

**ROCKDALE CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING**

Present:**Councilmembers:**

John King, Mayor
Belinda Hillhouse
Lin Perry, Mayor Pro-Tem ❖
Michelle Larkin
Scott Starnes
Denise Wallace
Brett Boren

City Staff:

Barbara Holly, City Manager
Terry Blanchard, City Secretary
Roxanne Proudley, Finance Director
Jerald Brunson, Public Works Director
Stephen Goodrich, Police Captain
Ben Blanchard, Planning Technician

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., July 12, 2021, at City Hall, 505 W. Cameron Ave, Rockdale, Texas

Pledge of Allegiance**Citizen Communications**

- Mark Muston – Wants to start a business in Rockdale for small roll-off dumpsters, but City has an exclusive contract with Waste Connections. Believes this is a monopoly and asked Council to keep this in mind when considering the next contract for solid waste services.
- ❖ Lin Perry arrived at 5:36 p.m.
- Collier Perry – Four weeks ago, Public Works Director stated that pipe was ordered and ready to be laid. Nothing has been done. Original project included replacement of water lines. According to TxDOT, the City requested the lines to be removed from the project. Doesn't think the City has adequate staff to manage this project. *Barbara Holly responded with factual information. Mayor King stated that until TxDOT approves the project, the City cannot move forward with the work.*

5A. Consent Agenda Approvals:

1. Minutes of regular meeting on June 14 and special meeting on June 21, 2021
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. Code Enforcement Report – Police Dept
10. Code Enforcement Report – Admin/Dev Svc
11. Animal Control Report
12. Building Official Report
13. Public Works Department Reports
14. Hotel Tax Fund Report

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

6A. Accept public comments regarding the 2020 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

Public hearing was opened at 5:47 p.m. Unidentified citizen commented that, according to the report, it appears that testing was not done for the past eighteen months. Jerald Brunson explained the six-month running test process and stated that citizens can visit the TCEQ Texas Drinking Water Watch website throughout the year to view reports. Councilmember Hillhouse asked if an explanation could be added to the report. Councilmember Larkin asked if information could be made available on the website and FaceBook. Discussion continued

regarding water line replacement project and estimated timeline for completion. With no further comments, the public hearing was closed at 6:04 p.m.

- 6B. Receive a recommendation from the Planning & Zoning Commission and conduct a public hearing to receive comments regarding a rezone request submitted by Bill D. & Diane Jacobsen for property located at S11700 Hillyer Stokes, Block 12, Lot 1-15 & Pt in A263 (Property ID 26843 – property known as 712 North Wilcox Street) from zoning classification R-1 (single family) to A (Agricultural)**

Public hearing opened at 6:05 p.m. Collier Perry asked for a map of the property to be shown. The Planning & Zoning Commission recommends approval. Discussion continued regarding proposed use of property. No further comments received. Public hearing closed at 6:08 p.m.

- 7A. Consider and take any necessary action on the second reading of an ordinance amending the zoning ordinance by rezoning a certain parcel of land (property known as 721 Morrison Drive) from zoning classification R-1 (Residential Single-Family) to zoning classification R-2 (Residential Multi-family)**

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

- 7B. Consider and take any necessary action on the first reading of an ordinance amending the zoning ordinance by rezoning a certain parcel of land (property known as 712 North Wilcox Street) from zoning classification R-1 (Residential Single-Family) to zoning classification A (Agricultural)**

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

- 7C. Consider and take any necessary action on the first reading of an ordinance annexing Texas Street Right-of-Way; 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 Larkin and a second by Councilmember Perry, the Council voted six (6) for and none (0) opposed to approve the ordinance as presented. Motion carried.

- 7D. Consider and take any necessary action on the first reading of an ordinance annexing 56.578 acres of MDD-owned land (property known as the Industrial Park); 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 Larkin and a second by Councilmember Perry, the Council voted six (6) for and none (0) opposed to approve the ordinance as presented. Motion carried.

- 7E. Consider and take any necessary action on the first reading of an ordinance amending Chapter 14 Zoning, Section 14.02.123 Sign Requirements, Subsection (n)(4) Signs Allowed Without Permit, regarding political signs**

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

- 8A. Consider and take any necessary action on a resolution requiring the Milam County Tax Assessor-Collector to calculate the “de minimus rate” as defined in the Texas Tax Code §26.01(8-a) in order to meet notification requirements as stated in Texas Tax Code §§26.063 and 26.075**

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

8B. Consider and take any necessary action on a resolution authorizing the transfer of funds from the Enterprise Contingency to Enterprise Reserves

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

8C. Consider and take any necessary action on a resolution initiating the voluntary annexation of the Industrial Park located in Milam County, Texas; directing the planning staff to prepare a Municipal Services Plan for the area proposed to be annexed; setting an annexation schedule, public hearing date, and providing for the publication of Notice of Public Hearing; providing for open meetings and other related matters

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

9A. Consider and take any necessary action to designate the employees of the Rockdale Municipal Development District (MDD) as City of Rockdale employees funded by the Rockdale MDD and authorize the city manager to execute an Interlocal Agreement with the Rockdale MDD detailing employment duties and responsibilities for each entity

MOTION: Upon a motion made by Councilmember Boren and a second by Councilmember Perry, the Council voted six (6) for and none (0) opposed to designate Rockdale MDD employees as City of Rockdale employees and authorize the city manager to execute an Interlocal Agreement with the Rockdale MDD. Motion carried.

9B. Consider and take any necessary action to create a uniform sixty-foot (60') street width for Brazos Street

Councilmember Hillhouse questioned the purpose of this request. She stated that it wouldn't be fair to "give" property to some property owners, but not all. Councilmember Perry stated that he is not comfortable making a decision until he knows what the repercussions might be. Councilmember Larkin views the request as bringing the streets into compliance with our ordinance. The property owner has a right to the area. Barbara Holly volunteered to provide a listing of other streets in Rockdale that could potentially be affected and bring it back to Council at their next regular meeting. Item was postponed until the August meeting.

9C. Discuss and take any necessary action regarding McLane Intelligent Solutions' performance of IT services for the City of Rockdale

Sam Franklin and Tracy Morris with McLane reported on the meeting with staff earlier in the day to address service issues. Mr. Franklin stated that McLane is committed to pursue and look for improvements. Council requested that data be collected and analyzed by McLane with a report coming back to Council for review. Item was postponed until the August meeting.

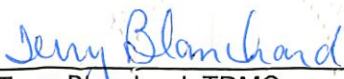
9D. Receive an update on the Fiscal Year 2021-22 Budget process and timeline for budget meetings

Meeting will be held during the last week of July.

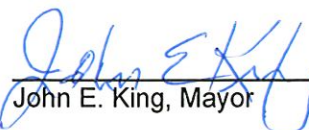
Adjourned at 7:02 p.m.

These minutes approved on the 9th day of August, 2021.

ATTEST:


Terry Blanchard, TRMC
City Secretary

APPROVED:


John E. King, Mayor