



MINUTES

Of A

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

April 28, 2016

The City Council of the City of Longview, Texas, met in a Regular Session, April 28, 2016, at 5:30 P.M. in the Council Chambers of the Jo Ann Metcalf Municipal Building. Mayor Andy Mack presided.

Members present were:

Members absent were:

Andy Mack
Ed Moore
Nona Snoddy
Kasha Williams
Kristen Ishihara
David Wright
Sidney Allen

Staff members present were:

David Willard, City Manager
Keith Bonds, Assistant City Manager
Shawn Hara, Media and Tourism Manager
Shelly Ballenger, City Secretary
Jim Finley, City Attorney
Michael Shirley, Director of Development Services
Rolin McPhee, Director of Public Works
Laura Hill, Director of Community Services
Scott Caron, Director of Parks and Recreation
Angela Coen, Director of Financial Services
Mary Ann Miller, Director of Administration
J.P. Steelman, Fire Chief
Mike Bishop, Police Chief

I. Call to Order – Mayor Andy Mack called the meeting to order.

II. Invocation – Reverend Evan M. Dolive of the First Christian Church gave the invocation.

III. Pledge of Allegiance – Reverend Evan M. Dolive of the First Christian Church led the pledge of allegiance.

IV. Employee Recognition

Mayor Mack recognized the following in the Development Services Building Inspection Division: Mark Savasta, Dennis Williams, Steve Norton, Jim Craddock Todd Keebaugh (not in attendance), Mark Hall, and Terri Russell.

The Development Services Building Inspection Division has received numerous compliments and letters of appreciation recently, thanking the Building Inspection team for their customer service, permit turnaround times, easy accessibility and helpful attitudes. The Department, under the leadership of Building Official Mark Savasta, strives to provide the best customer service possible while conducting day-to-day duties. They do this while maintaining high standards for construction in our community for the safety of the citizens. Thank you to each and every team member's contribution. We encourage you to continue providing this high level of customer service.

V. Citizen Comment

Robert Wilson, 520 West Radio, wanted to inform Council of a project that he is sponsoring for youth in his area to cultivate their minds. He will have a professional chef teaching the children how to cook some of the different vegetables they have been growing in their gardens. If interested, it will be held next Tuesday at St. John's Missionary Baptist Church.

Jeremiah Hunter, 314 East Twilight, Longview wished to follow up on polling place availability. He noted in general, people are becoming more frustrated with going to the wrong polling places and leave without casting a vote. He commended Mayor Mack for pointing out the need and heading towards the right direction. Also, he mentioned his appreciation for Council allowing their citizens to have a voice during citizen comment.

VI. Presentation Item

Presentation of a Proclamation commemorating East Texas Giving Day –

Mayor Mack: East Texas Giving Day will take place on Tuesday, May 3, 2016, as a 24-hour day of giving. East Texas Communities Foundation is organizing the event to raise funds for local needs, including many nonprofits in Longview such as Partners in Prevention, Longview Dog Park, Longview Arboretum, Habitat for Humanity, and United Way, and many more.

Donations can be made online at www.EastTexasGivingDay.org or at online giving stations throughout Longview, including a special event at Heritage Plaza in Downtown Longview from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. featuring entertainment from the Silver Lining Band and the Dance Studio.

Mayor Mack presented Lori Weatherford of Longview Habitat for Humanity and Holly Fuller with Partners in Prevention with a proclamation.

WHEREAS, Longview nonprofit organizations have requested that the Mayor, by proclamation, recognize May 3, 2016 as the East Texas Giving Day in the City of Longview; and

WHEREAS, several area nonprofit are registered to participate in a 24-hour online giving opportunity, citizens are encouraged to rally together to support their favorite causes, build a stronger community and give to local nonprofits; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Andy Mack, by the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Longview, Texas do hereby proclaim May 3, 2016 as the East Texas Giving Day in Longview.

VII. Public Safety Update

A. Police

Chief Bishop presented upcoming events for the Longview Police Department.

There will be a Spanish Speaking Citizen Police Academy. It will be held on June 6 through July 20, 2016 from 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. and classes will be held Monday and Wednesday nights at Maude Cobb Convention Center, 100 Grand Boulevard.

Chief Bishop invited the public to attend the annual Giants of Law Enforcement Banquet that will be held on Tuesday, May 17, 2016, at Maude Cobb Convention Center at 6:00 p.m. Tickets will be \$15.00 each and available for sale at the Police Department or contact Teresa Rau at 903-237-1100.

B. Fire

Chief Steelman presented a variety of events in the community.

Chief Steelman covered updates on:

The Fire Department's Hydrant Maintenance was recently conducted and in total there were 3800+ Fire Hydrants evaluated, 3680 maintained and 193 Private Hydrants checked and updated.

Chief Steelman briefly mentioned eight of our firefighters were deployed who are a part of The Texas Task Force to Houston to help with the Disaster relief.

TEXAS TASK FORCE -1

CIVILIAN RESCUES	27
ANIMAL RESCUES	17
CIVILAIN EVACUATIONS	435
ANIMAL EVACUATIONS	62
CIVILAIN ASSISTS	5
CIVILIAN CONTACTS	253

Chief Steelman wanted to recognize Captain Steven Oram retirement which passed on April 26, 2016. He dedicated 25 years of service and spoke of how much he would be greatly missed.

VIII. Consent Agenda

A. Consider a Resolution approving the City of Longview's Investment Policy –

Angela Coen, Director of Finance was present and requested the Council to consider the approval of a Resolution approving the City of Longview's Investment Policy. The Public Funds Investment Act (PFIA), Chapter 2256 of the Texas Statutes provides for the investment of public funds. The City developed and adopted its Investment Policy in accordance with the PFIA in 1996. One requirement of the PFIA is that Cities review, and if needed, revise their policy on an annual basis. There is only one change to the Policy in the current year, which is to adjust the ongoing investment training to 8 hours to correlate with the requirements in the PFIA.

The broker/dealer list for authorization is an appendix of the Policy. This complies with the PFIA requirements of an annual authorized list of broker/dealers.

The following Resolution was approved:

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LONGVIEW, TEXAS, APPROVING AND ADOPTING THE INVESTMENT POLICY FOR THE CITY OF LONGVIEW IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PUBLIC FUNDS INVESTMENT ACT AND THE APPLICABLE PROVISIONS OF THE LONGVIEW CITY CHARTER; FINDING THAT THE MEETING AT WHICH THIS RESOLUTION WAS PASSED COMPLIED WITH THE TEXAS OPEN MEETINGS ACT; MAKING OTHER FINDINGS AND PROVISIONS RELATED TO THE SUBJECT; AND DECLARING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Such Resolution No. 5055 appears in the Resolution and Ordinance records of the City of Longview.

B. Consider a Resolution accepting the Flow Monitoring Improvements Project and authorizing final payment in the amount of \$68,749.45 to 7-H Construction of Tyler, Texas –

Rolin McPhee, P.E., Director of Public Works was present and requested the Council to consider the approval of a Resolution accepting the Water System Flow Monitoring Improvements project and authorizing final payment in the amount of \$68,749.45 to 7-H Construction Company, Inc. Approval of final payment will begin the contractor's one-year warranty period.

The City Council awarded a contract to 7-H Construction Company, Inc. on June 12, 2014, in the amount of \$1,011,903.00. The final construction cost is \$1,010,569.00.

The project provided improvements to replace antiquated, inaccurate metering at the wastewater and water treatment plants and intakes.

The project has been completed in accordance with the contract. KSA engineers recommends acceptance of the project and approval of final payment. City staff concurs with the recommendations.

The following Resolution was approved:

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LONGVIEW, TEXAS, ACCEPTING THE PROJECT ENTITLED "WATER SYSTEM FLOW MONITORING IMPROVEMENTS"; AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING FINAL PAYMENT TO 7-H CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, INC. OF TYLER, TEXAS, FOR COMPLETION OF SAID PROJECT; FINDING AND DETERMINING THAT THE MEETING AT WHICH THIS RESOLUTION WAS PASSED WAS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE TEXAS OPEN MEETINGS ACT; MAKING OTHER FINDINGS AND PROVISIONS RELATED TO THE SUBJECT; AND DECLARING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Such Resolution No. 5056 appears in the Resolution and Ordinance records of the City of Longview.

IX. Action Item POSTPONED....pending contracts

Consider a Resolution authorizing an agreement between the City of Longview and the Longview Economic Development Corporation for the funding of certain improvements to the City's system of recreational trails,

said improvements known as Guthrie Trail Phase I –

This item has been postponed.

X. Budget Item

Mid-Year Budget Presentation / Discussion –

David Willard, City Manager spoke of the budget team working hard to make sure they did not go over the budget that was set for the city from the previous fiscal year with emphasis that they have good handle on the revenue sales tax. He spoke of areas that were very strong for the city including: the bond rating and the reserves being in great condition. He also mentioned that the city was experiencing some “cash flow” problems because of the recent dip in sales tax revenue but assured the city that it is not in financial jeopardy.

XI. Items of Community Interest

Council Member Snoddy: Reminded people to place positive messages on their church’s marquee encouraging the city to be united and in prayer for some of the challenges they have been experiencing.

Council Member Wright: Wished the best of luck to Dawson Penn, his sister and teammates preparing to go to state for a tennis tournament.

EARLY VOTING dates: Monday, April 25 through Friday, April 29 from 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. and Saturday, April 30, 2016 from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. It will continue on Monday and Tuesday May 2 and 3 being held from 8 a.m. – 8 p.m. All early voting will be conducted at City Hall, 300 West Cotton Street.

The General Election will be held on Saturday, May 7, 2016 from 7:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Ready, Set, Read – Sign-Up begins May 1, 2016, for the Longview Library’s Summer Reading Club.

Movies on the Plaza - Saturday, May 7, 2016 – It’s free family fun starting at 7:30 p.m. at Heritage Plaza Downtown Longview.

For information about events happening throughout the Longview community, go to LongviewTexasEvents.com, which is a calendar offered through the Longview Convention and Visitors Bureau.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 6:52 p.m.

[seal]

Shelly Ballenger
City Secretary

