

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

The Edna City Council met in regular session on Thursday, February 2, 2023, in council chambers at 6:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Lance Smiga called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. The council stood for a moment of silence, followed by the council and audience reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. Councilperson District 1 Cipriano Palacios, Councilperson District 2 Wayne Callis, Councilperson District 3 Chris Jackson, Councilperson District 4 Mike Dodds and Councilperson District 5 Johnny Vasquez were present, City Manager Gary Broz, Chief of Police Rick Boone, Finance Director Diane Pierce, Director of Utilities Brad Ryan, Street Superintendent Andy Brzozowski and Interim City Secretary LaSonya Robinson were also present. The minutes were recorded by Interim City Secretary Robinson.

APPROVE MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD February 2, 2022:

Councilperson Jackson made the motion to approve the minutes of the city council meeting held February 2, 2023. Councilperson Vasquez seconded the motion. All voted AYE. Motion carried.

VISITORS: John Elton, Carolina Jalufka, Adam Ulbricht

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

“During the council meeting, as each item is addressed, the council shall also allow the audience to speak on any subject matter that is posted on the agenda in accordance with HB 2840. The council may not take action on any item which has not been posted on the agenda.” Please limit-two minutes.

There were no public comments.

PRESENT PROCLAMATION HONORING THE 2022-2023 EDNA COWBOYS AND THEIR ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

Mayor Smiga passed on the proclamation honoring the 2022-2023 Edna Cowboys and their accomplishments until the next meeting.

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.:

Ulbricht asking for \$10,000 for the Chamber of Commerce funding. Councilperson Jackson asked if they had asked Teagler. Caroline answered yes, they received \$500. Mayor Smiga stated that \$5000 is what was budgeted for the funding. Caroline names a few events they use the funding for: Big Buck contest, Wine tour, Halloween on Main, job fair, golf tournament, 5k. She stated that the events help promote businesses, they need hotels. Councilperson Palacios asked if they the same events from last year. Councilperson Jackson asked what the Big Buck net profit is. Carolina stated between \$10,000-\$15,00. Councilperson Dodds awarded \$5000 funding to the Chamber of Commerce & Agriculture. Councilperson Callis seconded the motion. All voted AYE. Motion carried.

DISCCUS AND CONSIDER THE EDNA LITTLE LEAGUE AGREEMENT AND TAKE ANY ACTION DEEMED NECESSARY:

City Manager Broz stated we review the contract year to year; it should have been completed in December. Working on concession and may have to make changes to contract once complete. Councilperson Callis approved the Edna Little League agreement. Councilperson Vasquez seconded the motion. All voted AYE. Motion carried.

HEAR PRESENTATION FROM CITY ATTORNEY JAKE SRP ON 1128 MLK PROPERTY AND TAKE ANY ACTION DEEMED NECESSARY:

City attorney Srp stated that the owners of property 1128 MLK received a citation, but it has been paid. City Manager Broz stated it was for weed eating around ditches and concrete. City Attorney Srp states Sam with Code Enforcement will monitor them about keeping property clean. The property is tied up in litigation and cannot sale property until litigation is complete. Mayor Smiga asks about it being a hazardous area. Councilperson Dodds asked if there any problems with children being on the property. Chief of Police Boone states there have been no calls or reports of anyone being on the property.

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

Chief of Police Rick Boone states that TCOLE requires every law enforcement agency to maintain a racial breakdown of stops it makes. Chief Boone reported 893 Traffic stops 105 was black, 12 were Asian, 535 Were White, 241 were Hispanic 0 Native. Demographics for Edna are 5499.

DISCUSS AND CONSIDER BUDGET AMENDMENTS:

Mayor Smiga passed on the budget amendment until the next meeting.

DISCUSS AND TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION TO CONSIDER PAYMENT OF CURRENT BILLS:

Councilperson Palacios made the motion to approve the payment of current bills in the amount of \$21,120.67. Councilperson Vasquez seconded the motion. All voted AYE. Motion carried.

CITY STAFF REPORTS:

“At this time, City Council will hear reports / updates on all committees or department assignments which may include, but is not limited to the following: City Manager-grants, projects, public information; Finance Director-finance & department reports; Police Department-grant updates, police reports; Director of Utilities-park reports, water & sewer updates; Street Department-repairs/projects; Code Enforcement-progress reports; Jonas Titus-Vice Economic Development; City Secretary-public information.” City Manager Broz stated we are hiring in utilities, accounts payable, and streets. C.O. project with Mercer should start in the next 10 days. Golden Crescent 3.4-million-dollar grant has a twist, Victoria is not happy. Charter Commission met on Tuesday, no recommendations. Election in May District 1- contested. Will have a floodplain PowerPoint put on website.

Finance Director Diane Pierce stated that everyone has stepped up and we are getting the work done with the few we have now.

Street Superintendent Andy Brozowski stated that they cleared a tree off the road at Hanover and Erie due to the bad weather. There was a culvert collapse on Caroline. They have cleaned the street yard. Just waiting for it to dry.

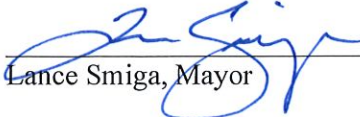
Director of Utilities stated that Wayne James, Daniel, and Brain passed the Wastewater D test. Had a water leak on Carver today.


Chief of Police Rick Boone stated that Seth Prochaska is no longer employed with the City of Edna. They have been receiving applications for the open position. Assaults are up, seized \$1300. Edna Junior High has a vape outbreak and will go and speak with the kids about how bad it is. In car video is working. Lone Star Taskforce stats: Traffic stop-12,654, Pursuits-322, Bailouts-204, Illegal aliens apprehended-2,186, other related arrest-1855, engaging in organized criminal activity charges-179, smuggling of person-374, vehicles seized-258, drug seizures-196.

Councilperson Palacios recognized Joe with parks that he is doing a great job. He is not just sitting around waiting.

ADJOURN:

Councilperson Callis made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:51 p.m. Councilperson Dodds seconded the motion. All voted AYE. Motion carried.


Lance Smiga, Mayor


LaSonya Robinson, City Secretary