

February 10, 2020

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Mayor Edwards with prayer and salute to the flag. In attendance: Edwards, McKenzie, Roddenberry, and McClendon.

Councilman Roddenberry made a motion to approve the January 13, 2020 minutes as presented by the Clerk, second by McClendon, 4/0.

Attorney Cox was not able to attend the meeting; however, he will be sending the Council a summary of the suggestions made at the February 3 workshop, related to the Land Development Code.

Chris Cayer, with Brooks, Harrison & Cayer, presented the results of the 2018/19 audit and financial statement. The audit produced no findings or recommendations. The general fund balance has a carried forward balance of \$825,525. The water fund has a carried forward balance of \$9,951,334.

Vice Mayor Lewis joined the meeting at this time.

Brett Hammond presented the Myron B. Hodge City Park Master Plan with renderings, to the Council for review and consideration. Phase 1 suggested renovating the existing playground, extending the boat ramp, upgrade the camping facilities and upgrading the pavilion and bathrooms. Phase 2 includes adding lights to the basketball court, renovating the shuffleboard court, exercise trail, and observation deck, and upgrading and installing lighting. The Council asked Clerk Schilling to email them copies of the Plan.

After much discussion and many ideas, Mayor Edwards asked Public Works Director Leonard Tartt to make a list of improvements that can be made short term to improve the aesthetics and bring the pavilion into ADA compliance. Specifically looking at the ceiling, fans, lights, steps, handrails, stucco, paint, etc. Mr. Tartt will begin gathering costs to present to the Council.

Clerk Schilling presented the Council with shade structure color options for the park element of the current CDBG grant. The suggestion was made to install royal blue shade with ivory contrasting poles; however, the Council left the final decision to the Clerk.

Clerk Schilling revisited the FY 18/19 audit presented earlier in the meeting. At this time, a motion to accept the audit as presented was made by McKenzie, second by Lewis, 5/0.

The County asked for a letter of support from the City related to a Transportation Alternative Grant they are applying for at Spring Creek and MLK. The Council approved the letter.

The financial and adjustments reports were approved by signature of the Council.

As requested by the Council at the last meeting, the City Clerk met with County staff regarding the proposed site of the RiverPlace Access Project. The County could not say what the future holds for the Rose Street bridge, however they would enter into an Inter-local Agreement with the City for use and liability of the property. Mayor Edwards suggested waiting for results of the survey and floodplain certificate with wetland delineation before entertaining the Inter-local Agreement. Clerk Schilling has not received the costs associated with the survey at this time. Also, with the river access point being state right-of-way, DEP could require an archaeological study of the site. Councilmember Roddenberry stated the Committee might look to the County to be their partner in this project, instead of the City.

Clerk Schilling and Caleb Brown (Dewberry and Associates) informed the Council the FWC Boating Improvement Grant application guidelines have changed this year. The City can submit for design and permitting costs this year and then submit for construction next year. Also, applicants can receive full points for being a rural area of opportunity and extra points are given for wild and scenic rivers. The Council would like to potentially include the following elements in the grant; kayak launch with boardwalk, extend/upgrade floating dock, extend the boat ramp. Mr. Brown will bring costs associated with these elements to the March meeting.

With the completion of the music pavilion at Depot Park, there has been some inquiry regarding renting the facility or the entire park for events. Currently, the only fee in place is \$40.00 for the pavilion. Council would like to revisit the fee schedule and look at the County's rental fees and possibly incorporate theirs into the City's. Attorney Cox to research and bring back recommendations to the Council.

The Worm Gruntin' Festival 5K sent a sponsorship request to the City. The Council approved the \$300.00 sponsorship again this year.

Leonard Tartt stated the City received the letter to proceed for the CDBG stormwater grant and work has begun.

Mr. Tartt contacted Will Haynes, owner of Mom's Restaurant property, asking Mr. Haynes if he would be interested in selling the property for a reasonable price. Mr. Tartt will get the current property value as well as get estimates for tearing down the building. Also, the Council would like quotes for running a sidewalk in front of the Ed Lawhon house.

As a fundraiser for the 4th of July, Councilman McClendon suggested selling advertising signs to be placed on the fence at the city park on the day of the event.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:21 p.m. Motion by Lewis, second by McKenzie.