

REGULAR SESSION

AUGUST 14, 2017

The City Council of the City of Athens met in Regular Session on Monday, August 14, 2017, 5:30 p.m. in the Derek D. Daniels Conference Room of the Athens Partnership Center, 201 W. Corsicana St., Athens, Texas with the following members present, to-wit:

Monte Montgomery, Mayor
Tres Winn, Mayor Pro-Tem
Ed McCain
Toni Clay

Gary Whittle, Interim City Manager
Bonnie Hambrick, City Secretary
Blake Armstrong, City Attorney

others present: Ryan Adams, Thanasis Kombos, Barbara Holly, John McQueary, Buddy Hill, Jennifer Robertson, Marty Coursey, Janicia Evans, Tom Potthoff, Father Matthew Frick, Robert & Julie Fryar, Lisa Denton, Stan Taylor, Rich Flowers, Bob & Carol Morton, Lacey Lowry, Alen & Sabrina Miller, Aaron Smith, Deborah Deas, Anne Perryman, Steve Barksdale, Lisa Montgomery, John Ringler, and other interested citizens;

with the following member absent: Joe Whatley

constituting a quorum at which time the following proceedings were enacted, to-wit:

INVOCATION

Mayor Monte Montgomery gave the invocation.

DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No action was taken.

STAFF COMMENDATIONS

John McQueary, Fire Chief, presented Staff Commendations to Robert Fryar and City employees Deke Crutchfield and Richard Shawn for being good Samaritans during a motor vehicle accident.

CONSENT AGENDA

- a) CONSIDER APPROVING THE MINUTES OF THE JULY 24, 2017 REGULAR SESSION
- b) CONSIDER APPROVING THE MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 1, 2017 SPECIAL SESSION
- c) CONSIDER FINAL TEXT READING OF AN ORDINANCE REQUESTED FROM THE CITY OF ATHENS, TEXAS FOR A TEXT CHANGE TO ALLOW HEAVY VEHICLES, (18 WHEELERS, ETC.) IN COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY WITH SPECIFIC USE PERMIT

Janicia Evans, Utility Billing Specialist, read the Ordinance aloud.

A motion was made by Councilmember McCain, seconded by Councilmember Winn to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

CITIZENS COMMUNICATIONS

Father Matthew Frick expressed concern on behalf of Tom & Lynn Leathem who are opposed to the City of Athens de-annexing property within the city limits.

Lacey Lowry spoke in favor of de-annexing property as requested by Mr. Tom Potthoff.

PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2018 BUDGET

Mayor Montgomery opened the public hearing.

Gary Whittle, Interim City Manager, presented the proposed Fiscal Year 2018 Budget for the City of Athens. Including: Proposed Tax Rate remaining at \$.0685221.

Steve Barksdale asked for a definition of the SCADA System with Ryan Adams, Managing Director of Public Services, explaining the system.

Bob Morton asked if the funding for the Cain Center Project is included in the proposed budget. Marty Coursey, Director of Finance, explained funding for the Cain Center Project is through Certificate of Obligations.

Aaron Smith asked if the debt service figures were included in the debt payment.

Lacey Lowry commended City Council and Staff on what they were doing to make Athens a better place. She asked if there was an update on the forensic audit. She also had questions about the Fire and Police proposed budget.

The public hearing was closed.

PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED TAX RATE FOR FISCAL YEAR
2018

Ms. Coursey presented the proposed Tax Rate for Fiscal Year 2018. She informed Council that there is a revenue tax increase because the effective tax rate is lower than the tax rate from last year.

Mayor Montgomery opened the public hearing.

Deborah Deas asked if the budget would be approved on August 28, 2017, with Ms. Coursey stating the final reading of the Ordinance will appear on the August 28, 2017 agenda.

Lacey Lowry thanked Mayor and Council for allowing the tax rate to remain the same.

The public hearing was closed.

DISCUSS FIRST READING OF AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE
PROPOSED ANNUAL BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2018 AND SET
SECOND READING FOR AUGUST 28, 2017

Ms. Evans read the Ordinance aloud.

DISCUSS FIRST READING OF AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE
PROPOSED TAX RATE AND SET SECOND READING FOR AUGUST 28,
2017

Ms. Evans read the Ordinance aloud.

DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF ALL MATTERS RELATED TO
THE REAPPOINTMENT OF THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS TO THE
ATHENS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION BOARD OF
DIRECTORS

- a) WILL TRAXSON
- b) CLIFF BARRETT

Lisa Denton, Executive Director of Athens Economic Development Corporation (AEDC), explained the terms of Will Traxson and Cliff Barrett will expire on September 30, 2017 from the AEDC Board of Directors. She stated that both members have expressed their desire for reappointment.

A motion was made by Councilmember McCain, seconded by Councilmember Winn to approve the reappointments of Will Traxson and Cliff Barrett to the AEDC Board of Directors. The motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF ALL MATTERS RELATED TO THE APPOINTMENT OF THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS TO THE ATHENS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- a) CLIFF BOMER**
- b) RANDY JONES**

Ms. Denton explained that Mr. Laird and Mr. Cox have reached term limits for serving on the Board. She stated that Cliff Bomer and Randy Jones have both expressed a desire to serve on the AEDC Board.

A motion was made by Councilmember Winn, seconded by Councilwoman Clay to approve the appointment of Cliff Bomer and Randy Jones to the AEDC Board of Directors. The motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION OF ALL MATTERS RELATED TO A CITIZEN'S REQUEST FOR DEANNEXATION OF PROPERTY WITHIN THE CITY LIMITS – MAYOR MONTGOMERY A) F.M. TRIMBLE, A-766

Mayor Montgomery stated that the city is not in the practice of deannexing property within the city limits. The Mayor allowed Stan Taylor to speak on the behalf of James & Carolyn Ray about the desires of the Ray family wanting the Council to consider deannexation of the Ray's property due to a bad survey in 1965.

There was much discussion.

DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF ALL MATTERS RELATED TO A CITIZEN'S REQUEST FOR DEANNEXATION OF PROPERTY WITHIN THE CITY LIMITS – MAYOR MONTGOMERY a) TRACT 4A, ABSTRACT 135 D CHERRY SUR

Mayor Montgomery stated he did not realize this property was in the city. However, he believes this citizen's property is handicapped and that it is not possible for the city to provide full services at the property.

After much discussion and deliberation, a motion was made by Mayor Montgomery, seconded by Councilmember Winn to approve all matters related to the deannexation of property within the city limits.

- a) TRACT 4A, ABSTRACT 135 D CHERRY SUR

The motion carried by the following vote: Ayes: Mayor Montgomery, Councilmembers Winn, and McCain. Nay: Councilwoman Clay. Abstain: None

DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF ALL MATTERS RELATED TO AUTHORIZING THE INTERIM CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH KSA ENGINEERS, INC. FOR ENGINEERING SERVICES RELATED TO THE REPLACEMENT OF THE WEST WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT INFLUENT LINES

Mr. Adams presented to Council information regarding KSA's Engineering agreement for services to replace the West Wastewater Treatment Plant influent lines.

After discussion, a motion was made by Councilmember Winn, seconded by Councilmember McCain to authorize the Interim City Manager to enter into an agreement with KSA Engineers, Inc for engineering services related to the replacement of the West Wastewater Treatment Plant influent lines.

The motion carried by the following vote: Ayes: Councilwoman Clay , Councilmembers Winn, and McCain. Nay: Mayor Montgomery. Abstain: None

Councilmember McCain exited at 7:19 P.M.

MAYOR, CITY COUNCIL AND/OR INTERIM CITY MANAGER UPDATES
INVOLVING COMMUNITY EVENTS AND ISSUES OF PUBLIC SAFETY

- Mayor Montgomery commended Adrianna Hinds and Staff for an excellent job on the Texan Summer Concert Series (Mini-Festival) that was held on Saturday, August 12, 2017
- Councilmember Winn asked about the timeframe for closing streets for events. Buddy Hill, Chief of Police, explained the rules and procedures that are followed during a request to close a street

MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL REQUEST FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Councilwoman Clay requested a future agenda item regarding the Forensic Audit

ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS THE 28th DAY OF AUGUST 2017.

Monte Montgomery, Mayor

ATTEST:

Bonnie Hambrick, City Secretary