

MINUTES OF REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING
City of Stephenville - City Council
Tuesday, February 2, 2010, 5:30 P.M.

The City Council of the City of Stephenville, Texas, convened on February 2, 2010, at 5:30 p.m., in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 298 West Washington Street, for the purpose of a Regular Business Meeting, with the meeting being open to the public and notice of said meeting, giving the date, time, place and subject thereof, having been posted as prescribed by Chapter 551, Government Code, Vernon's Texas Codes Annotated, with the following members present, to wit:

Mayor	:	Nancy Hunter
Mayor Pro-Tem	:	Malcolm Cross
Council members	:	Joe E. Cude Donald L. Zelman Russ McDanel Alan Nash Alan Nix Martha Cashon
Absent	:	Scott Evans
Others Attending	:	Mark A. Kaiser, City Administrator Randy Thomas, City Attorney Cindy L. Stafford, City Secretary

- I. **Call to Order.** The meeting of the Stephenville City Council was called to order at 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, February 2, 2010, by Mayor Hunter. Hunter recognized representatives from Leadership Stephenville, Tarleton government students, and members of the Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors. Boy Scouts from Troop 18 and Troop 39 also were in attendance as follows: Troop 18—Kevin Vest, Scout Leader; Ginny Vest, Advancement Chairperson; Tyler Vest, Owl Patrol Leader; and Troop 39—Tom Stone, Scout Master; Dick Frazier, Assistant Scout Master; Scouts Matt Frazier, Ryan Weidemann, Brice Stone, and Matt Dietrich.

II. **Citizens' General Discussion.**

Scout Tyler Vest, age 14, and a student at Henderson Junior High School, presented his Eagle Scout project to the council. He asked permission to plant six to eight native trees at the Optimist Jaycee Park. He will be directing members of Troop 18 to assist him with the planting of these trees. Mayor Hunter praised him for his involvement with scouting and asked him to report back to the council once he has completed his project.

III. Comprehensive Annual Financial Report, Todd Pruitt with Pattillo, Brown, and Hill, L.L.P. (separate cover)

Todd Pruitt thanked council for the opportunity to make this presentation. He also thanked Finance Director Walter Wood and his staff for their assistance during the audit. He recognized the City of Stephenville for having received the GFOA Award for Excellence in Financial Reporting for 24 years in a row. Pruitt stated that there are two separate audits— 1) audit of the financial statements included in the annual financial report and 2) compliance audit of the federal grants awards program. Three reports have been issued that are included in the annual financial report. The first is the unqualified opinion or clean opinion, which is the highest form of opinion that they can issue. The financial statements included in the report have been audited and are, in their opinion, free of any material misstatements and are presented fairly in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles. The second is the Report on Internal Control, which resulted in the finding of no significant deficiencies identified during the course of the audit. The final report is the Report on Compliance and indicates that there were no findings or questioned costs in relation to the federal grant programs for fiscal year ended September 30, 2009.

MOTION by Alan Nix, second by Russ McDanel, to receive the audit and refer it to the Finance Committee for further review. MOTION CARRIED.

IV. Presentation and Consideration of Chamber of Commerce Tourism Budget and Annual Report—July Danley, President, Stephenville Chamber of Commerce

July Danley, President and CEO, presented her report stating that she appreciates the opportunity to work with the City “to promote this great community we all call home”. Danley reminded the council of the Chamber’s mission statement—“To support and promote Stephenville in a unified effort to enhance growth and improve the quality of life by implementing programs in the areas of community development, economic development, and tourism development.”

She recognized members of the Chamber Board of Directors who were present—Kim Pack Wilson, Glenn Newberry, Jimmy Chew, Bob Cervetto, Ron Wolf, and John Moore. Danley introduced Courtney VandenBerge, Marketing and Tourism Director, who is the newest member of the Chamber staff.

Danley reported that thousands of visitor information packets had been mailed out during 2009. She identified one goal as continuing to increase the overall marketing campaign. Danley said that event support is where a major portion of their funding is spent. The events our chamber supported can be conservatively estimated to be directly responsible for over 7,500 hotel nights. Danley said, “Through the events that were brought in that there has been close to a \$25 million impact on the economy in this area.”

Some of the new events coming to Stephenville this year include Texas Sheep Dog Trial, State Finals; National American Stock Horse, Texas Christian Athletic League State Volleyball Tournament; and the Women’s Professional Rodeo Association Texas State Finals.

MOTION by Martha Cashon, second by Don Zelman, to approve the report and budget.
MOTION CARRIED.

V. PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION

- A. PUBLIC HEARING to consider request to rezone from B-2 “Retail and Commercial Business District” to R-3 “Multiple Family Residential District” Lots 1A, 1B, 2A, 2B, 3 and 4; Block 31; Frey First Addition; Lots 4B, 4C, 5A, 6, 7 and 8; Block 4; Crow Styles Addition and old W. Hubert Street located at 1541 North Paddock Avenue, 595, 651, 671 and 685 West Park Street, 1510, 1550, and 1590 North Race Avenue.**

Betty Chew, Director of Community Development, gave the staff report and noted that the Planning and Zoning Commission recommends this rezoning request.

Mayor Hunter opened a public hearing. No one desired to speak in favor or in opposition to the rezoning request, and the mayor closed the public hearing.

- B. Consider Adopting Ordinance No. 2010-03 Rezoning from B-2 “Retail and Commercial Business District” to R-3 “Multiple Family Residential District” Lots 1A, 1B, 2A, 2B, 3 and 4; Block 31; Frey First Addition; Lots 4B, 4C, 5A, 6, 7 and 8; Block 4; Crow Styles Addition and old W. Hubert Street located at 1541 North Paddock Avenue, 595, 651, 671 and 685 West Park Street, 1510, 1550, and 1590 North Race Avenue.**

MOTION by Joe Cude, second by Don Zelman, to adopt Ordinance No. 2010-03. MOTION CARRIED.

- C. Consider vacating 8 feet x 110 feet right of way from Block 31, Frey First Addition.**

Betty Chew gave the staff report stating that adjacent property owners have requested this alley closure. It is unimproved and no utilities are located in the right of way.

- D. Consider Adopting Ordinance No. 2010-04 Abandoning, Vacating, and Closing an 8feet x 110 feet right of way from Block 31, Frey First Addition.**

MOTION by Alan Nix, second by Russ McDanel, to adopt Ordinance No. 2010-04. MOTION CARRIED.

VI. Consider Contract Extension with Meyers & Associates, LLC for Government and Relations Consultant Services

Mark Kaiser reported that the city entered into contract with this firm in February 2009 for a monthly fee of \$4,000. They have been instrumental in improving contacts with our U.S. Representative and Senators, which has allowed the city to seek some additional opportunities for funding of projects such as east side sewer, stormwater drainage, and Bosque River projects.

Mayor Hunter said that she met with representatives of Meyers & Associates last week and the city plans to file appropriation requests in the next six weeks. She accompanied Meyers to the Texas delegation offices and reported that Representative Carter and Senators Hutchison and Cornyn are very open to receiving our applications.

Discussion took place among council members with Don Zelman commenting that the association with this firm is a benefit for the city in trying to get federal funding at this time. Alan Nash expressed his concern that the performance of this firm for the past year has not measured up to the amount of money the city paid them for their services. Nash asked when the city might expect to see some results from this firm in the form of securing funds. Kaiser replied that there were no guarantees that the firm could secure this funding.

MOTION by Alan Nash, second by Russ McDanel, to deny renewal of the contract with Meyers & Associates. Following discussion, MOTION FAILED as follows:

Ayes: Council members McDanel and Nash.

Nays: Council members Cude, Cross, Zelman, Nix, Cashon, and Mayor Hunter.

MOTION by Alan Nix, second by Don Zelman, to accept the contract with Meyers & Associates for one year.

MOTION by Alan Nash, second by Russ McDanel, to table this matter to the Finance Committee. MOTION FAILED as follows:

Ayes: Council members Cross, McDanel, and Nash.

Nays: Council members Cude, Zelman, Nix, Cashon, and Mayor Hunter.

MOTION TO AMEND by Alan Nash, second by Russ McDanel, to provide that the contract be changed so that the city will pay the same rate of \$4,000 per month with no cost-of-living increase. MOTION CARRIED.

VOTE on the AMENDED MOTION CARRIED by the following vote:

Ayes: Council members Cude, Cross, Zelman, Nix, Cashon, and Mayor Hunter.

Nays: Council members McDanel and Nash

VII. ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE REPORT—Recycling

Russ McDanel reported that the committee discussed recycling. IESI had issued a proposal for recycling pickup once a week for the additional cost of \$5.15 per month. McDanel solicited input from citizens on this matter. He asked them to send their comments on recycling to City Hall via mail, email, or telephone.

VIII. FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

A. Utility Rate Review

➤ Consider Approval of Increase in Sewer Rates

Alan Nash gave the committee report stating that sewer debt coverage ratios are below average and an adjustment has been recommended by the city administrator. MOTION to increase sewer rates by twenty cents (20¢) per thousand gallons from \$2.60 to \$2.80. MOTION CARRIED.

B. Debt Capacity

Nash reported that next year, the city's tax-supported debt service will decrease by about \$200,000. The opportunities to start new projects will be available without the necessity of changing the tax rate. Further discussions will be had on this matter by the committee.

IX. CONSENT AGENDA

Joe Cude requested that Items B.1., B.2., and D. be removed from the Consent Agenda. MOTION by Russ McDanel, second by Joe Cude, to approve Items A., C., and E. of the Consent Agenda. MOTION CARRIED.

A. Approve Minutes

- 1. Regular Council Meeting on January 5, 2010**
- 2. Special Council Meeting on January 19, 2010**

B. Bid Awards

- 1. Pool Chemicals**
- 2. Garfield Pump Station Rehabilitation**

Following clarification of these items, MOTION by Joe Cude, second by Alan Nix, to approve Items B.1. and B.2. MOTION CARRIED.

C. Approve Resolution No. 2010- 01 Accepting the 2007 Annexed Services—Highland View Area Project and Authorize Final Payment

D. Approve Change Order No. 1 for Stormwater Drainage Project

Following clarification, MOTION by Joe Cude, second by Alan Nash, to approve Item D. MOTION CARRIED.

E. Approve Amendment No. 2 for Contract Renewal with City-County Benefits Services

X. Comments by City Administrator

- First day to file for a place on the ballot is Saturday, February 6. City Hall will be open from 10am to 12pm to accommodate those persons wishing to file.
- Monday, February 15, is Presidents' Day, and city offices will be closed for this holiday.
- Bosque River Trail is progressing with 40% of the concrete having been poured.
- Airport Terminal is complete and a grand opening will be scheduled.
- West Long Street curb, gutter, and paving are close to completion.

XI. Comments by Councilmembers

XII. Adjourn

MOTION by Joe Cude, second by Don Zelman, to adjourn the meeting. MOTION CARRIED at 7:09 p.m.

Nancy A. Hunter, Mayor

ATTEST:

Cindy L. Stafford, City Secretary