

**CITY OF VIDOR
VIDOR CITY COUNCIL
SPECIAL CALLED MEETING
OCTOBER 17, 2019**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mayor Kimberly Stiebig
Councilmember Bob Turner
Councilmember Angela Jordan
Councilmember Jane Hill

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Councilmember Keith Buesing
Councilmember Gary Herrera

Administrative Personnel: Rollie Burr, Interim City Manager; Chris Leavins, City Attorney; Vicki Watson, City Secretary; Cheryl Ray, Supervisor of Finance & Accounting; and Aleta Cappen, Police Captain

A. OPENING, PRESENTATIONS, AND CITIZENS COMMENTS

A -1. Call to order and the establishment of a Quorum

A quorum was present, and the Special Called Meeting of the Vidor City Council began at 7:00 p.m., Mayor Stiebig presiding.

A -2. Invocation and Pledge to the United States Flag and the State of Texas Flag

Councilmember Turner gave the Invocation and led the Pledge to the United States Flag and the State of Texas Flag.

A -3. Proclamation – Red Ribbon Week

Mayor Stiebig proclaimed the week of October 28-November 1, 2019 as Red Ribbon Week in the City of Vidor and encouraged all citizens, businesses, public and private agencies, media, religious, and educational institutions to show their support for a drug-free community by wearing and displaying red ribbons. Heather Watson, Curriculum Coordinator, accepted the Proclamation on behalf of the Vidor Independent School District and thanked the Mayor and Council for their support.

A -4. Citizen Comments

There were no citizen comments.

B. COUNCIL CONSENT AGENDA

B -1. Approval of Accounts Paid:

Paid Invoices:

**General Fund – \$613,566.29
Sanitation Fund – \$44,504.92
Juvenile Case Management – \$178.75
Municipal Court Building Security Fund – \$111.68
Municipal Court Technology Fund – \$1,289.54
Emergency Management – \$73.99**

Hotel Occupancy – \$3,520.00
Disaster Fund – \$6,126.46
Employee Benefits Trust – \$56,381.86

B -2. Approval of Minutes: Regular Meeting – September 26, 2019

B -3. Ratification of the transfer of funds from Interest & Sinking 2013 General Obligation Refunding Bonds-Capital One Bank account to Interest & Sinking 2016 General Obligation Refunding Bonds-TexPool account in the following amounts:

September 24, 2019:	\$ 209.95
September 30, 2019:	\$ 27.32
October 07, 2019:	\$ 602.17

C. COUNCIL REGULAR AGENDA

C -1. Quarterly report by the Vidor Chamber of Commerce regarding business promotion and activity within the City of Vidor

Kari Milligan, Vidor Chamber of Commerce, gave an update on the Chamber's "Stay & Save" promotion. Ms. Milligan explained the two local hotels were willing to offer discounted rates for teams who would be competing in tournaments at Ford Park. Best Western offered a room rate of \$65.99 per night and Holiday Inn offered \$75.99 per night for double-bed rooms. Ms. Milligan also advised out of the list of local businesses who were contacted (list provided to Council), nine were willing to participate and offer discounts.

Ms. Milligan explained Ford Park flooded during Tropical Storm Imelda, as well as several of the Beaumont hotels, and it was unsure if the big tournament scheduled for October would be held. Ms. Milligan stated Ford Park released a statement on September 29, 2019, that the tournament would move forward, but many of the teams' players/families that had agreed to stay in Vidor hotels had flooded and pulled out to give them time to take care of their needs at home.

Ms. Milligan stated after speaking to the Chamber President and Vice President, it was decided to discontinue the program until January, but they encouraged the City of Vidor to pursue the "Stay & Save" program in the future.

C -2. Consideration and possible action approving AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF VIDOR, TEXAS, AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES BY AMENDING CHAPTER 42 – MANUFACTURED HOMES, MOBILE HOMES AND MANUFACTURED HOME PARKS, TO PROVIDE FOR ARTICLE V. – CAMPING, REGARDING CAMPING ACTIVITIES IN THE CITY; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR A PENALTY; AND PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE

Mayor Stiebig explained there has been an influx of people staying at businesses and under the bridge on Main Street since the flood. Ms. Stiebig stated Chief Carroll has also found them in other places. Ms. Stiebig discussed two different options: 1) an Ordinance for public "camping" which defines "camping" and "public areas;" and 2) an Ordinance which adds a permit for private camping to be issued by the Police Department.

Chris Leavins, City Attorney, explained the first option covers purely public places such as roadways and underpasses, and the second adds a permit process which covers camping anywhere within the city limits. Mr. Leavins stated if it is 72 hours or less on private property, they would not be permitted, and churches and non-profits would get an exemption of 120 hours. A lengthy discussion ensued.

Councilmember Songe moved to **bring the Ordinance forward for the second reading that includes the public and private property.** Councilmember Jordan seconded. The Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried.

C -3. Report, discussion and possible action regarding Hurricane / Tropical Storm Harvey grants, assistance and projects by Melinda Smith, Traylor & Associates

Mayor Stiebig clarified the agenda item says Melinda Smith with Traylor & Associates, but we have Beth Eddings with us tonight. Ms. Eddings explained the CDBG-DR (*Community Development Block Grant-Disaster Recovery*) infrastructure application is in the preliminary stages, but there is a short window of time to make any final changes. Ms. Eddings stated street repair in Heritage Park was part of the project, but Imelda did further damage and it became apparent that what those folks need is a study of Anderson Gully. Ms. Eddings explained an inquiry was sent to the GLO (*Texas Government Land Office*) to see if they will allow us to change from a street project to an actual study of Anderson Gully.

Ms. Eddings stated second, they do not think the HMPG (*Hazard Mitigation Grant Program*) projects will be funded and suggested taking the \$1,000,000 that was set aside for the match and moving it into one project. Ms. Eddings stated one option would be to take one of the HMGP projects and put the million dollars into that. Ms. Eddings stated that would most likely be the OST (*Old Spanish Trail*) Project. Ms. Eddings stated the other option would be to dump all of the money into another project that was included in the original CDBG application and just increase the scope (Archie Street or Tiger Creek lateral). The third option, Ms. Eddings explained, would be to increase the scope of more than one project included in the application.

Mayor Stiebig stated we do not have to make a decision tonight, but we just do not know if we are going to get the grants. Ms. Stiebig stated she plans to send a letter and wants to have our County Commissioner, and possibly Dade Phelan and Brian Babin, sign.

Ms. Eddings clarified that whatever Council decides has to be a project already included in the CDBG or HMGP applications. Ms. Eddings stated there is not a hard deadline, but the GLO wants to have the final contracts out the door by the end of December. No action was taken.

C -4. Report, discussion and possible action regarding potential grants and other assistance arising out of Tropical Storm Imelda by Melinda Smith, Traylor & Associates

Beth Eddings, Traylor & Associates, explained we still do not know about the funding, but the County itself met the threshold for the federal declaration, so there will be public assistance offered at some point. Ms. Eddings stated Traylor & Associates will continue to be on the lookout for the application when it becomes available and see what the funding looks like. Ms. Eddings stated we learned after Ike to take pictures, and after Harvey, we learned to take pictures and label, and now we have learned to take pictures with date/time stamps and locations. Ms. Eddings stated there is an app which will take pictures and put the date and time stamp, as well as the latitude/longitude of where it was taken. Aleta Cappen, Police Captain and Emergency Management Coordinator, explained the app is called "Time Stamp Camera." Ms. Eddings suggested taking pictures of some of the heavy rain events and places that are flooding now but didn't during Imelda. Ms. Eddings explained this means it is probably due to damage caused by Imelda and will help us prove it. No action was taken.

C -5. Consideration and discussion of possible adjustments to the boundaries and areas included in Reinvestment Zones 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 in the City of Vidor

Mayor Stiebig stated she does not see anything we need to do at this time. Chris Leavins, City Attorney, explained the zones are still good until 2021. (A map of the current reinvestment zones was displayed for the audience.) No action was taken.

C -6. Discussion and possible action regarding approval of a Resolution amending the City's Cell Phone Policy regarding employees' use of cell phones

Chris Leavins, City Attorney, explained the City's cell phones policy was passed years ago and there have been several amendments made to it over the years adding positions to receive an allowance. Mr. Leavins stated he did not make any changes to the original policy, but just drafted this amendment governing City-owned phones. Mr. Leavins explained there is no expectation of privacy and the policy governs what employees can and cannot do on it. Mr. Leavins stated Senate Bill 944 governs privately-owned phones, but it will not apply as these will be City-owned.

Captain Aleta Cappen explained the phones are almost ready. Captain Cappen stated the SMARSH problem has been fixed and the phones should be ready to go out by Monday.

A motion was made by Councilmember Songe **to approve the Resolution amending the City's Cell Phone Policy**. Councilmember Jordan seconded the motion. The Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried.

C -7. Consideration and possible action regarding approval of a Resolution authorizing the execution of a Motor Vehicle Data Service Contract for Accessing Texas Motor Vehicle Records with the State of Texas, acting by and through the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles


Chris Leavins, City Attorney, explained this is a renewal of the contract with the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles so that Code Enforcement can access their records.

Councilmember Jordan made a motion **to approve Resolution 872 authorizing the contract**. Councilmember Songe seconded. The Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried.

C -8. Consideration of Adjournment


A motion was made by Councilmember Songe, seconded by Councilmember Turner, for **Consideration of Adjournment**. The Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried, and the Special Called Meeting of the Vidor City Council adjourned at 7:41 p.m.

These minutes approved October 24, 2019.



Kimberly Stiebig, Mayor

ATTEST:



Vicki Watson, City Secretary