

**ROCKDALE CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING**

Present:

Councilmembers:

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

City Staff:

Barbara Holly, City Manager
Terry Blanchard, City Secretary
Roxanne Proudley, Finance Director
Jerald Brunson, Public Works Director
Jerry Meadors, Police Chief
Ben Blanchard, Planning Technician
Melanie Todd, Librarian

Absent:

Brett Boren

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 5:33 p.m., August 9, 2021, 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 July 12 and special meeting on July 26, 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 Hillhouse, the Council voted five (5) for and none (0) opposed to approve the consent agenda as presented. Motion carried.

6A. Conduct a workshop regarding the proposed FY 2021-22 Budget

Workshop was opened at 5:35 p.m. Council reviewed proposed budget by section and line item. The following highlights were noted:

- GENERAL FUND
 - Forestry Service Grants were approved for fire truck and tank. City will only need to pay for license and registration.
 - Main increase for Police Department is for K-9 expenses
 - 631-204 Dog Pound Electric – account has not been used since 2017. Need to determine meter number. If Dog Pound is on the WWTP meter, then a portion of the charges each month should be charge to this account.
 - Chief will research hand-held ticket writers that can communicate directly with Incode
- ENTERPRISE FUND
 - 633-900 – could use ARPA funds, if available, in the amount of \$75,000. Per Jerald, there are payment options available for SCADA. Could finance for 48 months through Data Flow System.
 - 633-616 – POSGCD funds not included in budget

- Downtown Project – Green to Scarbrough on north side. Cannot locate active line on south side of street.
- 634-414 – Issue from three years ago. Looking into custom SEP.
- DEBT SERVICE
- COURT RESTRICTED FUNDS
- HOT FUNDS
- AIRPORT FUND
 - Lighting has not been done yet. Project is too expensive (several hundred thousand).

With no further comments, the workshop was closed at 7:02 p.m.

6B. Conduct a workshop regarding the water and sewer line replacement projects with the City

Workshop was opened at 7:08 p.m. Barbara Holly and Jerald Brunson gave a brief description of on-going projects. The following comments were received:

- Productive meetings with TxDOT. Original projects did not address conflicts.
- We are working as diligently as we can and as quickly as the other agencies will allow.
- FM 487 and FM 908 projects will be done as we have manpower and funds available.
- Hwy 79 project encompasses storefront to storefront on 79. Mill and overlay with sidewalks.
- Steve Farabaugh (KSA) spoke regarding the old lines that may be left under new concrete. Looking for options on how to correct.
- Jerald Brunson reported that there are no old lines under the highway, only in ROW. Line crossings at Burleson, Ackerman, and Wilcox are being addressed.
- Councilmember Perry stated that the City should do everything in their power to keep TxDOT from paving over areas where lines need to be replaced. It would be a terrible injustice to our taxpayers to allow this to happen. Waste of money.

With no further comments, the workshop was closed at 7:41 p.m.

7A. Consider and take any necessary action on the second 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 Hillhouse, the Council voted five (5) for and none (0) opposed to approve the ordinance as presented. Motion carried.

7B. Consider and take any necessary action on the second 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 Starnes, the Council voted five (5) for and none (0) opposed to approve the ordinance as presented. Motion carried.

7C. Consider and take any necessary action on the second reading of an ordinance annexing 110.362 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 Wallace, the Council voted five (5) for and none (0) opposed to approve the ordinance as presented. Motion carried.

7D. 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 the Industrial Park – North FM 487) from zoning classification R-1 (Residential Single-Family) to zoning classification I w/PUD overlay (Industrial with Planned Unit Development overlay)

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 ordinance as presented. Motion carried.

- 7E. 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 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 Hillhouse, the Council voted five (5) for and none (0) opposed to approve the ordinance as presented. Motion carried.

- 7F. Consider and take any necessary action on the second 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 Larkin and a second by Councilmember Perry, the Council voted five (5) for and none (0) opposed to approve the ordinance as presented. Motion carried.

- 8A. Consider and take any necessary action on a resolution authorizing the City to participate as part of a Coalition of Cities in proceedings to be held by the Railroad Commission of Texas related to implementation of House Bill 1520; authorizing the hiring of attorneys and consultants; directing the activities of lawyers and consultants regarding the Railroad Commission's HB 1520 proceedings; requiring reimbursement of reasonable legal and consultant expenses to the extent allowed by law; finding that the meeting complies with the Open Meetings Act; and making other findings and provisions related to the subject**

MOTION: Upon a motion made by Councilmember Perry and a second by Councilmember Larkin, the Council voted five (5) 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 creation of the Central Texas Regional 9-1-1 Emergency Communications District**

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 resolution as presented. Motion carried.

- 9A. Consider and take any necessary action resulting from the workshop on the proposed FY 2021-22 budget**

No action taken.

- 9B. Consider and take any necessary action authorizing the mayor to execute a Lease Agreement with Milam County for a 0.27 acre tract of land on Mill Avenue**

MOTION: Upon a motion made by Councilmember Perry and a second by Councilmember Larkin, the Council voted five (5) for and none (0) opposed to authorize the mayor to execute a Lease Agreement with Milam County. Motion carried.

- 9C. Consider and take any necessary action authorizing the city manager to execute a Funding and Reimbursement Agreement for the Design and Construction of Wastewater Line Improvements with Tim Arledge for properties located on Ortega Street (property ID 12843 and 10031)**

MOTION: Upon a motion made by Councilmember Larkin and a second by Councilmember Perry, the Council voted five (5) for and none (0) opposed to authorize the city manager to execute a Funding and Reimbursement Agreement with Tim Arledge. Motion carried.

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

No action was taken. Quarterly review and update (with equipment issues/needs) will be on the November Council agenda.

9E. Consider and take any necessary action to approve an Interlocal Agreement with the Rockdale MDD detailing employment duties and responsibilities for each entity

Item postponed until the September Council meeting.

9F. Consider and take any necessary action to create uniform street widths within the city limits

Barbara Holly gave a brief summary and Council viewed map. According to the representative at the title company, there is no requirement to replat if area is added to an existing plat. A survey is not necessary, but the change needs to be recorded in the official records. There should be no issues with the title companies due to this requested action.

MOTION: Upon a motion made by Councilmember Perry and a second by Councilmember Starnes, the Council voted four (4) for and one (1) opposed to approve the reduction in ROW width for Brazos and authorize future requests to be judged by the adopted design standards in the subdivision ordinance. Voting for the motion were Perry, Larkin, Starnes, and Wallace. Voting against was Hillhouse. Motion carried.

9G. Consider and take any necessary action on the process for proposal award of a Solid Waste Collection Services contract to begin January 1, 2022

Representatives from Texas Disposal Systems and BIG invited and encouraged Council to make site visits prior to making a decision on award. A committee will be tasked with site visits. The Council, city manager, and public works director will be included in the evaluation process.

9H. Consider and take any necessary action on a recommendation from the city manager regarding a request submitted by the Chamber of Commerce and Visitor Center for funding from the Hotel Occupancy Tax (HOT) fund to provide services as the Visitor Center for FY 2021-22

MOTION: Upon a motion made by Councilmember Perry and a second by Councilmember Starnes, the Council voted four (4) for and one (1) opposed to fund \$25,500 for the Visitor Center in 12 equal payments throughout the year with a requirement to provide data for attendance and usage. Voting for the motion were Hillhouse, Perry, Starnes, and Wallace. Voting against was Larkin. Motion carried.


9I. Consider and take any necessary action on a recommendation from the city manager regarding a Hotel Occupancy Tax (HOT) fund request submitted by the Rockdale Chamber of Commerce for hosting the Rockdale Farmer's Market from March 2022 through October 2022 (includes extended hours of the Visitor Center)

MOTION: Upon a motion made by Councilmember Larkin and a second by Councilmember Perry, the Council voted five (5) for and none (0) opposed to fund the Farmer's Market in the amount of \$10,000 with a lump sum payment to be paid in October. Motion carried.

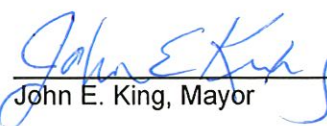
Adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

These minutes approved on the 13th day of September, 2021.

ATTEST:


Terry Blanchard, TRMC
City Secretary

APPROVED:


John E. King, Mayor