

February 18, 2003

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL

-

1. 5:30 P.M. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Philip Harrison called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

2. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

-

Rev. Ross Worch led all in the prayer and Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL AND CERTIFICATION OF QUORUM

Present to-wit: Mayor Philip B. Harrison, Aldermen David Ottmer, Michael S. "Mike" Mueller, James A. "Jim" Bishop, O. William "Bill" Schmidt and Wayne Browning; thereby a quorum was established. Also present was City Attorney Charley Smith and City Secretary Susan Rosinski.

4. 4. CONSIDERATION/ACTION TO ADOPT AGENDA

-

A motion was made by Alderman Browning, seconded by Alderman Mueller to adopt the agenda as presented with the exception that agenda item number thirteen be passed on. Motion carried unanimously.

5. 5. CONSIDERATION/ACTION TO APPROVE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

-

A motion was made by Alderman Browning, seconded by Alderman Ottmer to adopt the minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 21, 2003 and Special Meeting of February 4, 2003. Motion carried unanimously.

6. 6. CITIZEN'S FORUM

-

No one wished to address Council.

7. 7. REPORT OR REQUEST(S) FROM MAYOR/COUNCIL MEMBERS/CITY ATTORNEY

-

Mayor Harrison announced that a Special meeting, which will include an Executive Session, would be held on Monday, February 24, 2003.

Mayor Harrison informed Council and those in attendance about the recent fire in a Chicago nightclub that killed several people. He went on to say that the Code Enforcement Officer for that city had cited numerous violations and these violations were not corrected by the owner. He asked that citizens remember that they may not always like what the Code Enforcement Officer has to say; but he is there to protect the building owner as well as any patrons that enter their building.

Alderman Browning inquired about striping in town. City Secretary Rosinski replied that striping had begun at intersections near stop signs.

8. 8. REPORT OR REQUEST(S) FROM ADMINISTRATOR/DEPARTMENT HEADS

-

Mayor Harrison announced that Spring Clean -Up was scheduled for March 17 through March 21, 2003.

9. CONSIDERATION OF STREETS, CURBS AND DRAINAGE CONDITIONS AND PERIOD FOR REVITALIZATION AND ANY RELATED ACTION NECESSARY – ELLIS HUDGINS/LEROY PATTON, BELL OAKS PROPERTY ASSOCIATION

-

Mr. Ellis Hudgins and Mr. Leroy Patton appeared before Council and expressed concern regarding the conditions of streets, curbing and drainage within the Bell Oaks Subdivision.

Mayor Harrison informed them that the City would be meeting with Craig Kankel of O'Malley Engineers on Thursday to review a street study and cost of improvements.

Mr. Patton also expressed concern regarding the new Bell Oaks Apartments and increased traffic in and out of the Bell Oaks Subdivision.

10. CONSIDERATION OF UTILITY BILLS DUE DATE AND LATE PAYMENT

PENALTIES AND ANY RELATED ACTION NECESSARY – LOUIE MODLING- BENCHMARK COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Louie Modling was not available for comment.

11. CONSIDERATION OF DRAINAGE/FLOODING PROBLEMS AT 214 S. HARRIS AND ANY RELATED ACTION NECESSARY – DIANE MAINES

Ms. Diane Maines of 214 S. Harris appeared before Council to voice her concern regarding drainage problems on her property as well as other owners of property along South Harris Street. She felt the problems arose from the construction of The Cottages on East Luhn Street. She also expressed that if other apartments were constructed on this property that drainage conditions be addressed. Mayor Harrison assured her that drainage would be addressed as we currently ask for a drainage plan prior to building.

12. CONSIDERATION OF PLACEMENT OF CRIMESTOPPER SIGNS THROUGHOUT THE CITY AND ANY RELATED ACTION NECESSARY – RON BRYANT AND MIKE KRUMREY

-

Mr. Ron Bryant appeared before Council and presented Crime Stopper signs to the City of Bellville. A motion was made by Alderman Ottmer, seconded by Alderman Browning to accept the signs and place them at locations throughout the community. Motion carried unanimously.

13. CONSIDERATION/ACTION REGARDING STREET/SIDEWALK MAINTENANCE ON TOWN SQUARE AND ANY RELATED ACTION NECESSARY

-

This item was passed over and will be addressed at the meeting scheduled for Monday, February 24, 2003. Motion carried unanimously.

14. CONSIDERATION TO AUTHORIZE BELLVILLE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATIONS APPROVED PROJECT (BOYS & GIRLS CLUB OF BELLVILLE, TEXAS) AND ANY RELATED ACTION NECESSARY

A motion was made by Alderman Schmidt, seconded by Alderman Bishop to approve the Boy's and Girls Club of Bellville, Texas grant request in the amount of \$20,000.00 as recommended by the Bellville Economic Development Corporation. Also included in the motion is that the approval is contingent upon an opinion from the Attorney General's office. Mayor Harrison called for a vote. Alderman Ottmer abstained and Alderman Browning, Bishop, Mueller and Schmidt voted aye. Motion carried.

15. CONSIDERATION TO AUTHORIZE BELLVILLE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATIONS APPROVED PROJECT (ASSURANCE INSURANCE AGENCY, INC.) AND ANY RELATED ACTION NECESSARY

-

A motion was made by Alderman Bishop to approve the grant submitted by Assurance Insurance Agency, Inc. in the amount of \$10, 843.00 as recommended by the Bellville Economic Development Corporation. Mayor Harrison called for a second to the motion. With no response; Mayor Harrison called for a vote a second and third time. Motion died.

16. CONSIDERATION TO AUTHORIZE BELLVILLE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATIONS APPROVED PROJECT (BELLVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY) AND ANY RELATED ACTION NECESSARY

A motion was made by Alderman Ottmer, seconded by Alderman Schmidt to approve the Bellville Public Library project as recommended by the Bellville Economic Development Corporation Board in the amount of \$75,000.00. Motion carried unanimously. The consensus of Council was to have city crews help with the demolition process and construction of the parking lot to alleviate costs.

17. CONSIDERATION TO AUTHORIZE BELLVILLE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATIONS APPROVED PROJECT (BELLVILLE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE) AND ANY RELATED ACTION NECESSARY

A motion was made by Alderman Ottmer, seconded by Alderman Mueller to table this item to allow Attorney Smith to do research and request an Attorney's General's opinion. Motion carried unanimously.

18. APPOINTMENT OF JUDGES FOR MUNICIPAL ELECTION HELD ON MAY 3, 2003 AND ANY RELATED ACTION NECESSARY

-

A motion was made by Alderman Bishop, seconded by Alderman Browning to appoint Tanya Kalina, Presiding Judge and Margaret Flanagan, Alternate Presiding Judge for the 2003 General Municipal Election to be held on May 3, 2003. Motion carried unanimously.

19. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Alderman Schmidt, seconded by Alderman Browning to adjourn at 6:18 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.