

March 18, 2024	MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF OLNEY, TEXAS	6:00 P.M.
<p>The City Council of the City of Olney, Texas met Monday, March 18, 2024 at 6:00 P.M. Those present were: Mayor Rue Rogers, Mayor Pro-Tem Harrison Wellman, Councilmembers Tommy Kimbro, Brad Simmons, Chuck Stennett and Thea Sullivan. Staff Present: City Secretary Tammy Hourigan, Police Chief Dan Birbeck, Officer Dustin Hudson, Public works Director Michael Jacoba, and Attorney Dan Branum. City Attorney Bill Myers was absent. 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.</p>		
Mayor Rogers called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.		CALL TO ORDER
Rue Rogers		INVOCATION
No one was present		CITIZEN COMMENT PERIOD
<p>Mayor Rogers entertained a Motion to approve the Minutes from the February 26, 2024 Council Meeting with the correction of the date on the Minutes from January 22, 2024 to February 26, 2024. Council Member Kimbro made said Motion. Mayor Pro-Tem Wellman seconded. Council voted unanimously to approve the Motion. At this point in the Council Meeting, Mayor Rogers stated that Agenda Item #8 would now be discussed.</p>		CONSIDER APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING(S)
<p>Mr. Huff and Mr. Lovett were in attendance on behalf of the Hamilton Hospital. They were there to present to the Council the need for road closures due to the footprint of the construction of the new Hamilton Hospital. Mr. Huff stated that after meetings and discussions with engineers and builders, it had been decided to proceed with a two -story plan for the new build. With that decision comes the need to address the Council to request the road closure. This would be closing Avenue L from the east side of the Education Center to Hamilton (1/2 of Avenue L). The new building will be built over this area. Hamilton, between the existing Hamilton Hospital and the new build will need to be closed. It will not be built upon, but will be "green space". There are utilities on Hamilton, so there will be no building on that area in order to continue to provide access. There have been no utilities located on Avenue L that would be affected by building on that area. Mr. Lovett stated that the plans were given to the school. Dr. Roach then discussed with the principals and teachers about the plan and how the traffic flow would be affected at the school. Mr. Lovett stated the Dr. Roach said it was workable. He stated that Dr.</p>		DISCUSS AND CONSIDER ROAD CLOSURE AS PART OF THE UPCOMING HOSPITAL PROJECT

<p>Roach had been approached with all the plans and that he was “good to go with it”. Mayor Rogers stated that the traffic flow would have to flipped. Mr. Lovett stated that Dr. Roach and the principals had not disclosed the plan to make it work. Chief Birbeck stated that basically it was a reversal of what was currently being done. Public Works Director Michael Jacoba confirmed that the City of Olney has no utilities that will be affected. Mr. Lovett stated that they were not interrupting the alleyway where there would be water, gas or sewer services. Mr. Huff stated that the main reason for this need is due to the parking. There are a definite number of parking spaces that are required for a building of this size and that space is needed to fulfill that need. He stated that this was the only way they could get the needed/adequate parking and stay within the budget. Mayor Rogers then asked the Council about their thoughts? Council Member Stennett stated if Chief Birbeck and the school is fine with it, it should be OK. Council Member Sullivan stated that it looks like everyone has done their homework. Mayor Pro-Tem Wellman stated that he was still studying it. Mayor Rogers stated that he felt it was OK to proceed, but that it was not set in stone. Mr. Huff had previously stated that if approved, the attorneys would draw up the paperwork and present for final approval. Chief Birbeck stated that it will take some getting used to and that good communication from the school will be paramount. Mayor Rogers entertained a Motion to approve the closing of West Hamilton in front of the current Hamilton Hospital and Avenue L from the east side of the Education Center to Hamilton providing the paperwork that will be presented is correct and all parties are in approval. Council Member Stennett made said Motion. Council Member Kimbro seconded. Council voted unanimously to approve the Motion.</p>	
<p>Tom Parker, Director of the O.E.D.C. was in attendance along with Johnny Moore. There was nothing to discuss and approve at this point. He had called City Secretary Hourigan to get placed on the agenda, then realized that there had to be a public notice placed in the paper and run 60 days prior to any expenditures. Once that timeframe has been met, the expenditure will be brought before City Council. No action was taken.</p>	<p>DISCUSS AND CONSIDER APPROVING THE EXPENDITURE OF OLNEY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION FUNDS FOR THE CREATION OF A DEVELOPMENT AND RE-INVESTMENT DISTRICT WITHIN THE CITY AND ITS HOLDINGS ALONG WITH A DOWNTOWN FAÇADE PROGRAM</p>
<p>Tatum Wylie was in attendance to speak to the Council about the possibility of the Chamber of Commerce occupying an empty office at City Hall. The Chamber of Commerce currently shares an office with the Olney Economic Development Corporation and they are being proactive in locating another area to office. She stated that the long-term goal is for the Chamber of Commerce to</p>	<p>DISCUSS AND CONSIDER ALLOWING OLNEY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE TO USE UNOCCUPIED OFFICE AT CITY HALL</p>

<p>build something, but this would be during the interim. She stated that most likely no one would be there full-time, until the Chamber of Commerce makes the decision to hire someone for that position. They would need an area large enough to hold their meetings. Mayor Rogers stated that there were several items that would need to be considered such as the phone, the security of the building and lock-up following Chamber of Commerce meetings, along with other things that could arise. Mayor Rogers asked the Council their thoughts. No one was opposed to the idea. He stated that he did not see a problem with the Chamber of Commerce being located at City Hall, but asked that they get together, discuss and come up a detailed proposal, outlining when and how to present to Council. No action was taken. Council returned to Agenda Item #5.</p>	
<p>Mayor Rogers stated that was an ongoing item that needed to be addressed. He stated that more of the façade had crumbled. Heating and Cooling is a problem. Public Works Director Jacoba suggested that Public Works be allowed to install mini splits. They are more reliable and durable. They will also do away with the window units, which a woman hit her head on last year. Mayor Rogers stated that it needed to be looked at and a short term and long -term plan needed to be devised. It was decided that a sub-committee would be formed, brainstorm and come up with several options to present to the City Council. The sub-committee will consist of Mayor Rogers, Chief Birbeck, Jackie Griffith Voyles, Lita Browning, Carol Vorel and Council Member Wellman (when he can be there). Mayor Rogers stated that they will meet sometime in the upcoming week. Mayor Rogers entertained a Motion to approve Public Works installing the mini splits at the Sub Courthouse. They have \$5,000.00 and the estimated costs will be \$4,000.00 per Mr. Jacoba. Mayor Pro-Tem Wellman made said Motion. Council Member Kimbro seconded. Council voted unanimously to approve the Motion.</p>	<p>DISCUSS AND CONSIDER REPAIRS NEEDED AT THE SUB COURTHOUSE LOCATED AT 117 S. GRAND, OLNEY, TEXAS</p>
<p>Mayor Rogers stated that \$321,680.54 was remaining to be expended before the end of the year. The items attached to those expenses must be fully paid for by December 31, 2026. Chief Birbeck stated that he had a quote for digital radios which would include the Fire Department, Public Works and the Police Department. This would include spares, batteries, etc. The costs would be Fire Department-\$105,300.00, Public Works-\$79,011.00 and Police Department - \$57,000.00. these would be operable with TDEM and makes everyone compliant with the regulations, covering everything across the board. Chief Birbeck stated that the expense was due to the capabilities of these radios comparable to previous ones. Mayor Rogers stated that there are no grants available that can be accessed since the time line is so short to be compliant with the ARPA deadlines. There will have to be three bids not only because of the amount of the expenditure but because the ARPA Funds Grant Program requires the bids.</p>	<p>DISCUSS AND CONSIDER ARPA FUNDS</p>

<p>Public Works will also research the price of a roller approximately \$20,000.00 and a water plant pump approximately \$25,000.00. He will research the cost of a ground penetrating radar. Mayor Rogers entertained a Motion to approve the purchase of digital radios using ARPA funds totaling \$242,068.04. Council Member Kimbro made said Motion. Council Member Stennett seconded. Council voted unanimously to approve the Motion.</p> <p>Mayor Rogers entertained a Motion to use ARPA Funds to purchase a pump for the Water Treatment Plant from Pierce Pump Company for \$25,500.00. Council Member Kimbro made said Motion. Council Member Sullivan seconded. Council voted unanimously to approve the Motion.</p>	
<p>Mayor Rogers reported that the pool process is on schedule and should be completed by the end of May. Mayor Rogers asked City Secretary Hourigan to research what had been done previously to hire Management and check the ads that had been run in the paper. No action was taken.</p>	<p>DISCUSS THE PROCESS OF HIRING A POOL MANAGER AND LIFEGUARDS FOR THE NEW CITY POOL</p>
<p>City Council entered Executive Session at 7:40 P.M. City Council came out of Executive Session at 8:07 P.M.</p>	<p>EXECUTIVE SESSION: DISCUSS UPDATES ON SEARCH FOR NEW CITY ADMINISTRATOR</p>
<p>No action was taken.</p>	<p>DISCUSS AND CONSIDER ANY ACTION(S) AS A RESULT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION</p>
<p>Mayor Rogers entertained a Motion to cancel the March 25 2024 Council Meeting. Council Member Kimbro made said Motion. Council Member Sullivan seconded. Council voted unanimously to approve the Motion.</p>	<p>DISCUSS AND CONSIDER MARCH 25, 2024 COUNCIL MEETING</p>
<p>There was no discussion.</p>	<p>DISCUSS OTHER COUNCIL MATTERS-ITEMS OF CONCERN TO MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL</p>
<p>There being no further business to come before the Council, the Council adjourned at 8:07 P.M.</p> <p>ATTEST:</p> <p>_____</p> <p>Tammy Hourigan, City Secretary</p>	<p>ADJOURNMENT</p>