

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

The Edna City Council met in regular session on Thursday, April 18, 2019 in council chambers at 6:30 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Joe Hermes called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Mayor Pro-Tem / Councilmember District 2 Wayne Callis, Councilmember District 1 Dustin Muncrief, Councilmember District 3 Rick Boone, Councilmember District 4 Lance Smiga and Councilmember District 5 Johnny Vasquez were in attendance. City Manager Don Doering, Chief of Police Clinton Wooldridge, Director of Public Works Brad Ryan, Street Superintendent Steve Sample and Finance Director Olga Salomon were also present. Minutes were recorded by City Secretary Becky Miska.

VISITORS: Melissa Terry – Harrison, Waldrop & Uherek, L.L.P., Certified Public Accountants, Ron Chaney-Centerpoint Energy, James Griffin-Texas Disposal System, Ron Leathy-Texas Disposal System, Malinda Williams-Texas Disposal System, Amanda Teague-Texas Disposal System, Mike Dodds, Belinda Dodds, Holly Kana-Lakeway Veterinary Clinic, Mary Gerald, Janet Graves, Rebecca Graves, Becca Graves, Regin Hilgart-Happy Tails, Dee Palmer, Glenda Specht, John Reese- JR Assets and William Selders.

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 City 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.

Regin Hilgart with Happy Tails addressed the council regarding feral cats. Ms. Hilgart noted the next meeting for Happy Tails will be held April 25th at 6:00 p.m. and everyone is invited to attend. She stated that Happy Tails is interested in the Trap, Neuter and Release Program. After the city adopts ordinances and continues to address the feral cat situation, Happy Tails will eventually be coming back to council to ask for possible funding assistance.

DISCUSS AND TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION TO CONSIDER REPORT ON THE 2017-2018 FISCAL YEAR AUDIT FROM THE FIRM OF HARRISON, WALDROP & UHEREK, L.L.P., CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS:

Melissa Terry reported to that positive trends were seen in the city’s general and water funds. Councilmember Vasquez made the motion to accept the 2017-2018 fiscal year audit as presented by the firm of Harrison, Waldrop & Uherek, L.L.P., Certified Public Accountants. Councilmember Smiga seconded the motion. All voted AYE. Motion carried.

DISCUSS AND TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION TO CONSIDER THE CITY OF EDNA’S INVESTMENT POLICY RESOLUTION NO. R-2019-04:

City Manager Doering stated the City of Edna’s Investment Policy has been in place for several years. The policy is keep the city’s money safe and invested wisely. Councilmember Boone made the motion to approve the City of Edna’s Investment Policy Resolution No. R-2019-04. Councilmember Callis seconded the motion. All voted AYE. Motion carried.

DISCUSS AND TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION TO CONSIDER PROCLAMATION DECLARING APRIL AS FAIR HOUSING MONTH:

Councilmember Callis made the motion to approve the proclamation declaring April as Fair Housing Month. Councilmember Muncrief seconded the motion. All voted AYE. Motion carried.

HEAR FROM DR. KANA REGARDING FERAL CATS AND STRAY ANIMALS:

Dr. Holly Kana with Lakeway Veterinary Clinic addressed the council and offered to help the City of Edna with its feral population. Kana noted it the city were to remove all the stray cats from the city that it would just create a vacuum and other cats would move in. Kana recommended the spay, neuter, release solution and said she was willing to help as service to the community. “The city has to assess the problem first and create ordinances. It won’t happen overnight, we need to work together to make this happen.” Kana told explained to the council that a female cat can have up to four litters of kittens a year and one to

eight kittens in each litter. A male cat's territory can spread over seven miles." Kana added that she would work with Happy Tails one Saturday or Sunday a month and could neuter up to 50 male cats a day. **Spaying female cats takes more time and she would only be able to do up to 10 a day. She said she would** also talk with Aaron Wilfert to see if he could assist in any way.

HEAR FROM JAMES GRIFFIN, TEXAS DISPOSAL SYSTEMS AND DISCUSS ANY CONCERNS:

At a previous council meeting, the city council expressed their concerns that the brush wasn't being picked up as often as the company promised. Jim Griffin with Texas Disposal Systems asked the council to instruct the staff to have all citizen calls regarding brush that wasn't being picked up to be asked to call Texas Disposal Systems directly. Mr. Griffin said city residents have had more brush than they originally estimated and they would be sending an extra truck when and if they get behind. City residents should call TDS directly at 844-873-7734 or 800-375-8375 with any trash concerns.

DISCUSS AND TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION TO CONSIDER ORDINANCE NO. 2019-01 (a) AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 2019-01: SECTION 6: EARLY VOTING HOURS; SECTION 10: VOTING COMMITTEE AND SECTION 12: THE OFFICIAL DATE TO CANVASS THE VOTES FROM THE MAY 4, 2019 GENERAL ELECTION:

City Secretary Miska noted that Ordinance No. 2019-01 was adopted in January 2019. She asked the council to amend that ordinance by approving Ordinance No. 2019-01 (a). The amended ordinance would extend early voting hours to 6pm; reduce the voting committee and change the official date to canvass the votes from the May 4, 2019 General Election. Councilmember Muncrief made the motion to approve Ordinance No. 2019-01 (a) an ordinance amending Ordinance No. 2019-01: Section 6: early voting hours; Section 10: voting committee and Section 12: the official date to canvass the votes from the May 4, 2019 General Election. Councilmember Callis seconded the motion. All voted AYE. Motion carried.

HEAR CONCERNS FROM WILLIAM SELDERS REGARDING PLAQUE AT MARTIN LUTHER KING PARK AND TAKE ANY ACTION DEEMED NECESSARY:

William Selders addressed the council concerning the signage at the Martin Luther King Children's Park. Selders said they park was supposed to be named the Lorrian Jones Children's Park. Selders stated that "all his life Lorrian wanted a children's park and he worked hard to get it done before he passed away in 2010." An existing sign is posted that says Martin Luther King Children's Park. Mayor Hermes said that sign would remain because a grant from Texas Parks & Wildlife was used to pay for some of the park. C

DISCUSS AND TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION TO CONSIDER MAKING CERTAIN AREAS OF SHELBY PARK HANDICAP ACCESSIBLE:

Recently a citizen brought to the attention of the city council that she had recently been at a ball game at Shelby Park with her grand-daughter who is in a wheelchair. Janet Graves said the restrooms were difficult to navigate with a wheelchair and ramps, would be a helpful access the bleachers. Director of Public Works Brad Ryan reported to Mrs. Graves that this week city crews had gone to the park and fixed the bathrooms and ramps were installed. Also, accessibility was added to the bleachers.

REVIEW CENTERPOINT ENERGY 2019 ANNUAL GRIP ADJUSTMENT FOR THE SOUTH TEXAS DIVISION:

Ron Chaney from Centerpoint Energy reported to council regarding the 2019 Annual Grip Adjustment for the South Texas Division. Councilmember Vasquez made the motion to suspend the 2019 Annual Grip Adjustment for the South Texas Division. Councilmember Callis seconded the motion. All voted AYE. Motion carried.

DISCUSS AND TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION ON THE CARVER SCHOOL PROPERTY:

City Manager Doering asked that this item be tabled. Councilmember Callis made the motion to table the discussion on the Carver School property. Councilmember Boone seconded the motion. All voted AYE. Motion carried.

DISCUSS AND TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION TO CONSIDER APPOINTMENT TO THE BUILDING AND STANDARDS COMMISSION:

Councilmember Muncrief noted he has someone in mind but hasn't been able to talk with them. Councilmember Smiga made the motion to table this agenda item. Councilmember Boone seconded the motion. All voted AYE. Motion carried.

CONSIDER PAYMENT OF CURRENT BILLS:

Councilmember Callis questioned #60 and #101 listed on the bills. Finance Director Salomon left the council chambers to check the bills in question. Upon her return, Salomon stated that there was a typo on Item #101. It was entered as \$68,400.10 and it should have been \$6,840.10. With that information Councilmember Callis made the motion to approve the bills in the amount of \$299,647.27. Councilmember Boone 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; 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 noted that he and the city engineers went to each of the city's parks to review if a plan was needed to comply with the City's Disabilities Act. **Street Superintendent Steve Sample** reported city crews had changed out three of old benches and replaced them with three new benches. The new benches were part of new equipment grant from Lavaca Navidad River Authority. Also, purchase with grants funds the worm, educational blocks and trash receptacles. City crews installed coal mix at all ball fields making them wheelchair accessible and added three handicapped parking spaces. **Director of Public Works Brad Ryan** stated that water leaks are being repaired throughout the city. Justin Weber is doing a good job as the new Water Wastewater Superintendent. **Chief of Police Clinton Wooldridge** reported that two applications have been received.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

HOLD AN EXECUTIVE SESSION IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT CODE §551.074: DELIBERATE, EVALUATION, DUTIES: MUNICIPAL COURT JUDGE

At this time, Mayor Hermes asked that the council room be cleared of visitors.

DISCUSS AND TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION ON EXECUTIVE SESSION:

There were no actions taken.

ADJOURN:

Council came back into open session at 9:07 p.m. Councilmember Muncrief made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember Callis seconded the motion. All voted AYE. Motion carried.

APPROVED: _____
Joe Hermes, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Becky Miska, City Secretary