

**ROCKDALE CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING**

Present:**Councilmembers:**

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

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

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 5:32 p.m., May 14, 2018, at City Hall, 505 W. Cameron Ave, Rockdale, Texas

Pledge of Allegiance**4A. Canvass of votes for the General Election held on May 5, 2018**

Election results as listed on resolution R2018-05-14 (4A) were read into record by Mayor King.

MOTION: Upon a motion made by Councilmember Calame and a second by Councilmember Fisher, the Council voted six (6) for and none (0) opposed to approve the resolution as presented. Motion carried.

5A. Recognition of outgoing Council Members Willie Phillips and Colby Fisher**5B. Swearing in of elected City officials (Councilmember Jason Barcak representing the West Ward and Councilmember Richard Coppedge representing the East Ward)****5C. Elect one Councilmember as Mayor Pro-Tem**

MOTION: Upon a motion made by Councilmember Calame and a second by Councilmember Dalley, the Council voted five (5) for and none (0) opposed with one (1) abstention to elect Nathan Bland as Mayor Pro-Tem. Voting for the motion were Barcak, Calame, Dalley, Coppedge, and Wallace. Bland abstained. Motion carried.

6A. Citizen Communications

- Recognition of Earth Day participants – Certificates of Appreciation were presented to individuals and organizations for their participation in the Earth Day activities
- David Parker and Matt Lingvai gave a presentation on PACE program (Property Assessed Clean Energy)

7A. Consent Agenda Approvals:

1. Minutes of regular meeting on April 9, 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 Dalley and a second by Councilmember Bland, the Council voted six (6) for and none (0) opposed to approve the consent agenda as presented. Motion carried.

8A. Department Reports – Planning & Zoning Commission

Doug Williams gave a brief update to Council.

8B. Department Reports – Building Standards Commission

Lon Williams reported no activity for the Commission since last report. The Commission has three (3) regular member positions that need to be filled and seven (7) alternate member positions open.

8C. Department Reports – Library

Melanie Todd reported that 1st Friday Coffee continues to be a success. There will be two (2) Thursday evening programs taking place in May. Monday usage of the library has increased. The library will be receiving a \$13,000 memorial donation.

8D. Department Reports – IT Services

Trent Gresh with McLane Intelligent Solutions gave a brief presentation.

9A. Consider and take any necessary action to authorize the city manager and legal to proceed with purchase of Public Utility Easement on Hickory Street and granting of deed

MOTION: Upon a motion made by Councilmember Bland and a second by Councilmember Calame, the Council voted six (6) for and none (0) opposed to authorize city manager and legal to proceed as requested. Motion carried.

9B. Consider and take any necessary action on the first reading of an ordinance closing, vacating, and abandoning a portion of street Right-of-Way commonly known as Hickory Street; retaining a twenty foot (20') Public Utility Easement in the abandoned portion of street Right-of-Way; authorizing conveyance to the abutting property owners in proportion to abutting ownership; providing findings of fact; providing severability, effective date and open meetings clauses; and providing for related matters

MOTION: Upon a motion made by Councilmember Bland and a second by Councilmember Calame, the Council voted six (6) for and none (0) opposed to approve the ordinance as presented. Motion carried.

10A. Consider and take any necessary action on a resolution denying the Distribution Cost Recovery Factor rate request of Oncor Electric Delivery Company LLC made on or about April 5, 2018; authorizing participation in a coalition of similarly situated cities; authorizing participation in related rate proceedings; requiring the reimbursement of municipal rate case expenses; authorizing the retention of special counsel; finding that the meeting complies with the Open Meetings Act; making other findings and provisions related to the subject; and declaring an effective date

MOTION: Upon a motion made by Councilmember Calame and a second by Councilmember Wallace, the Council voted six (6) for and none (0) opposed to approve the resolution as presented. Motion carried.

11A. Consider and take any necessary action on a recommendation from the Planning & Zoning Commission regarding a request submitted by Lisa Gerthe for a short form subdivision of Hillcrest Addition, Section 2, Block 2, Lots 5, 6 & 7, City of Rockdale, Milam County, Texas (property ID 27508 on Josie Lane) into Lot 5A

Planning & Zoning Commission recommends approval.

MOTION: Upon a motion made by Councilmember Bland and a second by Councilmember Coppedge, the Council voted six (6) for and none (0) opposed to approve the request as submitted. Motion carried.

11B. Receive an update and take any necessary action on City vehicles

Chris Whittaker gave a brief summary. Jason Hubbell reported on vehicle and equipment needs for the Public Works Department. The following items were discussed:

- Caterpillar loader needs a new engine (approx \$22,000)
- Another piece of equipment needs a new transmission (approx \$7,000)
- Need 2 mowers (approx \$20,000)
- 2009 backhoe has been out of service for approx 4 months
- Street Sweeper issues were operator error – need more training
- Found a laydown machine (2015 used) for approx \$20,000
- Thorndale has a bucket truck they will sell to City for \$2,000

11C. Receive an update and take any necessary action on Enterprise Fleet Management

Chris Whittaker gave a brief summary and stated there is a better solution to manage vehicles. Bo Ash with Enterprise Fleet Management gave a presentation to Council.

- Goal of five-year rotation to freshen fleet without using more money
- Turnkey police vehicles
- Will use local dealerships
- Repairs included in monthly payments
- Tires would continue to be purchased by the City
- Equity leases

Council requested the item be postponed until a future Council meeting.

11D. Receive an update and take any necessary action on airport maintenance and operations

Chris Whittaker reported on the RAMP Grant that was approved approximately six months ago. Runway repair estimate is \$51,000 (RAMP Grant would pay for half of expense). Runway lights are not all working. To rework correctly would be an additional expense of \$17,000 plus the cost of fixtures (currently have 36 lights, but need to increase to 40-45 lights).

Council requested the item be postponed until the next regular meeting.

11E. Receive an update on the Memorandum of Understanding with the Rockdale Fair Association

Chris Whittaker stated that the intent is to codify agreement to reflect current practices. With the change in water billing, several areas of responsibility are in question. Draft agreement is currently with legal for review and changes. When draft agreement comes back from legal, a workshop will be added to the Council agenda for further discussion.

11F. Consider and take any necessary action on a recommendation from the city manager regarding a request submitted by the Rockdale Downtown Association (RDA) for funding from the hotel occupancy tax fund for the “Rock the Ice Festival” events

Collier Perry with the RDA distributed handouts and gave a presentation to Council. RDA is requesting 100% of funding through HOT funds under the category of Sporting Event. Legal opinions were reviewed. After lengthy discussion, the RDA requested that the application be pulled from consideration.

11G. Consider and take any necessary action on a revision recommendation regarding the City of Rockdale and County of Milam Joint Application for Tax Abatement Assistance

Chris Whittaker gave a brief summary. Revision would add lines for requestor to certify that they wouldn't protest their property value if they are granted a tax abatement. Alternative language suggestion was made to add lines that stated if requestor does protest their property value, then they would forfeit their tax abatement.

MOTION: Upon a motion made by Councilmember Calame and a second by Councilmember Dalley, the Council voted six (6) for and none (0) opposed to approve with presented or equivalent language. Motion carried.

11H. Receive an update from the city manager regarding the Rockdale Projects List


Chris Whittaker gave brief updates on the following:

- WWTP – cleaning out basin 1. May clean out digester and then continue on to basin 2 (if necessary) until we reach 500 cubic yards.
- PD is back on track. Oncor pole has been removed.
- Stan Graves gave presentation to key leaders last week. Will present at June Council meeting.
- Bill Pickett storyboard will be placed in the MDD garden prior to Juneteenth celebration.
- Calaboose ground breaking – will move building to Bridge Park.


Adjourned at 8:46 p.m.

These minutes approved on the 11th day of June, 2018.

ATTEST:



Terry Blanchard, TRMC
City Secretary



APPROVED:



John E. King, Mayor