

CITY OF TRINIDAD
Minutes

April 20, 2021

A regular meeting of the governing body of the City of Trinidad was held on the 20th day of April 2021 beginning at 5:30 p.m. at the City Hall in Trinidad, Texas, at which time the following subjects were discussed:

1. **Call to Order:** Don Brawner called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.
2. **Roll Call:** Councilpersons present at the meeting were Don Brawner, Velma Womack and Marie Bannister.
3. **Invocation:** The invocation was given by Velma Womack.
4. **Open forum:** Don Brawner read the following:
“In accordance with the Open Meeting Act, Council is prohibited from acting or discussing (other than factual responses to specific questions) any items brought before them at this time. This is reserved only for items NOT covered on the agenda. No formal action can be taken on these items at this meeting. Discussion is limited to five (5) minutes per person”
He asked that everyone take their five minutes and asked that no one interrupt the person speaking.
 - Paul Fisher - He wanted to thank the code enforcement officer and has noticed a difference in his neighborhood. Asked the rules on having an above ground swimming pool. Officer Cate said under the Health and Safety code a person cannot have stagnant water. Officer Cate asked Mr. Fisher for the residences he was concerned about.
 - Cody Riles – He talked about everyone to come together and be Christian a true Christian and care about one another. He feels it would make the city a better place. Not everyone could afford a \$200,000 home. The movement he’s been trying to do is my whole family grew up in this town in trailer houses. He talked about his heritage is in Trinidad and he wants council to think about when they make the rules, be Christian. If you claim to be a Christian, prove it. Don’t need rules for people to go out and if you see something that needs to be done, instead of being a complainer be a fixer. There is less people in town and school. There are contractors in town that could help. There is nothing wrong with a trailer home. You can build a home cheaper than you can remodel. If you’re against mobile homes, you don’t understand economics or business. People can’t afford to lie by Dallas Rules. If you always change the rules to serve your own agenda.
 - Gary Hobbs – He said he approached the zoning committee to discuss his requests. There is only one owner with the 300-ft distance of his properties. He’s hoping the zoning commission will work with him.
 - Percy Airheart – Mobile homes reduces the property value of surrounding properties and he doesn’t want a mobile home next to his property.
 - Roy Proper – HUD says mobiles home don’t drop property values. He said by letting Gary Hobbs place the mobile homes on the wooded lots would bring money to the city.

- Thomas Taaffe – He owns lots behind the bank building and said he would be willing to donate them to the city or charity if it could be a park that everyone could enjoy and his named after his parents.
- DeWitt Loven – He said before they take on the Taaffe property, they need to take care of their own property. Mobile homes are just as good as homes, sometimes even better. He told everyone he is running for city council. He is appalled they talked to Gary to told him no. He told the council they were not listening to the citizens in town.
- Samuel Adams – He is the minister of Lakeside Baptist. He said that Trinidad is not a place people want to build a \$300,000 house. He wondered why the council couldn't compromise and possibly move the mobile homes after so many years. It shouldn't be my way or the highway.
- Chondral Sutton – She moved here a week ago and she wants to know when the lake will be open. She knows the city is trapping beavers around the lake but it's been too long.
- Gary Hobbs – Told everyone where the 6 lots are he owns.
- City Council member Marie Bannister – Marie wants on the record regarding TML and the information she received from TML. She passed out the documents to each council member and the City Administrator. She feels we should have an election. The City Administrator told Marie that she would forward on to the City Attorney. Don Brawner asked Marie if the council to discuss at next meeting. Marie said yes.

5. **Consider and appoint a Mayor Pro Tem:** Motion was made by Velma Womack to appoint Don Brawner as Mayor Pro Tem. Marie Bannister said she didn't have a problem with it and second the motion. Motion carried unanimously.
6. **Consider resignation of Chris Quinn:** Motion was made by Velma Womack to accept the resignation of Chris Quinn. Don Brawner seconds the motion. Motion carried unanimously.
7. **Consider appointing a new board member to the Economic Development board to fill the vacant seat of Chris Quinn:** Don said it was his understanding there are two people interested and asked if the position has been advertised. Teresa Crawford of EDC said that Chris Riley told Jerry Bannister that he was going to resign so when he does there will be two openings. Marie asked Don Brawner how did he get the names. Don Brawner said he I guess I asked. Jeff McClintock said before the EDC board would appoint their own person. Jerry Bannister said it should be the same for everyone. Motion was made by Don Brawner to table until it is advertised to give everyone an opportunity. Jerry Bannister said that if that is how the process is going to work than it needs to be the process for everyone. Don Brawner said as long as he is Mayor Prop Tem, that will be the way it will be done. Velma Womack seconds the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Teresa Crawford, President of EDC, said she would advertise for the position.

Cody Riley was escorted out of the meeting by Chief Miers.

8. **Consider closing of a section of Boatwright road in front of Matt Mizell's home** Thomas Taaffe, Jimmy Dockery, Billy Dalrymple and Helen Covey attended the meeting: Mr. Taaffe, Mr. Dockery and Mr. Dalrymple did not want the road closed Motion was made by Velma

Womack to not to close Boatwright Road. Mrs. Taaffe said when Old River Road was flooded, Boatwright Road is the only way around. Could not hear Marie Bannister's vote. Motion carried unanimously. (Marie Bannister called City Administrator the next day and said she didn't vote)

9. Consider Resolution 2021-005, a resolution for approval of the Hazard Mitigation Action

Plan: Emergency coordinator Bryan Miers says in the event of a natural disaster, without this plan in place, we would not be able to seek Federal monies. Motion was made by Velma Womack to approve Resolution 2021-005. Don Brawner seconds the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

10. Work Session

- *Jerry Bannister:* Jerry sat with the City Council and discussed the drainage issues from water that comes across Hwy 31 through the EDC property and floods homes behind the EDC property. He said that since Dollar General was built, water doesn't dissipate. He said that Kenny Burton's property floods and Dr. John's property. The Mayor Pro Tem asked that a meeting be set up with Henderson County Commission's office to see how they could help with the water issue.
- *Discuss city property – 4 lots on Leagueline Road:* Cody Riley was brought back into the meeting for this agenda item. Cody would like to purchase the 4 lots the city owns on Leagueline Road. He would buy it for \$630 a lot (\$2560). He says it is illegal for the city to own property. The Mayor Pro Tem didn't want to act on this until he did more research on the property such as verification the city owns the property, survey, appraisal etc.
- *Report from Police Department:* Chief Miers discussed the monthly violation activity. He is working on two grants for police department in the amount of \$66,000. He discussed code compliance and enforcement of violations.
- *Report from Water Operator/Street Dept.: Report from Municipal Court:* Judge Mathis presented her monthly report of the court. Talked about the increase in fines.
- *Report from Matt Maddox;* Matt was not able to attend the meeting because they were working on a large tree down in the road.
- *Report from David Walker – Update on water plant and sewer plant, clearwell modifications, building at sewer plant and fencing and modification of chemical feed pump:* The retaining wall around the raw water pump station is done and the new floating intake structure has been installed. David is awaiting approval from TCEQ for clearwell standpipe installation. New fence to repair falling down fence at the sewer plant is set to begin after reviewing bids. Permanganate installation has been approved by TCEQ;
- *Report from TEDC:* Teresa Crawford presented the report.
- *Report from City Administrator concerning monthly financial reports:* The following was presented:
 - Updated all bank account balances
 - Payroll report for March 2021
 - Check registers and P & L for General Fund and System Fund

After the City Administrator finished her report, Cody Riley wanted all the numbers to given to the crowd. The Mayor Pro Tem said he's had his time to speak.

11. Council Members Inquiry Time: No comments made.

12. Consent Agenda: All matters listed under Consent Agenda are considered to be routine by the City Council and will be enacted by one motion. If discussion is desired, that item will then be removed from the Consent Agenda and will be considered separately.

- a. **Approval of payments of monthly invoices**
- b. **Approval of the following minutes:**
 - March 16, 2021

All payments and minutes were reviewed. Motion was made by Velma Womack to approve monthly invoices. Marie Bannister seconds the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Don Brawner to approve the minutes from March 16, 2021. Velma Womack seconds the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

13. Adjourn: Motion was made by Don Brawner to adjourn. Velma Womack seconds the motion. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Signed: _____
Don Brawner, Mayor Pro Tem

Attest: _____
Terri R. Newhouse, City Secretary