

## MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING

The City Council of the City of Brazos Country, Austin County, Texas, convened in regular session Wednesday, March 20, 2019, 7:00 PM, at Gordon Memorial Library, located at 917 N. Circle, Sealy, Texas.

1-2. Mayor Kalkomey opened the meeting with the invocation, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag.

3. Council members present were:  
Charles Kalkomey, Mayor  
Albert Sykes, Alderman/Mayor ProTem  
Bob Ray, Alderman  
Neil Howard, Alderman  
Sharon Smith, Alderwoman

Alderman Joe McSloy was absent.

Mayor Kalkomey certified there was a quorum.

4. **Comments by Citizens** - John Williams reported that the public notice boards had not yet been purchased due to circumstances involving acquisition of tax-free status from the vendor. This should be resolved soon. Mr. Williams also addressed the feral hog item concerning the golf club traps and reported that the owner will maintain those traps. John also commented on agenda item 6 that the \$35 charge per meter change-out had been removed from the previous contract because of the variables in meter connections made by previous parties. If Diamond W Utilities will accept a 2-year period, John would recommend such.

### 5. Consideration of action on City Council Minutes – February 27, 2019 Regular Meeting

Alderman Ray made a motion that the minutes be approved and Alderwoman Smith seconded. Motion passed.

Mayor Kalkomey asked to move to Agenda item #9.

9. **Feral hog problem – discussion and possible action** Steve Stribling, from SHS Wild Hog Service, presented council with a new proposal involving purchase of 3 electronic traps in which \$4,400 worth of supplies and services was waived. The cost of each trap would be \$3,000. Discussion followed. Alderwoman Smith asked Mr. Stribling if he would be willing to buy the traps back at the end of 12 months, and at what price? Mr. Stribling replied, “Yes, at full price if the trap is not damaged beyond use.” Alderman Ray made a motion to accept the proposal. Alderwoman Smith seconded. Mayor Kalkomey called for a vote. Alderman Ray and Alderwoman Smith voted in favor; Aldermen Sykes and Howard voted against. Mayor Kalkomey voted in favor, breaking the tie. Motion passed. Mr. Stribling will proceed with preparation of contract for Mayor's signature.

Council resumed the regular agenda as presented.

6. **Diamond W Utilities Contract Renewal – Consideration and action as necessary** – Discussion proceeded concerning the new contract proposed by Diamond W Utilities and the changes from the previous contract. Alderman Sykes made a motion that council accept the contract with the stipulation that we ask for a two-year time frame. Alderwoman Smith seconded. Motion passed.

7. **Public Utility Commission (PUC) rate change - Consideration and action as appropriate** – The PUC rate change proposal was discussed and no action was taken which will result in city's acceptance of new proposal.

**8. Water meter replacements - update – Consideration and action as necessary** - Discussion as to cost of wand (\$4,000+) to read meters and cost of new replacement meters. Gary Williamson reported that the wand is synced to the handheld device via Bluetooth, and that SDI had confirmed that it would work with their software. Alderman Ray made a motion that the city allocate \$5,000 for the purchase of the wand, and that any leftover money be added to the fund to purchase new meters. This purchase was approved at the February meeting. Alderman Howard seconded the motion. Motion passed.

**10. Purchases recommended by Assistant City Secretary – Consideration and action as necessary**

Assistant Secretary Mary Lou Craig requested council consider the need for external hard drive storage for city record back-ups, as well as scanned documents that would be considered archived. Also, she requested consideration of the purchase of a cell phone that would be city property, for the exclusive use of city business. Council asked for paperwork involved in acquiring a phone for the city. Alderman Ray made a motion that Mary Lou purchase two external hard drives for storage. Alderwoman Smith seconded. Motion carried.

**11. Hidden Creek/River Ridge intersection – crash barrier and/or signs of warning – Consideration and action as appropriate** - Council considered the need for a warning sign at this intersection. The sign was described as one with no text, but parallel hash marks to indicate a “dead end”. Alderman Sykes made a motion that the sign with two posts be purchased. Motion seconded by Alderman Ray. Motion carried.

**12. Hidden Creek/River Ridge ditch erosion – consideration and action as appropriate** – Mayor Kalkomey reported that he had received word from LJA Engineering that they should have a report to council by the end of March.

**13. Repave portion of Pecan Ridge and Sodalak Lane – Discussion to add roadwork** John Williams brought council a proposal for repairs on Sodalak Lane, Pecan Ridge, Standing Oaks and Pecan Grove. The proposal included hiring Faltisek Paving to chip seal approximately 1850 square yards on Sodalak Lane and part of Pecan Ridge. The repairs on Standing Oaks and Pecan Grove would be addressed by purchasing asphalt, and then asking the county to fill in the faulty locations. Alderman Sykes made a motion to allocate \$11,000 for these repairs. Alderman Ray seconded and motion carried.

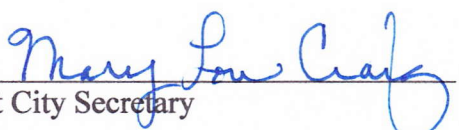
**14. City of Brazos Country website – update, discussion and action as appropriate** – Alderman Sykes presented information about his work on the website, [www.citybrazoscountry.org](http://www.citybrazoscountry.org). He outlined parts of the website under consideration and suggestions were made. He asked for pictures to be submitted.

**15. Consideration of and action on the approval and payment of Water System Fund bills** - Alderman Ray made a motion to approve and pay the Water System Fund bills in the amount of \$4,155.97. Alderwoman Smith seconded. Motion carried.

**16. Consideration of and action on the approval and payment of General Fund bills** - Alderman Sykes made a motion to approve and pay the General Fund bills in the amount of \$3,272.39. Alderman Howard seconded. Motion carried.

**17. Comments – Mayor/Council** - none

**18. Adjourn** - Meeting was adjourned at 9:25 p m.

Signed:   
Assistant City Secretary