

**ROCKDALE CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING**

Present:

Councilmembers:

John King, Mayor
Nathan Bland
Willie Phillips
Denise Wallace
Colby Fisher

Absent:

Doug Calame
Joyce Dalley, Mayor Pro-Tem

City Staff:

Chris Whittaker, City Manager
Terry Blanchard, City Secretary
Sandra Ellis, City Treasurer
Jason Hubbell, Public Works Director
Lon Williams, Code Enforcement Officer
Thomas Harris, Chief of Police
Jerry Waggoner, Municipal Court Judge

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 5:30 p.m., December 11, 2017, at City Hall, 505 W. Cameron Ave, Rockdale, Texas

Pledge of Allegiance

Citizen Communications

- John McKenzie introduced himself and stated that he had volunteered his services for the MDD Board.
- Dave Melton spoke about Earth Day on April 22nd. They have partnered with the school and will have the opening ceremony on April 20th to allow for student participation.
- Belinda Hillhouse – no comments

5A. Consent Agenda Approvals:

1. Minutes of regular meeting on November 13 and special meeting on December 4, 2017
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 Bland and a second by Councilmember Phillips, the Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed to approve the consent agenda as presented. Motion carried.

6A. Department Reports – Cemetery Committee

6B. Department Reports – Municipal Court

Judge Waggoner gave a brief summary of court activities.

- 7A. Consider and take any necessary action on the second reading of an ordinance amending Appendix A of the City’s Code of Ordinances, the Fee Schedule, Article A1.000 Building, Development and Property Maintenance Fees; Article A2.000 Utility Rates and Charges; and Article A3.000 Other Fees, by amending the fees charged for electrical registration fees, utility service fee, TCEQ assessment fee, credit/debit card processing fees, swimming pool fees, by deleting outside city limit rates for water, wastewater, tap fees, and garbage collection, and by adding Section A1.012 Vacant Commercial Structure Permit; amending and repealing conflicting ordinances; providing a severability clause; providing an effective date and open meetings clause**

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 ordinance as presented. Motion carried.

- 7B. Consider and take any necessary action on the first reading of an ordinance amending Chapter 13 of the City of Rockdale Code of Ordinances by amending Article 13.03 Water and Sewer Rates and Charges; providing a repealer clause; providing a severability clause; finding and determining that the meeting at which this ordinance is passed is open to the public as required by law**

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

- 8A. Consider and take any necessary action on a recommendation from the Planning & Zoning Commission regarding a request submitted by Bradley C. Loehr on behalf of Rockdale Senior Care Realty, LLC for a short form subdivision, easement, and variance of Samuel Carson Survey, Abstract No. 119, Lot 1 (6.00 acre tract), City of Rockdale, Milam County, Texas (property known as 1350 West Highway 79) into Lot 1 (called 5.478 acres) and Lot 1-A (0.522 acres)**
- 1. Easement – Reserves a 60' wide ingress/egress easement and a 15' wide storm sewer easement across Lot 1-A**
 - 2. Variance – Zero foot (0') front building setback for the residual of the original Lot 1**

P&Z Commission recommended approval.

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

- 8B. Consider and take any necessary action on an Electric Utility Easement for Bartlett Electric Cooperative, Inc on the old City dump ground property (for Louise Darcey property at 2495 CR 322, Rockdale, Texas)**

Louise Darcey stated the nearest electricity link with Bartlett is on City property and they need permission from the City to proceed. Ms. Darcey said that there would be no cost to the City. Chris Whittaker informed Council that legal had approved the agreement as long as there was no cost to the City.

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 request as presented as long as there is no cost to the City. Motion carried.

- 8C. Consider and take any necessary action to award bid for engineering services for the 2018 TWDB Grant/Loan project**

Mayor King stated that he has no problem with awarding the bids, but he feels that any significant increase in rates should be put before the voters. The next possible election date would be in May. Chris Whittaker replied that applications are due in March. He plans to workshop this issue in January. Will get more information from KSA regarding the TWDB process. Councilmember Bland stated that he is not sold that the issue needs to go before the voters. Must look at want vs. need. If this is a need, then the Council should proceed with the project.

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 KSA with a workshop in January. Motion carried.

- 8D. Consider and take any necessary action to award bid for financial analysis services for the 2018 TWDB Grant/Loan project**

MOTION: Upon a motion made by Councilmember Bland and a second by Councilmember Phillips, the Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed to award bid to Specialized Public Finance. Motion carried.

8E. Consider and take any necessary action to award bid for bond counsel services for the 2018 TWDB Grant/Loan project

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 Bickerstaff Heath Delgado Acosta, LLP. Motion carried.

8F. Consider and take any necessary action on an appointment to the Rockdale Municipal Development District Board of Directors

Four (4) applications were received. Applicants are Troy Zinn, John McKenzie, Michael Duncan, and Rebecca Vasquez. Dr. Weed stated that Troy Zinn expressed an interest in the Board was unable to attend tonight's meeting. Kara Clore requested the Council consider guidelines to assist in the selection process. Mayor King recommended Troy Zinn due to his accounting experience. Chris Whittaker stated that there were two great candidates in the audience.

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 appoint John McKenzie to the MDD Board. Motion carried.

8G. Consider and take any necessary action on approval of the City Holiday Schedule for 2018

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

8H. Consider and take any necessary action on Council liaison appointments to Boards and Commissions

Chris Whittaker gave a brief summary. Councilmember Fisher asked to be removed as MDD liaison. Councilmember Bland asked to be removed as Park Board liaison. Council members volunteered for the following boards: Bland for MDD; Fisher for Park Board; and Wallace for Library Board. No changes were made to the following: Doug Calame – Airport Board; Joyce Dalley – Cemetery Committee; and Willie Phillips – P&Z Commission.

MOTION: Upon a motion made by Councilmember Bland and a second by Councilmember Phillips, the Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed to appoint Nathan Bland as Council liaison to the MDD Board; Colby Fisher as Council liaison to the Park Board; and Denise Wallace as Council liaison to the Library Board. Motion carried.

8I. Receive an update from the city manager regarding the Rockdale Projects List


No updates.

Adjourned at 6:26 p.m.

These minutes approved on the 8th day of January, 2018.

APPROVED:

ATTEST:



Terry Blanchard, TRMC
City Secretary



John E. King, Mayor