

**ROCKDALE CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING**

Present:**Councilmembers:**

John King, Mayor
Nathan Bland, Mayor Pro-Tem
Jason Barcak
Denise Wallace
Richard Coppedge
Joyce Dalley
Doug Calame ❖ (arrived @ 6:08 p.m.)

City Staff:

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

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., June 11, 2018, at City Hall, 505 W. Cameron Ave, Rockdale, Texas

Pledge of Allegiance**10A. Receive the annual audit for fiscal year 2016-17 from the City's auditors**

Don Allman reviewed the annual audit with Council.

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

5A. Consent Agenda Approvals:

1. Minutes of regular meeting on May 14, 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

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 consent agenda as presented. Motion carried.

4A. Citizen Communications

- Rebecca Vasquez, Rockdale Chamber of Commerce – The Chamber has submitted five invoices for 2018 and none of them have been paid. The City is in violation of their contract and she urged Council members to correct this issue.
- Deta Donnelly – Concerned about safety issues at the City Pool. Reported several violations to Council regarding safety equipment, CPO, alcoholic beverages, etc.
- Joyce Dalley – Informed Council members about Texas Town & Country magazine (by TML). Stated that the current issue has a water/wastewater study that provides valuable information regarding rates for cities/towns in Texas.

6A. Department Reports – Cemetery Committee

No new information to report.

6B. Department Reports – Municipal Court

Judge Waggoner reported that we now have audio in the courtroom and Council room. Also, new cameras have been installed around the building for additional security.

7B. Conduct a workshop to discuss the Memorandum of Understanding with the Rockdale Fair Association

Workshop opened at 6:01 p.m. Chris Whittaker reported that representatives from the City and Fair Association had met and discussed the MOU. The city attorney incorporated comments from the meeting into the new draft MOU. James Birkhead with the Rockdale Fair Association stated that their committee is reviewing the draft copy. Mr. Birkhead reported that vandalism has decreased at Fair Park since the gates are being locked 24/7. He mentioned that capital improvements still need to be addressed. Another representative meeting will be scheduled during the next month for additional review. A draft MOU could possibly be ready to bring before Council in August. With no further comments, the workshop was closed at 6:08 p.m.

8A. Consider and take any necessary action on the second 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

❖ Councilmember Calame arrived at 6:08 p.m.

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 ordinance as presented. Motion carried.

9A. Consider and take any necessary action on a resolution authorizing the city manager to execute any and all documents with the Texas Department of Transportation associated with the Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside Program and US 79 Historic Cameron Avenue Sidewalks Project and authorizing the required local funding share

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

9B. Consider and take any necessary action on a Resolution of Intent to establish a City of Rockdale PACE (Property Assessed Clean Energy) Program

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 resolution as presented. Motion carried.

9C. Consider and take any necessary action on a resolution suspending the effective date for ninety days in connection with the rate increase filing made on or about June 1, 2018 by Atmos Energy for its Midtex Division; 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 Dalley and a second by Councilmember Coppedge, the Council voted six (6) for and none (0) opposed to approve the resolution as presented. Motion carried.

9D. Consider and take any necessary action on a resolution approving the Milam County Hazard Mitigation Plan

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 resolution as presented. Motion carried.

10B. Receive a presentation and take any necessary action on a Feasibility Study for the Old City Hall building

Stan Graves gave a presentation to Council. Comments were received from Dr. Lucile Estell, Lynn Young, Joan Ratliff, Geri Burnett, and Gary Griesbach. Discussion of options for marketing, types of businesses, funding, long-term lease or purchase, and public or private investment.

MOTION: Upon a motion made by Councilmember Bland and a second by Councilmember Dalley, the Council voted six (6) for and none (0) opposed to allow city manager to develop and publish Request For Proposal (RFP) for repurposing of building for long-term lease or purchase with conditions for historic preservation. Motion carried.

10C. Consider and take any necessary action on amending the city manager agreement

MOTION: Upon a motion made by Councilmember Calame and a second by Councilmember Bland, the Council voted six (6) for and none (0) opposed to amend the annual performance review date in Section 6.1 from June to September. Motion carried.

10D. 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 \$52,000 (RAMP Grant would pay for half of expense). Council discussed the use of Reserve Funds to pay for City portion of grant. Runway lights will have to wait for a future project/grant.

MOTION: Upon a motion made by Councilmember Coppedge and a second by Councilmember Barcak, the Council voted six (6) for and none (0) opposed to approve funds for City portion of RAMP Grant to repair runway. Motion carried.

10E. Consider and take any necessary action on a phone contract for the City and new police station

MOTION: Upon a motion made by Councilmember Calame and a second by Councilmember Coppedge, the Council voted five (5) for and one (1) opposed to move forward with equipment for both locations (City Hall and new police station), investigate internet options for both locations, and review detailed breakdown of costs for current phone services vs. proposed phone services. Voting for the motion were Barcak, Calame, Dalley, Coppedge, and Wallace. Voting against was Bland. Motion carried.

10F. Consider and take any necessary action on Council liaison appointments to Boards and Commissions

MOTION: Upon a motion made by Councilmember Bland and a second by Councilmember Wallace, the Council voted six (6) for and none (0) opposed to appoint Richard Coppedge to the Park Board; Joyce Dalley to the Planning & Zoning Commission; and Jason Barcak to the Cemetery Committee. Motion carried.

10G. Consider and take any necessary action to approve the use of Police Department contingency funds (631-900) for the purchase of a new police vehicle and equipment

MOTION: Upon a motion made by Councilmember Coppedge and a second by Councilmember Barcak, the Council voted five (5) for and none (0) opposed with one (1) abstention to allow funding from the police department contingency fund for a new vehicle to be ordered immediately and to use proceeds from wrecked patrol car to assist in costs to outfit new vehicle. Motion carried.

10H. Consider and take any necessary action on providing incentives and/or tuition assistance for the hiring of police officers

MOTION: Upon a motion made by Councilmember Coppedge and a second by Councilmember Dalley, the Council voted six (6) for and none (0) opposed to offer tuition assistance for incoming officers in an amount up to \$300 per candidate. Motion carried.

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

Chris Whittaker gave brief updates on the following:

- New nursing home lift station bids are due on the 20th and should be ready for award at the next Council meeting

- FEMA Grant for N Burleson is out for bid
- Bill Pickett event will be at 1:30 p.m. on Saturday and there will be a presentation at 7:00 p.m. at the Kay Theater
- New police station is on track. Should be going vertical shortly.
- Salvaged old stadium parts for the Skate Park
- Budget schedule is in Council packet
- Hope to hear from the TWDB in July/August

7A. Conduct a workshop to discuss setting City Council priorities


Postpone to July Council meeting.

Adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

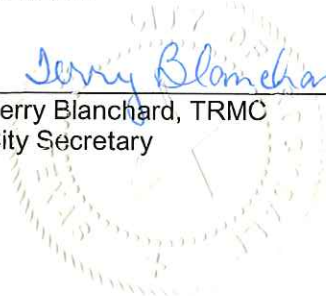
These minutes approved on the 9th day of July, 2018.

APPROVED:

ATTEST:



Terry Blanchard, TRMC
City Secretary





John E. King, Mayor