

**WHITE OAK CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
WHITE OAK CITY HALL
JULY 9, 2013
5:00 P.M.**

MEMBERS PRESENT : Mayor Rick May, Mayor Pro-Tem Barbara Ray, Lance Noll, Charlie Owens

MEMBERS ABSENT : Kyle Kutch, Kelly Mitchell

STAFF PRESENT : Charlie Smith, Sherry Roberts, Billy Morgan, Tracey Fears, Wendell Basham, Terry Roach, Debbie Sadler, Randy Dodson

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor May called the meeting to order at 5:10 p.m. City Coordinator Charlie Smith led the invocation and Mayor May led the Pledge of Allegiance.

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Consider and/or approve payment of bills.
- B. Consider and/or approve City Council minutes from June 11, 2013
- C. Consider and/or approve WOEDCO Board minutes from May 7th, 2013

Motion to approve made by Mayor Pro-Tem Ray, seconded by Councilmember Noll. Carried unanimously.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

None.

CONSIDER AND/OR APPROVE Agreement with TXDOT to Contribute Right of Way Funds for Hwy 80 turn lane project.

City Coordinator Smith explained that TXDOT had to purchase easements for the Hwy 80 turn lane and the City's part is estimated to be around \$1,500 but could increase. Councilmember Owens questioned if TXDOT is on schedule. City Coordinator Smith answered they are moving right along. The only complaint so far is on S. Lake Harris Road. The busses are having a problem hitting the curb while turning onto S. Lake Harris Road. Councilmember Noll questioned if this was just a one-time charge. City Coordinator Smith stated yes unless something else comes up which would require additional funds. Councilmember Noll stated the contract states the City pays 10% and TXDOT pays 90%. Councilmember Noll made the motion to approve, seconded by Councilmember Owens. Carried unanimously.

RECOMMENDATIONS for ETCOG's Nominating Committee and Officers.

City Coordinator Smith explained to the Council this is an annual procedure but Council does not normally submit a name, but will vote for a nominee at a later date. Councilmember Noll

questioned if anyone knows what this person does. City Coordinator Smith explained this is for a board member position which makes decisions for the East Texas Council of Governments.

DISCUSSION regarding timber on newly purchased property.

City Coordinator Smith stated he asked a representative from the Scull Timber Company to attend the meeting to answer any questions Council had from last month's meeting. Mr. Smith asked Scott Moore from Scull Timber Company if the City picks which trees to keep and once you take down the trees do you remove of the brush. Mr. Moore answered no, but he can get bids. He stated this track was cut through fifteen years ago and because of this, they are right on the marginal area to even do a cutting because of the volume. If too many trees are chosen to keep, the cutting will not be profitable. Mr. Smith stated City employees can bulldoze and burn any leftover brush. Councilmember Owens stated that it would probably cost more to dispose of leftovers than to sell the lumber. No more trees than what is there does not allow the City to be too picky. Mr. Moore stated there will be a lot of trees we will not be able to get to because of lines or oilfield equipment. Mr. Smith questioned Mr. Moore about the size of the stumps that would be left. Mr. Moore answered they try to get everything down to ground level. Councilmember Noll stated Councilmember Kutch was concerned about having his opinion about keeping some of the trees. Mr. Moore stated if the City knows what trees are to be kept, he can flag certain trees. Mr. Smith stated his concern is that at what point it is known this is not feasible. Mr. Moore stated they would need to know beforehand. Mayor May stated that his position is that in order to develop the property and to create revenue for the City is to clear the land and start fresh. This way the City can design the development to its specifications. He continued to say that he realized these will not be the big beautiful trees, but the City can strategically place the trees where it chooses. It would make the development look very nice, but he is willing to do whatever the Council decides. Councilmember Noll stated the City bought the property to do something with it. Mayor May added that no one is going to come in if it is left as is. Councilmember Owens stated because of the oilfield equipment that is already there, we are limited on space. He continued to state that some of those trees are around 150 years old and they won't live forever. He agreed with the Mayor to clean it up, build the roads, and then plant vegetation. Mayor May commented that some of the equipment can be moved if needed, depending on the costs. Mr. Smith stated this decision will be placed as an action item for the special meeting on July 23rd. Mayor Pro-Tem Ray stated that we do have one committed company coming in. Mayor May commented there are actually two companies that would like to relocate to this property, but it has to be cleared first. Mr. Smith added that another positive with the last legislation is that cities can now sell property through a broker versus going out for bids. The City can write the contract to its specifications. Councilmember Noll questioned Mr. Moore how much time it would take to clear the land. Mr. Moore answered the harvest will take around two weeks. He suggested this be completed before November and the rain. Mr. Smith added that maybe before the meeting on the 23rd, councilmembers can go look at the property. Mayor Pro-Tem Ray questioned the how much of the oilfield equipment is there that will be in the way when they harvest. Conversation regarding the oilfield equipment and what items could and could not be removed was held.

EXECUTIVE SESSION in accordance with Texas Government Code, Subchapter D,

- Section 551.074: Personnel Matters – City Coordinator Evaluation and Contract
- Section 551.074: Personnel Matters – Fire Inspector/Code Enforcement Position

The Council recessed into Executive Session at 5:34 p.m.

Mayor May adjourned the Executive Session at 5:55 p.m.

The Council reconvened back into regular session.

RECONVENE INTO OPEN SESSION to Consider and/or Act upon any deliberation regarding:

- Section 551.074: Personnel Matters – City Coordinator Evaluation and Contract
- Section 551.074: Personnel Matters – Fire Inspector/Code Enforcement Position

City Coordinator Smith stated in regards to the Fire Inspector position, Jason Maxted has been hired and this needs council's approval.

Councilmember Owens made the motion to approve, Councilmember Noll seconded. Carried unanimously.

Mayor May stated the City Coordinator contract will be handled at the next meeting.

BUDGET WORKSHOP

The Council and staff held a brief workshop regarding the Enterprise (Water & Sewer) Fund only.

CITY COORDINATOR ITEMS

A. Owens Road Update

City Coordinator Smith stated he directed staff to repair some potholes on Owens Road. He also spoke to Hayes Engineering about looking at the road to see what it would take to overlay it. He stated he had not received any numbers yet, but he has been in contact with the homeowner who addressed the Council regarding the road.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilmember Owens made the motion to adjourn at 6:26 p.m., seconded by Councilmember Noll. Carried unanimously.


Rick May, Mayor

ATTEST:


Sherry Roberts, TRMC
City Secretary