

May 24, 2021

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE  
CITY OF OLNEY, TEXAS

6:00 P.M.

The City Council of the City of Olney, Texas, met Monday, May 24, 2021, at 6:00 P.M. Those present were: Mayor Rue Rogers, Mayor Pro-Tem Tom Parker, Councilmembers Harrison Wellman, Brad Simmons, Chuck Stennett, and Terri Wipperman. Absent: None. Staff Present: City Administrator Neal Welch, Chief of Police Dan Birbeck, Assistant City Administrator Arpegea Pagsuberon, City Secretary Tammy Hourigan, City Attorney William Myers and Attorney Daniel Branum. All agenda items were subject to action. Meeting was broadcast and recorded online using GoToMeeting.com in accordance with Open Meetings Laws guidance during COVID-19 Pandemic Disaster.

Mayor Rogers called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER

Councilmember Simmons gave the invocation.

INVOCATION

There were no citizens present during the Citizen Comment Period.

CITIZEN COMMENT  
PERIOD

Mayor Rogers entertained a motion to adopt the minutes from April 26, 2021 as written. Councilmember Wipperman made said motion and Mayor Pro-Tem Parker seconded. Council voted unanimously to approve the minutes. Mayor Rogers entertained a motion to adopt the minutes from May 10, 2021 as written. Councilmember Stennett made said motion and Mayor Pro-Tem Parker seconded. Council voted unanimously to approve the minutes.

CONSIDER  
APPROVAL OF  
MINUTES FROM  
PREVIOUS  
MEETING(S)

Casey Keeter, City Pool Manager met with the Council to discuss raising the City Pool Rates. The Kids' rate was increased last year by fifty cents (.50) to One Dollar and Fifty Cents (\$1.50) with the adult rate remaining at Two Dollars (\$2.00). Mr. Keeter proposed that the additional Fifty Cents (.50) could possibly be set aside in a different account to begin saving for another facility and/or improvements. Mr. Keeter stated that plans are in the works for various fundraisers throughout the Season with a possible Family Night being offered. Councilmember Wellman inquired as to the Budget numbers pertaining to the City Pool. Ms. Pagsuberon presented those numbers. The Budget Revenue was listed at Two Thousand Two Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$2,250.00), Salaries in the amount of Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$15,000.00) and Maintenance in the amount of Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00). The Revenue generated during the 2019-2020 Fiscal Year was approximately Three Thousand One Hundred Eighty-Nine Dollars (\$3,189.00). It was also stated that since the Country Club Pool is now closed the attendance would most likely be affected. Councilmember Wellman inquired as to the rules regarding Life Guards vs. Swimmers. Mr. Keeter stated that there are regulations and that the City Pool Management and Employees do adhere to those regulations depending on attendance. There was also the discussion of possibly offering Punch Cards as an incentive and discount along with the Passes. It was discussed that the Fifty Cents (.50) could not be deposited into a separate account but that a line item could possibly be added to the Budget once all was reviewed. The Hours of Operation were stated to be Tuesday through Sunday 1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Closed for maintenance on Monday. Splash Day was set for May 31, 2021. Mayor Rogers entertained a motion to increase the rates to Two Dollars (\$2.00) for both Kids and Adults. Councilmember Wipperman made said motion and Councilmember Wellman seconded. Council voted unanimously to approve the Motion.

DISCUSS AND  
CONSIDER CITY  
POOL RATES

Mrs. Pagsuberon presented Council with the costs that would be involved updating the City Hall and Police Department phone systems. The current City Hall phone system is outdated. There is no Voicemail or the ability to transfer and/or answer all the lines from each phone. The Police Department is in need of additional lines along with an update. The cost for Brazos would be Four Thousand Four Hundred Fifty-Six Dollars (\$4,456.00) for City Hall and approximately Nine Thousand Dollars (\$9,000.00) for the Police Department (if the County does not participate in the cost) since the entire building will have to be reconfigured for the new system which will involve the County offices along with the Police Department. Mayor Pro-Tem Parker suggested that the Lease be reviewed to see if the City is required to furnish the entire phone system. The option of Falls IT supplying our phone system was also discussed, but Brazos would still have to be paid a monthly fee to use their numbers. The Council was in agreement that local numbers were needed in order to

DISCUSS AND  
CONSIDER PHONE  
SERVICE OPTIONS

service those individuals who may not have access to long distance. Mayor Rogers inquired as to whether the County had been asked to share in the cost. At the present the County had not been asked to share the expense. Mayor Pro-Tem Parker asked that the cost involved with obtaining a Block of Voicemail be explored. No action was taken at the time. The Discussion was tabled.

Ms. Pagsuberon stated to Council that Cyber Security Awareness Training is now due annually. All employees and Councilmembers are required to complete the training. She is currently in the process of locating a service to perform the training but the costs seem to have increased significantly from the Five Dollars (\$5.00) per person that was paid last year. Each Council member will be able to access the training online or if desired, they will be able to come to City Hall once the training is scheduled and take the training along with the Public Works Department. The training will be shown at one time onscreen. She will continue to look for the best rate and will notify Council when the training will be offered.

DISCUSS HB3834-  
CYBER SECURITY  
AWARENESS  
TRAINING

Councilmember Wellman inquired as to the status of having the City of Olney sprayed for mosquitoes had been explored? Mr. Welch stated that there was an individual that could spray at a cost of Thirty Dollars (\$30.00) per hour. He also stated that a City employee was currently in the process of travelling to a training session to become familiar with the spraying process and to learn if not certified during the training, the additional steps needed to become certified.

DISCUSS OTHER  
COUNCIL MATTERS-  
ITEMS OF CONCERN  
TO MEMBERS OF  
THE CITY COUNCIL

Councilmember Simmons stated that the streets, alleyways and any areas of standing water were of the utmost importance when the process begins. Councilmember Simmons also commented that he's asked quite often as to the status of repairing the potholes around the City of Olney. Mr. Welch stated that he had met with Mr. Blasingame earlier in the day and that repairs were going to be taking place continually as weather permits.

Attorney Branum stated that he had been working with Ms. Pagsuberon on acquiring a secure system to review files pertaining to The Municipal Court. He has also been reviewing the City Charter working to get it into an editable format. He has been informed by City Attorney Myers that there are some amended versions and he is waiting on obtaining those from City Attorney Myers.

Mr. Welch presented Council with clarification of expenses involved with the construction of the Water Treatment Plant if the City of Olney went with the Texas Water Development Board for the funding. There was discussion as to other options that were available. Mayor Pro-Tem Parker stated that funding with partial Bond and partial Private funding over the course of less time would possibly save a minimum of Two Million Dollars (\$2,000,000.00). Mr. Welch informed Council that the next scheduled meeting was Wednesday, May 26, 2021 at 3:00 p.m. There was a discussion as to whether that was ample time to have the meeting and post for 48 hours, since the Meeting would be an Open Meeting. It was determined that Mr. Welch would reschedule the meeting in order to allow posting.

Councilmember Wellman asked Officer Hudson what the status was as to removing the falling/fallen structures on the abandoned lots here in the City of Olney. Funding is needed for the roll-offs so that is currently on hold. Officer Hudson stated that he's working with property owners to take care of their own lot cleanup and debris removal eliminating or decreasing the cost to the City of Olney. The demolitions require on an average of 8-10 containers which results in an expense averaging Seven Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$7,500.00) to Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00) to the City of Olney. Councilmember Wellman inquired as to the status of the tires and building located on West Main. That has been under investigation by TCEQ since December 2019 with no definitive ruling as of yet. The reasoning behind relying on TCEQ for abatement is due to the cost. It will cost the City of Olney Four Dollars (\$4.00) to Six Dollars (\$6.00) for each tire, with an estimate of 5200 tires. This is not counting all the large item tires. The cost is estimated to be between Twenty-five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) to Thirty Thousand Dollars (\$30,000.00).

Officer Hudson also stated that on Tuesday, May 18, 2021 Officer Wright executed a warrant at a structure located on N. Avenue D. This resulted in an arrest of two individuals with a third in process. Possession with intent to distribute methamphetamine.

Councilmember Wipperman inquired as to the liability for House of Mercy for the tombstones located in the cemetery. They were struck by a vehicle in February. The individual stated they would turn it into their insurance. Mayor Rogers stated that it was most likely to fall under the Cemetery Board 's rule.

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There being no further business to come before the Council, the Council adjourned ADJOURNMENT  
by consent at 6:53. P.M.

ATTEST:

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City Secretary