

## **REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

The Edna City Council in regular session on Thursday, February 10, 2022 in council chambers at 6:00 p.m.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Lance Smiga called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. The council stood for the moment of silence, followed by the council and audience reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. Councilperson District 2 Wayne Callis, Councilperson District 3 Chris Jackson, Councilperson District 4 Mike Dodds, Councilperson District 5 Johnny Vasquez were present. Councilperson District 1 Dustin Muncrief was absent from the meeting. City Manager Gary Broz, Chief of Police Rick Boone, Finance Director Olga Salomon, Street Superintendent Andy Brzozowski were present. Minutes were recorded by City Secretary Becky Miska.

### **APPROVE MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD JANUARY 20, 2022:**

Councilperson Callis made the motion to approve the minutes of the city council meeting held January 20, 2022. Councilperson Vasquez seconded the motion. All voted AYE. Motion carried.

**VISITORS:** Velma Vasquez, Carolina Jalufka, Executive Director – Jackson County Chamber of Commerce & Agriculture, Bill & Linda Reaves, Tyler Sample, Melissa Terry - CPA & Partner with the firm Harrison, Waldrop & Uherek, L.L.P. Certified Public Accountants, Gloria Millsap on behalf of Senator Joan Huffman

### **HEARING OF VISITORS:**

*“During the council meeting, as each item is addressed, the council shall also allow the audience to speak on any subject matter that is posted on the agenda in accordance with HB 2840.”* Please limit comments – two minutes.

Tyler Sample voiced his concerns on lights not working in the West Main alley and throughout the town.

### **HEAR CONCERNS FROM GENIEVE WOLTER REGARDING CANCER AWARENESS IN JACKSON COUNTY AND SUPPORT FOR THE CITIZENS IN OUR COUNTY:**

Mrs. Wolter was unable to attend the council meeting so she had a conversation with City Manager Broz on her concerns. Broz relayed the conversation to council. Mrs. Wolter wanted the city council to be aware that the money raised in Jackson County during the annual Relay for Life is not being utilized within the county and they are working on a way to keep the funds raised in Jackson County.

### **DISCUSS AND TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION TO CONSIDER A REQUEST FROM WILLIAM AND LINDA REAVES FOR A SEWER VARIANCE TO INSTALL AN AEROBIC SYSTEM AT 301 REED STREET:**

City Manager Broz stated that Mr. & Mrs. Reaves are requesting a variance to install an Aerobic Sewer System on their property located at 301 Reed Street. Since building their new home, the Reaves have experienced problems with the current sewer service during a rainfall event. The Sunset Lift Station is working at capacity during rainfall events which causes the residences to experience sewer backups in their homes. Their lot size is large enough to accommodate an aerobic system. Also, at some point in the future the City will grant the property owner at 301 Reed Street to tie back into the city sewer system if requested. Councilperson Vasquez questioned the validity of this system and had concerns of it possibility being a contaminated spill. Councilperson Callis made the motion to approve the request from William and Linda Reaves for a sewer variance to install a aerobic system at 301 Reed Street. Councilperson Jackson seconded the motion. All voted AYE. Motion carried.

**DISCUSS AND TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION TO CONSIDER BIDS FOR THE GENERATOR GRANT:**

City Manager Gary Broz reported three bids were received for generators thru the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) DR-4332-122: They were: McDonald Municipal and Industrial. Constar Construction and Weaver & Jacobs Constructors, Inc.

The breakdown for the following:

|                  |                                     |
|------------------|-------------------------------------|
| \$332,000        | Grant with City (\$83,000 included) |
| <u>-\$38,000</u> | Engineering for Project             |
| \$294,000        | Available for Construction          |
| 25,000           | Mobilization                        |
| 164,000          | Hickory Water Well                  |
| <u>89,500</u>    | Kleas Lift Station                  |
| \$ 25,500+       |                                     |

The generator will be for the water & wastewater facilities. Constar Construction total bid was for \$499,500. Councilperson Jackson made the motion to award the bid to Constar Construction for the generator grant as recommended by City Manager Broz. Councilperson Dodds seconded the motion. All voted AYE. Motion carried.

**RECEIVE AND ACCEPT THE 2020/2021 FISCAL YEAR AUDIT, AS PRESENTED BY THE CITY AUDITOR:**

Melissa Terry, CPA & Partner with Harrison, Waldrop & Uherek, L.L.P. Certified Public Accountants reviewed the 2020/2021 Fiscal Year Audit and answers questions as presented. Councilperson Callis made the motion to accept the 2020/2021 fiscal year audit as presented by Mrs. Terry. Councilperson Dodds seconded the motion. All voted AYE. Motion carried.

**DISCUSS AND TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION TO CONSIDER REQUEST FROM THE JACKSON COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & AGRICULTURE FOR FUNDING FROM THE CURRENT CITY'S BUDGETED HOTEL/MOTEL TAX:**

Carolina Jalufka, Executive Director of the Jackson County Chamber of Commerce & Agriculture for funding from the current city's budgeted hotel/motel tax. Councilperson Jackson asked if the City of Ganado or Jackson County have given any funds to the Jackson County Chamber of Commerce. Jalufka stated she had submitted a request to the City of Ganado, but has not gotten a response back yet. The County \$2,500 in support last year but Jalufka noted she wasn't sure about this year because they are working on some projects of their own. Mayor Smiga recalled that the City had considered assisting with moving expenses and asked for an itemized expenditure list for council's to review. Councilperson Jackson made the motion to approve \$5,000 from the current city's budgeted hotel/motel tax. Councilperson Callis seconded the motion. All voted AYE. Motion carried.

**ACCEPT REPORT FROM THE EDNA POLICE DEPARTMENT ON RACIAL PROFILING STATISTICS:**

Chief of Police Rick Boone addressed the council and outlined the Racial Profiling Statistics Report for 2021. Councilperson Dodds made the motion to accept the Racial Profiling Statistics Report from the Edna Police Department as presented. Councilperson Vasquez seconded the motion. All voted AYE. Motion carried.

**DISCUSS AND TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION TO CONSIDER CITY OF EDNA'S REIMBURSEMENT POLICY:**

City Manager Gary Broz reported that the City of Edna pays for an employee's training. Broz asked that the council consider approving the proposed Reimbursement Policy. The Reimbursement Policy is a 2 year commitment, while the police department is a 4 year commitment, if and when training completed by the employee. Chief of Police Rick Boone added that he has visited the Police Academy's in Victoria and Wharton recently. Boone added that several cities are sponsoring patrolman in order for them to come work for them upon graduating from the academy. Councilperson Jackson made the motion to approve the Reimbursement Policy as presented. Councilperson Dodds seconded the motion. All voted AYE. Motion carried.

**DISCUSS AND TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION TO CONSIDER PAYMENT OF CURRENT BILLS:**

Councilperson Callis made the motion to approve payment of current bills in the amount of \$68,341.38. Councilperson Vasquez seconded the motion. All voted AYE. Motion carried.

**CITY STAFF REPORTS:**

*"At this time, the City Council will hear reports / updates on all committees or department assignments, which may include, but is not limited to the following: Police Dept. – grant updates, police reports; Director of Utilities – water & wastewater updates; Street Dept. – repairs / projects, park reports; Finance Director-finance report; Code Enforcement – progress reports; City Manager & City Secretary – public information."* No formal action can be taken on these items.

**City Manager Gary Broz** reported that the Sale Tax Report indicates positive;

All-Time Tech is reviewing the City's web mail accounts for accuracy since updates have been made to the software;

City employees received 2 good days of training before the inclement weather hit causing the instructor to leave a few hours early;

Council is reminded that the next regular city council meeting will be held February 17<sup>th</sup>;

Meetings and working on grants continue;

Thank you to Councilperson Chris Jackson who will be serving on the Golden Crescent Regional Planning Commission Executive Committee.

**Finance Director Olga Salomon** reported that there have been several new utility customers; the new training on the software has been a beneficial to the utility and finance departments.

**Street Superintendent Andy Brzowski** stated city crews continue to trim limbs;

Crews replaced separated pipes in the Cypress & Frankwhite neighborhood;

The Parks Departments has been busy mowing.

**Chief of Police Rick Boone** reported that his department continues to be busy;

Arrests have been made in regards to the recent drive-by shooting;

The department has a new employee and will bring to the next meeting for introduction;

Work continues on grants;

A call was received from the Governor's Office in regards to the body camera grant. When received the body cameras will be a big asset to the police department.

This coming Monday, the police department has partnered with the schools to promote social media awareness.

**ADJOURN:**

Before adjourning, Councilperson Callis suggested to Chief of Police Boone that an officer might pass thru the junior high school area during the time school dismisses because cars are not slowing down. Chief Boone noted that he has recently gotten permission from a resident in that area to park their patrol car in their driveway during school dismissal. Boone stated that hopefully this will slow some cars down or tickets will be issued.

Councilperson Vasquez asked about the recent bailout and the speed of which it came thru town. Chief of Police Boone noted that the high pursuit was DPS and initiated by DPS. Edna Police Department joined in the pursuit outside the city limits. There were no traffic fatalities incurred due to the pursuit. Several arrests were made.

Councilperson Dodds made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilperson Vasquez seconded the motion. All voted AYE. Motion carried.

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_  
Lance Smiga, Mayor

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Becky Miska, City Secretary