

REGULAR SESSION

JUNE 22, 2015

The City Council of the City of Athens met in Regular Session on Monday, June 22, 2015, 5:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the City Hall Annex with the following members present, to-wit:

Jerry D. Vaught, Mayor  
Monte Montgomery, Mayor Pro-Tem  
Charles Elliott  
Joe Whatley  
Tres Winn

Philip Rodriguez, City Administrator  
Bonnie Hambrick, City Secretary

others present: David Hopkins, Glen Herriage, Gary Crecelius, Buddy Hill, John McQueary, Haven Cox, Sherri Skeeters, Rich Flowers, Corey Frentress, Michael Hannigan, Lisa Denton, Brad Smiley, Conor Bateman, Stanley Blanton and other interested citizens;

constituting a quorum at which time the following proceedings were enacted, to-wit:

The invocation was given by Councilmember Montgomery.

DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No action was taken

DIRECTOR OF PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT'S REPORT

A) STATUS REPORT ON CURRENT AND PROPOSED PROJECTS

Gary Crecelius, Director of Planning & Development, updated on the following:

- 1) Timber Hills, homes in various stages of completion
- 2) Pearl Street, new home permit
- 3) Timber Hills, new home permit
- 4) AISD High School, still progressing
- 5) AISD Intermediate, still progressing
- 6) Anytime Fitness, foundation work complete
- 7) Bacon Chevrolet, progressing nearing final completion
- 8) Country Place Living, building permit in place
- 9) Beall's, new permit interior remodel
- 10) Beauty Shop inside Walmart is complete
- 11) South Palestine, developer looking at property
- 12) Developer looking at property in the college area
- 13) Crestview, retail developer looking at property

FINANCIAL REPORT

David Hopkins, Director of Finance presented the April financials.

**Consent Agenda;**

- A) Consider approving minutes of the June 8, 2015 Regular Session.
- B) Consider final reading of an Ordinance zoning TR. 79 N. Box Survey, TR. 2A M.A. Pickett Survey, TR. 27B W. M. Trimmer Survey, to Industrial, owned by Athens Economic Development Corporation (1271 County Road 4500).
- C) Consider final reading of an Ordinance creating a site plan Lot (s) 1, 1A, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20 Block 1, to Retail-Planned Development 1, owned by Britt Bacon (311 E. Tyler Street).

- D) Consider final reading of an Ordinance rezoning Lot (s) 2 and 4 Block 87, Athens Original Town, from Agriculture, to Single Family Residential - 5, owned by EB Flynt (719 West College).
- E) Consider final reading of an Ordinance creating a Tourism Advisory Council.

City Secretary, Bonnie Hambrick, read the Ordinances aloud. A motion was made by Councilmember Whatley, seconded by Councilmember Winn to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

#### DISCUSS/CONSIDER APPOINTMENTS TO TOURISM ADVISORY COUNCIL

Sherri Skeeters, Tourism Coordinator, recommended the appointment of seven (7) members to the newly created Tourism Advisory Council.

Mayor Vaught read the list of applicants as well as the list of the alternates.

- 1) Mike Coston (Athens Chamber of Commerce, tourism, Governor's advisory)
- 2) Brad Smiley (TVCC Athletic Director/Head Football Coach, sports tourism and marketing)
- 3) Chet Pate (Super 8, hotel)
- 4) Rae Priestley (3 P's in a Vine Winery and Vineyard, tourism and marketing)
- 5) Deanne Boswell (Railway Café, restaurant/food service)
- 6) Toni Clay (AISD communications, journalism)
- 7) Virginia Reeder (Gallery 211, arts)

Recommended Alternate Members:

- 8) Darlene Forshage (AMWA, tourism)
- 9) DJ Warren (Athens Farmer's Market)

Councilmember Whatley stated he felt it was a well rounded list of applicants.

Councilmember Elliott asked if the alternates would attend the meetings. After discussion it was the consensus that the alternates could attend meetings, however, as an alternate they are not allowed to vote.

A motion was made by Councilmember Winn, seconded by Councilmember Elliott to approve the appointments to the Tourism Advisory Council.

#### DISCUSS/CONSIDER AUTHORIZING COLLECTIONS CONTRACT WITH HENDERSON COUNTY TAX OFFICE FOR COLLECTION OF 2015 PROPERTY TAXES

David Hopkins explained that this is the same Collections Contract as in past years, at a rate of .90 cents per parcel, at an annual cost of approximately \$7,000. A motion was made by Councilmember Elliott, seconded by Councilmember Whatley to authorize Collections Contract with Henderson County Tax Office for Collection of 2015 Property Taxes. The motion carried unanimously.

#### CONFIRM APPOINTMENT TO CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION

Haven Cox, Human Resource Director, explained that Mr. John Glover's term on the Civil Service Commission is expiring on July 1, 2015 and he desires to continue serving on the Civil Service Commission. A motion was made Councilmember Winn, seconded by Councilmember Elliott to reappoint John Glover to the Civil Service Commission. The motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSS/CONSIDER APPROVING ANGELINA & NECHES RIVER  
AUTHORITY NECHES COMPOST FACILITY BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR  
2016

Glen Herriage, Director of Utilities presented the budget for Angelina & Neches River Authority Neches Compost Facility for fiscal year 2016. Mr. Herriage explained the City's portion is \$49.24 less than the 2015 Budget.

OPPORTUNITY FOR CITIZENS TO EXPRESS ITEMS OF CONCERN  
RELATING TO THE CITY OF ATHENS

Conor Bateman, 1004 East Tyler Street, Athens, Texas

- A) Expressed gratitude for having the honor and privilege of serving the City Council and the Citizens of Athens from August 1, 2009 through March 31, 2015.
- B) Thanked the City Staff and those serving in various departments within the City.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

- A) PURSUANT TO THE TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE, SECTION 551.072 (DELIBERATION REGARDING THE PURCHASE, EXCHANGE, LEASE OR VALUE OF REAL PROPERTY) - TEXAN THEATER
- B) PURSUANT TO THE TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE, SECTION 551.072 (DELIBERATION REGARDING THE PURCHASE, EXCHANGE, LEASE OR VALUE OF REAL PROPERTY) - OLD HENDERSON COUNTY HOSPITAL

The City Council adjourned to Executive Session at 5:55 p.m.

The City Council returned to Regular Session at 6:21 p.m.

DISCUSS/CONSIDER ACTION RESULTING FROM DELIBERATIONS IN  
EXECUTIVE SESSION

- A) TEXAN THEATER

No action was taken.

- B) OLD HENDERSON COUNTY HOSPITAL

Item not discussed during Executive Session.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S UPDATE

Philip Rodriguez, City Administrator explained he wanted to bring to the public's attention that the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) currently has a site set up for individuals that received damages from the recent storms.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL UPDATE

There was no update.

City Council Regular Session  
June 22, 2015  
Page 4

ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS THE 13<sup>th</sup> DAY OF JULY, 2015.

---

Jerry D. Vaught, Mayor

ATTEST:

---

Bonnie Hambrick, City Secretary