

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

The Edna City Council met in regular session, Thursday, February 16, 2017 in council chambers at 6:30 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Joe Hermes presided over the meeting. Councilmembers Doug Kelley, Wayne Callis, Johnny Vasquez, Lance Smiga and Maxine Price were present. City Manager Don Doering, City Secretary Becky Miska, Finance Director Olga Salomon, Director of Public Works Brad Ryan, Water Wastewater Superintendent Greg Woodring, Chief of Police Clinton Wooldridge and Code Enforcement Officer Sheila Miller were also present.

VISITORS: Chris Lundstrom-Jackson County Herald Tribune, Velma Vasquez, Gavin Miller, Earnest Lenon - Republic Services

APPROVE MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD JANUARY 19, 2017:

Councilmember Price approve minutes of the city council meeting held January 19, 2017. Councilmember Kelley seconded the motion. All voted AYE. Motion carried.

PUBLIC HEARING:

a) **DISCUSS AND CONSIDER REQUEST FOR A SPECIFIC USE PERMIT FOR THE PLACEMENT OF A MANUFACTURED HOME IN PLANNED DEVELOPMENT BY AUGUST J. VALCIK ON 1308 COUNTY ROAD 118. LEGAL DESCRIPTION: BREEZY TRAILS, LOT 1, ACRES 1.93**

There were no comments on this request.

APPROVE OR DISAPPROVE THE PLANNING & ZONING'S RECOMMENDATION:

a) **SPECIFIC USE PERMIT – AUGUST J. VALCIK**

City Manager Doering noted that the Planning & Zoning Commission did not meet and review this request due to lack of quorum. Mayor Hermes asked the council to review and make the decision. Councilmember Kelley made the motion to approve the request for the placement of a manufactured home in planned development by August J. Valcik on 1308 County Road 118. Councilmember Smiga seconded the motion. All voted AYE. Motion carried.

DISCUSS AND TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION TO CONSIDER REQUEST FROM REPUBLIC SERVICES REGARDING OPTIONS FOR PENDING INVOICE OF BRUSH DEBRIS DISPOSAL:

City Manager Doering noted that Mike Reeves, Municipal Services Manager for Republic Services, had requested to be placed on the agenda. Doering went on to remind the concern to council over at \$23,169 bill from the county for grinding collected brush which was previously discussed at the February meeting. Doering and Reeves have been exchanging emails in regards to this matter. According to Mr. Reeves the previous city manager, Ken Knight, verbally agreed to allow Republic Services to take the brush debris to the Jackson County Transfer Station which would allow for more pickups because it would be a lesser distance than taking to another composting site. In one of the emails Reeves said “The city has not sent any notices to us indicating that we would incur grinding costs now or in the future until after the grinding work was performed recently.” The contract between the city and Republic Services states “no amendment to the contract shall be made except upon written consent of the parties.” (Page 1 Art. 3) In an email dated January 11, 2017, Reeves said Knight allowed Republic to dispose of the brush at the county site to allow them to stay in town longer and complete the heavy volume of debris in a timely manner, and to “keep our cost per home down vs. what Waste Management used to charge the city per home. (We bid based on this offer from Mr. Knight.)” In further emails to Mr. Doering from Reeves noted “If the city wants to discontinue this practice then we may have to discuss a price increase based on historical service methods.” City Manager Doering said he does not agree that a verbal agreement with a former city manager would change the content of the approved written contract between the City of Edna and Republic Services. Although Mike Reeves was not present he sent a representative to the council meeting asking them to put the issue on the March 2nd agenda. Mayor Joe Hermes expressed his

frustration and said the charges for brush grinding was not originally in the contract with Republic Services and a verbal agreement is not legal and binding.

In a letter to the City Manager Doering, Reeves gave three options to resolve the issue: 1) the city and Republic Services share the cost of the \$23,169 bill with the county and petition for a 50-cent increase per household per month to offset the increase in costs; 2) Republic pays the full amount of the invoice and asks the city for a \$1 per household per month increase to cover the cost; 3) or both parties agree to follow the city to choose another contractor with a 120 day notice in writing without penalty.”

Mayor Hermes stated that we (the city) can't tell the citizens that we are going to charge them more. Hermes asked Doering to start searching for other trash companies and said the city would not honor the bill.

Motion was made by Councilmember Kelley to table item and to start process for the possibility of searching for another trash company. Councilmember Callis seconded the motion. All voted AYE. Motion carried.

ACCEPT REPORT FROM THE EDNA POLICE DEPARTMENT ON RACIAL PROFILING STATISTICS:

Councilmember Kelley made the motion to accept Racial Profiling Statistics Report from the Edna Police Department. Councilmember Smiga seconded the motion. All voted AYE. Motion carried.

DISCUSS AND TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION TO CONSIDER REQUEST FROM THE JACKSON COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & AGRICULTURE FOR FUNDING FROM THE CURRENT CITY'S BUDGETED HOTEL/MOTEL TAX FOR THE 2017 FISCAL YEAR:

Councilmember Callis made the motion to approve the request from the Jackson County Chamber of Commerce & Agriculture for funding from the current city's budgeted hotel/motel tax for the 2017 fiscal year in the amount of \$5,000.00. Councilmember Vasquez seconded the motion. All voted AYE. Motion carried.

DISCUSS AND TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION TO CONSIDER REQUEST FROM THE FLAG CITY OPRY FOR FUNDING FROM THE CURRENT CITY'S BUDGETED HOTEL/MOTEL TAX FOR THE 2017 FISCAL YEAR:

Councilmember Price made the motion to approve the request from the Flag City Opry for funding from the current city's budgeted hotel/motel tax for the 2017 fiscal year in the amount of \$5,000.00. Councilmember Kelley seconded the motion. All voted AYE. Motion carried.

CONSIDER PAYMENT OF CURRENT BILLS:

Councilmember Kelley made the motion to consider payment of current bills in the amount of \$253,705.28. Councilmember Callis seconded the motion. All voted AYE. Motion carried.

CITY STAFF REPORTS:

“At this time, the City Council will hear reports / updates on all committees or department assignments which may include, but is not limited to the following: Police Department-grant updates, police report; Public Works Department-park reports, water & sewer line updates; Street Department-street repairs/project; City Manager & City Secretary-public information; Finance Director-financial report; Code Enforcement-progress reports on code issues.” No formal action can be taken on these items.

City Manager Don Doering reported that GrantWorks completed applications. The Tejas Project will be called Edna Post Oak. **Finance Director Olga Salomon** stated that auditors had been in the office last week for a couple of days. **Chief of Police Clinton Wooldridge** noted that his department is next in line for the patrol car to be assembled. **Director of Public Works Brad Ryan** reported that the new awning is in place at Shelby Park and ready for Little League season to begin.

ADJOURN:

Before adjourning the meeting, Mayor Hermes asked a visitor in the audience if she had any questions for the council. At this time, Shanna Lopez, Public Sector Solutions Manager, Waste Management introduced herself.

Councilmember Price noted that the Washington Street Boys will be signing at the Flag City Opry on Tuesday.

Councilmember Kelley made the motion to adjourn. Councilmember Vasquez seconded the motion. All voted AYE. Motion carried.

APPROVED: _____
Joe Hermes, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Becky Miska, City Secretary