

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

The Edna City Council met in regular session, Thursday, February 1, 2018 in council chambers at 6:30 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Joe Hermes presided over the meeting. Councilmember Dustin Muncrief, Wayne Callis, Johnny Vasquez, Lance Smiga and Maxine Price were present. City Manager Don Doering, Finance Director Olga Salomon, Chief of Police Clinton Wooldridge and Street Superintendent Steve Sample were also present. Minutes were recorded by City Secretary Becky Miska.

APPROVE MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD JANUARY 4, 2018:

Councilmember Muncrief made the motion to approve minutes of the city council meeting that was held January 4, 2018. Councilmember Price seconded the motion. All voted AYE. Motion carried.

VISITORS: Clyde Kazmir, Velma Vasquez, Chedrick Robinson, Dwana Ceasar

HEARING OF VISITORS:

“At this time, comments will be heard from the audience on any subject matter that is not on the agenda. In accordance, with the Open Meeting Act, the Council may not discuss or take action on any item which has not been posted on the agenda.” Please limit comments to two (2) minutes.

There were no visitor comments.

HEAR REQUEST FROM CLYDE KAZMIR REGARDING IMPROVEMENTS TO AN UNIMPROVED ROAD NEXT TO TRACTOR SUPPLY COMPANY:

Clyde Kazmir addressed the council regarding the possibility of the City putting in an unimproved road on his property next to Tractor Supply Company. Mayor Hermes stated this was not a budgeted item.

Mr. Kazmir noted that there is a new Morgan Building business that is already set up on the property. Kazmir went onto say that he will do the grading work and cut ditches with his own equipment in order to put in a 300 ft. section of road to where the present road ends. Mayor Hermes noted he didn't know that Mr. Kazmir was willing to help with the grading and ditch work. Hermes said that changes things. Councilmember Price added that the City needed to help with the road for the new business. Councilmember Price made the motion for City Manager Doering and Street Superintendent Steve Sample to get a price on the material need for the 300 ft. section of road access as requested from Clyde Kazmir to make improvements to an unimproved road next to Tractor Supply Company. Councilmember Vasquez seconded the motion. All voted AYE.

DISCUSS AND TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION TO CONSIDER REQUEST FROM THE JUNETEENTH COMMITTEE FOR FUNDING FROM THE CURRENT CITY'S BUDGETED HOTEL/MOTEL TAX FOR THE 2018 FISCAL YEAR:

Chedrick Robinson introduced Dwana Caesar as the Chairperson for the Juneteenth Committee. Ms. Caesar noted that an application has been submitted for a 501C. The Juneteenth Committee's goal is \$20,000. Their goal this year is to bring the meaning of why there is a Juneteenth Celebration and to bring back the education into it. To teach the youth of what their grandparents, parents and great-great grandparents had to go through. The goal is to have a Juneteenth Zydeco/Blues Festival for 2018 which would include Entertainment, Kid Zone, BBQ Cook-off, Basketball Tournament, Beauty Pageant, Gospel Session, Scholarships, Domino Tournament, Covered Stage, Covered Tent, Port-a-potties and security if needed. Involving our churches back into this celebration is the best for our community and our elderly ancestors as well. Ms. Caesar noted she just wanted to give back to our community and bring in visitors from all over once again. Ms. Caesar said that you have to crawl before we can walk and asked the council to consider \$10,000 to be funded to the Juneteenth Committee for the 2018 fiscal year. Mayor Hermes noted that the City only takes in a certain amount from hotel/motel tax and the city had budgeted \$2,000 for this year. Councilmember Price made the motion to approve funding from the current city's budgeted hotel/motel tax for the 2018 fiscal year to the Juneteenth Committee in the amount of \$2,000.00. Councilmember Muncrief seconded the motion. All voted AYE. Motion carried.

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

Chief of Police Clinton Wooldridge reviewed the report with council. Councilmember Callis made the motion to accept the report from the Edna Police Department on Racial Profiling Statistics. Councilmember Muncrief seconded the motion. All voted AYE. Motion carried.

DISCUSS AND TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION TO CONSIDER APPROVING REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR SOLID WASTE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL SERVICES:

City Manager Don Doering reported that garbage removal is the city's largest expense. The garbage proposal from five (5) years ago requested bids for one (1) container and three (3) bags. It was also requested that even with the container, garbage must be in trash bags in order to help elevate debris falling out of container onto the ground when it is emptied. After discussion, Councilmember Muncrief made the motion to direct City Manager Doering to proceed with the proposals for solid waste collection and disposal services. Proposals to include one (1) container and limb pick up twice a week. Proposal is also requesting price for second container and if the customer wishes second container they would pay an annual fee. Councilmember Smiga seconded the motion. All voted AYE. Motion carried.

CONSIDER PAYMENT OF CURRENT BILLS:

Councilmember Callis made the motion to consider payment of current bills in the amount of \$304,357.36. Councilmember Smiga 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/projects; Finance Director-financial reports; Code Enforcement-progress reports on code issues; City Manager & City Secretary-public information. “No formal action can be taken on these items.”

Chief of Police Clinton Wooldridge stated that his department is operating short-handed by one person and the department is experiencing vehicle issues. **City Manager Don Doering** reported that Chief Wooldridge is working on a salary survey compiled from city's our size. **Chief Wooldridge** added that currently patrolman starts at \$ an hour while the County starting salary is \$ an hour. **Street Superintendent Steve Sample** noted the street sweeper is currently going through our neighborhoods. **Sample** noted that the sweeper was purchased as a demo and has been a good purchase for the city.

ADJOURN:

Before adjourning the council instructed City Manager Doering to ask Director of Public Works Brad Ryan to investigate as to why the lights at the baseball field are on so late at night.

Councilmember Price made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember Muncrief seconded the motion. All voted AYE. Motion carried.

APPROVED: _____
Joe Hermes, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Becky Miska, City Secretary