

REGULAR SESSION

NOVEMBER 28, 2016

The City Council of the City of Athens met in Regular Session on Monday, November 28, 2016, 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:

Jerry D. Vaught, Mayor
Tres Winn, Mayor Pro-Tem
Monte Montgomery
Joe Whatley
Ed McCain

Philip Rodriguez, City Manager
Bonnie Hambrick, City Secretary

others present: Buddy Hill, John McQueary, Thanasis Kombos, Barbara Holly, Sandi Pulley, Lawrence Cutrone, Lisa Denton, Gary Whittle, Steve Barksdale, Brent Muecke, Wayne Weeks, Randy McIntyre, Ann Perryman, Kristina Jacobson, Alan Ross, Michael Hannigan, Rich Flowers, and other interested citizens;

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

INVOCATION

The invocation was given by Philip Rodriguez.

DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No action was taken.

ENTER INTO JOINT WORK SESSION WITH MEMBERS OF THE ATHENS MUNICIPAL WATER AUTHORITY

- a) TO OPEN A DIALOGUE AND DISCUSS MATTERS PERTAINING TO THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN ATHENS MUNICIPAL WATER AUTHORITY AND THE CITY OF ATHENS, INCLUDING: FACILITIES, OPERATIONS, AND MANAGEMENT OF ALL WATER RELATED ISSUES
- b) DISCUSS THE WORKING RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN ATHENS MUNICIPAL WATER AUTHORITY AND THE CITY OF ATHENS

Philip Rodriguez, City Manager stated the items were pulled from the agenda.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- a) CONSIDER APPROVING THE MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 14, 2016 REGULAR SESSION
- b) FINANCIALS – OCTOBER 2016

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

CITIZENS COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Brent Muecke asked the City Council to consider the current City Hall as a Senior Citizens Facility.

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT REPORTS

a) STATUS REPORT ON CURRENT AND PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

Barbara Holly, Interim Planning Director stated for the month of October nineteen (19) building permits were issued with a total value of approximately \$665,000.

b) STATUS REPORT ON CURRENT AND PROPOSED UTILITY PROJECTS

Lawrence Cutrone, Director of Public Works, provided the following updates:

1. AAA Sanitation is working to remove the sludge from the clarigestor at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. He stated 78,000 gallons of the estimated 338,000 gallons of sludge has been removed
2. Advertising for bidders to remove the lagoon sludge at the water plant.
3. Line Maintenance is looping a dead-end water line on E. Tyler Street, and tying it into Linden Dr. and redoing the sewer line that runs behind Clayton Homes

UPDATE ON PALESTINE STREET LINE REHABILITATION

Mr. Cutrone stated that a two-inch water line on the western right-of-way of S. Palestine Street from E. College Street to Ben Belt Drive is in need of rehabilitation. He stated it is a distance of approximately 2,400 feet. He further updated the Council that replacement of an existing 6-inch sanitary sewer line along Cayuga Street from Highland Drive to Ruth Street with a distance of approximately 2,280 feet is in need of rehabilitation. Mr. Cutrone stated the water line is not providing adequate pressure at certain times of usage, and the wastewater line is experiencing blockages.

DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF ALL MATTERS RELATED TO THE REPLACEMENT OF THE GROUND STORAGE TANK LOCATED ON WEST SCOTT STREET

Mr. Cutrone stated that Schaumburg & Polk will replace the ground storage tank located on West Scott Street. He stated the options of concrete versus the welded galvanized tank was discussed and staff recommends replacing the tank with concrete.

After discussion a motion was made by Councilmember Whatley seconded by Councilmember Winn to approve the replacement of the ground storage tank located on West Scott Street with concrete. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Vaught stated the City Council will go to the Supplemental Agenda.

DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF ALL MATTERS RELATED TO SELLING TRINITY VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE THE CENTRAL PARK AND OLD ARMORY PROPERTY

Mr. Rodriguez informed the Council that he received an offer from Trinity Valley Community College regarding the Central Park and Old Armory Property. Mr. Rodriguez stated it's a very positive thing, as Trinity Valley Community College is landlocked. He further identified the terms as follows:

1. \$125,000 cash at closing
2. Additional \$125,000 amortized at \$25,000 per year, over 5 years
3. 0% Interest to City on additional \$125,000
4. \$100,000 in scholarships over same 5 year period as 2. Above (needs based for Athens residents through joint City/TVCC process, adult and youth learner eligible)
5. TVCC pays all closing costs

6. City ensures appropriate higher education zoning on property prior to close
7. City-initiated Zoning for Higher Ed.
8. Include reversionary clause that if TVCC ever sells or donates property, it becomes City property and/or first right of refusal on any future sale
9. City can lease back old armory from TVCC for sum of \$10 until new facilities are built at Cain Center property
10. Utilities in the name of the City until TVCC moves uses into the building, then 50% split (TVCC Cheer can begin using building at closing, without triggering this section)
11. TVCC carries insurance on all property/buildings/uses at close
12. Joint access schedule that will not negatively impact City Business at building
13. City to have ultimate/sole use of building for Emergency Operations Center whenever activated

Councilmember Montgomery asked that the contract be amended to state if the college at a later date sells the property, the city would have first right of refusal. It was the consensus of the City Council to amend the contract.

After discussion a motion was made by Councilmember Montgomery, seconded by Councilmember McCain to approve the selling to Trinity Valley Community College the Central Park and Old Armory Property with the stipulation that the property be used only for college development and if the college at a later date sells the property, the city would have first right of refusal to obtain the property back. The motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF ALL MATTERS RELATED TO
AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF SIX (6) VEHICLES FOR THE POLICE
DEPARTMENT FROM SAM PACK'S FIVE STAR FORD, THROUGH THE
STATE OF TEXAS PURCHASING CONTRACT, IN THE AMOUNT OF
\$149,744.00

Police Chief Buddy Hill explained the item is requesting authorization to purchase six (6) budgeted vehicles for the police department from the State of Texas Contract #071-072-A. He stated that five (5) full-sized police package vehicles and one (1) mid-sized sedan was approved in the Fiscal Year 2017 budget.

A motion was made by Councilmember McCain, seconded by Councilmember Whatley authorizing the purchase of six (6) vehicles for the police department from Sam Pack's Five Star Ford, through the State of Texas purchasing contract, in the amount of \$149,744.00. The motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF ALL MATTERS RELATED TO
AUTHORIZING CONTRACTS FOR MEDICAL AND DENTAL INSURANCE
FOR THE CITY EMPLOYEES

Sandi Pulley, Human Resources Manager, explained the item is a request to change the agent of record for Health and Ancillary Welfare Benefits for the City of Athens employees. She stated the change is to ensure the most competitive rate. She explained the value added benefits provided by Bancorp South and recommended moving to replace the current agent of record with an agent through Bancorp South.

Mr. Rodriguez clarified this is not a vote for the actual renewal of the plans, and stated it was only for replacing the current agent of record.

A motion was made by Councilmember Whatley, seconded by Councilmember Montgomery to replace the current agent of record with agent through Bancorp South. The motion carried by the following vote: Ayes: Mayor Vaught, Councilmembers Winn, Montgomery and Whatley. Nays: None. Councilmember McCain abstained.

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

Councilmember McCain acknowledged the winners of the City's Annual Chili Cook-off and stated it was a great event.

Philip Rodriguez stated the City's Christmas Parade is scheduled for December 3, 2016.

MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL REQUEST FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

There were no requests for future agenda items.

ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS THE 12th DAY OF DECEMBER, 2016.

Jerry D. Vaught, Mayor

ATTEST:

Bonnie Hambrick, City Secretary