

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING

The City Council of the City of Brazos Country, Austin County, Texas, convened in regular session Wednesday, May 10th, 2023, 7:00 PM, at Kathy's Korner, 9027 S E I-10 Frontage Rd, Sealy, TX.

- 1-2. **Call to Order - Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation** - Mayor Albert Sykes called the meeting to order at 7:07 PM and led us in the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States flag. Bob Ray offered the invocation.
3. **Roll Call and Certification of a Quorum** Council members present were:
Albert Sykes, Mayor
Bob Ray, Mayor Pro Tem
Neil Howard, Alderman
Sharon Smith, Alderwoman
Richard Cheek, Alderman

Joe McSloy was absent. Mayor Sykes certified there was a quorum.
Also present were Sandi Sykes, Gina Cheek, Gary Craig, John Williams, Dave Carrasquillo, Ann Ray and many of the Ray family members, as well as City Secretary Mary Lou Craig,
4. **Ordinance 2023-04 - Subdividing Property - Consideration and action as appropriate** For this agenda item Alderman Bob Ray recused himself. Mayor Sykes reviewed the intent of the ordinance and asked for questions. Richard Cheek made a motion that Ordinance 2023-04 be approved. Neil Howard seconded and motion carried with three affirmative votes.
5. **Resignation of Alderman Ray** - Mayor Sykes accepted the resignation of Bob Ray as Alderman and noted that his term as mayor and the term of Sharon Smith as Alderwoman had expired.
6. **Oaths of Office – Mayor and Alderman-at-Large** – City Secretary Mary Lou Craig administered the oath of office to Bob Ray as mayor and Albert Sykes and Richard Cheek as Aldermen at Large.
7. **Election of Mayor Pro Tem** – Albert Sykes made a motion that Richard Cheek be elected as Mayor Pro Tem. Neil Howard seconded and motion carried.
8. **Appointment for one vacant Alderman at Large position** – Mayor Ray reported that there were two men interested in serving in the vacant position. Dave Carrasquillo was present and he introduced himself and described his past experience and his interest in the community. Jeff Van Pelt was absent, but had expressed interest in serving to some council members. Neil Howard made a motion that Dave Carrasquillo be appointed to the one-year term left with Bob Ray's resignation. Richard Cheek seconded and motion carried.

As a result of the term expiration and new appointment the current signers for the Austin County State Bank CD are Robert S. Ray (mayor), Albert Sykes, Richard Cheek, Neil Howard, Joe McSloy and Dave Carrasquillo (aldermen).

Also, as a result of the term expiration and new appointment the current signers for Citizens State Bank General Fund and Water Fund accounts are Robert S. Ray (mayor), Albert Sykes, Richard Cheek, Neil Howard, Joe McSloy and Dave Carrasquillo (aldermen).
9. **Oath of Office – new Alderman at Large** – City Secretary Mary Lou Craig administered the oath of office to Dave Carrasquillo and he joined the council at the head table.
10. **Public Comments** – John Williams expressed appreciation for the quality of work done by GMJ Paving on Standing Oaks and Pecan Grove.

11. Old Business

a. Roads – Update; consideration and action as appropriate – Albert Sykes reported that a resident in Section 5 had called about a crack in the road on Willow Oak. Alderman Sykes had examined it and noted that it should be addressed.

b. Culverts & drainage – Update; consideration and action as appropriate – Mayor Ray reported that Joe McSloy had still not received a call back from Bubba Mullins of Blue Sky Right of Way regarding the work on the Hidden Creek ditch.

c. Water department – Update; consideration and action as appropriate – Richard Cheek reported that the storage building pieces were on site and the assembly had been delayed because of recent rains. He also informed council that the assembly would take approximately 3 or 4 days and there would be a need for purchase of anchors, weather barrier and payment for assembly. Albert Sykes made a motion to approve up to \$2500 for necessary expenditures to complete the project. Neil Howard seconded and motion carried.

12. New Business

a. Diamond W contract renewal – consideration and action as appropriate – Mayor Ray described the differences in the 2023 contract and after several questions Albert Sykes made a motion to accept the proposed 2023 contract of Diamond W. Neil Howard seconded and motion carried.

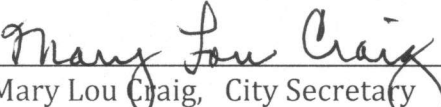
b. Lake maintenance - consideration and action as appropriate Mayor Ray noted that a resident had requested this agenda item at the April meeting. His suggestion was that a committee be formed of interested residents with one council liaison. The committee would be charged with studying the options and making recommendations to council.

c. Matterhorn Development Permit – consideration and action as appropriate Council discussed various aspects of this project including questions about city road access to this project, residents' on Sodolak Lane knowledge about it, as well as expiration date of insurance and need for no less than \$50,000 bond requirement. Mayor Ray suggested a motion to approve development permit application subject to proof of current insurance coverage, current \$50,000 bond, that no city roads would be used in the construction, and copies of letters to Sodolak Lane residents be provided. Albert Sykes made the motion. It was seconded by Dave Carrasquillo and it passed.

13. Consent Agenda – consideration and action as appropriate – Mayor Ray asked if there were any questions or comments regarding the items in the consent agenda. Albert Sykes made a motion to approve the consent agenda, including the April financial report and the minutes of the April meeting. Richard Cheek seconded and motion passed.

14. Comments – Mayor/Council/City Secretary– Albert Sykes reported that he had spoken to Attorney Grady Randle about the document needed to purchase the cemetery lot on Pecan Grove. Mr. Randle admitted that he had forgotten the project and promised to have it to us the next day. One resident commented concerning speeding and running the stop sign on Brazos Hill and Standing Oaks. It was suggested that James Clark be asked to attend the June meeting where concerns could be addressed. Albert Sykes also reported that he was opening the account at Austin State Bank on Friday and asked council to fill out paper work before leaving.

15. Adjourn – Richard Cheek made a motion to adjourn. It was seconded by Neil Howard. Motion carried and meeting was adjourned at 8:08 pm.


Mary Lou Craig, City Secretary

6-15-23
Date