

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING

The City Council of the City of Brazos Country, Austin County, Texas, convened in regular session Thursday, November 21, 2019, 7:00 PM, at 329 Pecan Grove Rd, Sealy, Texas.

- 1-2. **Call to Order - Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance** - Mayor Albert Sykes called the meeting to order at 7:01 PM and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States flag. Mary Lou Craig offered an invocation.
3. **Roll Call and Certification of a Quorum** Council members present were:
Albert Sykes, Mayor
Neil Howard, Alderman
Steve Dorenbach, Alderman
Sharon Smith, Alderwoman

Mayor Sykes certified there was a quorum. Aldermen McSloy and Schultz were absent. Also present at the meeting were the City Secretary (Mary Lou Craig), John Williams and Gary Craig.
4. **Public Comments** - There was a brief discussion about the current situation with the I-10 construction and the effects on travel to and from Sealy and Katy.
5. **Consent Agenda - consideration and action as appropriate** - Sharon Smith made a motion to accept the minutes of the October meeting, the General Fund financials and the Water Fund financials as presented. Steve Dorenbach seconded and motion carried.
6. **Old Business**
 - a. **Road Maintenance - Update on Sodolak and Pecan Ridge Road repairs by All Texas Paving** - Mayor Sykes informed council concerning multiple attempts to contact All Texas Paving in order to address the unsatisfactory status of the two roads. At least two phone calls have informed Mr. Harrison of our need for him to come inspect the roads. He has promised to contact us when he returns from San Antonio but has not responded to our recent phone calls. A certified registered letter was mailed Tuesday, November 19th, letting him know about a 10 day deadline to contact us. There was discussion about how to use volunteers in the neighborhood to address the problem.
 - b. **Feral hog issues - Relocating automated traps and contract** - Neil Howard reported that he had met with Steve Stribling of SHS Hog Service on Friday, November 15, inspected one of the traps and talked with him about moving at least one of the traps to a better location. Mayor Sykes asked Alderman Howard to stay in touch with Steve and report to council again at next meeting.
 - c. **Culverts and drainage** - Discussion about the leak repair on Pecan Grove, what was accomplished and how quickly the repair had been completed.
 - d. **Water department** - No action.
7. **New Business**
 - a. **Water department - consider upgrade fee (including shipping cost) for those requesting one-inch meters instead of the ¾ inch ones typically ordered** -- John Williams reported that it

was his understanding that the New Resident Water Service Agreement form had those extra fees listed. City Secretary will check on this and report at next meeting. Mayor Sykes also reported that the order approved last month for the six new meters was changed to be all ¾ inch meters since there were 3 one-inch meters located at the water plant building.

b. City audit – Mary Lou Craig reported that the audit for 2016-2017 was complete and the 2017-2018 was close to completion. Formal audit report was tabled by motion from Sharon Smith. Steve Dorenbach seconded and motion passed.


c. Purchase of 2017 Ranch King TC14610-70E dual wheel trailer for City road and culvert work (\$1,500.00) – Mayor Sykes reported that Brazos Country neighbor Bob Wadsworth has this trailer for sale and entertained a motion to buy for the city. Neil Howard made the motion, Steve Dorenbach seconded and motion passed.

d. Development of a City Map with boundaries and extraterritorial jurisdiction marked as required by SB 1303, effective 9/1/2019 - Mayor Sykes reported that a complete map showing these ETJs is now required and needs to be posted on our website. John Williams indicated he thought there was one created by Charles Kalkomey. Mayor Sykes will speak with Mr. Kalkomey and report back.

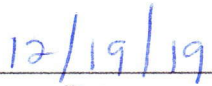
e. City Website – Requirements per SB 2, effective 1/1/2020 – Mayor Sykes explained the new requirements as per SB 2 and that he and City Secretary are in process of meeting these.

f. Hire part-time contract person for city and water maintenance - There was discussion about this need. Mayor Sykes asked council to think about this and plan to discuss further at next meeting.

8. **Public Comments** – John Williams reported that the Fire Department had at a recent meeting increased their tax rate from 3 to 10%.
9. **Comments – Mayor/Council/City Secretary** - Mayor Sykes clarified that he has the authority to lift a burn ban for the city and that the one issued by Austin County was for unincorporated areas. He reminded us that we are under the restrictions of our Ordinance 2006-04 and in order to burn a large amount, a resident should apply for a permit. It is not necessary to call the Sheriff's office for a controlled burn which follows the guidelines in the ordinance.
10. **Adjourn** – Sharon Smith made a motion to adjourn. It was seconded by Neil Howard. Meeting was adjourned at 9:05 pm.



Mary Lou Craig, City Secretary



Date