CITY OF VIDOR
VIDOR CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
JULY 25, 2019

MEMBERS PRESENT:
Mayor Kimberly Stiebig
Councilmember Bob Turner
Councilmember Misty Songe
Councilmember Angela Jordan
Councilmember Jane Hill

MEMBERS ABSENT:
Councilmember Keith Buesing
Councilmember Gary Herrera

Administrative Personnel: Mike Kunst, City Manager; Vicki Watson, City Secretary; Chris Leavins, City Attorney; Cheryl Ray, Supervisor of Finance & Accounting; Aleta Cappens, Vidor Police Captain; 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 6:01 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. Citizen Comments

Paul Biehle, 45 Heritage Drive, discussed problems with Heritage Drive, which is 50 years old, and stated the outfall ditches need cleaning out as well. Mr. Biehle encouraged Council to give strong consideration to rebuilding the road in the coming budget.

Renee Lloyd, 340 Elgie, explained she has formed a non-profit organization in an effort to bring back Christmas lights. Ms. Lloyd stated she has tried to get the City Manager or the Mayor to sign a letter to bring to sponsors.

Ernest Bayard, 2375 John Street, stated he does not live in the City but is concerned about the parking lot at the City pool. Mr. Bayard stated he has talked to the City Manager and former Mayor Viator, and nothing has happened. Mr. Bayard thanked the City of Vidor employees for the tremendous work they do.

Wendy Matthews, 2650 Polly, stated she loves that Code Enforcement follows rules and regulations and understands we have to survive after a storm, but she has issues with a shed on Wharton that was replaced by a mobile home. Ms. Matthews stated someone is now living in another shed on the Polly side of the property. Ms. Matthews also discussed problems with the roadway and bridge on Old Spanish Trail.

B. COUNCIL CONSENT AGENDA

B -1. Approval of Accounts Paid and/or Accounts Payable:

Paid Invoices: General Fund – $92,066.22
Child Safety – $300.00
B -2. Approval of Minutes: Regular Meeting – July 11, 2019

B -3. Ratification of the transfer of funds from Interest & Sinking 2013 General Obligation Refunding Bonds-Capital One Bank account to Interest & Sinking 2008/2016 General Obligation Refunding Bonds-TexPool account in the following amounts:

July 15, 2019: $ 1,472.25
July 22, 2019: $ 566.96

B -4. Ratification of the payment of the monthly sales tax in the amount of $5,678.11 out of General Account/Pooled Cash

A motion was made by Councilmember Jordan, seconded by Councilmember Turner, to APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED. The Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried.

C. COUNCIL REGULAR AGENDA

C -1. Presentation by Carmen Apple, District Coordinator for the Texas Division of Emergency Management, and discussion regarding the role of the elected official during an emergency/disaster

Carmen Apple, District Coordinator for the Texas Division of Emergency Management, discussed the need for being prepared for hurricane season and gave a presentation on the overhead screen for Council and the audience. Ms. Apple reviewed the elected officials’ role which is mandated by certain statutes. Ms. Apple stated requests for State assistance must come from the chief elected official or his/her designee.

Ms. Apple explained on September 1, 2019, the Texas Division of Emergency Management will no longer be a division of Emergency Management but will transfer under the Texas A&M University system. Ms. Apple gave her contact information and explained she has her mobile with her all the time. Ms. Apple stated her email address currently says @dps, but she is unsure, at this time, what it will change to on September 1st.

Ms. Apple discussed local government responsibilities, the local assistance process, and the flow of State assistance requests. Ms. Apple gave examples of available state resources and reviewed a flow chart of how a declaration is made. Ms. Apple explained the Stafford Act authorizes the President to declare an emergency or major disaster if requested by the Governor and reviewed the eligibility requirements and procedures for requesting assistance. Ms. Apple explained State and local thresholds must be met in order to qualify for federal assistance. (These damage thresholds are $37,718,342 for the State and $309,344 for Orange County.) Ms. Apple explained these thresholds are set by FEMA and based on population, and the damages must be uninsured or underinsured. Ms. Apple stated there typically must be 800 homes destroyed, not damaged, in the designated disaster area in order to qualify for FEMA individual assistance.

Mike Kunst, City Manager, questioned what happens if the Mayor is not present. Ms. Apple responded it might be in the City’s best interest to designate someone in her absence if that is the case.
C -2. Presentation by a representative of Gallagher Benefits Services, Inc. regarding employee insurance benefits for Fiscal Year 2019-2020

Burke Sunday, Gallagher Benefits Services, stated he has spent the last couple of months working with staff to prepare for the 2019-2020 plan year. Mr. Sunday explained unfortunately over the last year or so, the claims experience of the group has deteriorated quite a bit, and we are in a stressful situation as it relates to negotiations and renewal for the medical/pharmacy coverage. Mr. Sunday stated the City has a very good partner with BlueCross BlueShield of Texas (BCBSTX) and they have worked with us to lower the initial renewal rate as much as possible. Mr. Sunday explained we had to look at how benefits could be adjusted to meet the financial requirements of both the City and those employees who carry their spouse or family.

Mr. Sunday explained two years ago, a high deductible health plan and health savings accounts (HSAs) were introduced, and we were able to negotiate a very good deal with BCBSTX. Mr. Sunday discussed moving the deductible up $1,000 (from $3,000 to $4,000) for the coming year and recommended a slight increase to the HSAs to help offset the increased deductible. Mr. Sunday stated with these changes, the rates are only increasing 4.88% for the 2019-2020 plan year.

Mr. Sunday explained the City is in the middle of a two-year rate guarantee with Lincoln and there will be no changes in benefits or rates for the coming year for any of the other lines of coverage (dental, life/AD&D, short-term disability, voluntary life, and vision).

Mr. Sunday stated the City is in a very good situation from an offering standpoint, as well as the costs that the taxpayers fund and the rates the individuals pay for themselves and their families. Mr. Sunday stated health care prices across the region and throughout Texas and the nation continue to rise at a rate far greater than the consumer price index, but the City’s plan is still in the top 10-15% of the public entities that Gallagher works with.

C -3. Filing of the City Manager’s proposed tentative budget for fiscal year 2019-2020

Mike Kunst, City Manager, stated before Council is the tentative 2019-2020 budget and explained the process started two months ago when he and Cheryl (Ray, Supervisor of Finance & Accounting) met with the department heads. Mr. Kunst stated they have also listened to Council’s priorities and have worked with the funds that are available. Mr. Kunst asked Council to take it back, review it and read the budget message. Mr. Kunst explained the proposed budget includes a 3% across-the-board raise for the employees, a 5% increase in health insurance rates, and a small amount of capital outlay.

Mr. Kunst stated if Council has any questions, please ask and explained it is much easier to answer those questions during the day when he and Cheryl have access to all of that information. Mr. Kunst again asked Council to please call or email if they have any questions or concerns.

Mr. Kunst stated from here on out, Council is the only one who can change this budget but explained he cannot change anything if Council comes to him individually, even if they all say the same thing. Mr. Kunst explained Cheryl will read an itemized list of changes to this proposed budget at each meeting and Council will have to vote them in or not. Mr. Kunst stated in the past, a highly inflated budget was presented, and Council was asked to make cuts, but this is not one of those budgets. Mr. Kunst stated they have talked about wants and needs and tried to make decisions based on Council’s guidance throughout the year.

C -4. Consideration and/or possible approval of a RESOLUTION to establish and file a tentative budget for the City of Vidor and the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2019, and terminating on
September 30, 2020, and making appropriations for each department, project, and account and giving notice of a public hearing

A motion was made by Councilmember Turner, seconded by Councilmember Songe, to **approve the Resolution to establish and file the tentative budget for fiscal year 2019-2020.** The Council voted four (4) for and none opposed. The motion carried.

C -5. **Certification of the 2018 Anticipated Collection Rate & 2017 Excess Debt Collections as presented by the Orange County Tax Assessor-Collector**

Cheryl Ray, Supervisor of Finance & Accounting, pointed out it should be certification of the 2019 anticipated collection rate and 2018 excess debt collections. Ms. Ray explained this is the first step in the budget process. Mayor Stiebig read the certifications presented by Karen Fisher, Tax Assessor-Collector as follows: “I, Karen Fisher, Collector for the City of Vidor solemnly swear that the anticipated collection rate for the year 2018-2019 for the City of Vidor (Debt Service) has been estimated to be 100% and the amount of excess debt service funds collected in the year 2018-2019 has been determined to be $0.” Mayor Stiebig stated the City is required to receive the certification from Karen Fisher.

Councilmember Jordan made a motion to **accept and approve the Certification by Karen Fisher.** Councilmember Songe seconded the motion after clarification from Chris Leavins, City Attorney, that it was okay to approve with the incorrect signature date since it is still for 2018 and 2019. The Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried.

C -6. **Consideration and possible approval of a Resolution approving pay request #1 of the Asphalt Street Rehabilitation Project- FEMA DR 4332 as revised in the amount of $208,596.90 (Gulf Coast is the contractor requesting payment. The engineering firm for the project, Schaumburg & Polk, Inc., is recommending the revised payment amount.)**

Mike Kunst, City Manager, explained this is part of the project where they (Gulf Coast) did the vast majority of Oakland and some patch work on Concord and Strickland. Mr. Kunst stated we are not satisfied with the surface of Oakland and as we await resolution, the contractor has asked to be paid. Mr. Kunst explained SPI (Schaumburg & Polk, Inc.) has marked out some things and is asking the City to pay for the things the contractor has done satisfactorily in the amount of $208,596.90.

A motion was made by Councilmember Turner, seconded by Councilmember Hill, to **approve the Resolution approving pay request #1 to Gulf Coast as revised by SPI.** The Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried.

C -7. **PUBLIC HEARING- Application for a permit of a new pipeline as filed and requested by FHR Crocket Acquisition Company, LLC, for a new pipeline to be installed and maintained in the City of Vidor, Texas, such pipeline beginning in Port Arthur, Texas and ending in Longview, Texas**

Mayor Stiebig opened the **PUBLIC HEARING- Application for a permit of a new pipeline as filed and requested by FHR Crocket Acquisition Company, LLC, for a new pipeline to be installed and maintained in the City of Vidor, Texas, such pipeline beginning in Port Arthur, Texas and ending in Longview, Texas** at 6:46 p.m.

Mayor Stiebig explained the pipeline is traveling off of Old Spanish Trail and coming up behind Church Street. Mike Kunst, City Manager, stated the City has questions and no one from FHR is present tonight.

There were no questions or comments from the public, and Mayor Stiebig closed the **PUBLIC HEARING- Application for a permit of a new pipeline as filed and requested by FHR Crocket Acquisition**
Company, LLC, for a new pipeline to be installed and maintained in the City of Vidor, Texas, such pipeline beginning in Port Arthur, Texas and ending in Longview, Texas at 6:46 p.m.

C -8. Consideration and possible approval of the permit for a new pipeline filed and requested by FHR Crocket Acquisition Company, LLC for a new pipeline to be installed and maintained in the City of Vidor, Texas, such pipeline beginning in Port Arthur, Texas and ending in Longview, Texas

Chris Leavins, City Attorney, explained this application goes back several meetings ago when Council discussed the request to change the indemnity agreement. Mr. Leavins stated Council decided to leave it like it is, and they signed that and the affidavit. Mr. Leavins stated there are still a couple of small things to be addressed, one of which is on the certificate of insurance. Mr. Leavins explained our Ordinance requires a waiver of subrogation and a 15-day notice of cancellation, and they came back and said their insurer would not put it on there.

Mr. Leavins stated Michelle (Falgout, Engineer) also reviewed the application and found a few deficiencies as well and thought there was some additional information needed which has not been addressed. Mike Kunst, City Manager, stated they are supposed to get permits from other entities (Drainage District, Water District, etc.) and Ms. Falgout is concerned. Mr. Leavins stated his concerns are based on the Ordinance and they simply have not complied with the requirements. Mr. Leavins stated he does not think they have received final approval from the other state and federal authorities.

Councilmember Jordan made a motion to table it. Councilmember Songe seconded the motion. The Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried.

(At 6:50 p.m., Mayor Stiebig stated tonight’s meeting started a little earlier than normal and asked if anyone else had a citizen comment that they did not get to sign up for. There were none, and Mayor Stiebig proceeded with the next agenda item.)

C -9. Consideration and possible approval of a Resolution providing for continued temporary non-enforcement of Section 42-41 of the City of Vidor Code of Ordinances, Authorized and Prohibited Usage of Recreational Vehicles, Paragraph (D), for a recreational vehicle located at 980 Millie, Vidor, TX to allow for recovery from damage caused by Hurricane/Tropical Storm Harvey

Joseph Saade, contractor for 980 Millie, explained the project was delayed because the insurance was not paying. Mr. Saade stated they should be able to get it going by mid-August. Tyler Mann, the one inhabiting the RV, introduced himself to Council. Councilmember Jordan asked how long the project is expected to take if it is started in August, and Mr. Saade explained it is a total rehab and should take 45-60 days. Councilmember Hill commented that it has been two years, and the project has not even started. A brief discussion ensued.

A motion was made by Councilmember Songe to approve the Resolution providing for the temporary extension of the non-enforcement of Section 42-41 for 980 Millie until October 24, 2019. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Jordan. ROLL CALL VOTE: Councilmember Turner, aye; Councilmember Jordan, aye; Councilmember Songe, aye; and Councilmember Hill, aye. The Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried.

C-10. Consideration and possible approval of a Resolution providing for continued temporary non-enforcement of Section 42-41 of the City of Vidor Code of Ordinances, Authorized and Prohibited Usage of Recreational Vehicles, Paragraph (D), for a recreational vehicle located at
Megan McLaughlin stated she was speaking on behalf of her parents. Ms. McLaughlin explained they have just sold their house and are living in a FEMA trailer. Ms. McLaughlin stated her parents just need a little more time to get their things out. Mayor Stiebig explained as it stands now, they have until August 31st to get their things out.

Councilmember Songe made a motion to NOT extend the temporary non-enforcement of Section 42-41 at 680 Pinecrest past August 31, 2019. Councilmember Turner seconded the motion. ROLL CALL VOTE: Councilmember Jordan, aye; Councilmember Songe, aye; and Councilmember Hill, aye; and Councilmember Turner, aye. The Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried.

C-11. Consideration and possible approval of a Resolution providing for continued temporary non-enforcement of Section 42-41 of the City of Vidor Code of Ordinances, Authorized and Prohibited Usage of Recreational Vehicles, Paragraph (D), for a recreational vehicle located at 645 East Bolivar, Vidor, TX to allow for recovery from damage caused by Hurricane/Tropical Storm Harvey

Charles Simmons, 645 East Bolivar, explained he is currently in the middle of rebuilding his home. Mr. Simmons stated he is getting ready for the construction permit to be completed and then the electrical and plumbing permits shortly thereafter. Mr. Simmons stated it has been a very slow process, but he is paying cash as he goes. Mr. Simmons stated he is expecting it to take another 4-5 months.

A motion was made by Councilmember Jordan to extend the temporary non-enforcement of Section 42-41 for 645 East Bolivar until October 24, 2019. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Songe. ROLL CALL VOTE: Councilmember Songe, aye; Councilmember Hill, aye; Councilmember Turner, aye; and Councilmember Jordan, aye. The Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried.

C-12. Consideration and possible approval of a Resolution providing for continued temporary non-enforcement of Section 42-41 of the City of Vidor Code of Ordinances, Authorized and Prohibited Usage of Recreational Vehicles, Paragraph (D), for a recreational vehicle located at 325 Lawrence, Vidor, TX to allow for recovery from damage caused by Hurricane/Tropical Storm Harvey

Gerrie Brown, 325 Lawrence Lane, stated she is currently living in an RV on her property and only recently got water. Ms. Brown explained her house, which was custom built and solid wood inside, was completely gutted, including ceilings, and she had dangling wires. Ms. Brown stated she now has ceilings and walls petitioned. Ms. Brown showed pictures of her progress and explained she has electrical but no floors. Ms. Brown stated she has applied to every group for help but was denied. Ms. Brown explained St. Vincent de Paul is trying to help her now. Ms. Brown stated she has used all of her FEMA money and has nowhere else to go. A brief discussion ensued.

Councilmember Songe made a motion to extend the temporary non-enforcement of Section 42-41 for 325 Lawrence until October 24, 2019. Councilmember Turner seconded the motion. ROLL CALL VOTE: Councilmember Hill, aye; Councilmember Turner, aye; Councilmember Jordan, aye; and Councilmember Songe, aye. The Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried.

C-13. Consideration and possible approval of a Resolution providing for continued temporary non-enforcement of Section 42-41 of the City of Vidor Code of Ordinances, Authorized and
Prohibited Usage of Recreational Vehicles, Paragraph (D), for a recreational vehicle located at 270 North Timberlane, Vidor, TX to allow for recovery from damage caused by Hurricane/Tropical Storm Harvey

Tracie Granger, 270 North Timberlane, explained her husband is working on their home tonight. Ms. Granger gave pictures of their progress to Council and explained 60% of the work has been done by her husband. Ms. Granger stated both she and her husband work and are perfectionists. Ms. Granger explained they had insurance but are very careful about who comes into their home. Ms. Granger discussed various issues and roadblocks they have come up against during the process. Ms. Granger stated they would love to be in their home by the end of August, but she is here tonight just in case that does not happen. Councilmember Turner stated he lives nearby, and the Grangers are working on their home all the time.

A motion was made by Councilmember Songe, seconded by Councilmember Hill, to approve the Resolution extending the temporary non-enforcement of Section 42-41 for 270 North Timberlane until October 24, 2019. ROLL CALL VOTE: Councilmember Turner, aye; Councilmember Jordan, aye; Councilmember Songe, aye; and Councilmember Hill, aye. The Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried.

C-14. Consideration and possible approval of a Resolution providing for continued temporary non-enforcement of Section 42-41 of the City of Vidor Code of Ordinances, Authorized and Prohibited Usage of Recreational Vehicles, Paragraph (D), for a recreational vehicle located at 2005 Wharton, Vidor, TX to allow for recovery from damage caused by Hurricane/Tropical Storm Harvey (This is not an RV, but perhaps better described as a shed.)

Forrest and Jessica Johnson, 2005 Wharton, introduced themselves to Council. Mr. Johnson explained after Harvey, their roof fell in, the hardwood floors buckled, and the house was full of mold since they were not able to get back in for 2-3 weeks afterward. Mr. Johnson stated they rented an RV right after they got back but could not afford to continue paying for it, so he started remodeling the storage building they had purchased to store their belongings that were left in the home.

Ms. Johnson stated the main house on the property, 2550 Old Spanish Trail, is the house she grew up in, but 2005 Wharton does not exist anymore. Ms. Johnson stated they are doing a total rebuild and have contracted with Anderson Homes out of Beaumont. Ms. Johnson stated they have scheduled and been approved for a tear-down in a couple of weeks, and the pad should go up shortly thereafter.

Mr. Johnson explained when they came home after the storm and turned the lights on, the house caught on fire. Mr. Johnson stated after having contractors come and look at the home, it was determined it would cost more to repair the home than to build a new one. Councilmember Songe stated the Johnson’s plans look amazing but explained what they are living in is illegal and does not even fit the temporary housing Council is approving. Ms. Songe explained Council cannot approve an illegal structure that is not up to code to be lived in. Mike Kunst, City Manager, explained the term “shed” was used for brevity. A lengthy discussion ensued.

Chris Leavins, City Attorney, stated Section 42-41 is not going to work for this one, therefore no motion is needed. No action was taken.

C-15. Consideration and possible approval of a Resolution providing for continued temporary non-enforcement of Section 42-41 of the City of Vidor Code of Ordinances, Authorized and Prohibited Usage of Recreational Vehicles, Paragraph (D), for a recreational vehicle located at
795 Tupelo, Vidor, TX to allow for recovery from damage caused by Hurricane/Tropical Storm Harvey (This is a request for an extension for a FEMA provided trailer.)

Mike Kunst, City Manager, reminded Council the GLO (Texas General Land Office) reached out to the City of Vidor requesting an extension for the FEMA trailers, and Council said no. Tommy Jackson, 795 Tupelo, stated he had $102,000 in damages but only had $42,000 in insurance. Mr. Jackson stated once the insurance paid, it had to be signed over to the mortgage company. Mr. Jackson stated he has had three different certificates of elevation and as far as he is concerned, the one he bought and paid for himself supersedes the one from the City and the County.

Mr. Jackson stated he has applied for help but has been denied. Pat Murray, Catholic Charities, stated Mr. Jackson has applied for everything and either made too much money or too little. Mr. Murray stated this one is not an easy fix and explained Mr. Jackson’s mortgage company went bankrupt, not once but twice. Mr. Murray explained this is more than the Catholic Charities can afford to do.

Mr. Jackson stated he has paid for the structural engineer’s report, and they have started on the foundation but explained they had to go down 8 feet for the footings but hit water at 5 feet and are now having to wait 30 days and hope the table goes down. Mr. Jackson stated he has had 16-hour days, but he has gone as far as he can. Mr. Jackson stated since Council made it to where FEMA trailers cannot be purchased in the city limits of Vidor, FEMA is charging him $685 per month to rent the travel trailer and his house note is $516 per month including taxes, insurance, and flood insurance. Mr. Jackson explained everything is in the State’s hands, and stated he contacts the GLO almost every day, but he does not know how long it is going to take. Discussion ensued.

Councilmember Songe made a motion to approve the Resolution extending the temporary non-enforcement of Section 42-41 for 795 Tupelo until October 24, 2019. Councilmember Turner seconded the motion. ROLL CALL VOTE: Councilmember Jordan, aye; Councilmember Songe, aye; Councilmember Hill, aye; and Councilmember Turner, aye. The Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried.

C-16. Consideration and possible approval of a Resolution providing for continued temporary non-enforcement of Section 42-41 of the City of Vidor Code of Ordinances, Authorized and Prohibited Usage of Recreational Vehicles, Paragraph (D), for a recreational vehicle located at 1165 Pine Street, Vidor, TX to allow for recovery from damage caused by Hurricane/Tropical Storm Harvey

Timothy Sprinkle, 1165 Pine Street, explained they are trading the property at 1165 Pine for another piece of property out of the city limits with Flair Real Estate. Mr. Sprinkle stated they are waiting on the tax office and their attorneys. Mrs. Sprinkle stated they have looked at other routes that were not going anywhere and now they are just waiting for the paperwork to be completed. Discussion ensued.

A motion was made by Councilmember Songe, seconded by Councilmember Hill, to NOT extend the temporary non-enforcement of Section 42-41 for 1165 Pine Street. ROLL CALL VOTE: Councilmember Songe, aye; Councilmember Hill, aye; Councilmember Turner, aye; and Councilmember Jordan, aye. The Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried.

C-17. Consideration and possible approval of a RESOLUTION approving financing terms for the lease of a sanitation truck (The approval of leasing a new sanitation truck was approved in the fiscal year 2018-2019 budget.)

Cheryl Ray, Supervisor of Finance & Accounting, stated this is on last year’s budget. Ms. Ray explained the sanitation truck was ordered in October, but it had to be built. Ms. Ray stated the back part has to be put on,
and it has to be painted, but it should be here sometime in August. Ms. Ray stated we just need the financing for it.

A motion was made by Councilmember Jordan to approve the Resolution approving the financing terms for the sanitation truck. Councilmember Songe seconded the motion. The Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried.

C-18. Consideration and possible action regarding possible amendments to the City of Vidor Code of Ordinances, Chapter 54- Solid Waste, Article 11- Rates and Charges (No amendments will be approved at this meeting. This for the coming fiscal year.)

Mike Kunst, City Manager, stated the proposed sanitation rates for the next fiscal year are in the binders. Mr. Kunst stated it has been five or six years since the City increased the rates and stated for a resident living inside the city limits with regular trash service, the rate would increase from $17 to $19.50 per month. Cheryl Ray, Supervisor of Finance & Accounting, explained we try to make the adjustments good for several years, but we have to cover the costs in that fund. Ms. Ray stated we are still lower than others in the area. A brief discussion ensued.

A motion was made by Councilmember Songe to proceed with amending the Code of Ordinances regarding the recommended rate changes as presented. Councilmember Jordan seconded the motion. The Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried.


Mike Kunst, City Manager, gave a brief overview of Hotel Occupancy Tax (HOT) funds and explained for the past three years, half of the amount collected from July 1st-June 30th each year is reserved for promoting the hotel and tourism industry. Mr. Kunst stated people are allowed to apply for grants of the remaining half. Mr. Kunst explained the grants are capped at $10,000 and only one award per individual or organization. Mr. Kunst stated a special called meeting is tentatively scheduled for August 15, 2019. Mr. Kunst stated he will notify previous applicants, submit a write-up to the local newspaper, and post it on the website. Mr. Kunst explained one representative from each group or organization will be given a few minutes to present their case to Council, and Council will be able to ask questions. Mr. Kunst stated no action is required unless Council wishes to change the process, and if so, it will have to be brought back at a future meeting.

C-20. Presentation and possible approval of a Resolution approving the appointment of an officer to the Vidor Police Department Reserve Force in accordance with Section 341.012 of the Texas Local Government Code and Section 34-52 of the Vidor Code of Ordinances

Rod Carroll, Chief of Police, explained this is an 8-year veteran who resigned from Vidor PD and went into private industry. A motion was made by Councilmember Songe, seconded by Councilmember Jordan, to approve the appointment of an officer to the Vidor Police Department Reserve Force. The Council voted four (4) for and none opposed. The motion carried.

C-21. Consideration of Adjournment

A motion was made by Councilmember Hill, seconded by Councilmember Songe, for Consideration of Adjournment. The Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried, and the Regular Meeting of the Vidor City Council adjourned at 7:51 p.m.
These minutes approved August 8, 2019.

ATTEST:

Vicki Watson, City Secretary