney Angela Beck will review the agreement prior to execution. **MOTION** Councilmember Kathy Weishuhn, **SECOND** Councilman Romberg to approve staff’s request. Motion carried.

The next item was to discuss and or consider a request from Fayette County to assist with the development of Founders Park on the Square. Staff is requesting council approval to assist the county in the development of Founder’s Park located

on the square in the vacant space between the County Clerks Office and D&G Business Machines. The request is for the city to provide the following items:

1) Install a water line to the rear of the building and install a cut off valve, the General Contractor will pick up the work from there.

2) Provide the water meter at no cost.

3) Install electrical service underground to rear of the building. The General Contractor will pick up the work from there.

4) Waive permit fees.

5) Provide water & electric service during the construction.

Staff estimates that the total cost to provide the requested items is less than \$2,500 and recommends approval. The Main Street Board is assisting on the selection of tables and benches for the park. **MOTION** Councilman John Eilert, **SECOND** Mayor Pro tem Zimmerhanzel to approve staff's recommendation. Motion carried.

The next item was to discuss and or consider a bid for a generator for the Police Station. Staff is requesting council approval to proceed with the purchase of a generator for the Police Station. We received a grant in the amount of \$17,000 which will assist in the partial payment for a generator that will run the Police Station. The total project is anticipated to cost \$48,000. The \$31,000 in local funds will be paid out of the Capital Improvement Fund grant match account. **MOTION** Mayor Pro tem Zimmerhanzel, **SECOND** Councilmember Weishuhn to approve staff's request. Motion carried.

The next item was to discuss and or consider authorizing City Manager to enter into a Financial Advisory Services Agreement with Specialized Public Finance. As we begin the process to issue debt for the development of the water well field and other capital projects, our first order of business will be to engage the services of a financial advisor. A financial advisor represents the issuer, and only the issuer in the sale of bonds. The financial advisor will also assist the city in selecting other finance professionals, planning the bond sale, and successfully selling and closing the bonds. The last time the city issued debt we engaged the services of Mr. Garry Kimball who at that time was associated with First Southwest. Since that time Mr. Kimball has left the firm and formed Specialized Public Finance. Staff interviewed Specialized Public Finance and RBC Capital Markets to serve as financial advisors. While both firms are more than capable of providing advisory services to the city, we are recommending Specialized Public Finance. City Manager Raborn has checked local references and all were very high on the services they received from the staff at Specialized Public Finance. Staff is working on issuing debt in the six to seven million dollar range to fund the development of the water supply project and other municipal projects which may include the local match portion of the Recreation Center grant. **MOTION** Councilman Romberg, **SECOND** Mayor Pro tem Zimmerhanzel to approve staff's recommendation. Motion carried.

The next item was to discuss and or consider a request from the La Grange Optimist for support in improving the soccer fields. Staff has received a request from the La Grange Optimist Club to assist them in improving the soccer fields located on the old baseball field adjacent to the White Rock Park. The request is to provide funds to allow them to tie the existing sprinkler system to the river water system from La Grange ISD. The estimated cost is \$2,500 and will allow for the fields to utilize river water and thus reducing demand on the city system. Funds for this project would be provided out of budgeted park improvement funds. **MOTION** Councilman Kuehn, **SECOND** Councilmember Zbranek to approve this request from the La Grange Optimist Club. Motion carried.

The next item was to discuss and or consider preliminary approval to replat the property located at the corner of North Washington and Camp Street. Staff has received a request from Mr. Bill Kilty to replat the property at the corner of North Washington and Camp Street. Staff is requesting council direction regarding the replatting of this tract. The lot as currently proposed is 6,610 square feet and therefore does not meet the minimum lot size of seven thousand square feet. The request for preliminary approval is to give Mr. Kilty some assurance that if he invests additional time and money into the project that council will give positive consideration to the formal plat request. Mr. Kilty is aware that if the plat is approved he may have to request variances to building set backs in order to build on the property. After discussion, **MOTION** Councilman John Cernosek, **SECOND** Councilmember Zbranek to table this item. Motion carried.

CITY MANAGER REPORT

Reviewed the financials for the month of February.

The state has approved the redistricting map, our representative is Lois Kolkhorst. Sales tax was up for the month.

At 6:45 a **MOTION** was made by Councilman Kuehn, 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

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING – June 13, 2011

The City Council of the City of La Grange met in Regular Session on Monday, June 13, 2011 in the City Hall Council Chambers with the following members present: Mayor Janet Moerbe, Councilman Harvey Busch, Councilman John Cernosek, Councilman John Eilert, Councilman Calvin Kuehn, Councilman Arnold Romberg, Councilmember Kathy Weishuhn, Councilmember Violet Zbranek, and Mayor Pro tem James Zimmerhanel. Staff present: City Manager Shawn Raborn and Chief of Police Jackie Skelton. Visitors: Aileen Loehr and Jeff Cook.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and Pastor Ronald Shultz gave the invocation.

Under Public Petitions, Jeff Cook addressed the council regarding the possible subdividing of the lot behind his home. He expressed concern that this would negatively impact his property. Mayor Moerbe expressed her thanks to Mr. Cook for bringing his concern to the council.

The first item was to discuss and or consider extending lease of office space within the La Grange Police Station located at 243 S College to the Texas Department of Public Safety for office space. Staff is requesting council approval to extend the lease with the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) for office space at the police station. We entered into a lease agreement with DPS nine years ago and the arrangement has been very beneficial to both parties. Staff recommends extending the agreement for one additional year. This lease would be for the term of January 1, 2012 – December 31, 2012. **MOTION** Councilmember Kathy Weishuhn, **SECOND** Councilman John Eilert to approve staff's request. Motion carried.

The next item was to discuss and or consider cancelling the July 25th City Council Meeting. **MOTION** Councilman John Cernosek, **SECOND** Councilmember Violet Zbranek to cancel the July 25th meeting. Motion carried. **INSERT # 1**

The next item was to discuss and or consider a request from Habitat for Humanity to waive permit fees and connection charges associated with construction of a new home. Staff has received a request from Fayette County Habitat for Humanity to waive the permit fees and connection charges associated with the construction of the second Habitat for Humanity house here in La Grange. The home will be located off Reed Street adjacent to the Highway 71 bypass. We have estimated that the total cost of permit and connection charges to be \$1,185. We waived the permit fees and connection charges for the first home that was constructed in 2007. Staff recommends approval of this request. **MOTION**

Councilmember Weishuhn, **SECOND** Councilman Arnold Romberg to approve staff's request. Motion carried.

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. Staff has received a request from the La Grange Juneteenth Committee to block off Pearl Street from 8:00 am until 11:00 am on Saturday, June 18th. Staff recommends approval of this request. **MOTION** Councilmember Zbrank, **SECOND** Mayor Pro tem James Zimmerhanzel to approve staff's request. Motion carried.

The next item was to discuss and or consider approval of minutes for May 2011. **MOTION** Councilman Calvin Kuehn, **SECOND** Councilman Eilert to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

The next item was to discuss and or consider allocation of Tourism Grant Funds. Councilman Harvey Busch, Chair of the Tourism Grant Committee reported that the committee met earlier and reviewed 4 requests for Tourism Funds. The requests are as follows:

Faison Preservation Society, Inc **\$10,000**

Funds will be used to repair the historic Faison Home.

Friends of Monument Hill/Kreische Brewery **\$3,000**

Funds will be used for advertising and support For the Texas Heroes Day and Trail of Lights/Early German Christmas programs. The committee

Reguladores LEMC-Iron Cuff Motorcycle Rally **\$5,000**

Funds will be used to advertise the 3rd Annual Iron Cuff Rally which will be held August 12-14 at the Fairgrounds.

La Grange Area Chamber of Commerce-Operations **\$1,782**

Funds will be used to reimburse the chamber for Operational cost incurred during January and February of this year. Current operational funding Is included under the monthly services agreement We have with the Chamber of Commerce.

MOTION Councilman Busch, **SECOND** Councilmember Zbrank to approve these requests for funding. Motion carried.

CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Main Street will hold the annual Flag Day Celebration on Tuesday on the courthouse lawn starting at 11:30.

The Beautification Committee awarded yard of the month to Larry & Laura Tiedt at 228 N Madison.

CHIEF OF POLICE REPORT

The past three weeks have been very busy for the department. There was an abduction in town with the individual being physically assaulted. A forensic artist along with individuals from the Texas Crime Lab was called in to assist with this case. Several leads are being reviewed at this time.

CITY MANAGER REPORT

Electric & Water sales are up.
Financials for March were reviewed.
Sales Tax is also up.
The water line replacement project is almost complete.

At 6:30 a **MOTION** was made by Councilman 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

SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING – June 14, 2011

The City Council of the City of La Grange met in Special Session on Tuesday, June 14, 2011 at 6:00 PM at the Library Meeting Room at 855 S Jefferson with the following members present: Mayor Janet Moerbe, Councilman Harvey Busch, Councilman John Cernosek, Councilman John Eilert, Councilman Calvin Kuehn, Councilman Arnold Romberg, Councilmember Kathy Weishuhn, Councilmember Violet Zbranek, and Mayor Pro tem James Zimmerhanzel. Staff present: City Manager Shawn Raborn and Chief of Police Jackie Skelton. Staff present: City Manager Shawn Raborn, Chief of Police Jackie Skelton, Utility Manager Frank Menefee.

The first item was a review of FY 2010-2011 Annual Budget. City Manager Raborn explained that this is to review budget priorities and plans for the upcoming fiscal year. Both the General Fund and the Enterprise Fund objectives and issues were reviewed. A description of each department's goals and

objectives, that are being proposed to accomplish in the next fiscal year, were discussed.

At 7:35 the meeting adjourned.

Lisa Oltmann, City Secretary

These Minutes Approved by City Council on:

Janet Moerbe, Mayor

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING – June 27, 2011

The City Council of the City of La Grange met in Regular Session on Monday, June 27, 2011 in the City Hall Council Chambers with the following members present: Mayor Janet Moerbe, Councilman Harvey Busch, Councilman John Cernosek, Councilman John Eilert, Councilman Calvin Kuehn, Councilmember Violet Zbranek, and Mayor Pro tem James Zimmerhanel. Councilman Arnold Romberg and Councilmember Kathy Weishuhn were absent. Staff present: City Manager Shawn Raborn and Chief of Police Jackie Skelton. Visitors: Aileen Loehr.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and Pastor Marcia Kifer gave the invocation.

The first item was to discuss and or consider authorizing the Mayor to sign an agreement with McCall, Parkhurst & Horton L.L.P. to serve as Bond Counsel. Staff is requesting council approval to enter into an updated agreement with McCall, Parkhurst & Horton to serve as Bond Counsel for the City of La Grange. We have used the firm for all of our previous bond issues and have been very pleased with the service provided. **MOTION** Councilmember Violet Zbranek, **SECOND** Mayor Pro tem James Zimmerhanel to approve staff's request. Motion carried. **INSERT #1**

The next item was to discuss and or consider a resolution directing the publication of Notice of Intention to Issue Combination Tax and Limited Revenue Certificates of Obligation, Series 2011 and Other Matters Related Thereto. Staff is presenting for council authorization a resolution directing the publication of notice of the City's intention to issue Certificates of Obligation in an amount not to

exceed seven million dollars. The amount may change but we must publish the maximum amount we are considering. The proceeds will be used to finance the development of the water well field and associated system improvements, improvements to public facilities specifically the Randolph Recreation Center, visitor center and issuance costs. Staff reviewed a timeline showing the process we will undertake in order to receive the funds. It is proposed that the Certificates of Obligation will be awarded as part of the August 8th meeting and proceeds from the sale should be received by the end of August. Ms. Jennifer Douglas with Specialized Public Finance, our financial advisor on this project, attended the meeting in order to answer any questions of the council regarding the issuance of the Certificates of Obligation. She stated that since the interest rate is down at this time, it is a favorable time for this to be done. **MOTION** Councilmember Zbranek, **SECOND** Councilman Calvin Kuehn to approve the resolution directing the publication of notice of the City's intention to issue Certificates of Obligation in an amount not to exceed seven million dollars. Motion carried. **INSERT #2**

CHIEF OF POLICE UPDATE

The department is still receiving several calls regarding the kidnapping/robbery at Whataburger.

The car that was stolen from the High School parking lot was recovered in Humble.

CITY MANAGER UPDATE

The narcotics officer has been hired thru the inter-local agreement including Fayette County and the cities of Schulenburg, Flatonia and La Grange.

The Financial Report for April was reviewed. Everything is tracking well.

At 6:18 a **MOTION** was made by Councilman Kuehn, with a **SECOND** by Councilman 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 – July 11, 2011

The City Council of the City of La Grange met in Regular Session on Monday, July 11, 2011 in the City Hall Council Chambers with the following members present: Mayor Janet Moerbe, Councilman Harvey Busch, Councilman John Cernosek, Councilman John Eilert, Councilman Calvin Kuehn, Councilman Arnold Romberg, Councilmember Violet Zbranek, and Mayor Pro tem James Zimmerhanel. Councilmember Kathy Weishuhn was absent. Staff present: City Manager Shawn Raborn, Asst. City Manager Frank Menefee, Jr. and Chief of Police Jackie Skelton. Visitors: Aileen Loehr and Rev. Grace Johnson.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and Rev. Grace Johnson gave the invocation.

The first item was to discuss and or consider allocation of funding to social service agencies. In the FY 2010-2011 budget council allocated \$21,000 to local social service agencies. In FY 2009-2010 the City of La Grange provided a total of \$21,250 to local social service agencies. The funds were allocated as follows; Combined Community Action - \$5,000, Capital Area Rural Transportation - \$5,000, Family Crisis Center - \$4,500, Court Appointed Special Advocates - \$3,000, The Children's Advocacy Center - \$2,750, and Red Cross - \$1,000. All of the organizations that have requested funding provide needed and valuable services to the community. Staff recommends the funds be allocated as follows: Capital Area Rural Transportation - \$5,000, Family Crisis Center - \$4,500, Combined Community Action - \$5,000, Court Appointed Special Advocates - \$3,000, The Children's Advocacy Center - \$2,750, and the Red Cross - \$2,000. The total recommended is \$1,250 more than the budgeted amount. **MOTION** Mayor Pro tem James Zimmerhanel, **SECOND** Councilmember Violet Zbranek to approve staff's recommendation. Motion carried.

The next item was to discuss and or consider a request from the La Grange Volunteer Fire Department to purchase a new Rescue Vehicle. Chief Menefee has submitted a request for council approval to proceed with the purchase of a new Light Duty Rescue Truck for the La Grange Volunteer Fire Department. The request is to utilize the Fire Department reserve account to purchase the new vehicle. The cost of the new vehicle is \$159,565 and the current balance in the reserve account is \$224,825 leaving a balance in the account of \$65,260. Chief Menefee does not anticipate submitting a request to utilize the reserve account for another five years. We currently budget \$25,000 per year to the Fire Department reserve account. **MOTION** Councilmember Zbranek, **SECOND** Mayor Pro tem Zimmerhanel to approve the purchase of a new Rescue Vehicle. Motion carried. Council the expressed their thanks to the Fire Department for all that they do for our community.

The next item was to discuss and or consider the reappointment of Mary Voss to the Board of Directors for Tex Gas I for a term to expire on August 15, 2016. Staff is requesting that Ms. Voss be reappointed to the Tex Gas I board. Additional members on the board are Glen Pape, Bill Jones, and Harvey Busch. **MOTION** Councilman Calvin Kuehn, **SECOND** Councilman Arnold Romberg to approve staff's request. Motion carried.

The next item was to discuss and or consider a resolution to implement a Section 3 Policy required by HUD to receive funds under the TxCDBG program. Staff is requesting council approval of a new policy that HUD is requiring to develop in order to implement the attached Section 3 policy. The purpose of the policy is to strive to attain goals for compliance to Section 3 regulations by increasing opportunities for employment and contracting for Section 3 residents and businesses. Section 3 residents are defined as individuals who reside in public housing or reside in the area where a federally assisted project is located and have low to very low income. **MOTION** Councilmember Zbranek, **SECOND** Councilman Kuehn to approve staff's request. Motion carried. **ATTACHMENT #1**

The next item was to discuss and review draft redistricting maps developed by Knight and Partners. This item was tabled as the maps were not able to be received by staff prior to the meeting.

The next item was to discuss and or consider approval of minutes for June 2011. **MOTION** Councilman John Eilert, **SECOND** Councilman John Cernosek to approve the minutes as submitted. Motion carried.

CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

The Library Board did not meet; however, Councilman Cernosek reminded council that there are many activities taking place at the Library during the summer.

The Beautification Committee met and awarded Yard of the Month to John & Mary Ann Carmona at 753 S Franklin.

UTILITY MANAGER REPORT

During the past few days, the average amount of water pumped per day was 900,000 gallons. We are currently still in Phase 1 of the drought contingency plan.

CITY MANAGER REPORT

Sales tax was up 13% for the month.

The active project report for June was reviewed. The water well project continues to move forward. Street seal coating should begin in August.

At 6:25 a **MOTION** was made by Councilmember Zbranek, with a **SECOND** by Mayor Pro tem Zimmerhanel that the meeting be adjourned. Motion carried.

Lisa Oltmann, City Secretary

These Minutes Approved by City Council on:

Janet Moerbe, Mayor

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING – August 8, 2011

The City Council of the City of La Grange met in Regular Session on Monday, August 8, 2011 in the City Hall Council Chambers with the following members present: Mayor Janet Moerbe, Councilman Harvey Busch, Councilman Calvin Kuehn, Councilman Arnold Romberg, Councilmember Kathy Weishuhn and Councilmember Violet Zbranek. Councilman John Cernosek, Councilman John Eilert, and Mayor Pro tem James Zimmerhanel were absent. Staff present: City Manager Shawn Raborn, Chief of Police Jackie Skelton, and City Attorney Angela Beck. Visitors: Aileen Loehr, Richard S Donoghue, Jr with McCall, Parkhurst & Horton L.L.P., and Jennifer Douglas with Specialized Public Finance Inc,

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and Father Joseph Varickamackal gave the invocation.

The first item was to discuss and consider possible action with respect to an “Ordinance Authorizing the Issuance City of La Grange, Texas Combination Tax and Limited Revenue Certificates of Obligation, Series 2011; Levying an Ad Valorem Tax and Pledging Certain Surplus Revenues in Support of the Certificates; Authorizing Execution of a Paying Agent/Registrar Agreement and Other Agreements Related to the Sale and Issuance of the Certificates; and Ordaining Other Matters Relating to the Issuance of the Certificates”. Staff presented for council consideration a resolution that will authorize the sale of seven million dollars of certificates of obligation for the purpose of extending and improving the water system and making improvements to the recreation center. Since our last meeting we have received our bond rating from Standard and Poor’s

and we are proud to report that they assigned its AA- rating. The bonds were sold Monday morning so the final interest figures are not included in the resolution and will be distributed at the meeting. Richard Donoghue, Jr. & Jennifer Douglas spoke in regards to the bond sale. The bonds were sold at an interest rate of 3.28%. The closing will be on August 25th. Mr. Donoghue stated that as per state law this ordinance is only required to be read and approved one time. **MOTION** Councilman Kuehn, **SECOND** Councilmember Kathy Weishuhn to approve this ordinance. A roll call vote was taken with the following results: Councilman Busch in favor; Councilman Cernosek absent; Councilman Eilert absent; Councilman Kuehn in favor; Councilman Romberg in favor; Councilmember Weishuhn in favor; Councilmember Zbranek in favor; and Mayor Pro tem Zimmerhanzel absent. The motion carried by a vote of 5-0. **INSERT #1**

At 6:12PM as pursuant to Section 551.071 Consultation with City Attorney about pending or potential litigation and claims, settlement offers, or attorney-client privileged matters, council went into closed executive session regarding pending claims regarding real city property located on Mode LN.

At 6:32PM Council went into Open Session. No action is required in open session.

The next item was to discuss and or consider a request to sell two surplus patrol vehicles to the City of Smithville. Staff is seeking authorization to sell the last two patrol units that are being replaced to the Smithville Police Department in the amount of \$2,500 per unit. Chief Skelton has spoken with Chief Supak of Smithville and they are interested in purchasing the units in the amount of \$2,500 per unit for their department. **MOTION** Councilman Arnold Romberg, **SECOND** Councilmember Violet Zbranek to approve this sale. Motion carried.

The next item was to discuss and or consider a request from the Fayette County Sheriff's Posse to conduct a parade downtown on Saturday, August 13th. The parade will begin at 9:00 a.m. Staff recommends approval of this request. **MOTION** Councilman Calvin Kuehn, **SECOND** Councilmember Zbranek to approve staff's recommendation. Motion carried.

The next item was to discuss and or consider a Resolution adopting the updated hazard mitigation action plan for the Texas Colorado River Floodplain Coalition (TCRFC). Staff is requesting council approval of the attached resolution that updates the Hazard Mitigation Plan. The City participated in a Hazard Mitigation Plan Update for the Texas Colorado River Floodplain Coalition (TCRFC). The process began in April of 2008 and now the Plan Update has been approved by the State of Texas (Texas Division of Emergency Management) and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). Staff participated by

attending meetings and workshops, evaluation risks, analyzing previous mitigation actions, and developing new and unique mitigation actions, which will serve as a basis for developing new and unique mitigation actions, which will serve as a basis for the grant projects. Due to our participation and the approval of the plan, the city can now apply for mitigation grants to FEMA once the Plan is formally adopted. **MOTION** Councilmember Weishuhn, **SECOND** Councilman Harvey Busch to approve staff's request. Motion carried. **INSERT #2**

The next item was to discuss and or consider preliminary redistricting plans. Two redistricting plans developed by Knight and Partners were presented for review. We will begin the public participation portion of the redistricting process at the upcoming meeting.

The next item was to discuss and or consider approval of minutes for July 2011. **MOTION** Councilmember Zbranek, **SECOND** Councilmember Weishuhn that the minutes be approved. Motion carried.

The next item was the staff review of the 2011-2012 FY budget with City Council. This budget reflects the ongoing mission of the La Grange City Council to maintain cost effective programs while continually focusing on preserving and enhancing the quality of life that is enjoyed by all La Grange Citizens. The proposed budget for the 2011-2012 Fiscal Year is service driven and balanced. The proposed budget is .6 percent lower than the 2010-11 adopted city budget. Staff is proposing to set the tax rate at .2163, which is the effective tax rate plus three percent. The proposed budget does make CPI adjustments to the current water, waste water and solid waste rated.

Financial overview of the FY 2011-2012 Operating Budget:

	Budget 2010-2011	Budget 2011-2012
Total Budget	\$11,525,097	\$11,456,397
Utility Budget	\$ 8,449,695	\$ 8,474,488
General Fund	\$ 2,941,893	\$ 2,838,005
Debt Service Fund	\$ 133,509	\$ 143,904

The budget will be submitted for your review and consideration for first reading at the August 22, 2011 City Council meeting with final consideration and adoption on September 12, 2011.

CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

The Beautification Committee awarded Yard of the Month to Gerald and Jolene Hughes at 110 Rose Mayer Loop.

CHIEF OF POLICE

A drug bust occurred on E Vine Street.

A burglary occurred in Lynnwood, there was an arrest made regarding this incident.

CITY MANAGER

The city has enacted Phase Two of the Drought contingency Plan. Water Well B is having reduced water production.

Due to Senate Bill 100, we have checked with the county election administrator to see if they would be able to continue assistance with May elections and they have stated that they would so we will not need to make any changes regarding the elections.

The library now has E books and Audio books available.

Lisa Oltmann, City Secretary

These Minutes Approved by City Council on:

Janet Moerbe, Mayor

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING – August 22, 2011

The City Council of the City of La Grange met in Regular Session on Monday, August 22, 2011 in the City Hall Council Chambers with the following members present: Mayor Janet Moerbe, Councilman Harvey Busch, Councilman John Cernosek, Councilman John Eilert, Councilman Calvin Kuehn, Councilman Arnold Romberg, and Councilmember Violet Zbranek. Councilmember Kathy Weishuhn and Mayor Pro tem James Zimmerhanel were absent. Staff present: City Manager Shawn Raborn and Chief of Police Jackie Skelton. Visitors: Aileen Loehr and Paige Saenz with Knight & Partners.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and Pastor Jonathan Smith gave the invocation.

The first item was a Public Hearing for the purpose of considering councilmember district populations and boundaries based upon the 2010 Census, and the consideration of proposed plans for revised councilmember district boundaries. At 6:02 Mayor Moerbe opened the public hearing and Ms. Paige Saenz with Knight and Partners reviewed the 2 proposed plans with council.

Every 10 years the councilmember district boundaries must be reviewed in order to make sure that there is less than 10% difference between the largest and the smallest district. The two proposed plans do meet the legal requirements. There being no one present to comment the Public Hearing was closed at 6:18.

The next item was for discussion and consideration of proposed plans for revised councilmember district boundaries based on the 2010 Census. **MOTION** Councilman John Eilert, **SECOND** Councilmember Violet Zbrank to have Knight and Partners bring one additional redistricting plan back for council to review. Motion carried.

The next item was to discuss and or consider selection of an architectural firm for the design of the renovation of the Randolph Recreation Center. A request for qualifications for architectural services for the renovation of the Randolph Recreation Center was recently issued. We have received proposals from two firms: Cutright and Allen and Heimsath Architects. After review of the proposals we believe that both firms are highly qualified and would do an outstanding job but believe that Cutright and Allen will be the best fit for the project. Cutright and Allen have had experience working with Texas Parks and Wildlife funded projects in the past and this experience will be invaluable as we move forward with this project. Staff is recommending that Cutright and Allen Architects be approved as project architect for the renovation of the Randolph Recreation Center project. We have utilized the services of Cutright & Allen Architects in the past on the addition of the restrooms at the Recreation Center and have been satisfied with the services provided. **MOTION** Councilmember Zbrank, **SECOND** Councilman Calvin Kuehn to approve staff's recommendation. Motion carried.

The next item was to discuss and or consider charge off of delinquent utility accounts. The charge off dollar amount for the period of uncollectible accounts ending July 31, 2011 is \$18,903.65 and the number of uncollectible accounts has decreased from the prior period. Office staff collected \$8,203,559 out of total sales of \$8,222,463 which is a collection rate of 99.8%. A total of 36,687 bills were prepared and mailed for the period and 36,599 of these were collected and paid in full. Out of an average of 3,057 bills per month, there is an average of 347 which remain unpaid after the 15th of the month. On the 26th day of the month the Utilities office staff prepares a list of accounts which remain unpaid. Averages of 45 accounts are left unpaid and are dispatched to be disconnected. The office staff works diligently to collect all unpaid bills. They maintained an excellent and outstanding record by collecting 99.8% of all bills mailed for the twelve month period covered in this report. This has been made possible by adhering to our established disconnect policy. Enforcement of this policy is not always a pleasant job and therefore the office staff and disconnect

servicemen are to be highly commended for their hard work and dedication. Mayor Moerbe, council, and City Manager Raborn expressed their thanks to the utilities office staff as well as the servicemen for the outstanding job they do. **MOTION** Councilman John Cernosek, **SECOND** Councilman John Eilert to approve the uncollectible accounts for the period ending July 31, 2011 and move them to bad debt. Motion carried.

The next item was a review of the 2011-12 Annual Budget. City Manager Raborn reviewed the Annual Operating Budget for the fiscal year of 2011-2012. This is an \$11,456,397 total budget, of this amount the Utility budget is \$8,474,488, the General Fund is \$2,838,005; and the Debt Service Fund is \$143,904.

The next item was to Discuss and or Consider on First Reading an Ordinance making appropriations for the support of the City of La Grange for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2011 and ending September 30, 2012; appropriating money to a sinking fund to pay interest and principal due on the City's indebtedness; and adopting the annual budget of the City of La Grange for the 2011-2012 fiscal year which includes the General Fund, the Utility Enterprise Fund and the La Grange Economic Development Corporation Budget. **MOTION** Councilmember Zbranek, **SECOND** Councilman Romberg to approve this ordinance on first reading. A roll call vote was taken with the following results: Councilman Busch in favor; Councilman Cernosek in favor; Councilman Eilert in favor; Councilman Kuehn in favor; Councilman Romberg in favor; Councilmember Weishuhn absent; Councilmember Zbranek in favor; and Mayor Pro tem Zimmerhanzel absent. The motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

The next item was to Discuss and or Consider on First Reading of an Ordinance levying Ad Valorem taxes for use and support of the Municipal Government of the City of La Grange, Texas for the 2011-2012 Fiscal year; providing for apportioning each levy for specific purposes; providing when taxes shall become due and when same shall become delinquent if not paid; providing for the levy and collection of occupation taxes. **MOTION** Councilman Romberg, **SECOND** Councilman Kuehn to approve this ordinance on first reading. A roll call vote was taken with the following results: Councilman Busch in favor; Councilman Cernosek in favor; Councilman Eilert in favor; Councilman Kuehn in favor; Councilman Romberg in favor; Councilmember Weishuhn absent; Councilmember Zbranek in favor; and Mayor Pro tem Zimmerhanzel absent. The motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

The next item was to Discuss and or Consider First Reading of an Ordinance Amending Chapter 13, **CODE OF ORDINANCES, CITY OF LA GRANGE, TEXAS**, As Recodified on January 8, 2007 By Amending Article

13.02 Section 13.02.031 Subsection (1)(A) Establishing And Fixing The Charges And Fees For Water Service Furnished To Residential Locations Within The City Limits Based On Water Usage And/Or Conservation; By Amending Article 13.02 Section 13.02.31, Subsection (2)(A) and (2)(B) Establishing And Fixing The Charges And Fees For Water Service Furnished To Commercial Locations for single businesses And Multi-Business Buildings, respectively, Within The City Limits Based On Water Usage And/Or Conservation; Authorizing The City To Collect Same; And Providing For An Effective Date. **MOTION** Councilman Kuehn, **SECOND** Councilman Romberg to approve this ordinance on first reading. A roll call vote was taken with the following results: Councilman Busch in favor; Councilman Cernosek in favor; Councilman Eilert in favor; Councilman Kuehn in favor; Councilman Romberg in favor; Councilmember Weishuhn absent; Councilmember Zbranek in favor; and Mayor Pro tem Zimmerhanzel absent. The motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

The next item was to Discuss and or Consider First Reading of an Ordinance Amending Chapter 13, CODE OF ORDINANCES, CITY OF LA GRANGE, TEXAS, As Recodified On January 8, 2007, By Amending Article 13.03 Section 13.03.001 Subsection (a) Establishing And Fixing The Charges And Fee For The Sewer Service Furnished To Certain Residential Locations; By Amending Chapter 13, Article 13.03, Section 13.03.001 (a)(1)(B) By Amending The Rate For The Use Of Standard Fixtures In A Single Dwelling Within The City Limits; By Amending Chapter 13, Article 13.03, Section 13.03.001 (a)(2)(B), By Amending The Rate For The Use Of Standard Fixtures In A Single Dwelling Outside The City Limits; And By Amending Chapter 13, Article 13.03; Section 13.03.001 (a)(3)(B), By Amending The Rate For The Use Of Water In Excess Of 3,000 Gallons To Commercial Locations; And Authorizing The City To Collect Same And Providing For An Effective Date. **MOTION** Councilmember Zbranek, **SECOND** Councilman Kuehn to approve this ordinance on first reading. A roll call vote was taken with the following results: Councilman Busch in favor; Councilman Cernosek in favor; Councilman Eilert in favor; Councilman Kuehn in favor; Councilman Romberg in favor; Councilmember Weishuhn absent; Councilmember Zbranek in favor; and Mayor Pro tem Zimmerhanzel absent. The motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

The next item was to Discuss and or Consider on First Reading an Ordinance Amending Chapter 13, Garbage And Trash, CODE OF ORDINANCES, CITY OF LA GRANGE, TEXAS, As Recodified On January 8, 2007 By Amending Chapter 13, Section 13.05.014, By Increasing The Rates for Residences Utilizing Garbage Containers Of A Capacity Of 96 Gallons As Set Forth In Subsection (1) Of Section 13.05.014 And Establishing In Said Subsection (1) A Reduced Rate For Residences Utilizing Garbage Containers Of A Capacity of 96 Gallons And Occupied By At Least One (1) Person Sixty-Five (65) Years Of

Age Or Older And An Application Procedure For Qualifying For Such Rate; By Amending Chapter 13, Section 13.05.014, By Increasing The Rates For Premises Other Than Residences Utilizing Containers Of A Capacity of 96 Gallons As Set Forth In Subsection (2); By Amending Section 13.05.014 By Increasing The Rates For Residences And Premises Other Than Residences For The Collection, Pick Up And Hauling Of Tree Limbs, Brush And Cuttings As Set Forth In Subsection (5) Of Section 13.05.014; And By Amending Chapter 13, Sections 13.05.015, 13.05.016 And 13.05.017 By Repealing Same; And Providing For An Effective Date. **MOTION** Councilman Kuehn, **SECOND** Councilman Eilert to approve this ordinance on first reading. A roll call vote was taken with the following results: Councilman Busch in favor; Councilman Cernosek against; Councilman Eilert in favor; Councilman Kuehn in favor; Councilman Romberg in favor; Councilmember Weishuhn absent; Councilmember Zbranek in favor; and Mayor Pro tem Zimmerhanel absent. The motion carried by a vote of 5-1.

The next item was to Discuss and or Consider on First Reading an Ordinance Amending Chapter 13, CODE OF ORDINANCES, CITY OF LA GRANGE, TEXAS, As Recodified On January 8, 2007, By Amending Article 13.04 Section 13.04.031, Subsection (1)(B) And (2)(B) Establishing And Fixing The Charges And Fees For Electric Service Furnished To Residential And Master Meter Dwelling Units; By Amending Article 13.04 Section 13.04.031, Subsections 3(C) Establishing And Fixing The Charges And Fees For Electric Service Furnished To Commercial Locations, Based On Electric Usage; Authorizing The City To Collect Same; And Providing For An Effective Date. **MOTION** Councilman Cernosek, **SECOND** Councilman Zbranek to approve this ordinance on first reading. A roll call vote was taken with the following results: Councilman Busch in favor; Councilman Cernosek in favor; Councilman Eilert in favor; Councilman Kuehn in favor; Councilman Romberg in favor; Councilmember Weishuhn absent; Councilmember Zbranek in favor; and Mayor Pro tem Zimmerhanel absent. The motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

The Airport Advisory Board will meet on August 30th at 1:00PM.

CHIEF OF POLICE UPDATE

Both the Sheriff Posse Rodeo and the Iron Cuff Rally were held without incident. The La Grange ISD began classes today for the new school year.

CITY MANAGER UDATE

The daily average water consumption is 1.2 million gallons.
The bond proceeds will be received on Thursday, August 25th.
There will be work done on the Library on the outside cedar boards/siding.
Sales Tax was up once again.

At 6:45PM as pursuant to Section 551.072 Real Property, council went into closed executive session regarding possible purchase of property on Reynolds St.

At 6:51PM Council went into Open Session. No action is required in open session.

At 6:52 a **MOTION** was made by Councilman Kuehn, 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 – September 12, 2011

The City Council of the City of La Grange met in Regular Session on Monday, September 12, 2011 in the City Hall Council Chambers with the following members present: Councilman Harvey Busch, Councilman John Cernosek, Councilman John Eilert, Councilman Calvin Kuehn, Councilman Arnold Romberg, Councilmember Kathy Weishuhn, and Councilmember Violet Zbranek. Mayor Janet Moerbe and Mayor Pro tem James Zimmerhanel were absent. Staff present: City Manager Shawn Raborn and Chief of Police Jackie Skelton. Visitors: Aileen Loehr.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and Councilmember Kathy Weishuhn gave the invocation.

The first item was a public hearing on the 2011-2012 proposed budget. Councilman Calvin Kuehn opened the public hearing at 6:00 PM. There being no one present to comment, the public hearing was closed at 6:02 PM.

The next item was to discuss and or consider on Second Reading an Ordinance making appropriations for the support of the City of La Grange for the

fiscal year beginning October 1, 2011 and ending September 30, 2012; appropriating money to a sinking fund to pay interest and principal due on the City's indebtedness; and adopting the annual budget of the City of La Grange for the 2011-2012 fiscal year which includes the General Fund, the Utility Enterprise Fund and the La Grange Economic Development Corporation Budget. **MOTION** Councilman John Cernosek, **SECOND** Councilmember Violet Zbranek to approve this ordinance on second reading. A roll call vote was taken with the following results: Councilman Busch in favor; Councilman Cernosek in favor; Councilman Eilert in favor; Councilman Kuehn in favor; Councilman Romberg in favor; Councilmember Weishuhn in favor; Councilmember Zbranek in favor; and Mayor Pro tem Zimmerhanel absent. The motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

The next item was to discuss and or consider a resolution providing that the terms of the Fayette County Appraisal District Board of Directors be staggered. A request was received from the Fayette County Tax Appraisal District requesting council approval of a resolution that will allow the tax appraisal board to modify the procedure by which members of the board of directors are appointed. Under the current process all 13 members are appointed at the same time every two years. The request from the board is to implement staggered terms of office. Staff recommends approval of this request. **MOTION** Councilmember Zbranek, **SECOND** Councilmember Weishuhn to approve staff's request. Motion carried.
INSERT #1

The next item was to discuss and or consider a contract for assessment and collection services with the Fayette County Appraisal District. The contract with the Fayette County Appraisal District will expire on December 31, 2011. Staff recommends that the city renew the contract for assessment and collection services for an additional 2 years. **MOTION** Councilmember Weishuhn, **SECOND** Councilmember Zbranek to approve staff's recommendation. Motion carried.
INSERT #2

The next item was to discuss and or consider preliminary approval to replat property located at 947 N Franklin. A request was received from the families of Edmund and Ruben Kappler to replat the property at 947 N Franklin into three (3) separate lots. Staff is requesting council direction regarding the replatting of this tract. The three tracts will meet the minimum lot size requirement but one lot will be less than 70 feet across the front. The request for preliminary approval is to give the family some assurance that they invest additional time and money into the project that council will give positive consideration to the formal plat request. **MOTION** Councilmember Zbranek, **SECOND** Councilman Romberg to grant preliminary approval to replat the property located at 947 N Franklin. Motion carried.

The next item was to discuss and or consider on first reading an Ordinance Authorizing and Allowing, Under The Act Governing The Texas Municipal Retirement System, “Updated Service Credits: In Said System On An Annual Basis For Service Performed By Qualifying Members Of Such System Who At The Effective Date Of The Allowance Are Members Of The City of La Grange; Providing For Increased Prior And Current Service Annuities For Retirees And Beneficiaries Of Deceased Retirees Of The City; Providing For Increased Municipal Contributions To The Current Service Annuity Reserve At Retirement Of The Employees Of The City; And Establishing An Effective Date For The Ordinance. **MOTION** Councilmember Weishuhn, **SECOND** Councilmember Zbranek to approve this ordinance on first reading. A roll call vote was taken with the following results: Councilman Busch in favor; Councilman Cernosek in favor; Councilman Eilert in favor; Councilman Kuehn in favor; Councilman Romberg in favor; Councilmember Weishuhn in favor; Councilmember Zbranek in favor; and Mayor Pro tem Zimmerhanzel absent. The motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

The next item was to discuss and or consider a tax refund for Greg and Julia Petzold due to a late filed homestead application. The City of La Grange portion of this refund is \$49.54. **MOTION** Councilmember Weishuhn, **SECOND** Councilmember Zbranek to approve the tax refund. Motion carried.

The next item was to discuss and or consider a tax refund for Sally Bohot due to a late filed homestead application and a late filed over 65 exemption. The City of La Grange portion of this refund is \$89.70. **MOTION** Councilmember Weishuhn, **SECOND** Councilmember Zbranek to approve the tax refund. Motion carried.

The next item was to discuss and or consider Second Reading of an Ordinance Amending Chapter 13, CODE OF ORDINANCES, CITY OF LA GRANGE, TEXAS, As Recodified on January 8, 2007 By Amending Article 13.02 Section 13.02.031 Subsection (1)(A) Establishing And Fixing The Charges And Fees For Water Service Furnished To Residential Locations Within The City Limits Based On Water Usage And/Or Conservation; By Amending Article 13.02 Section 13.02.31, Subsection (2)(A) and (2)(B) Establishing And Fixing The Charges And Fees For Water Service Furnished To Commercial Locations for single businesses And Multi-Business Buildings, respectively, Within The City Limits Based On Water Usage And/Or Conservation; Authorizing The City To Collect Same; And Providing For An Effective Date.

The next item was to discuss and or consider Second Reading of an Ordinance Amending Chapter 13, CODE OF ORDINANCES, CITY OF LA GRANGE, TEXAS, As Recodified On January 8, 2007, By Amending Article 13.03 Section 13.03.001 Subsection (a) Establishing And Fixing The Charges And

Fee For The Sewer Service Furnished To Certain Residential Locations; By Amending Chapter 13, Article 13.03, Section 13.03.001 (a)(1)(B) By Amending The Rate For The Use Of Standard Fixtures In A Single Dwelling Within The City Limits; By Amending Chapter 13, Article 13.03, Section 13.03.001 (a)(2)(B), By Amending The Rate For The Use Of Standard Fixtures In A Single Dwelling Outside The City Limits; And By Amending Chapter 13, Article 13.03; Section 13.03.001 (a)(3)(B), By Amending The Rate For The Use Of Water In Excess Of 3,000 Gallons To Commercial Locations; And Authorizing The City To Collect Same And Providing For An Effective Date.

The next item was to discuss and or consider on Second Reading an Ordinance Amending Chapter 13, Garbage And Trash, CODE OF ORDINANCES, CITY OF LA GRANGE, TEXAS, As Recodified On January 8, 2007 By Amending Chapter 13, Section 13.05.014, By Increasing The Rates for Residences Utilizing Garbage Containers Of A Capacity Of 96 Gallons As Set Forth In Subsection (1) Of Section 13.05.014 And Establishing In Said Subsection (1) A Reduced Rate For Residences Utilizing Garbage Containers Of A Capacity of 96 Gallons And Occupied By At Least One (1) Person Sixty-Five (65) Years Of Age Or Older And An Application Procedure For Qualifying For Such Rate; By Amending Chapter 13, Section 13.05.014, By Increasing The Rates For Premises Other Than Residences Utilizing Containers Of A Capacity of 96 Gallons As Set Forth In Subsection (2); By Amending Section 13.05.014 By Increasing The Rates For Residences And Premises Other Than Residences For The Collection, Pick Up And Hauling Of Tree Limbs, Brush And Cuttings As Set Forth In Subsection (5) Of Section 13.05.014; And By Amending Chapter 13, Sections 13.05.015, 13.05.016 And 13.05.017 By Repealing Same; And Providing For An Effective Date.

The next item was to discuss and or consider on Second Reading an Ordinance Amending Chapter 13, CODE OF ORDINANCES, CITY OF LA GRANGE, TEXAS, As Recodified On January 8, 2007, By Amending Article 13.04 Section 13.04.031, Subsection (1)(B) And (2)(B) Establishing And Fixing The Charges And Fees For Electric Service Furnished To Residential And Master Meter Dwelling Units; By Amending Article 13.04 Section 13.04.031, Subsections 3(C) Establishing And Fixing The Charges And Fees For Electric Service Furnished To Commercial Locations, Based On Electric Usage; Authorizing The City To Collect Same; And Providing For An Effective Date. **MOTION** Councilman Cernosek, **SECOND** Councilman Eilert to approve on second and final reading the above mentioned 4 ordinances amending Chapter 13, CODE OF ORDINANCES, CITY OF LA GRANGE, TEXAS. A roll call vote was taken with the following results: Councilman Busch in favor; Councilman Cernosek in favor; Councilman Eilert in favor; Councilman Kuehn in favor; Councilman Romberg in favor; Councilmember Weishuhn in favor;

Councilmember Zbranek in favor; and Mayor Pro tem Zimmerhanzel absent. The motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

The next item was a Public Hearing on the proposed Tax Rate. Councilman Kuehn opened the public hearing at 6:15. There being no one present to comment, the public hearing was closed at 6:17.

The next item was to discuss and or consider Second Reading of an Ordinance levying Ad Valorem taxes for use and support of the Municipal Government of the City of La Grange, Texas for the 2011-2012 Fiscal year; providing for apportioning each levy for specific purposes; providing when taxes shall become due and when same shall become delinquent if not paid; providing for the levy and collection of occupation taxes. A roll call vote was taken with the following results: Councilman Busch in favor; Councilman Cernosek in favor; Councilman Eilert in favor; Councilman Kuehn in favor; Councilman Romberg in favor; Councilmember Weishuhn in favor; Councilmember Zbranek in favor; and Mayor Pro tem Zimmerhanzel absent. The motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

The next item was to discuss and or consider authorizing staff to develop an application for funding through the Texas Department of Agriculture Main Street Program for side walks. Staff is requesting council approval to develop an application that will be submitted to the Texas Department of Agriculture under the Texas Capital Fund Main Street Improvements Program for downtown sidewalk improvements. The project would replace the sidewalks in the 200 Block of N Main-East Side, 300 Block of W Colorado-North Side, 100 Block of E Colorado-North Side and the 100 Block of N Water-East Side. The applications are due October 4th. The total amount of the grant award will be \$150,000 and will require a local match of \$45,000 which will be included in the FY 2012-12 Capital Improvement Fund budget or a request can be made to the Economic Development Corporation. With council approval staff will bring back for formal consideration a resolution at the next city council meeting. **MOTION** Councilman Eilert, **SECOND** Councilmember Weishuhn to approve staff's request. Motion carried.

The next item was to discuss and or consider approval of minutes for August 2011. **MOTION** Councilmember Zbranek, **SECOND** Councilman Romberg to approve the minutes for August 2011. Motion carried.

CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

The Airport Board reviewed 15 scholarship applications this year and awarded 3 scholarships.

The Library Board met recently and it was noted that this past August was the highest August Circulation ever.

Main Street is working on Trick or Treat on the Square for Halloween and Schmeckenfest.

The Beautification Committee awarded Yard of the Month to Robert & Carol Smyth at 442 S Vail.

The Garden Club will hold an Open House in recognition of owning the Faison House for 50 years.

CHIEF OF POLICE UPDATE

The Fayette Co. Fair was held over the Labor Day weekend and there were only 5 arrested during the entire event.

National Night Out will be held on October 4th.

There was great cooperation between the various fire departments, the Sheriff's Department and the City Police Department during the major fire in Fayette County over the Labor Day weekend.

CITY MANAGER UPDATE

Water and Electric usage continues to be high. The average water consumption is 1.2 million gallons per day.

Relay For Life will be held on the square on September 24th.

Sales Tax was flat for the preceding month. Year to date we are still up by 11%. Remember the many people that were affected by the massive fires in Bastrop.

At 6:40a **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:

Calvin Kuehn, Councilman

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING – September 26, 2011

The City Council of the City of La Grange met in Regular Session on Monday, September 26, 2011 in the City Hall Council Chambers with the following members present: Mayor Janet Moerbe, Councilman Harvey Busch, Councilman John Cernosek, Councilman John Eilert, Councilman Calvin Kuehn, Councilman Arnold Romberg, Councilmember Kathy Weishuhn, Councilmember

Violet Zbranek, and Mayor Pro tem James Zimmerhanzel. Staff present: City Manager Shawn Raborn and Chief of Police Jackie Skelton.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and Rev. Walter Lee gave the invocation.

Under public petitions Walter Lee addressed the council regarding recent changes with the AMEN program in La Grange. AMEN stands for Area Ministries for Emergency Needs, and as such, they will be focusing more on “emergency” needs. AMEN will donate to the Combined Community Action organization, and their donation will help CCA apply for additional grant funds to assist individuals with nonemergency needs, such as utility bills. AMEN will then refer those in need of assistance with utility bills to Combined Community Action. Rev. Lee thanked the City for the partnership between the 2 organizations by allowing AMEN to use the facility they are located in. Mayor Moerbe expressed thanks on behalf of the council for all that AMEN does for the community.

The first item was to present a plaque of recognition for 35 years of employment to Chad Kulhanek. Mayor Moerbe thanked Chad for his many years of service with the City of La Grange.

The next item was a Public Hearing on a Texas Capital Fund Sidewalk Grant application. Mayor Moerbe opened the public hearing at 6:10. There being no one present to comment, the public hearing was closed at 6:11.

The next item was to discuss and or consider a resolution approving an application for funding through the Texas Department Of Agriculture Main Street Program. Staff is requesting council authorization to submit an application to the Texas Department of Agriculture under the Texas Capital Fund Main Street Improvements Program for downtown sidewalk improvements. The project would replace the sidewalks in the 200 block of North Main – East Side, 300 block of West Colorado – North Side, 100 block of East Colorado – North Side and the 100 block of North Water – East Side. The applications are due October 4th. The total amount of the grant award will be \$150,000 and will require a local match of \$45,000 which will be included in the FY 2012-13 Capital Improvement Fund budget or a request can be made to the Economic Development Corporation. **MOTION** Councilmember Violet Zbranek, **SECOND** Councilmember Kathy Weishuhn to approve staff’s request. Motion carried.

The next item was to discuss and or consider extending lease of office space within the La Grange Police Station located at 243 S College to the Texas Department of Public Safety for office space. Staff is requesting council approval to extend the lease with the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) for office

space at the police station. We entered into a lease agreement with DPS nine years ago and the arrangement has been very beneficial to both parties. The council approved extending the lease for one year in June, but we have been requested to extend the agreement for three years. Staff recommends extending the agreement for three years till December 31, 2014. **MOTION** Mayor Pro tem James Zimmerhanel, **SECOND** Councilman Calvin Kuehn to approve staff's recommendation. Motion carried.

The next item was to discuss and or consider an Ordinance on first reading establishing new ward boundaries based on the 2010 Census. Staff is presenting for council consideration an ordinance that will establish the new council ward boundaries. The plan submitted is the updated plan that was presented to council at the previous meeting. **MOTION** Councilmember Zbranek, **SECOND** Councilmember Weishuhn to approve this ordinance on first reading. A roll call vote was taken with the following results: Councilman Busch in favor; Councilman Cernosek in favor; Councilman Eilert in favor; Councilman Kuehn in favor; Councilman Romberg in favor; Councilmember Weishuhn in favor; Councilmember Zbranek in favor; and Mayor Pro tem Zimmerhanel in favor. The motion carried by a vote of 8-0.

The next item was to discuss and or consider improvements to the baseball field at the Fairgrounds. Staff is requesting council authorization to participate in the replacement of the existing backstop at the baseball field at the Fairgrounds. The Friends of Baseball is requesting assistance from the La Grange EDC and the city to complete the renovation of the facility. The proposal is for each organization to pay one third of the projected cost of \$30,000 or \$10,000 per organization. The replacement of the backstop is the final major improvement at the facility. Funding for the project will come out of the Capital Improvement Fund Parks account. Staff recommends approval of this request. **MOTION** Councilman Kuehn, **SECOND** Councilmember Zbranek to approve staff's request. Motion carried.

The next item was to discuss and or consider authorizing staff to remove the city owned structure at 739 E Pearl Street adjacent to the Recreation Center. Staff is requesting council authorization to remove the house at 739 E Pearl adjacent to the Randolph Recreation Center. We have attempted to sell the house to be moved for over two years with little interest. With the renovation of the Recreation Center moving forward, the time has come to remove the structure. We will attempt to have the house removed for salvage if possible. In the event that we are unable to have the house salvaged the estimate to remove the house is \$5,500 and will be paid out of the Capital Improvement Facility Improvements account. **MOTION** Councilman Arnold Romberg, **SECOND** Councilmember Weishuhn to approve staff's request. Motion carried.

The next item was to discuss and or consider on second reading an Ordinance Authorizing and Allowing, Under The Act Governing The Texas Municipal Retirement System, “Updated Service Credits: In Said System On An Annual Basis For Service Performed By Qualifying Members Of Such System Who At The Effective Date Of The Allowance Are Members Of The City of La Grange; Providing For Increased Prior And Current Service Annuities For Retirees And Beneficiaries Of Deceased Retirees Of The City; Providing For Increased Municipal Contributions To The Current Service Annuity Reserve At Retirement Of The Employees Of The City; And Establishing An Effective Date For The Ordinance. **MOTION** Councilmember Zbranek, **SECOND** Councilmember Weishuhn to approve this ordinance on second reading. A roll call vote was taken with the following results: Councilman Busch in favor; Councilman Cernosek in favor; Councilman Eilert in favor; Councilman Kuehn in favor; Councilman Romberg in favor; Councilmember Weishuhn in favor; Councilmember Zbranek in favor; and Mayor Pro tem Zimmerhanel in favor. The motion carried by a vote of 8-0.

TOURISM COMMITTEE

Councilman Harvey Busch reported that the Tourism Committee met and reviewed 6 requests for funding under the Tourism Grant Program and they are as follows:

Texas Quilt Museum	\$18,922
Colorado Valley Quilt Guild	\$ 3,000
Friends of Monument Hill/Kreische Brewery	\$625
The Best Little Cowboy Gathering in Texas	\$12,000
Texas Czech Heritage and Cultural Center	\$ 2,500
Texas Czech Heritage and Cultural Center & Monument Hill	\$3,500

The committee recommends funding as follows:

Texas Quilt Museum, \$18,922 to develop a four color brochure of the museum (\$12,022); Personnel and Equipment to staff a booth at the International Quilt Festival Oct 28-Nov 6 in Houston (\$3,300); and funds to redesign the Texas Quilt Museum web site (\$3,600).

Colorado Valley Quilt Guild, \$3,000 to be used to advertise the quilt show.

Friends of Monument Hill/Kreische Brewery, \$625 to be used to reimburse time spent with travel writers of Texas Highways and Texas Cooperative Magazine in development of stories on La Grange.

The Best Little Cowboy Gathering in Texas, \$9,500 to be used for advertising the 3rd Annual Best Little Cowboy Gathering in Texas which will be held March 9-10.

Texas Czech Heritage and Cultural Center, committee recommends denying this request for advertising the 2011 Gala.

Texas Czech Heritage and Cultural Center & Monument Hill, \$3,500 to be used to update and print and distribute 7,500 rack cards. **MOTION** Councilman Busch, **SECOND** Councilmember Weishuhn to approve the committee's recommendation. Motion carried.

CHIEF OF POLICE UPDATE

The Relay For Life event was held downtown this past weekend. Officers received one complaint regarding the noise. They did not receive any complaints regarding parking. Councilman Romberg noted that he had received 2 complaints regarding the noise from the event. He recommends that the music and announcements stop at midnight instead of 2 A.M. National Night Out will be on Tuesday, October 4th currently there are 4 parties scheduled.

CITY MANAGER UPDATE

An update on the Randolph Recreation Center project will be brought to council within a month. At this time staff is working with the various organizations to try to have a plan that will meet everyone's needs.

Mayor Moerbe welcomed Mayor Pro tem Zimmerhanzel back after his recent concerns.

At 6:29 Councilmember Zbranek excused herself from the meeting.

At 6:30 PM as pursuant to Section 551.072 Real Property, council went into closed executive session regarding possible purchase of property on Reynolds St.

At 6:35PM Council went into Open Session. **MOTION** Councilmember Kathy Weishuhn, **SECOND** Councilman John Cernosek to approve the purchase of property on Reynolds St.

At 6:36 a **MOTION** was made by Councilman Kuehn, 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 – October 10, 2011

The City Council of the City of La Grange met in Regular Session on Monday, October 10, 2011 in the City Hall Council Chambers with the following members present: Mayor Janet Moerbe, Councilman Harvey Busch, Councilman John Cernosek, Councilman John Eilert, Councilman Calvin Kuehn, Councilman Arnold Romberg, Councilmember Kathy Weishuhn, Councilmember Violet Zbranek, and Mayor Pro tem James Zimmerhanzel. Staff present: City Manager Shawn Raborn and Chief of Police Jackie Skelton. Visitors: Glenda Munsch, Carol Skelton, Kathy Kay, Scott Byler, Dr. Randy Albers, and members of the LGISD school board.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and Councilmember Kathy Weishuhn gave the invocation.

Under Public Petitions, Glenda Munsch and Kathy Kay representing Relay for Life reported that this year's event had over 300 participants. They raised over \$86,000 with funds still coming in to be included in the total for this year. The next Relay for Life in La Grange will be the weekend of September 15, 2012. Mayor Moerbe, on behalf of the city council, thanked the organization for all they do.

The first item was to hear a report on the proposed school bond program. Dr. Randy Albers, Superintendent for the La Grange ISD gave a presentation on the upcoming bond election which will be held this November. There are 2 separate propositions on the ballot. Proposition 1 in the amount of \$13,890,000 would allow a new middle school to be built next to the High School, competition gym for the Middle School, and a new science and computer labs for High School. Proposition 2 in the amount of \$840,000 would be used for new restrooms, concessions & dressing room at the stadium.

The next item was a presentation on the County Tourism Project. Scott Byler presented to council information regarding the development of a countywide tourism initiative. Mayor Moerbe and city staff have been working on this initiative for the past six months. Last week, the Mayor held a meeting of area Mayors, City Manager, Chamber presidents and the County Judge to introduce the

concept of developing a countywide tourism commission. This item was brought to council to obtain their support in the development of a countywide tourism commission.

The next item was to discuss and or consider a request to block off streets in conjunction with Schmeckenfest. Schmeckenfest will be held on Thursday, December 1, 2011 starting at 5:00 pm. Main Street is requesting the following streets be closed to accommodate performers and for the safety of the public:

- 1) A portion of N. Washington St in front of the courthouse.
- 2) The entry to N. Washington St at Travis St starting.
- 3) W. Colorado St at Hwy 77 North to the intersection of N Washington.
- 4) Intersection of W. Colorado St. and N Main
- 5) One-half of the 200 block of N. Washington to the Prosperity Bank parking lot entrance.

The High School Band will perform a Christmas Concert around the courthouse square; Santa Claus and the speaker will arrive on a fire truck to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and light the Christmas tree; Cub Scout Pack 204 will conduct their "Lad & Dad Bake Sale" and will hold an auction for the baked goods. Schmeckenfest-the wassail tasting will begin at 5:30 and continue until 8:00. There will also be carolers, dancers and music throughout the evening. There will be booths selling gifts and food that will be operated by local non-profit organizations as well as church groups. **MOTION** Councilmember Violet Zbranek, **SECOND** Councilman John Eilert to approve this request. Motion carried.

The next item was to discuss and or consider the appointment of Ms. Linda August to the La Grange Housing Authority Board. The La Grange Housing Authority Board of Directors is composed of five members who are appointed by the City Council. The Board is recommending that Ms. Linda August be appointed to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Ms Etta Lemley. Other members of the board include Bill Asbill, Jerrial Brown, Beverley Blakley, and Nicole Villanueva. **MOTION** Councilmember Zbranek, **SECOND** Councilmember Kathy Weishuhn to approve the board's recommendation. Motion carried.

The next item was to discuss and or consider approval of the minutes for September 2011. **MOTION** Councilmember Zbranek, **SECOND** Councilman Eilert to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

The next item was to discuss and or consider on second reading An Ordinance Of The Cit Of La Grange, Texas, Adopting A revised Plan For The City's Council Member Districts; Providing For Related Matters And An Effective Date. **MOTION** Councilmember Zbranek, **SECOND** Councilman Arnold Romberg to approve this

ordinance on second reading. A roll call vote was taken with the following results: Councilman Busch in favor; Councilman Cernosek in favor; Councilman Eilert in favor; Councilman Kuehn in favor; Councilman Romberg in favor; Councilmember Weishuhn in favor; Councilmember Zbranek in favor; and Mayor Pro tem Zimmerhanzel in favor. The motion carried by a vote of 8-0. **INSERT #1**

CHIEF OF POLICE UPDATE

National Night Out was held on October 4th. There were approximately 150 individuals at the various parties.

CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

The Beautification Committee awarded Yard Of The Month to A.F. and Rosie Hall at 105 Lee St.

Main Street continues with preparations for Trick Or Treat on the Square and Schmeckenfest.

CITY MANAGER UPDATE

There will be a presentation on the Randolph Recreation Center project at the next council meeting.

Utility usage for the previous month was up.

Water Well Station D is down at this time. Station B also has some concerns but is still in production.

City Wide Clean Up will be held the week of October 17-October 21.

Fayette County Volunteer Fire Department annual Fish Fry Fundraiser will be on Sunday, October 16th.

At 7:10 a **MOTION** was made by Councilman Kuehn, 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 – October 24, 2011

The City Council of the City of La Grange met in Regular Session on Monday, October 24, 2011 in the City Hall Council Chambers with the following members present: Mayor Janet Moerbe, Councilman John Cernosek, Councilman John Eilert, Councilman Calvin Kuehn, Councilman Arnold Romberg, Councilmember Kathy Weishuhn, and Mayor Pro tem James Zimmerhanel. Councilman Harvey Busch and Councilmember Violet Zbranek were absent. Staff present: City Manager Shawn Raborn and Chief of Police Jackie Skelton. Visitors: Aileen Loehr and Mark Jaehne

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and Councilman Arnold Romberg gave the invocation.

Under Public Petitions, Mark Jaehne, owner of Northpointe addressed the council regarding the history of the ownership of the complex in relationship to notices that were sent out during the condemnation process and his desire to rehab the facility.

The first item was to discuss and or consider a report on the Recreation Center Renovation Project. Mr. Brad Cutright, architect for the Recreation Renovation project, appeared before council and gave an update on the Randolph Recreation Center renovation process and reviewed the proposed facility layout. He is anticipating having the final plan approved so that this project can go out for bids in January, 2012. The construction time is anticipated to be 12-15 months with an estimated construction cost of \$1.4M to \$1.6M.

The next item was to discuss and or consider authorizing staff to proceed with the development phase of a countywide tourism program. Staff is requesting council authorization to proceed with the development phase of the countywide tourism program. In this phase staff with outside assistance will begin to formulate the steps necessary to create the countywide tourism organization. **MOTION** Councilman John Eilert, **SECOND** Councilman Calvin Kuehn to approve staff's request. Motion carried.

The next item was to discuss and or consider a Resolution appointing Mr. Arnold Romberg to the Fayette County Appraisal District. Mayor Moerbe is recommending to the council that Mr. Romberg be appointed to the Fayette County Tax Appraisal District as the representative of the City of La Grange. **MOTION** Mayor Pro tem James Zimmerhanel, **SECOND** Councilman Kuehn to approve Mayor Moerbe's recommendation. Motion carried.

CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Main Street along with the local merchants will host Trick or Treat on the Square on Monday, October 31st.

CHIEF OF POLICE REPORT

The burglary of Prause's Market as well as 6-8 vehicle burglaries which occurred last Tuesday has been solved and the individuals are in custody. Reserve Officer Henry Ellison is no longer with the department. Kenny Schmidt is retiring as of December 16, 2011.

CITY MANAGER REPORT

Fall Clean up was held last week. Crews picked up 143 loads of brush and there were over 4 roll-off containers filled with other items. The Active Project Report was then reviewed. The library is in the process of receiving new computers which will allow training opportunities for individuals. A disc golf course will be added at the fairgrounds. Sales tax was reviewed, it was noted that it was up for the month.

At 6:45 PM as pursuant Section 551.071 Consultation with City Attorney about pending or potential litigation and claims, settlement offers, or attorney-client privileged matters, including the following matters:

1. Condemnation of Northpointe apartment/townhouse units on Northpointe Avenue, Northpointe Circle, and Wood Hollow Drive, La Grange, Texas, including but not limited to the following apartment units: 204, 212, 214, 230, 232, 234, 236, 238, 240, 302, 304, 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 313, 316, 317, 319, 321, and 323, and any and all other units determined to be uninhabitable or unsightly or in such deteriorated, dilapidated, unsafe and/or unfit condition so as to constitute a public nuisance and/or hazard to remaining occupants of Northpointe apartments and/or to the public. Councilman Eilert excused himself from the meeting at 7:10.

At 7:20 PM Council went into Open Session. **MOTION** Councilmember Kathy Weishuhn, **SECOND** Councilman John Cernosek that the city attorney return to council on November 14th with plan of how to precede. Motion carried.

At 7:21 a **MOTION** was made by Councilman Kuehn, with a **SECOND** by Councilman 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 – November 14, 2011

The City Council of the City of La Grange met in Regular Session on Monday, November 14, 2011 in the City Hall Council Chambers with the following members present: Mayor Janet Moerbe, Councilman Harvey Busch, Councilman John Cernosek, Councilman John Eilert, Councilman Calvin Kuehn, Councilman Arnold Romberg, Councilmember Violet Zbranek, and Mayor Pro tem James Zimmerhanel. Councilmember Kathy Weishuhn was absent. Staff present: City Manager Shawn Raborn and Chief of Police Jackie Skelton. Visitors: Aileen Loehr, Bill Kilty, Marie Kallus, James Elias, and residents from the S Washington Street & W Pearl Street neighborhood.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and Rev. J Paul Bruhn gave the invocation.

Under public petitions, Marie Kallus spoke on the request to replat the property located at N Washington & W Pearl Street. She is not in favor of this request as she believes it will place a burden on the sewer system and also create a traffic problem in the area.

The first item was a Public Hearing on the Rezoning of property located at N Washington & West Pearl. The public hearing was cancelled due to Mr. & Mrs. Kilty pulling the request to have the property rezoned.

The next item was to discuss and or consider preliminary request from Bill & Nancy Kilty to replat property located at N Washington & W Pearl Street. A request was received from Bill & Nancy Kilty to replat the property at the corner of N Washington & W Pearl into three separate lots. The three tracts will not meet the minimum lot size requirement of 7,000 square feet but will range in size from 4,300 to 4,800 square feet. Staff is presenting this item for discussion only at this meeting and will bring back the item at the November 28th meeting for formal consideration. Mr. Kilty addressed the council regarding this request. If approved these three homes would be rental property. However, if someone expressed a desire to purchase one, the Kilty's would like to be able to have the opportunity to sell. Various member of council expressed concern with dividing this tract into three substandard lots.

Chief Jackie Skelton then introduced Officer Bryan Corb to the council. Officer Corb began as a reserve officer and is currently a part-time officer.

The next item was to discuss and or consider a request from Mr. Jason Huette to replat property located at 205 Lynnwood Drive. A request was received from Mr. Jason Huette to replat the property at 205 Lynnwood Drive. Mr. Huette recently purchased the 17.76 acre tract from Gene & Sue Holt. In order to complete the sale Mr. Huette has subdivided the lot into two separate tracts and is the owner of both tracts. Staff is requesting council approval of the replat of the property into one 6 acre tract and one 11.37 acre tract. Staff recommends approval. **MOTION** Councilman Arnold Romberg, **SECOND** Councilman John Eilert to approve staff's recommendation. Motion carried.

The next item was to discuss and or consider awarding of bid for storm sewer improvements. The La Grange EDC recently approved the bid of SBS Construction the low bidder in the amount of \$99,616 for the installation of storm drainage improvements at the intersection of East Colorado and North Jackson. The storm drain improvements will allow for the expansion of Farmers Lumber and the creation of 4-5 new jobs. The project will be funded with budgeted EDC capital improvement funds. Staff is requesting council approval of the bid of SBS Construction in the amount of \$99,616. **MOTION** Councilman Eilert, **SECOND** Councilmember Violet Zbranek to approve staff's request. Motion carried.

The next item was to discuss and or consider approval of medical coverage with Humana. Staff has reviewed our insurance options and is recommending that council renew our health coverage with Humana. The plan proposed by staff is Humana plan TX 100/70 National in the amount of \$453.26 for traditional coverage and Humana Health Savings Account TX 100/70 National in the amount of \$333.09 as the high deductible plan. Both plans experienced a 9.39 increase this year. Under the HSA program the city would fund the employee account \$116.17 per month to offset the difference between the traditional plan and the HSA high deductible plan. We will continue to use Fayette Savings as the provider of the Health Saving Account. **MOTION** Councilmember Zbranek, **SECOND** Councilman Romberg to approve staff's recommendation. Motion carried.

The next item was to discuss and or consider improvements to the softball field at the Fairgrounds. Staff is requesting council authorization to proceed with the replacement of the lights at the softball field at the fairgrounds. The La Grange Little League is in the process of relocating the softball program to the Fairgrounds and in order to complete the move the second softball field will require the installation of new lighting. Staff is proposing that the City partner with the La Grange EDC to complete the renovation of the facility. The proposal

is for each organization to pay one half of the projected cost of \$100,000 or \$50,000 per organization. The La Grange EDC has given preliminary approval of this request and will consider a formal request at the next meeting based on council support of the project. The city budgeted funds for this project as part of the Capital Improvement Fund Parks account. Staff recommends approval of this request. **MOTION** Mayor Pro tem James Zimmerhanel, **SECOND** Councilman Calvin Kuehn to approve staff's request. Motion carried.

The next item was to discuss and or consider approval of minutes for October 2011. **MOTION** Councilmember Zbranek, **SECOND** Councilman Romberg to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

The Library Board met on Tuesday, November 1st. there was a slight decrease in circulation in relation to the same period last year.

The Beautification Committee met and awarded Yard of the Month to 330 N Monroe.

Main Street is working on the Schmeckenfest event which will be on Thursday, December 1st.

CHIEF OF POLICE

There was a burglary of a residence on W Pearl Street recently.

Fayette Electric Cooperative had some aluminum stolen; there is currently a person of interest regarding this theft.

CITY MANAGER

Utility usage was reviewed; KW sales are down slightly while water usage is up. Sales tax is up for the month.

Financials for the month of August were included under a separate cover.

TXDOT will begin improvements on Highway 609 from Highway 71 to the Hostyn cutoff.

EBooks will be available at the Library beginning at the end of the month.

At 6:50 a **MOTION** was made by Councilmember Zbranek, with a **SECOND** by Councilman 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 – November 28, 2011

The City Council of the City of La Grange met in Regular Session on Monday, November 28, 2011 in the City Hall Council Chambers with the following members present: Mayor Janet Moerbe, Councilman Harvey Busch, Councilman John Cernosek, Councilman John Eilert, Councilman Arnold Romberg, Councilmember Violet Zbranek, and Mayor Pro tem James Zimmerhanzel. Councilman Calvin Kuehn and Councilmember Kathy Weishuhn were absent. Staff present: City Manager Shawn Raborn and Chief of Police Jackie Skelton. Visitors: Aileen Loehr, Bill & Nancy Kilty, Marie Kallus, John & Patty Reid, James Rhodes, Catherine Purifoy, Kenneth Ray Cavit, Willie B Grimes, Erskin Hill and others.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and Councilman John Eilert gave the invocation.

Under Public Petitions Erskin Hill spoke on behalf of *All People For Justice*, in reference to the land dispute on Mode Ln. Ms. Willie B Grimes and Kenneth Ray Cavit also spoke in regards to this matter. Ms. Marie Kallus, Ms. Catherine Purifoy, James Rhodes and John Reid spoke in opposition to the replatting of property located at Washington & Pearl St.

The first item was to discuss and or consider preliminary approval to replat property located at North Washington & West Pearl St. Bill and Nancy Kilty have requested to have this lot separated into three lots. The three tracts will not meet the minimum lot size requirement of 7,000 square feet and would range in size from 4,300 to 4,800 square feet. Mr. Kilty addressed the council regarding their request. **MOTION** Councilmember Violet Zbranek, **SECOND** Councilman John Eilert to deny this request. Motion carried.

The next item was to hold a public hearing on Freeport Exemption. The public hearing was opened at 6:44. This public hearing was to allow anyone interested to speak regarding the consideration of an ordinance to tax tangible personal property in transit which would otherwise be exempt pursuant to Texas Tax Code, Section 11.253. There being no one present to speak, the public hearing was closed at 6:45.

The next item was to discuss and or consider An Ordinance Of The City Of La Grange To Tax Tangible Personal Property In Transit Which Would Otherwise Be Exempt Pursuant To Texas Tax Code, Section 11.253 and providing for an effective date. Staff is requesting council approval of an ordinance that will continue the current rule regarding taxation of good in transit. Senate Bill 1 requires cities to take official action between October 1, 2011, and December 31, 2011, to provide for the taxation of goods-in-transit in 2012. These new requirements apply regardless of any action taken by a city in the past to tax Super Freeport goods. Council passed an ordinance in November of 2007 to tax goods in transit. As background, during the 80th Session of the Texas Legislature, House Bill 621 (HB621) was passed and subsequently signed by the Governor. This bill is the enabling legislation for S.J.R. 6 approved by the voters in 2001. The bill created a new type of Freeport Exemption. HB621 allowed goods to be exempt if they are shipped to another location either inside or outside of the State of Texas within 175 days. Goods eligible for exemption must be held in a location in this state that is not owned or under the control of the goods. This provides the owner of a large inventory to lease a warehouse and exempt the inventory from taxation, while the owner of a large inventory stored in a building owned by the owner could only exempt the portion leaving the state. **MOTION** Councilmember Zbranek, **SECOND** Councilman Arnold Romberg to approve this ordinance on first reading. A roll call vote was taken with the following results: Councilman Busch in favor; Councilman Cernosek in favor; Councilman Eilert in favor; Councilman Kuehn absent; Councilman Romberg in favor; Councilmember Weishuhn absent; Councilmember Zbranek in favor; and Mayor Pro tem Zimmerhanel in favor. The motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

The next item was to discuss and or consider setting the 2012 City of La Grange Holiday schedule. Mayor Moerbe noted that Christmas Day will be on a Tuesday and it would be nice to add Monday December 24th to the holiday schedule for 2012. **MOTION** Councilmember Zbranek, **SECOND** Councilman Romberg to approve the holiday schedule as amended by adding Monday, December 24th. Motion carried.

The next item was to discuss and or consider cancelling the December 26, 2011 City Council Meeting. **MOTION** Councilmember Zbranek, **SECOND** Councilman Cernosek to approve a resolution cancelling the December 26, 2011 City Council meeting. Motion carried.

The next item was to discuss and or consider approval on development of a Disc Golf Course at the Fairgrounds. City staff has been working with a group of enthusiastic disc golfers who would like the City to develop a course here in La Grange. At present the nearest course in Smithville which has a 9-hole course at Riverbend Park, the group would like to have a home-town course to play more

frequently and without having to drive to a neighboring city to play. In reviewing the request some information gathering was put in motion which included cost factors of disc golf tee boxes and baskets, location of a 9-hole course, and land requirements for course lay-out. It was determined that the ideal location for a course would be on the northern wooded portion of the Fayette County Fairgrounds. A course has been marked with temporary wooden stakes and a few of the disc golfers have played the course to see how it flow of the layout works. All is good and they are very appreciative of our efforts and would like to see it proceed to completion. Disc golf is a growing sport and has reasonably low cost start-up and offers a means of utilizing existing park space for patrons to ‘play outdoors’ and enjoy our great parks. Staff is requesting council approval to proceed with the installation of a 9-hole disc golf course at the Fairgrounds. The total cost to install the course is less than \$5,000 and will be paid out of budgeted parks capital improvement funds. **MOTION** Councilmember Zbranek, **SECOND** Mayor Pro-tem James Zimmerhanzel to approve staff’s request. Motion carried.

The next item was to discuss and or consider installation of exercise stations at White Rock Park. Janet Rangel and Mayor Moerbe were approached regarding upgrades and improvements to White Rock Park, i.e., resurfacing/widening the walking trail and installing outdoor fitness equipment. They met with Jenny Janda – an energetic member of FIT Fayette County – who would like to see the citizens of Fayette County take strides in better fitness and health. This opportunity to upgrade and utilize our existing park space is a great means for the City to contribute to health and wellness throughout our City and encourage our citizens to use amenities furnished for their use in the great outdoors. The fitness equipment pods proposed are total body workout that address all age spectrums and encourages usage of the machines to improve quality of life. The machines will be placed in two (2) pods at White Rock Park – thus eliminating crowding and encouraging more citizens to use the entire park. One pod set-up will be east/northeast of the baseball fields (near the gully & soccer field). By installing two areas of equipment it will encourage citizens to use the equipment whether they are in the park to watch their children play on the playground, watching baseball games, watching soccer games, and/or there for their own personal work-outs. By installing this equipment the City of La Grange will be encouraging our citizens to live an active e and healthy lifestyle – all while enjoying the great outdoors and utilizing the park. The total cost to install the identified equipment and concrete pads is \$20,000. The funds for this project will be paid out of budgeted capital improvement funds for park improvements. **MOTION** Councilman Romberg, **SECOND** Councilman Eilert to install exercise stations at White Rock Park. Motion carried.

The next item was to discuss Dark Skies Initiative. This item is being presented for informational purposes only. Mayor Moerbe recently met with Mr.

Chris Westall of the Colorado Valley Dark-Sky Explorers regarding the issues of effective outdoor lighting and ways to preserve our rural dark skies.

CITY MANAGER

The public access agreement at the library is complete. There will be 17 public access terminals available.

EBooks training has been completed.

Work is progressing at the baseball field and parking lot at the Fair Grounds.

Schmeckenfest will be Thursday, December 1st.

At 7:00 PM as pursuant Section 551.071 Consultation with City Attorney about pending or potential litigation and claims, settlement offers, or attorney-client privileged matters, including the following matters:

1. Condemnation of Northpointe apartment/townhouse units on Northpointe Avenue, Northpointe Circle, and Wood Hollow Drive, La Grange, Texas, including but not limited to the following apartment units: 204, 212, 214, 230, 232, 234, 236, 238, 240, 302, 304, 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 313, 316, 317, 319, 321, and 323, and any and all other units determined to be uninhabitable or unsightly or in such deteriorated, dilapidated, unsafe and/or unfit condition so as to constitute a public nuisance and/or hazard to remaining occupants of Northpointe apartments and/or to the public.
2. Update claim regarding Ms. Willie B Grimes and Ms. Pearline Parks.

(Section 551.072) Real Property

1. Discuss and or Consider Purchase of Property.

At 7:40 PM Council went into Open Session. **MOTION** Councilmember Zbranek, **SECOND** Mayor Pro-tem Zimmerhanel that we authorize the city attorney to precede with condemnation of Northpointe as recommended by the City attorney in executive session. Motion carried

At 7:43 a **MOTION** was made by Councilman Cernosek, 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

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING – December 12, 2011

The City Council of the City of La Grange met in Regular Session on Monday, December 12, 2011 in the City Hall Council Chambers with the following members present: Mayor Janet Moerbe, Councilman Harvey Busch, Councilman John Cernosek, Councilman John Eilert, Councilman Arnold Romberg, Councilmember Kathy Weishuhn, and Mayor Pro tem James Zimmerhanel. Councilman Calvin Kuehn and Councilmember Violet Zbrank were absent. Staff present: City Manager Shawn Raborn. Visitors: Aileen Loehr and Chris Westall.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and Rev. Ellis McKenzie gave the invocation.

The first item was to discuss and or consider a resolution regarding the Dark Sky Initiative. This item is being presented in follow-up to our discussion at the previous council meeting regarding the dark sky initiative. Mr. Chris Westall with the Colorado Valley Dark-Sky Explorers gave a brief presentation. **MOTION** Councilman Arnold Romberg, **SECOND** Mayor Pro-tem James Zimmerhanel to approve the resolution. Motion carried. **ATTACHMENT #1**

The next item was to discuss and or consider a request from Mr. Steven Karstedt to replat property located at 723 E Fannin. A request was received from Steven Karstedt to replat the property at 723 E Fannin into two separate lots. The two tracts will be approximately 15,914 square feet and meet the minimum lot size requirement. The request for preliminary approval is to give Mr. Karstedt some assurance that when he purchased the property that council will give positive consideration to the formal plat request. **MOTION** Mayor Pro tem Zimmerhanel, **SECOND** Councilman John Eilert to approve the preliminary replat of 723 E Fannin. Motion carried.

The next item was to discuss and or consider appointments to the Library Board. The Fayette Library Museum Archives Board of Directors is composed of nine members who are appointed by the City Council. The Board serves as an advisor to the library staff in the operation and maintenance of the library. Members include Suzy Romberg, Milton Schmidt, Ann Rogers, Elva Keilers, Sally Garrett, Nicole Villanueva, Arlene Zapalac, Beverley Blakley and Neale Rabensburg. The Library Board recommends that Arlene Zapalac, Beverley Blakley, and Neale Rabensburg be reappointed for a three year term. **MOTION**

Councilman John Cernosek, **SECOND** Councilmember Kathy Weishuhn to approve the board's recommendation. Motion carried.

The next item was to discuss and or consider development of an agreement with St. Mark's Medical Center to utilize Randolph Recreation Center. Staff was approached by St. Mark's Medical Center to enter into an agreement that would allow for the utilization of the Randolph Recreation Center in the event that the hospital would have to be evacuated. Staff is requesting council authorization to proceed with the development of an agreement that would facilitate the use of the Recreation Center by St. Mark's in the unlikely event of having to evacuate the hospital. The council was in agreement that City Manager Raborn should proceed in developing an agreement and bringing it back to council for formal consideration.

The next item was to discuss and or consider clarification to the Personnel Manual regarding part-time benefits. In 2008, the city expanded limited sick leave, holiday, funeral and vacation benefits to regular part-time employees. The intention of the policy was to extend this benefit to employees who worked on average 30 hours per week. The policy is currently being implemented with this provision but staff feels that additional language in the policy manual will clear up any issue that may arise. Staff is requesting council approval of modifications to the City of La Grange Personnel Policy and Procedures manual to clarify eligibility requirements that must be met in order to receive limited sick leave, holiday, funeral and vacation benefits. **MOTION** Councilman Romberg, **SECOND** Councilmember Weishuhn to approve staff's request. Motion carried.
Attachment #2

The next item was to discuss and or consider on second reading An Ordinance Of The City Of La Grange To Tax Tangible Personal Property In Transit Which Would Otherwise Be Exempt Pursuant To Texas Tax Code, Section 11.253 and providing for an effective date. Staff is requesting council approval of an ordinance that will continue the current rule regarding taxation of goods in transit. Senate Bill 1 requires cities to take official action between October 1, 2011, and December 31, 2011, to provide for the taxation of goods-in-transit in 2012. These new requirements apply regardless of any action taken by a city in the past to tax Super Freeport goods. Council passed an ordinance in November of 2007 to tax goods in transit. As background, during the 80th Session of the Texas Legislature, House Bill 621 (HB621) was passed and subsequently signed by the Governor. This bill is the enabling legislation for S.J.R. 6 approved by the voters in 2001. The bill created a new type of Freeport Exemption. HB621 allowed goods to be exempt if they are shipped to another location either inside or outside of the State of Texas within 175 days. Goods eligible for exemption must be held in a location in this state that is not owned or under the control of the

goods. This provides the owner of a large inventory to lease a warehouse and exempt the inventory from taxation, while the owner of a large inventory stored in a building owned by the owner could only exempt the portion leaving the state.

MOTION Councilman Romberg, **SECOND** Mayor Pro tem Zimmerhanel to approve this ordinance on second reading. A roll call vote was taken with the following results: Councilman Busch in favor; Councilman Cernosek in favor; Councilman Eilert in favor; Councilman Kuehn absent; Councilman Romberg in favor; Councilmember Weishuhn in favor; Councilmember Zbranek absent; and Mayor Pro tem Zimmerhanel in favor. The motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

Attachment #3

The next item was to discuss and or consider approval of minutes for November 2011. **MOTION** Councilmember Weishuhn, **SECOND** Councilman Harvey Busch to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

Tourism Committee

Councilman Harvey Busch reported that the Tourism Committee met and reviewed 9 requests for funding under the Tourism Grant Program and they are as follows:

La Grange Area Chamber of Commerce – Advertising	\$450
La Grange Area Chamber of Commerce – Membership Tourism	\$1,308
La Grange Area Chamber of Commerce – Travel Show	\$ 75
La Grange Area Chamber of Commerce – Concert	\$846
Monument Hill – Community Marketing Program	\$6,600
Bugle Boy Foundation – Sunday Showcase	\$11,400
Bugle Boy Foundation – Independent Film Series	\$8,750
Bugle Boy Foundation – Book Signing	\$1,500
City of La Grange – Countywide Tourism Program Development	\$18,000

The committee recommends funding as follows:

La Grange Area Chamber of Commerce – Advertising	\$450
La Grange Area Chamber of Commerce – Membership Tourism	\$1,308
La Grange Area Chamber of Commerce – Travel Show	\$ 75
La Grange Area Chamber of Commerce – Concert	deny
Monument Hill – Community Marketing Program	deny
Bugle Boy Foundation – Sunday Showcase	Tabled
Bugle Boy Foundation – Independent Film Series	Tabled
Bugle Boy Foundation – Book Signing	Tabled
City of La Grange – Countywide Tourism Program Development	\$18,000

MOTION Councilman Busch, **SECOND** Councilman Cernosek to approve the committee’s recommendation. Motion carried.

CITYCOUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

The Airport Board met and they will fund scholarships for one more year even though they no longer will have the monthly fundraisers.

The Library Board met and will hold their Christmas Open House on December 21, 2011.

Schmeckenfest hosted by Main Street went well.

CITY MANAGER REPORT

There will be no change with the garbage schedule for the Christmas holiday. Recycling service will be skipped on Monday December 26th, and January 2nd.

At 6:20 a **MOTION** was made by Councilmember Weishuhn, with a **SECOND** by Mayor Pro tem Zimmerhanel that the meeting be adjourned. Motion carried.

Lisa Oltmann, City Secretary

These Minutes Approved by City Council on:

Janet Moerbe, Mayor