

**ROCKDALE CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING**

Present:

Councilmembers:

John King, Mayor
Nathan Bland
Willie Phillips ❖ *(left @ 6:15 pm)*
Denise Wallace
Colby Fisher
Joyce Dalley, Mayor Pro-Tem

City Staff:

Chris Whittaker, City Manager
Terry Blanchard, City Secretary
Sandra Ellis, City Treasurer
Jason Hubbell, Public Works Director
Thomas Harris, Chief of Police
Lon Williams, Code Enforcement Officer
Melanie Todd, Librarian
Nicole Hirsch, Marketing Director

Absent:

Doug Calame

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 5:33 p.m., April 9, 2018, 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 March 12, 2018
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
11. Marketing Director Reports

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

6A. Department Reports – Park Board

No report.

6B. Department Reports – Administration

Sandra Ellis reported that the auditors will be on-site mid-month. Transition to new water billing cycle is still underway. MVBA has begun work on the delinquent water accounts.

7A. Conduct a workshop for a quarterly review of the FY 2017-18 budget

Workshop opened at 5:36 p.m. Mayor gave a brief summary of Enterprise Fund. Water revenues are close to target. Wastewater revenue is down slightly. Council reviewed balance sheet and number of days in reserve. Workshop closed at 5:42 p.m.

8A. Consider and take any necessary action on the second reading of an ordinance amending the Rockdale Code of Ordinances Article 14.01.001 adopting a Comprehensive City Plan, providing for the amendment of the plan; providing for related matters; 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 Dalley and a second by Councilmember Fisher, 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 amending Article 1.02 "Administration" of the City of Rockdale Code of Ordinances; providing a severability clause; providing for Open Meetings; establishing an effective date and other related matters

MOTION: Upon a motion made by Councilmember Dalley and a second by Councilmember Phillips, 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 the FY 2017-18 budget

No action was taken.

9B. Consider and take any necessary action on a request submitted by the Rockdale Independent School District (RISD) for the conveyance of property on Miller Street to RISD which may be jointly owned by RISD and the City of Rockdale

Dr. Denise Monzingo gave a brief history of the property.

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 conveyance of property to RISD as requested. Motion carried.

9C. Consider and take any necessary action on a request submitted by the Rockdale Independent School District for a variance of the Landscaping and Screening Requirements in the Rockdale Code of Ordinances, Section 14.02.122

Jeff Bresee gave a brief summary to Council. They have tried to save as many trees as possible, but in order to avoid the risk of tree root damage to the new concrete work, they will not be able to replace the number of trees as required by ordinance. They are requesting to reduce the required replacement to 30% of the existing caliper inches removed. Chris Whittaker recommends approval of request. Lon Williams stated that he did not see an issue with granting the variance.

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 variance request as presented. Motion carried.

9D. Receive an update and take any necessary action on changes to the Code Enforcement position

Chris Whittaker presented the concept of separating duties for code enforcement into Code Enforcement Official and Building Official. Options include: (1) split duties with both employees working part-time, or (2) split duties with Code Enforcement Official being a full-time position and Building Official being a part-time position using income from Verizon contract to supplement funds. Mayor King stated that item would be better addressed during the next budget cycle. Councilmember Bland stated that code enforcement is vital right now. Quality of Place and the appearance along Highway 79 are issues that need to be priority.

MOTION: Upon a motion made by Councilmember Fisher and a second by Councilmember Bland, the Council voted five (5) for and none (0) opposed to begin the process for a full-time Code Enforcement Official and a part-time Building Official (contingent upon the Verizon check being in-hand) with a tentative start date of July 1, 2018. (Lon Williams will go part-time.) Motion carried.

9E. Receive an update and take any necessary action on repair options for the Wastewater Treatment Plant

Jason Hubbell recommends working on one basin this year at a cost of approximately \$200,000.00 and one basin next year.

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 proceed with repairs as recommended and fund through Enterprise Reserve Contingency Fund. Motion carried.

9F. Mayor to proclaim April 8-14, 2018 as National Library Week in Rockdale, Texas

9G. Mayor to proclaim April as Fair Housing Month in Rockdale, Texas

9H. Receive an update from the city manager regarding the Rockdale Projects List

Chris Whittaker gave brief updates on the following:

- Oncor poles at the new police station are in. Old poles will be removed. Gaeke Construction is on track.
- FM 908 still ongoing. AT&T line needs to be relocated. TxDOT is waiting on AT&T.
- Items of discussion for next month's Council meeting will include vehicle maintenance status, street sweeper, and airport
- Letter to cancel the Texas Capital Fund project will be sent tomorrow
- Will be getting sets of bleachers from the school

❖ Councilmember Phillips left at 6:15 p.m.

- FEMA grant for Bureson is less than previously expected
- Look at updating Council priorities in June

Adjourned at 6:18 p.m.

These minutes approved on the 14th day of May, 2018.

APPROVED:

ATTEST:



 Terry Blanchard, TRMC
 City Secretary



 John E. King, Mayor

