

**ROCKDALE CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING**

Present:

Councilmembers:

John King, Mayor
Belinda Hillhouse
Jason Barcak
Michelle Larkin
Richard Coppedge, Mayor Pro-Tem
Doug Calame

City Staff:

Barbara Holly, City Manager
Terry Blanchard, City Secretary
Roxanne Proudley, Finance Director
Jerald Brunson, Public Works Director
Lon Williams, Building Official
Jerry Meadors, Police Chief
Melanie Todd, Librarian

Absent:

Denise Wallace

Call to Order and announce a Quorum is Present

The City Council of the City of Rockdale, Texas conducted a hybrid meeting by in-person appearance and telephone conference on Monday, December 14, 2020. 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.

Pledge of Allegiance

Presentation

4A. Recognition of outgoing Council Member Doug Calame

Mayor and Council presented a plaque to outgoing Councilmember Doug Calame.

4B. Swearing in of elected officials (Councilmember Denise Wallace representing the East Ward and Councilmember Lin Perry representing the West Ward)

Newly elected Councilmember Lin Perry recited his Oath of Office. (Councilmember Denise Wallace was officially sworn into office prior to the meeting and has her Oath of Office on file at City Hall.)

4C. Elect one Councilmember as Mayor Pro-Tem

MOTION: Upon a motion made by Councilmember Coppedge and a second by Councilmember Hillhouse, the Council voted five (5) for and none (0) opposed to appoint Michelle Larkin as Mayor Pro-Tem. Motion carried.

Citizen Communications

No comments.

6A. Consent Agenda Approvals:

1. Minutes of regular meeting on November 9 and special meeting on November 16, 2020
2. City bills paid
3. Investment report
4. Tax collection report
5. Fund report
6. Library Report
7. Municipal Court Report
8. Police Department Report
9. Building Official Report
10. Public Works Department Reports
11. Hotel Tax Fund Report

MOTION: Upon a motion made by Councilmember Larkin and a second by Councilmember Coppedge, the Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed with one (1) abstention to approve the consent agenda as presented. Councilmember Perry abstained. Motion carried.

- 7A. Discuss potential options for the temporary suspension of utility billing late fees/service fees and utility disconnections for non-payment of services during the COVID-19 pandemic**
- 7B. Discuss assistance options for water customers who are unable to pay for the City services (water, sewer, and trash)**

Since both items contain similar content, the discussion was combined for the workshop. Mayor gave a brief summary. Council reviewed reports provided by staff. Discussed waiting until the end of the fiscal year to make any decisions regarding unpaid balances owed to the City. Roxanne Proudley mentioned the possibility of another stimulus bill.

- 8A. Consider and take any necessary action on the second reading of an ordinance amending the zoning ordinance by rezoning a certain parcel of land from zoning classification R-1 (Residential Single-Family) to zoning classification C-1 (Commercial – Light)**

MOTION: Upon a motion made by Councilmember Coppedge and a second by Councilmember Hillhouse, 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 Chapter 14 Zoning, Section 14.02.055 Single-Family Residential – District “R-1”, by making additions to Subsection (d) Accessory Structures and Uses**

Barbara Holly gave a brief summary and recommended approval. Changes would affect properties zoned as R-1, R-2, and R-3.

MOTION: Upon a motion made by Councilmember Coppedge and a second by Councilmember Barcak, 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 temporary suspension of utility billing late fees/service fees and utility disconnections for non-payment of services during the COVID-19 pandemic**

No action taken.

- 9B. Consider and take any necessary action on assistance options for water customers who are unable to pay for their City services (water, sewer, and trash)**

No action taken.

- 9C. Consider and take any necessary action on approval of the 2021 City holiday schedule**

MOTION: Upon a motion made by Councilmember Larkin and a second by Councilmember Hillhouse, the Council voted five (5) for and none (0) opposed to approve the holiday schedule as presented. Motion carried.

- 9D. Consider and take any necessary action on the award of bid for the CDBG 7219371 Project for construction of water transmission lines, pending TCEQ approval**

Project is for removal of asbestos concrete pipe from Smith Road to Ackerman Street. Bids came in at \$208,000.

MOTION: Upon a motion made by Councilmember Coppedge and a second by Councilmember Larkin, the Council voted five (5) for and none (0) opposed to award bid to low bidder (MRI Builders), pending TCEQ approval. Motion carried.

- 9E. Consider and take any necessary action on the purchase and replacement of vehicles for the Police Department**

MOTION: Upon a motion made by Councilmember Coppedge and a second by Councilmember Larkin, the Council voted five (5) for and none (0) opposed to purchase a Tahoe and four (4) computers. Motion carried.

9F. Consider and take any necessary action on the purchase of vehicles, an asphalt zipper, and GIS mapping for the Public Works Department

MOTION: Upon a motion made by Councilmember Coppedge and a second by Councilmember Larkin, the Council voted five (5) for and none (0) opposed to approve the purchase of two (2) trucks, asphalt zipper, and GIS mapping. Motion carried.

9G. Consider and take any necessary action on a recommendation from the Planning & Zoning Commission regarding a short form subdivision and variance request submitted by Arnulfo Lozano for property located at S18800 Rockdale, being a 0.714 acre tract, part of Block 113 (property known as 454 & 442 West Davilla Avenue), City of Rockdale, Milam County, Texas into Lot 1 and Lot 2, Block 113

1. V1 – Building Front Setback of 15.1'
2. V2 – Building Front Setback of 12.7'
3. V3 – Building Side Setback of 7.6'
4. V4 – Building Side Setback of 4.7'
5. V5 – Building Side Setback of 6.3'
6. V6 – Building Side Setback of 17.2'

Planning & Zoning Commission recommends approval. Variances are only valid for current structures.

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

9H. Discuss and take any necessary action on the potential sale and conveyance of approximately 43 acres of land presently being used by and for the Rockdale Fair Park and Rodeo located at 201 Walnut Street, Rockdale, Texas 76567 to the Rockdale Fair Association

An agreement would need to be drafted that allows the Rockdale Fair Association (RFA) to use the parking areas around the George Hill Patterson Community Center during the annual Rockdale Fair. Council members asked the city manager to request a Right of First Refusal clause to be added to any conveyance documents, in case the RFA disbands for any reason or decides to sell the property.

MOTION: Upon a motion made by Councilmember Coppedge and a second by Councilmember Barcak, the Council voted five (5) for and none (0) opposed to convey the Fair Park property to the RFA and authorize the city manager and mayor to negotiate terms of said conveyance. Motion carried.

9I. Discuss and take any necessary action to authorize the city manager to either renew an IT Services contract extension with McLane Intelligent Solutions or authorize the publication and posting of Requests for Proposals for IT Services (original RFP opened February 28, 2020) which includes clarification as requested by City Council regarding CJIS/non-CJIS compliance and pricing with all software and hardware included so that proposals may be compared equally

MOTION: Upon a motion made by Councilmember Larkin and a second by Councilmember Coppedge, the Council voted five (5) for and none (0) opposed to authorize the city manager to renew IT Services contract with McLane for three (3) years. Motion carried.

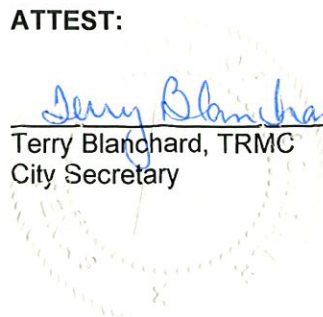
Mayor updated Council on upgraded server. Per Incode, a newer version of SQL will be required to support our storage needs. The estimated software upgrade cost will be between \$3,000 to \$7,000.

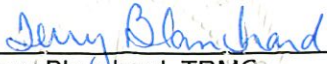
Adjourned at 7:36 p.m.

These minutes approved on the 11th day of January, 2021.


APPROVED:

ATTEST:





Terry Blanchard, TRMC
City Secretary



John E. King, Mayor