

**CITY OF VIDOR
VIDOR CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
JULY 23, 2020**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mayor Kelly Carder
Councilmember Angela Jordan
Councilmember Misty Songe
Councilmember Keith Buesing
Councilmember Gary Herrera
Councilmember Jane Hill

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Councilmember Julie Hannon

Administrative Personnel: Robbie Hood, 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 7:00 p.m., Mayor Carder 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

There were no citizen comments.

B. COUNCIL CONSENT AGENDA

B -1. Approval of Accounts Paid:

Paid Invoices:	General Fund – \$165,892.43
	Sanitation Fund – \$24,919.34
	Juvenile Case Management – \$58.65
	Municipal Court Building Security Fund – \$41.36
	Emergency Management – \$299.00
	Federal Forfeiture - \$2,676.00
	Hotel Occupancy – \$2,020.00
	Disaster Fund – \$3,118.84
	Employee Benefits Trust – \$59,137.96

B -2. Approval of Minutes: Regular Meeting – July 9, 2020

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 14, 2020: \$ 1,254.30

July 21, 2020: \$ 1,146.19

B -4. Ratification of the payment of the monthly sales tax in the amount of \$5,946.11 out of General Account/Pooled Cash

A motion was made by Councilmember Jordan, seconded by Councilmember Songe, to **APPROVE THE COUNCIL CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED**. The Council voted five (5) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried.

C. COUNCIL REGULAR AGENDA

C -1. PUBLIC HEARING to show just cause why the buildings, dwelling, or structures located at 730 Kent Street and 740 Kent Street, Vidor, Texas, should not be demolished or repaired in accordance with the Ordinances of the City of Vidor, Texas

Mayor Carder read the agenda item, then explained this property is on the tax sale list, so this agenda item will be tabled.

C -2. EXECUTIVE SESSION pursuant to Texas Government Code, Section 551.071 – Consultation with Attorney, regarding potential demolition of structure(s) located at 730 Kent Street and 740 Kent Street, Vidor, Texas

Agenda item tabled.

C -3. Consideration and possible approval of an Ordinance finding certain buildings, dwellings and/or structures located at 730 Kent Street and 740 Kent Street, Vidor, Texas, to be public nuisances and ordering the demolition and/or repair of buildings, dwellings, or structures; providing for severability and providing for a penalty

Tabled due to pending tax auction sale.

C -4. Discussion and update on the Code Enforcement Program in the City of Vidor

Robbie Hood, City Manager, explained code enforcement starts right here at home. Mr. Hood discussed the workday scheduled for Friday, July 31, 2020, to clean up around the Public Works building. A brief discussion ensued.

Mr. Hood stated Code Enforcement is an opportunity to let the public know what the City expects. Mr. Hood explained the process Code Enforcement goes through is State law, not something the City comes up with. Mr. Hood stated the aim is voluntary compliance, and they are currently revamping the codes to put more teeth into them. Mr. Hood stated we are starting fresh, and explained he has a code background and is willing to help. Councilmember Jordan discussed putting something in the Ordinance requiring property owners to mow their ditches. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Hood discussed the possibility of administrative search warrants in the future. Chris Leavins, City Attorney, discussed possible alternative measures through the Court, but he explained it still has to be based on probable cause such as a serious health or public safety issue.

In closing, Mr. Hood stated these issues did not happen overnight, and they will not be fixed overnight, but there is a good team in place.

C -5. Filing of the City Manager’s proposed tentative budget for fiscal year 2020-2021

Cheryl Ray, Supervisor of Finance & Accounting, explained Council should have received a copy of the tentative budget in their email. Ms. Ray asked them to go over it, and if they find anything, email her or the City Manager. Ms. Ray explained a public hearing will be held on August 27, 2020. Robbie Hood, City Manager, commended Ms. Ray on the good job she has done on the budget.

Councilmember Herrera stressed he does not want the tax rate to go anywhere, and he sees no raises for employees. Mr. Herrera said he could not in good conscious give raises when some of his neighbors have been out of work or lost their jobs. Mr. Herrera also stated we will need to find areas in the budget to make cuts, such as cutting a request for 90 trash cans to 40-50 if the ones they have can be fixed. Ms. Ray pointed out that we are required to give a raise per the CBA (*Collective Bargaining Agreement*).

Councilmember Songe stated she would understand if we were raising taxes, but that is not the case. Ms. Songe stated if we can help our employees, who have been working very hard during this virus, then we should do it. Councilmember Jordan agreed and stated the employees go above and beyond, and she thinks they deserve a raise if we are not raising taxes. A brief discussion ensued.

C -6. 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, 2020, and terminating on September 30, 2021, and making appropriations for each department, project, and account and giving notice of a public hearing

A motion was made by Councilmember Songe, seconded by Councilmember Jordan, **to approve the Resolution establishing and filing a tentative budget.** ROLL CALL VOTE: Councilmember Jordan, aye; Councilmember Songe, aye; Councilmember Buesing, aye; Councilmember Herrera, aye; and Councilmember Hill, aye. The motion carried.

C -7 Consideration and possible approval of a Resolution approving and authorizing the execution of Amendment No. 1 to Contract for Professional Management Services between the City and Traylor & Associates, Inc. regarding the HMGP grant

Cheryl Ray, Supervisor of Finance & Accounting, explained this is for the HMGP grant we recently received. Ms. Ray stated the State wants the budgeted amount to be what the assumed actual cost is, and the amount actually came down. Ms. Ray stated thanks to TDEM (*Texas Department of Emergency Management*), we will not have to pay anything.

Councilmember Songe moved **to approve Resolution 930 approving and authorizing Amendment No. 1.** Councilmember Buesing seconded. The Council voted five (5) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried.

C -8. Consideration and discussion regarding the CDBG-MIT grant (drainage) and engagement of citizens to participate in needed surveys and responses for grant

Robbie Hood, City Manager, stated he and Councilmember Jordan have been working hard on Walmart, and they have agreed to allow us to set up and do surveys. Mayor Carder volunteered to take a shift and discussed plans for a future workday.

Mr. Hood stated we are currently at 49% participation. Cheryl Ray, Supervisor of Finance & Accounting, explained we need these as soon as possible. Discussion ensued.

C -9. Discussion and update regarding the opening of the Vidor City pool

Robbie Hood, City Manager, explained the City pool opened last Wednesday at noon and was a great success. Mr. Hood stated his grandkids got to go and had a great time. Mayor Carder stated she was on vacation and received a message from Sheila Friedeck regarding the article in the Beaumont Enterprise which stated, "Vidor deserves praise."

C-10. Consideration and possible action to request a change order to add striping to the road rehabilitation project on North Tram

Robbie Hood, City Manager, stated they did a great job on Tram, and to make a nice road look even better, Michelle got a quote for striping. Mr. Hood explained it will be double yellow stripes in the middle from the service road to the three-way stop sign, stop bars, and white stripes on the outside, for a total of 1900 linear feet. Councilmember Hill questioned if there was enough left from the road project to pay for it, and Mr. Hood responded there is, it was just over the \$5,000 he is authorized to spend.

A motion was made by Councilmember Jordan **to approve the bid and allow Crabtree to stripe the road.** Councilmember Songe, seconded. The Council voted five (5) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried.

C-11. Consideration and possible approval of AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF VIDOR, TEXAS AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES BY AMENDING CHAPTER 70 – TRAFFIC AND VEHICLES, ARTICLE IV. – TRUCKS, SECTION 70-122, TRUCK ROUTES; PARKING OF VEHICLES CARRYING FLAMMABLE OR HAZARDOUS MATERIALS, TO REMOVE THE DESIGNATED TRUCK ROUTE OF NORTH DEWITT FROM I-10 TO HIGHWAY 90; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION AND EFFECTIVE DATE

Chris Leavins, City Attorney, explained this is what was discussed at the last meeting. Mr. Leavins stated he went back to the Ordinance, and found that this was an authorized designated route, so the amendment is taking out that designation.

A motion was made by Councilmember Songe, seconded by Councilmember Buesing, **to approve Ordinance 1374 amending Chapter 70.** The Council voted five (5) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried.

C-12. Consideration and possible approval of a Resolution appointing members to the Planning & Zoning Commission

Councilmember Songe stated Jessica Barker, who has lived here all of her life and is a member of the Chamber of Commerce and Rotary Club, asked what she could do to help the City. Ms. Songe stated she mentioned the position on the Planning & Zoning Commission, and Ms. Barker is interested. Mayor Carder also recommended Dillon Wright, a young family man who has also lived here all of his life. Ms. Barker was in the audience and introduced herself to Council and answered questions.


Chris Leavins, City Attorney, explained one of the open positions is Scott Desormeaux's whose term expired in May, and the other is Paul Davis' unexpired term which expires May 2021. Mr. Leavins stated both men moved out of the city limits and are ineligible.

Councilmember Songe moved **to appoint Jessica Barker to fill the unexpired term of Paul Davis (expires May 2021) and Dillon Wright to fill the term expiring in May of 2022.** The Council voted five (5) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried.

C-13. Consideration of Adjournment

A motion was made by Councilmember Jordan, seconded by Councilmember Songe, for **Consideration of Adjournment**. The Council voted five (5) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried, and the Regular Meeting of the Vidor City Council adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

These minutes approved August 13, 2020.



Kelly Carder, Mayor

ATTEST:



Vicki Watson, City Secretary