

Minutes – May 11, 2020 Meeting

Members Present: Mayor John Mark Francis

Councilmen – Craig Folse, Robert Bailey, Julia Grossman, Marilyn Glover, Rebecca Crawford

1. CALL TO ORDER- Announce Quorum Present and Meeting Called and Posted as Required by Law. Due to Covid-19 mandate, meeting was held on city steps to accommodate the 6 ft. space between attendee requirement.

Meeting was called to order at 6:35 PM by Mayor Francis with all Council Members in attendance.

- a. Pledge of Allegiance
- b. Invocation
- c. Open Forum (Public Participation) **No comment from the public.**

Agenda Item #10. Executive Session moved to Item #2 at 6:39 p.m.

2. Consideration, discussion, and approve Minutes

- a. Regular February 12th Minutes
- b. Special February 27th Minutes
- c. Regular March 10th Minutes
- d. Special March 23rd Minutes

Motion by Marilyn Glover, seconded by Craig Folse **to approve as stands.** Motion carried.

3. Consideration, discussion, and approve Financial Report

- a. Payment of Bills- March, April
- b. Bank Reconciliation- February, March, April
- c. Budget Expenditures
- d. Water Bill Collection- April
- e. Tax Revenue Report-LCAD

Motion by Craig Folse, seconded by Julia Grossman –

Consideration 3 was tabled due to several questions regarding item (b) and (c)
Motion carried.

4. Consideration, discussion, and approve compensatory time hours.

Motion by Craig Folse, seconded by Julia Grossman to **table Consideration 4 until every employ reads and signs City Policy and Procedure manual.** Manual to be provided as soon as possible.

5. Consideration, discussion, and **approve absent from duty form.**

Motion to accept the new form by Marilyn Glover, seconded by Craig Folse, motion carried.

6. Consideration, discussion, and approve application for Travel Trailer Temporary Living for Home Grant Build Permit.

Motion by Craig Folse, seconded by Julia Grossman **to accept Consideration 6 with the addendum to read “until the new dwelling is completed** and there has been sufficient time for the tenant to move in.”

7. Consideration, discussion, and approve to waive the service inspection on a new construction dated January 2019. **Consideration not approved.** Motion by Marilyn Glover, seconded by Craig Folse to proceed with the mandatory inspection at the customer’s expense. Motion carried.

8. Consideration, discussion, and approve Lock up of Deport City Lake.

Locks to remain on the City easement to Deport City Lake (West side) It was noted that the reservoir was built to control flooding in the city, not as a recreational area. It was proposed to place a notice on monthly water bills stating that there will be no access to the public. USDA has been contacted and it is hoped that they will assist in erecting a proper fence to help control trespassing. Cameras and signs were also mentioned. It was noted that the 2003 City Council discussed removal fishing permits.

9. Public Works Director Monthly Maintenance and Water Report **March**

Work orders total 31 – Sewer stops 11 – Water leaks 1

March was a busy month for us with the virus and the season changing we here at the city stand ever ready to do what’s needed to keep our town thriving. We have come up with a list of the ditches we are working on because when someone sees you cleaning a ditch, of course, they should want theirs done as well. So, this list is to let the secretaries know where we are with our ditch work and when they receive calls, they can inform the customers where we are and add their street to the list. Information and communication are key in good public relations. The more our citizens know, the better off we all are. The water, with the weather heating up, is losing much of the residual we look for in the day to make sure our water is clean and safe, so the city will be doing midmonth flushing to counter the changes in the water. The weather changing also effects the sewer. When it’s pretty out, people are more inclined to water gardens and wash their vehicles along with outdoor activities, so we want to remind our citizens to report anything you see like broken cleanouts and things of that nature. There should always be at least two cleanouts in the service property. The cleanout by the home is homeowner’s responsibility and the cleanout by the edge of the property belongs to the city. Please try and help us keep Deport beautiful. Thank you, Danny Turner, D.P.W.S.

April – Work orders total 22 – Sewer stops – 6 Water leaks 0

April has been a challenge to say the least, with most people and small business shut down due to Covid 19, the City of Deport has not missed a beat. The rain as always plays a major role in our field maintenance, we were fortunate enough to catch a break to take care of some much needed outside work. We did have a hydraulic seal go out in the dump truck, so I took advantage of the situation and had both out-riggers on the backhoe repaired while the dump truck cylinder was being repaired. All three were fixed and we no longer have any leaking

cylinders and everything is up and running nicely. That made it able for me to remove and reinstall the culvert at Mr. Farris residence and the 411 Trail Street customer, who had requested a replacement some time back. I will, of course be sitting down on a rain day and create an invoice for these two customers. We have sold and installed all the culverts the city has ordered and I'm continuing East on Trail Street with the ditch work. Jack has ordered one two inch grinder pump that we will be installing at the sewer ponds to solve our aeration issues and I was given a three inch grinder pump by Mr. Bray some time ago that I would be willing to sell to the city if they wanted at a reduced price of course. If the city doesn't wish to buy the three-inch grinder pump, we will definitely need to acquire at minimum another two inch pump to treat the surface area. I have attached prices for both two inch and a new three for your convenience. We have talked a number of times about addressing the sewer lagoons and with the weather changing now is the time. Keep in mind as it stands, we have six aerators down and the gear boxes are \$3,500 each to replace. These changes Jack and I are going to make will not only save the city money up front, but will cut the energy use and maintenance by over half. Despite the overreach, the city forces have mowed the city lots and shredded the city right of ways along with the levies at the lake required by the state. I have mentioned seasonal help in an as needed basis, which means while Scottie or myself are shredding the lake and right of ways, there is a helper to either help patch holes or weed-eat or clean culverts, whatever the case may call for. I was finally able to order the jumping jack compactor and flat plate asphalt packer to enable the city to do some of the work often subbed out. I received the approval letter from TX Dot to fix the sewer service on Monroe Street and as soon as the weather permits that problem will be quickly resolved as well. The city forces used the materials supplied by the county to reopen Thompson Street between First and Jeffus. Like I said, the past two months have been very busy and the most stressful of my time with the City of Deport. I have made the governing body aware of the struggles we've faced and pray our administration will work to resolve these hindering acts that effect our department. I know that there are concerns about road conditions around the building site of the Dollar General. I have taken the main contractor on a ride through and he will be working with me to resolve all road issues.

Next month the ditch work will go on with breaks to limb some of the overgrowth on the roadway that we've noticed it time for once again. We want the Council and every citizen of Deport that we will continue to work our very best to keep Deport a home to be proud of. Thank you, Danny Turner, Public Works Director

April

Moved to Item #2 at 6:39 p.m.

10. Executive Session- Discussion and Convene in executive session under Texas Government Code 551.074- Discussion and/or action involving the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of a public officer or employee; Sec. 551.071. Consultation with Attorney: Sec 552.104 Competitive Bidding No action taken.

Robert Bailey walked out of the meeting at 7:24 p.m. in disagreement with the ongoing discussion.

Returned to open session at 7:35 p.m.

11. Consideration, discussion, and possible action from Executive Session.

A. Interim City Secretary Resignation

Upon motion by Marilyn Glover, seconded by Craig Folse **to NOT accept** Lisa Martin's resignation. Vote to not accept by Marilyn Glover, Craig Folse, Julia Grossman. Rebecca Crawford voted to accept resignation.

B. Award Bid for Ground Maintenance. Bid was opened and read. **Item was tabled until next meeting.**

Marilyn Glover presented that proper procedure was not followed regarding the actions of the Mayor Pro tem and the duties and guidelines thereof. Upon motion by Marilyn Glover, seconded by Julia Grossman, the council unanimously voted **to accept the resignation of Rebecca Crawford from the position of Mayor Pro tem.** Craig Folse was appointed for the term of one year as Mayor Pro tem.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:40 p.m.