

**ROCKDALE CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING**

**Present:**

**Councilmembers:**

John King, Mayor  
Nathan Bland, Mayor Pro-Tem  
Joyce Dalley  
Denise Wallace  
Richard Coppedge  
Jason Barcak

**City Staff:**

Chris Whittaker, City Manager  
Terry Blanchard, City Secretary  
Sandra Ellis, Treasurer  
Jason Hubbell, Public Works Director  
Thomas Harris, Chief of Police  
Melanie Todd, Librarian  
Caz Muske, 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 5:30 p.m., November 13, 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 October 8 and special meeting on October 22, 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 Report

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

**6A. Department Reports – Planning & Zoning Commission**

No representative available for report.

**6B. Department Reports – Building Standards Commission**

No representative available for report.

**6C. Department Reports – Library**

Melanie Todd reported that library programs are well-attended. People are requesting to be added to the schedule.

**7A. At 5:34 p.m. Council convened into executive session under Section 551.071 of the Texas Government Code for consultations with attorney**

Council invited Roxy Stevens into executive session. At 6:08 p.m., Council invited Allan Miller and Kara Clore into executive session.

**7B. At 6:37 p.m. Council reconvened in open session to take action if, and as deemed appropriate in the City Council's discretion regarding consultations with attorney**

There was no action taken.

**8A. Consider and take any necessary action on the first reading of an ordinance annexing 6.00 acres of City-owned land; approving a service plan for the annexed area; making findings of fact; providing a severability clause; and providing an effective date**

**MOTION:** Upon a motion made by Councilmember Bland and a second by Councilmember Barcak, 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 first reading of an ordinance amending Appendix A of the City's Code of Ordinances, the Fee Schedule, Article A2.000 Utility Rates and Charges and Article A3.000 Other Fees, by amending the fees charged for Solid Waste/Garbage Collection and Disposal at City Yard, Alcoholic Beverage Permits, Wrecking/Junkyard Registration Annual Fee, and by adding Section A3.019(e) Fair Park Commercial Heifer Barn; amending and repealing conflicting ordinances; providing a severability clause; providing an effective date and an open meetings clause**

**MOTION:** Upon a motion made by Councilmember Bland and a second by Councilmember Coppedge, 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 approving the submission of an application for an Economic Development Administration (EDA) Grant for Hurricane Harvey relief and authorizing the mayor and/or city manager to sign documents related to the EDA projects**

Chris Whittaker gave a brief summary of improvements to the airport. Proposed projects include eight T-hangars and a taxiway. Judy Langford provided a summary of the grant and was available to answer questions.

**MOTION:** Upon a motion made by Councilmember Bland and a second by Councilmember Dalley, the Council voted four (4) for and one (1) opposed to approve the resolution as presented for up to \$1,500,000 (for T-hangars and taxiway). Motion carried.

**10A. Consider and take any necessary action on rate adjustments for the Texas Water Development Board application**

Chris Whittaker reviewed assumptions used to calculate potential rates. Rate Committee will have a meeting on November 21, 2018 with NewGen Strategies to discuss utility rates. Town Hall meeting will be held with proposed rates and schedule. First reading of an ordinance should be on the December agenda.

**10B. Consider and take any necessary action on future use of the old City landfill properties (ID 12823 & 58114) located off County Road 322**

**MOTION:** Upon a motion made by Councilmember Coppedge and a second by Councilmember Dalley, the Council voted five (5) for and none (0) opposed to authorize the city manager to pursue business opportunities. Motion carried.

**10C. Receive an update on the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) Downtown Revitalization Program (DRP) Grant**

Judy Langford stated that the City had applied for the grant in 2015 and was funded in January 2016. After the award, TxDOT notified the City about their highway/sidewalk projects. TxDOT projects are due to be complete by Summer 2020. TDA grants are typically not extended for more than three years. Judy recommends looking at the projects in October 2019 to see if TxDOT has made any progress before deciding on when to reapply for the grant.

**10D. Receive an update from the Rockdale Municipal Development District and take any necessary action on repairs to Texas Street resulting from the Industrial Park water line project**

Postpone until the December meeting.

**10E. Consider and take any necessary action on award of proposal for engineering services for the 2019-2020 Texas Community Development Fund from the Texas Community Development Block Grant (TxCDBG) Program of the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA)**

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

**10F. Consider and take any necessary action on using 2015 Certificates of Obligation for water projects**

Jason Hubbell gave a summary of projects and approximate amounts as follows:

Airport well rehab	\$39,000
Fire Hydrant maint/repair	\$50,000
Valve maint program	\$19,000

Streets projects will be added to the December agenda.

**MOTION:** Upon a motion made by Councilmember Bland and a second by Councilmember Coppedge, the Council voted five (5) for and none (0) opposed to expend up to \$110,000 from CO's for water projects. Motion carried.

**10G. Consider and take any necessary action on City Hall hours**

**MOTION:** Upon a motion made by Councilmember Bland and a second by Councilmember Coppedge, the Council voted five (5) for and none (0) opposed to set City Hall hours as 8 AM to 5 PM with customer service hours for lobby, phone and drive-thru as 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM with a one-hour lunch break of either 11:30 AM-12:30 PM or 12:30-1:30PM to begin on January 1, 2019 (city manager will set lunch hour after employee poll). Motion carried.

**10H. Receive an update and take any necessary action on transfers between funds to provide for a balanced budget for the 2017-18 fiscal year**

Postpone until the December meeting.

**10I. Receive an update and take any necessary action on the FY 2018-19 budget**

Chris Whittaker reported that the EMS building needs awning and door replacements at an approximate cost of \$8,000.

**10J. Consider and take any necessary action on a recommendation from the city manager regarding a request submitted by Pete Rubio on behalf of the Rockdale Girls Softball Association for funding from the hotel occupancy tax fund to act as a host for the State Softball Tournament in Rockdale (Summer 2019)**

Caz Muske recommends funding \$1,000 to the RGSA.

**MOTION:** Upon a motion made by Councilmember Coppedge and a second by Councilmember Dalley, the Council voted five (5) for and none (0) opposed to approve fund for the RGSA in the amount of \$1,000. Motion carried.

**10K. Consider and take any necessary action on options to correct caustic levels in water system to meet TCEQ notice requirements**

**MOTION:** Upon a motion made by Councilmember Coppedge and a second by Councilmember Dalley, the Council voted five (5) for and none (0) opposed to fund the tanks and pumps out of CO's. Motion carried.

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


- San Gabriel is down to one lane due to saw cutting
- Rice Street work will start at Smith/Ferguson – replace curb and gutter – fix intersection
- New police station target date is March 13, 2019
- Pre-construction meeting for WTP filtration unit on Thursday
- Held a Stakeholders Meeting for the Hwy 79 project
- POSGCD – replace/relocate iron lines under Hwy 79


Adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

These minutes approved on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2018.

**APPROVED:**

**ATTEST:**

  
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Terry Blanchard, TRMC  
City Secretary



  
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John E. King, Mayor