

**WHITE OAK CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
WHITE OAK CITY HALL
JANUARY 14, 2014
5:00 P.M.**

MEMBERS PRESENT : Mayor Rick May, Mayor Pro-Tem Barbara Ray Lance Noll, Kyle Kutch

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

CALL TO ORDER

- A. Invocation
- B. Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor May called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. and led both the invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance.

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Consider and/or approve payment of bills
- B. Consider and/or approve City Council minutes from December 11, 2013
- C. Consider and/or approve Quarterly Investment Report ending December 31, 2013
- D. Consider and/or approve Ordinance 2014-01 for a budget amendment to the General Fund.
- E. Consider and/or approve Resolution 2014-02 Ratifying the Investment Policy without amendments.

Councilmember Noll made the motion to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Councilmember Kutch. Carried unanimously.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Jerry Blankenship, 201 Sally, expressed his appreciation to the Council and announced his intent to pursue a recently vacated city council place. He commented that after a 30-year career with White Oak ISD, he would like to continue his public service as a councilmember.

CONSIDER AND/OR APPROVE 2014 City of White Oak Holiday Schedule.

City Coordinator Charlie Smith stated the Personnel Policy Manual dictates employee holidays and sometimes the timing makes it difficult for employees to take off. Employees have had a "floating" holiday and former Mayor Tim Vaughn started the "Mayor's" holiday, which when added to the allowed federal holidays gave employees eleven annual holidays. City Coordinator Smith requested the Council to convert these two holidays to Veteran's Day and Christmas Eve and he would like to request Council approval every January for the year's holiday schedule. He also mentioned that he would like to stay in-line with Gregg County's schedule.

Councilmember Kutch made the motion to approve, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Ray. Carried unanimously.

CONSIDER AND/OR APPROVE Resolution #2014-01 to intervene in SWEPCO's application to increase rates under its transmission cost recovery factor; requiring the reimbursement of municipal rate case expenses; authorizing participation in the coalition of similarly situated cities; authorizing intervention and participation in related proceedings; and authorizing the retention of special counsel.

City Coordinator Smith explained that SWEPCO wants to recover some costs on the continuous update of their transmission lines. The second page explains how the increase relates to an individual's residential average bill. Once again, Cities Advocating Reasonable Deregulation (CARD), which the City of White Oak is a member, has the right to intervene through the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) and the law firm representing CARD cities would like all members to remain involved. Negotiating these rates normally results in a reduction for SWEPCO. CARD bills SWEPCO monthly for the attorney fees.

Councilmember Noll clarified the approval of this resolution means the City agrees to remain with CARD. City Coordinator Smith confirmed.

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

CONSIDER AND/OR APPROVE bid for the Water Treatment Plant Clarifier Rehabilitation.

City Coordinator Smith explained there were other projects included in the 2013 Certificate of Obligation. The project to paint the clarifiers was a separate bid item. When bids were opened, Cherokee Painting from Jacksonville, Texas had the lowest bid. Even though Cherokee Painting did not acknowledge the addendum, which had the actual clarifier sizes, they agreed in writing to remain at the bid price.

Councilmember Noll made the motion to award the bid to Cherokee Painting for the price quoted, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Ray. Carried unanimously.

CITY COORDINATOR ITEMS

A. Update on water sources and plant improvements.

The main reservoir is less than three feet low versus the previous fifteen feet low, and water is running over the dam really well at Big Sandy Creek. He stated he had tried to meet with Hayes Engineering to discuss water wells, but was not able to with the holidays. Councilmember Noll asked if there were any more leaks. City Coordinator Smith answered they are all repaired.

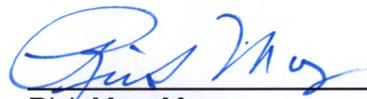
B. Update on High School Baseball Field Renovation.

All of the underground drainage has been installed and they are currently working on the sewer line to tie it into the system. They are also setting poles today for the 12' left-field fence, which will be completed in the next two weeks. They also poured one of the batting cages on the home side today. Progress is made to where people can see.

City Coordinator Smith informed the Council that the volunteer fire department elected a new fire chief, which is Robin Kelm. Chief Kelm informed the Council that he has lived in White Oak since 1981 and has been a member of the fire department off and on for 15 years, he plans to make White Oak proud, and to keep the tradition as it was with former Fire Chief Jimmy Nall. There was further discussion regarding the full-time employees who have joined the volunteer fire department and the difficulties with their online training through Kilgore College because of the college's server upgrade.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilmember Noll made the motion to adjourn at 5:20 p.m., seconded by Councilmember Kutch. Carried unanimously.



Rick May, Mayor

ATTEST:



Sherry Roberts, TRMC
City Secretary