

**ROCKDALE CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING**

Present:**Councilmembers:**

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

City Staff:

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

Absent:

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 5:34 p.m., February 13, 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 January 9, 2017
2. City bills paid
3. Investment report
4. Tax collection report
5. Library Report
6. Municipal Court Report
7. Police Department Report
8. Annual Racial Profiling Report
9. Code Enforcement Reports
10. Public Works Department Reports
11. Hotel Tax Fund Report

MOTION: Upon a motion made by Councilmember Calame and a second by Councilmember Fisher, the Council voted five (5) for and none (0) opposed to approve the consent agenda as presented. Motion carried.

6A. Department Reports – Library Board

Melanie Todd reported on activities at the Library. First Friday Coffee is going great. Thanked Council and city manager for funds to replace the windows and doors. Library Board meeting was well-attended. March meeting will include a brainstorming session regarding landscaping.

6B. Department Reports – Public Works Department

Zach Reeves reported on major water leaks in January. The valve project has been completed. Leak list is down from approximately 100 to 21. Street Department is busy filling potholes. A portion of Highland Avenue is still closed for repairs. The credit card machine on the fuel pump at the airport is working. A courtesy truck is available for visiting pilots. Tennis courts are being resurfaced and should be completed by the end of February. Drainage issue by the courts is being addressed. Community project to repaint tables at Veterans Park is scheduled for the 18th. Swing project may be handled for Earth Day.

7A. Conduct a workshop to review the FY 2016-17 budget (year-to-date)

Workshop was opened at 5:46 p.m. Council reviewed revenues and expenses for each section of the budget. Focused on expenses that were close to 50% or more for the year. Council requested quarterly workshops for budget review in the same format with detail sheets. Workshop was closed at 6:23 p.m.

- 8A. Consider and take any necessary action on the second 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 Dalley and a second by Councilmember W. Phillips, the Council voted five (5) for and none (0) opposed to approve the ordinance as presented. Motion carried.

- 8B. Consider and take any necessary action on the second 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 Calame, the Council voted five (5) for and none (0) opposed to approve the ordinance as presented. Motion carried.

- 8C. Consider and take any necessary action on the second 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 Bland and a second by Councilmember Calame, the Council voted five (5) for and none (0) opposed to approve the ordinance as presented. Motion carried.

- 8D. Consider and take any necessary action on the first reading of an ordinance amending Chapter 3 of the City of Rockdale Code of Ordinances by adding Section 3.04.143 to be entitled "Cross-Connection Control Program"**

MOTION: Upon a motion made by Councilmember Calame and a second by Councilmember Bland, the Council voted five (5) for and none (0) opposed to approve the ordinance as presented. Motion carried.

- 9A. Consider and take any necessary action on a resolution authorizing the submission of a Groundwater Conservation Grant Application to the Post Oak Savannah Groundwater Conservation District (POSGCD) and authorizing the Mayor, the City Manager, and the Public Works Director to act as the City's representatives to perform all reasonable and necessary actions with respect to the administrative consideration of the application, and to perform the terms and conditions of the award to the Conservation Grant, if approved by the POSGCD**

MOTION: Upon a motion made by Councilmember Bland and a second by Councilmember Dalley, the Council voted five (5) for and none (0) opposed to approve the resolution as presented. Motion carried.

- 9B. Consider and take any necessary action on a resolution supporting Brooks Haven Supportive Housing, a development for affordable rental housing by Brooks Haven, Ltd**

MOTION: Upon a motion made by Councilmember Dalley and a second by Councilmember Fisher, the Council voted five (5) for and none (0) opposed to approve the resolution as presented. Motion carried.

❖ Councilmember W. Phillips left at 6:30 p.m.

- 10A. Consider and take any necessary action concerning a tax abatement agreement between the City of Rockdale and Rockdale Senior Care Realty, LLC**

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

- 10B. Consider and take any necessary action on a recommendation from the Planning & Zoning Commission regarding a replat request submitted by the Rockdale Independent School District (RISD) for a subdivision of Lot 1, being a 6.00 acre tract of land in the Sterling C. Robertson Survey, Abstract No. 52 and the Samuel P. Carson Survey, A-119, lying within the City of Rockdale, Milam County, Texas and being part of a 14.892 acre tract of land to the Board of Trustees of the Rockdale Independent School District, recorded in Volume 1031, Page 265 and Volume 1031, Page 269 of the Official Records of Milam County, Texas (ORMCT) and being part of a 5.274 acre tract of land to the Board of Trustees of the Rockdale Independent School District, recorded in Volume 1031, Page 276 and Volume 1031, Page 282 (ORMCT)**

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 request as presented. Motion carried.

- 10C. Consider and take any necessary action on a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the City of Rockdale and the Milam County Historical Commission for funding of two (2) projects within Rockdale**

MOTION: Upon a motion made by Councilmember Bland and a second by Councilmember Calame, the Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed to approve an agreement between the City of Rockdale and the Milam County Historical Commission. Motion carried.

- 10D. Consider and take any necessary action on appointments to the Library Board**

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 Tim Ramey and appoint Belinda Hillhouse to the Library Board. Motion carried.

- 10E. Receive an update on the Hotel Occupancy Tax fund marketing refund to hoteliers**

Chris Whittaker gave an update on the hotels that have received a refund for marketing.

- 10F. Receive an update and take any necessary action on the General Fund and Enterprise Fund reserves**

Chris Whittaker reported on the proposed projects. Proposed Project #1: Use \$407,000 from Enterprise Fund reserves for Rice Street (to move water line to middle of road). Proposed Project #2: Use approximately \$48,000 from General Fund reserves for S FM 908 curve at Roberts Avenue (project with TxDOT). Council asked the cost to complete the remainder of Rice Street. Zach Reeves will get the additional cost estimate to Chris Whittaker.

MOTION: A motion was made by Councilmember Dalley to proceed with the project on 908. Motion died for lack of a second.

MOTION: Upon a motion made by Councilmember Calame and a second by Councilmember Dalley, the Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed to proceed with both projects. Motion carried.

- 10G. Receive an update and take any necessary action on the Calaboose location**

Chris Whittaker presented options for placement to Council. To place the Calaboose at Bridge Park, the cost would be approximately \$20,000. The Depot tentatively agreed to allow placement on their property as long as there was no cost to their organization.

MOTION: Upon a motion made by Councilmember Dalley and a second by Councilmember Calame, the Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed to place the Calaboose at Bridge Park and request payment through HOT funds. Motion carried.

- 10H. Receive an update and take any necessary action on the Patterson Center improvements**

Chris Whittaker gave a brief summary on the architectural design for the Community Center. Stan Graves will provide new designs for bathrooms, covered patio, front doors, and/or kitchen. Focus needs to be on the core items for functionality.

10I. 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

Rebecca Vasquez and Terri Sandoval spoke on behalf of the Chamber. Chris Whittaker recommended a contract with Chamber before any funds are released.

MOTION: Upon a motion made by Councilmember Dalley and a second by Councilmember Fisher, the Council voted three (3) for and one (1) opposed to approve the request for \$24,000 as presented. Voting for the motion were Dalley, Fisher, and Calame. Voting against was Bland. Motion carried.

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

Chris Whittaker reported on the following projects:

- Concept sketch for the new Police Station
- Bridge Park has been metered for electricity
- Sent letter requesting assistance to TxDOT Aviation
- Met Friday on the Highway 79 road project

Adjourned at 7:44 p.m.


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

APPROVED:



 John E. King, Mayor

ATTEST:



 Terry Blanchard, TRMC
 City Secretary

