

**CITY OF VIDOR  
VIDOR CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING  
OCTOBER 24, 2019**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Mayor Kimberly Stiebig  
Councilmember Bob Turner  
Councilmember Angela Jordan  
Councilmember Misty Songe  
Councilmember Keith Buesing  
Councilmember Gary Herrera  
Councilmember Jane Hill

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

**Administrative Personnel:** Rollie Burr, Interim City Manager; Chris Leavins, City Attorney; Vicki Watson, City Secretary; Cheryl Ray, Supervisor of Finance & Accounting; and Rod Carroll, Chief of Police

**A. OPENING, PRESENTATIONS, AND CITIZENS COMMENTS**

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

A quorum was present, and the Regular Meeting of the Vidor City Council began at 7:01 p.m., Mayor Stiebig presiding.

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

Rod Carroll, Chief of Police, gave the Invocation and led the Pledge to the United States Flag and the State of Texas Flag.

**A -3. Citizen Comments**

Mark Jackson, 250 Oakland, explained he lives in Maplecrest and has prepared a written statement, copies of which were available for Council. Mr. Jackson discussed water creeping toward his house and then pouring in through the windows, seeing the possessions he has collected for 30 years piled on the side of the road in a heaping, rotting mess, and the anxiety he now feels every time it rains. Mr. Jackson stated his neighbor has lived there for almost 60 years with no problems until Harvey.

Mr. Jackson discussed the meeting that took place two weeks prior and stated the City government has been eerily quiet. Mr. Jackson stated there was no permanent, or even short-term, solution offered, and he feels two years is ample time to at least develop a plan. In closing, Mr. Jackson challenged the Council to make drainage an agenda item for every Council meeting, request representatives of the Orange County Drainage District to present a status at every meeting, and to have TxDOT (Texas Department of Transportation) present as needed.

**B. COUNCIL CONSENT AGENDA**

**B -1. Approval of Accounts Paid:**

**Paid Invoices:**

**General Fund – \$35,980.39  
Sanitation Fund – \$12,818.17  
Disaster Fund – \$6,244.82**

**B -2. Approval of Minutes:**

**Special Called Meeting – October 8, 2019**

**Special Called Meeting – October 17, 2019**

**B -3. Ratification of the payment of the monthly sales tax in the amount of \$5,396.28 out of General Account/Pooled Cash**

A motion was made by Councilmember Songe, seconded by Councilmember Turner, to **APPROVE THE COUNCIL CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED**. The Council voted six (6) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried.

**C. COUNCIL REGULAR AGENDA**

**C -1. Report by Jessica Hill, Orange County Economic Development Corporation, regarding economic development in Orange County, Texas**

Jessica Hill, Orange County Economic Development Corporation (EDC), updated Council on the eight-billion-dollar Chevron/Phillips project, which is moving forward quickly, as well as three other projects which are close to announcing Orange County as their preferred site. Ms. Hill discussed the EDC's new website, the "Choose Texas" campaign, the levee project, Jefferson Industries, and a 3600-acre tract with interstate frontage.

In response to Councilmember Herrera's question regarding the percentage of time spent actively pursuing light industrial, commercial and restaurants, Ms. Hill explained it is not based on industry type but what we can accommodate and what resources we have available. Ms. Hill explained they are in their third year contracting with a retail consultant and have had a conversation specifically about the pad sites in front of Walmart which will be the focus next year. Ms. Hill explained rooftops are what drive retail. Discussion ensued.

In closing, Ms. Hill stated the EDC's regularly scheduled board meeting on November 4, 2019 will be an evening meeting to allow more people to attend. Ms. Hill stated the meeting will be held in the Commissioners Courtroom in downtown Orange beginning at 5:00 p.m., followed by an open forum for questions and answers.

*(Mayor Stiebig explained agenda items C-2 and C-3 will be moved to the end of the meeting.)*

**C -4. 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 (Second Reading)**

Mayor Stiebig explained this is the second reading of the changes to the Ordinance regarding camping in public and private areas. Ms. Stiebig stated this will prevent people from camping under the interstate and around businesses.

A motion was made by Councilmember Songe, seconded by Councilmember Buesing, to **approve Ordinance No. 1360 regarding camping**. The Council voted six (6) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried.

**C -5. Consideration and possible approval of a Resolution of the City Council of the City of Vidor, Texas, amending the Personnel Policies as set forth in the City of Vidor Employee Handbook dated November 11, 1996, regarding vacation benefits**

Vicki Watson, City Secretary, explained a few years back, Council approved allowing employees with ten years of service to sell back a week (40 hours) of vacation during the last quarter of the year. Ms. Watson discussed the events leading to the discovery that this was never actually put in policy. Chris Leavins, City Attorney, stated there is not a provision in the Employee Handbook that states this can be done even though it is the practice. Mr. Leavins stated the same language as the provision in the current CBA (Collective Bargaining Agreement) was used.

Councilmember Songe moved to **approve Resolution No. 873 amending the Employee Handbook**. Councilmember Turner seconded. The Council voted six (6) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried.

**C -6. Consideration and possible approval of a Resolution creating two (2) temporary operator positions in the Streets and Drainage Department**

Councilmember Herrera asked for a definition of “operator.” Rollie Burr, Interim City Manager, explained it will be someone to operate the Gradall and tractors. Mr. Burr stated Romeo (*Lingad, Street/Drainage Supervisor*) had a vacant spot and hired one this week who is experienced in heavy equipment and will be trained on the Gradall. Mr. Burr stated these two temporary positions will allow Romeo to have two crews operating and double the work to dig and reconstruct the ditches. Mr. Burr stated Romeo will make sure they operate the equipment safely and discussed the pay scale the City has. A brief discussion ensued.

A motion was made by Councilmember Songe, seconded by Councilmember Jordan, to **approve Resolution No. 874 creating two temporary operator positions**. The Council voted six (6) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried.

**C -7. Consideration and possible approval of AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF VIDOR, TEXAS AMENDING STREETS AND DRAINAGE – CAPITAL OUTLAY, AND STREETS AND DRAINAGE – WAGES, IN THE CITY’S BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2019, AND ENDING ON SEPTEMBER 30, 2020; PROVIDING FOR A REPEALING CLAUSE; PROVIDING FOR A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; PROVINDG FOR A WAIVER OF SECOND READING; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE, in the amount of \$45,000**

Mayor Stiebig explained this is to pay for the two positions that were just created. Ms. Stiebig stated Romeo (*Lingad, Street/Drainage Supervisor*) does not want to just clean culverts, he wants to correct the grade. Discussion ensued regarding contracting out the work. Councilmember Buesing stated a contractor gets paid to dig a certain amount of ditch whereas a City employee is still working for us. Rollie Burr, Interim City Manager, stated Romeo sends him a rundown of what his crew does each day. Councilmember Herrera asked for a copy of the reports. Mr. Burr stated Councilmember Buesing went on a tour last week and anyone who wants to take a tour is welcome and encouraged to do so. Mr. Burr explained he personally drives around to check on the job sites, and Romeo is here reporting every day.

Councilmember Songe moved to **approve Ordinance 1361 moving funds to pay for the temporary positions**. Councilmember Turner seconded. ROLL CALL VOTE: Councilmember Turner, aye; Councilmember Jordan, aye; Councilmember Songe, aye; Councilmember Buesing, nay; Councilmember Herrera, aye; and Councilmember Hill, aye. The Council voted five (5) for and one (1) opposed. *Chris*

*Leavins, City Attorney, advised since the vote was not unanimous, it will have to come back for a second reading.*

**C -8. EXECUTIVE SESSION – Deliberation pursuant to Texas Government Code, Section 551.071 – Consultation with Attorney, and Section 551.074 – Personnel Matters, regarding the permanent City Manager position, including possible process for filling same**

Mayor Stiebig recessed the Regular Meeting to go into **EXECUTIVE SESSION – Deliberation pursuant to Texas Government Code, Section 551.071 – Consultation with Attorney, and Section 551.074 – Personnel Matters, regarding the permanent City Manager position, including possible process for filling same** at 7:49 p.m.

Mayor Stiebig reconvened the Regular Meeting at 8:16 p.m.

**C -9. Consideration and possible action resulting from the Executive Session under C-8 regarding the permanent City Manager position**

Councilmember Songe made a motion **to have the City Secretary and City Attorney move forward with posting the position.** Councilmember Herrera seconded. The Council voted six (6) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried.

**C -2. Consideration and possible acceptance of Councilmember Bob Turner's resignation from the Vidor City Council, Ward #1**

A motion was made by Councilmember Buesing, seconded by Councilmember Herrera, **to accept Bob Turner's resignation.** The Council voted three (3) for and one (1) opposed. *(Councilmember Songe was the "nay" vote, and Councilmembers Jordan and Turner abstained, which are also considered "nay" votes.)* Mayor Stiebig voted in favor of in order to break the tie and the motion carried. *(Mr. Turner stepped down from the dais.)*


**C -3. Discussion regarding filling Councilmember Ward 1 vacancy if resignation under C-2 is accepted by City Council**

Chris Leavins, City Attorney, explained someone can be appointed since this is the first vacancy since the last election. A brief discussion ensued. Mayor Stiebig explained the person Bob *(former Councilmember Turner)* had suggested, just bought a house on Needles and will be in a different ward. No action was taken.

**C-10. Consideration of Adjournment**

A motion was made by Councilmember Jordan, seconded by Councilmember Songe, for **Consideration of Adjournment.** The Council voted six (6) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried, and the Regular Meeting of the Vidor City Council adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

*These minutes approved November 14, 2019.*



Kimberly Stiebig, Mayor

ATTEST:



Vicki Watson, City Secretary