

STATE OF TEXAS §
COUNTY OF POLK §
CITY OF LIVINGSTON §

MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
CITY COUNCIL
AUGUST 10, 2021
5:00 P.M.

The City Council of the City of Livingston, Texas convened in regular session in Council Chambers at City Hall at 5:00 P.M., August 10, 2021, with the following members present:

Judy B. Cochran)	Mayor
Alan Cook)	Councilmembers
Elgin Davis)	
Clarke Evans)	
Marion 'Bid' Smith)	
Billy S. Wiggins)	City Manager
Ellie Monteaux)	City Secretary/Assistant City Manager
James Wright)	City Attorney

and the following others present:

Ricardo Perez)	Self
Michelle Chapa)	Self
Josh Mohler)	Fire Marshal/Code Enforcement Officer
Jeff Hunter)	Community Development Coordinator

Sgt. Kevin Blackburn) Livingston Police Department

Emily Wooten) Polk County Enterprise

Mayor Cochran called the meeting to order at 5:00 P.M. and called on Alderman Evans to open the meeting with prayer and the pledges.

It was moved by Alderman Evans and seconded by Alderman Cook that the minutes of the regular meeting of July 13, 2021 be approved. All present voted aye.

The City Attorney provided Council with an update of the repairs that have been completed at 1958 S. Washington in accordance with the June 3, 2021 proposal submitted by Mr. Perez. Mr. Perez presented his rebuttal that he has been doing repairs that were listed on the proposal and that the plumbing repairs to the building do not require a plumbing permit. Discussion ensued relative to the requirement for a plumbing permit, an inspection of the plumbing inside the building, the water service to the building, and the electrical rough-in inspection that took place Monday, August 9, 2021.

It was moved by Alderman Smith that Mr. Perez be given an additional thirty (30) days to complete the repairs to the building at 1958 S. Washington. Alderman Evans seconded the motion that Mr. Perez be given an additional thirty (30) days to complete the repairs to the building at 1958 S. Washington.

Discussion ensued regarding the amount of money Mr. Perez has put into the project thus far, the failure to complete the repairs within the 60-day period as requested by Mr. Perez, cleaning and removal of debris from inside the building, water service to the building, the requirement for a plumbing permit and the rough-in electrical inspection of the building. Discussion continued regarding the thorough inspection of the interior of the building by City personnel for the creation of a list of requirements that must be completed by Mr. Perez and inspected by the City prior to September 10, 2021 and the scheduling of said inspection for Friday, August 13, 2021 at 9:00 A.M.

Alderman Smith amended the motion to include the requirements as set forth above that Mr. Perez will agree to a thorough inspection of the interior of the building and the creation of a list of requirements to be completed by Mr. Perez and inspected by the City prior to September 10, 2021. The amended motion was seconded by Alderman Evans. All present voted aye.

Mayor Cochran reaffirmed to Mr. Perez that the City inspectors will meet him at 9:00 A.M. on Friday, August 13, 2021 to conduct the interior inspection of the building. Mr. Perez acknowledged his understanding of the scheduled appointment.

(Ricardo Perez and Michelle Chapa retired from the meeting.)

It was moved by Alderman Smith and seconded by Alderman Davis that the accounts over \$500.00, as submitted, be approved for payment. The motion prevailed by the following vote: AYES - Alderman Smith, Alderman Davis and Alderman Evans. NOES - None. ABSTAIN - Alderman Cook. (Alderman Luna not present at the meeting.)

The City Manager reported on the following items:

A) Events -

Livingston High School All Decades Reunion - Saturday, August 14th at the Polk County Commerce Center

9/11 Prayer and Remembrance Ceremony - Friday, September 10th at 9:00 A.M. at Livingston City Hall

B) Sales Tax - The sales tax report from the State Comptroller will be available August 13, 2021.

C) Update of Projects and Development - The City Manager provided an update of current projects and development.

D) Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) - The City Manager advised Council of the latest statistics for Polk county.

The City Manager presented the preliminary budget for the 2021-2022 fiscal year and requested that Council continue its review of the budget prior to the September meeting so that any questions or desired changes can be discussed prior to its scheduled adoption on Tuesday, September 14, 2021. Discussion ensued regarding the preliminary budget allocation for street improvements/repairs, painting of West Street ground storage water tank and piping, electrical reconductoring project on the South Feeder, and the railroad bore at Mill and Jackson in preparation for the courthouse renovation project.

(Josh Mohler retired from the meeting.)

Discussion continued regarding the preliminary budget including the need for City's infrastructure to accommodate the growth of the City, the recommendation for a merit increase to be included for eligible employees and the request of the City Manager that any questions or concerns regarding the preliminary budget be

brought to his attention prior to the September Council meeting to allow time for a response including the possibility of a special called council meeting regarding the proposed budget.

Mayor Cochran called a public hearing for Tuesday, September 14, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. on the budget for the fiscal year 2021-2022.

(Emily Wooten retired from the meeting.)

Mayor Cochran called the Council into executive session at 6:27 P.M., pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071 (Legal - Consultation with Attorney).


(6:52 P.M. - Alderman Smith retired from Executive Session.)

Council reconvened in open session at 7:08 P.M.

It was moved by Alderman Evans and seconded by Alderman Cook that the Mayor, City Manager and City Attorney coordinate with the cities of Liberty and Jasper to seek joint legal representation to intervene in the lawsuit styled Vinton Public Power Authority vs. Sam Rayburn Municipal Power Agency, et al, now pending in the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Texas, Houston Division under cause No. 4:20-cv-03609-VDG and that the City Manager shall have such necessary authority to jointly engage legal counsel with the cities of Liberty and Jasper for such intervention. All present voted aye.

There being no further business to come before the City Council, it was moved by Alderman Cook and seconded by Alderman Evans that the meeting be adjourned at 7:13 P.M. All present voted aye.

SIGNED:



Judy B. Cochran, Mayor

ATTEST:



Ellie Monteaux, TRMC, MMC, CPM
City Secretary/Assistant City Manager

