

REGULAR SESSION

SEPTEMBER 28, 2015

The City Council of the City of Athens met in Regular Session on Monday, September 28, 2015, 5:30 p.m. in the Derek D. Daniels Conference Room of the Athens Partnership Center, 201 W. Corsicana St., Athens, Texas with the following members present, to-wit:

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

Philip Rodriguez, City Manager  
Bonnie Hambrick, City Secretary

others present: David Hopkins, Gary Crecelius, Buddy Hill, Sherri Skeeters, John McQueary, Gordon Mayer, Lisa Denton, Bryan Baker, Michael Hannigan, Jeff Weinstein, Tyler Hendrickson, Robert Haberle and other interested citizens;

with the following member absent: Charles Elliott;

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) Cedar Bend, houses in various stages
- 2) AISD High School, 708 E. College, progressing
- 3) AISD Intermediate, 307 Madole, progressing
- 4) Fresenius Medical Care, 1220 S. Palestine, sheet rocking and framing
- 5) Country Place Living, 209 Wood Street, framing work

Mr. Crecelius stated he has received calls from developers regarding proposed projects.

**FINANCIAL REPORT**

David Hopkins, Director of Finance, reported on the following:

- 1) July Financials and end of year sales tax
- 2) All funds show a positive revenue over expenses as of July 2015

**CONSENT AGENDA;**

- A) CONSIDER APPROVING MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 24, 2015 SPECIAL SESSION, AUGUST 24, 2015 REGULAR SESSION, SEPTEMBER 8, 2015 SPECIAL SESSION, AND THE SEPTEMBER 14, 2015 REGULAR SESSION

A motion was made by Councilmember Montgomery, seconded by Councilmember Whatley to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSS/CONSIDER APPROVING FISCAL YEAR 2015 SUPPLEMENTAL  
BUDGET APPROPRIATIONS

Mr. Hopkins explained various departments request funds to remain in Budgetary Compliance and without additional funds departments would exceed their budgets and possibly exceed budget ordinance. He explained the allocation of funds from prior year reserve as follows:

Dept. 11 – Legal -	\$59,592 - City Attorney Legal Fees
Dept. 14 – Finance -	\$4,033 - Interim City Manager Pay, Failure of City Hall Backup Device
Dept. 32 – Streets -	<u>\$51,871</u> – Storm Damage and other street projects
Total General Fund	\$115,756

A motion was made by Councilmember Winn, seconded by Councilmember Whatley to approve fiscal year 2015 Supplemental Budget Appropriations in the amount of \$115, 756. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDER FINAL READING OF AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING BUDGET FOR  
FISCAL YEAR 2016

Bonnie Hambrick, City Secretary, read the Ordinance aloud.

A motion was made by Councilmember Winn, seconded by Councilmember Whatley to approve final reading of an Ordinance adopting Budget for Fiscal Year 2016. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDER RESOLUTION SETTING THE TAX RATE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2016

A motion was made by Mayor Vaught, seconded by Councilmember Montgomery to approve a resolution setting the tax rate for Fiscal Year 2016 and move that the property tax rate be increased by the adoption of a tax rate of 0.645140, which is effectively a 2.17 percent increase in the tax rate. The motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSS/CONSIDER AUTHORIZING STAFF TO ADVERTISE FOR CHEMICALS  
FOR USE IN WATER AND WASTEWATER DEPARTMENTS

Gordon Mayer, Interim Director of Public Works explained the City of Athens uses twelve (12) various chemicals at the water and wastewater treatment plants. The City Staff has prepared specifications and is now ready to advertise for bids from any potential vendors and is seeking Council's authorization to advertise for chemicals.

A motion was made by Councilmember Whatley, seconded by Councilmember Winn authorizing staff to advertise for chemicals for use in the water and wastewater departments. The motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSS/CONSIDER APPOINTING FOUR (4) ALTERNATE MEMBERS TO  
ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENTS

Philip Rodriguez, City Manager, explained the need for alternate members to be added to Zoning Board of Adjustments.

Councilmember Winn explained that Mr. Bryan Barker has expressed interest in serving on the Zoning Board of Adjustments.

Councilmember Montgomery thanked Mr. Barker for his interest.

A motion was made by Councilmember Winn, seconded by Councilmember Whatley to appoint Bryan Barker as an alternate member to Zoning Board of Adjustments. The motion carried unanimously.

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

Jeff Weinstein, 518 E. Tyler St.

1. Thanked Mayor Vaught, Councilmember Winn, Philip Rodriguez, Fire and Police Departments for their assistance during the Uncle Fletch Davis Hamburger Festival
2. Stated 2,000-3,000 people attended the festival
3. Stated 30 cook teams participated in the hamburger cook-off

EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO THE TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE,  
SECTION 551.072 (DELIBERATION REGARDING THE PURCHASE, EXCHANGE,  
LEASE OR VALUE OF REAL PROPERTY).

A) CENTRAL PARK PROPERTY

The City Council adjourned to Executive Session at 5:47 p.m.

The City Council returned to Regular Session at 6:22 p.m.

DISCUSS/CONSIDER ACTION RESULTING FROM DELIBERATIONS IN  
EXECUTIVE SESSION

A) CENTRAL PARK PROPERTY

No action taken.

CITY MANAGER'S UPDATE

Mr. Rodriguez stated that the City has six (6) open positions and is currently advertising for new team members. The positions are posted on the City's website as well as other professional service websites.

He also stated the City is seeking input from the community for ways to utilize the Texan Theater and how to make it a benefit to the community.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL UPDATE

Mayor Vaught stated that the Texas Municipal League's Annual Conference was a success and the sessions he attended were very informative and it was good to meet new vendors.

Councilmember Montgomery thanked Mr. Rodriguez for the itinerary and stated the sessions were informative.

ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned.

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PASSED AND APPROVED THIS THE 12<sup>th</sup> DAY OF OCTOBER, 2015.

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Jerry D. Vaught, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Bonnie Hambrick, City Secretary