

**ROCKDALE CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING**

Present:

Councilmembers:

John King, Mayor
Nathan Bland
Colby Fisher
Joyce Dalley, Mayor Pro-Tem
Willie Phillips

City Staff:

Chris Whittaker, City Manager
Terry Blanchard, City Secretary
Sandra Ellis, City Treasurer
Lon Williams, Code Enforcement Officer
Thomas Harris, Chief of Police
Zach Reeves, Public Works Director

Absent:

Doug Calame
Leroy Phillips

Call to Order and announce a Quorum is Present

With a quorum of the Council members present, the Regular Meeting of the Rockdale City Council was called to order by Mayor King at 5:31 p.m., January 9, 2017, at City Hall, 505 W. Cameron Ave, Rockdale, Texas

Pledge of Allegiance

Citizen Communications

No comments.

5A. Consent Agenda Approvals:

1. Minutes of regular meeting on December 12, 2016
2. City bills paid
3. Investment report
4. Tax collection report
5. Library Report
6. Municipal Court Report
7. Police Department Report
8. Code Enforcement Reports
9. Public Works Department Reports
10. Hotel Tax Fund Report

MOTION: Upon a motion made by Councilmember Fisher and a second by Councilmember Bland, the Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed to approve the consent agenda as presented. Motion carried.

6A. Department Reports – Airport Board

6B. Department Reports – Police Department

Skipped – will hear reports during later sections of the agenda.

7A. Conduct a public hearing to receive comments regarding a tax abatement application, a tax abatement agreement, and establishing a reinvestment zone for the Rockdale Senior Care Realty, LLC property located at 1338 West US Highway 79 (legal description of A0520 Robertson, Sterling, approximate 6.0 acre tract out of 28.503 Acres), City of Rockdale, Milam County, Texas

Public hearing was opened at 5:34 p.m. Discussed the proximity of the new senior care center to the intermediate school. Public hearing was closed at 5:37 p.m.

8A. Consider and take any necessary action on the first reading of an ordinance establishing a reinvestment zone for property located at 1338 West US Highway 79 (legal description of A0520 Robertson, Sterling, approximate 6.0 acre tract out of 28.503 Acres), City of Rockdale, Milam County, Texas

MOTION: Upon a motion made by Councilmember Fisher and a second by Councilmember Dalley, the Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed to approve the ordinance as presented. Motion carried.

- 8B. Consider and take any necessary action on the first reading of an ordinance ordering and establishing procedures for a 2017 General Election to elect one (1) Council Member for the East Ward and one (1) Council Member for the West Ward in the City of Rockdale**

MOTION: Upon a motion made by Councilmember Bland and a second by Councilmember Fisher, the Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed to approve the ordinance as presented. Motion carried.

- 8C. Consider and take any necessary action on the first reading of an ordinance readopting the tax abatement agreement guidelines, criteria and procedures established by Ordinance 2013-02-11 (6B)**

MOTION: Upon a motion made by Councilmember Fisher and a second by Councilmember Dalley, the Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed to approve the ordinance as presented. Motion carried.

- 9A. Consider and take any necessary action on a resolution establishing a joint election agreement with Milam County and the Rockdale Independent School District**

MOTION: Upon a motion made by Councilmember Dalley and a second by Councilmember Bland, the Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed to approve the resolution as presented. Motion carried.

- 9B. Consider and take any necessary action on a resolution authorizing the submission of a Texas Community Development Block Grant Program application to the Texas Department of Agriculture for the Community Development Fund; and authorizing the city manager to act as the City's executive officer and authorized representative in all matters pertaining to the City's participation in the Texas Community Development Block Grant Program**

Chris Whittaker reported that the project would be a water filtration system.

MOTION: Upon a motion made by Councilmember Bland and a second by Councilmember Dalley, the Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed to approve the resolution as presented. Motion carried.

- 10A. Consider and take any necessary action on rules and guidelines for the H.H. Coffield Regional Airport**

MOTION: Upon a motion made by Councilmember Dalley and a second by Councilmember Bland, the Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed to approve the airport rules and guidelines as presented. Motion carried.

- 10B. Receive an update and take any necessary action on maintenance, operations, future funding, grants, and partnership with Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) Aviation**

MOTION: Upon a motion made by Councilmember Bland and a second by Councilmember Fisher, the Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed to authorize the city manager to move forward with TxDOT Aviation and apply for any TxDOT aviation grants. Motion carried.

- 10C. Consider and take any necessary action on the award of bid for red building (to be moved from City property)**

MOTION: Upon a motion made by Councilmember Dalley and a second by Councilmember W. Phillips, the Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed to award the bid to R.D. Jenkins. Motion carried.

- 10D. Consider and take any necessary action on award of bid for administration services for infrastructure improvements through the Texas Department of Agriculture Office of Rural Affairs (TDA) Texas Capital Fund program**

Project is to connect sewer to the new senior care center and possibly upgrade the lift station.

MOTION: Upon a motion made by Councilmember Bland and a second by Councilmember Dalley, the Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed to award bid to Langford Community Management Services. Motion carried.

10E. Consider and take any necessary action on award of bid for engineering services for infrastructure improvements through the Texas Department of Agriculture Office of Rural Affairs (TDA) Texas Capital Fund program

MOTION: Upon a motion made by Councilmember Bland and a second by Councilmember Fisher, the Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed to award bid to BEFCO Engineering Inc. Motion carried.

10F. Consider and take any necessary action on appointments to the Library Board

Council postponed item until the February meeting and will ask the Library Board for a recommendation.

10G. Consider and take any necessary action on appointments to the Planning & Zoning Commission

MOTION: Upon a motion made by Councilmember Bland and a second by Councilmember Fisher, the Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed to reappoint Doug Williams, Charles Miles, Joan Ratliff, and Paul Roedersheimer and allow them to draw for terms at their next meeting. Motion carried.

10H. Receive a report from the city manager and take any necessary action regarding the water projects and road repair/replacement

Zach Reeves distributed information to the Council and addressed the main concerns. Stated that Redbud needs to be replaced, but is not on the list as most of the work can be done in-house. List of options included:

1. Alcoa water and street improvements (at Middleton) – approximately \$31,000
2. San Gabriel water improvements (Thrall to Bell) – approximately \$561,000
3. Rice Street water main improvements (US 79 to Ferguson) – approximately \$468,000

MOTION: Upon a motion made by Councilmember Dalley and a second by Councilmember W. Phillips, the Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed to authorize the city manager to get bids for San Gabriel and approve work for Alcoa/Middleton to be done in-house. Motion carried.

10I. Consider and take any necessary action on a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the City of Rockdale and the Rockdale Downtown Association

Michelle Morgan thanked Council on behalf of the Rockdale Downtown Association for their support. She asked that the last paragraph of the MOU be amended as the RDA is unable to put up, take down and store the items at this time. The RDA will maintain the lights within their budget.

MOTION: Upon a motion made by Councilmember Bland and a second by Councilmember Fisher, the Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed to approve the MOU with amendments (remove #1 and #2 from the last paragraph). Motion carried.

10J. Consider and take any necessary action on a recommendation from the city manager regarding the following tourism related projects:

1. Rockdale Dining Guide development and printing
2. Development of postcards
3. Development and production of storyboard for the Calaboose location
4. Concrete pad and sidewalk for Calaboose building at City Hall
5. Update to Walking Tour brochure and printing

Council members stated that the Calaboose needs to be closer to the highway so that it is more visible. Could be located closer to the Depot, Bridge Park or Wolfe Park. Postpone item #4 for more options.

MOTION: Upon a motion made by Councilmember Dalley and a second by Councilmember W. Phillips, the Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed to approve items 1, 2, 3 & 5. Motion carried.

10K. Consider and take any necessary action on a recommendation from the city manager regarding a request submitted by the Rockdale Chamber of Commerce for funding from the hotel occupancy tax fund for annual operation of the Rockdale Visitor Center, Tourism/Marketing Director, and website expansion

Item was postponed until the February meeting.

10L. Receive an update on the new Police Department facility

Chris Whittaker reported that he met with KSA on Friday. KSA will be sending revised drawings soon. Whittaker and Chief Harris are working on options for the interior of the building.

10M. Receive an update from the city manager regarding the Rockdale Projects List

Chris Whittaker reported on the following projects:

- The warning siren pole will be moved at no cost to the City
- Library schedule will be revisited. Look into having the Library open Monday through Friday and half day on Saturdays.
- Look into changing the customer service hours for City Hall. Possibly closing for lunch and/or having shorter lobby hours.

Adjourned at 7:07 p.m.


These minutes approved on the 13th day of February, 2017.

APPROVED:

ATTEST:



 Terry Blanchard, TRMC
 City Secretary





 John E. King, Mayor