

**CITY OF VIDOR  
VIDOR CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING  
JANUARY 28, 2021**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Mayor Kelly Carder  
Councilmember Julie Hannon  
Councilmember Misty Songe  
Councilmember Keith Buesing  
Councilmember Gary Herrera  
Councilmember Jane Hill

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

*(Ward 2 Vacant)*

**Administrative Personnel:** Robbie Hood, City Manager; Chris Leavins, City Attorney; Cheryl Ray, Supervisor of Finance & Accounting; and Rod Carroll, Chief of Police *(Vicki Watson, City Secretary, was at Election School.)*

**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**

Chris Leavins, City Attorney, 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:**

<b>Paid Invoices:</b>	<b>General Fund – \$269,696.82</b>
	<b>Municipal Court Building Security Fund – \$25.32</b>
	<b>LEOSE – \$175.00</b>
	<b>Hotel Occupancy – \$14,020.00</b>
	<b>Juvenile Case Management – \$120.49</b>
	<b>TDA Grant – \$2,400.00</b>
	<b>Sanitation Fund – \$21,654.76</b>

**B -2. Approval of Minutes: Regular Meeting – January 14, 2021**

**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:**

<b>January 11, 2021:</b>	<b>\$ 75,449.30</b>
<b>January 19, 2021:</b>	<b>\$ 14,422.26</b>

**B -4. Ratification of the payment of the monthly sales tax in the amount of \$5,968.15 out of General Account/Pooled Cash**

A motion was made by Councilmember Songe, seconded by Councilmember Herrera, 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. Discussion and possible action to accept the resignation of Councilmember Angela Jordan, Ward 2 Councilmember**

Mayor Carder explained Councilmember Jordan has moved out of the city limits and vacated her seat that she filled so nicely for many years. Mayor Carder stated Ms. Jordan will be greatly missed, and several of the other Council members voiced their appreciation and commended Ms. Jordan on her hard work.

A motion was made by Councilmember Songe, seconded by Councilmember Hannon, to **accept Councilmember Angela Jordan's resignation.** The Council voted five (5) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried.

**C -2. Discussion and possible action to appoint an investment officer to replace Councilmember Angela Jordan**

Mayor Carder explained Councilmember Jordan was our financial (investment) officer, and we need a replacement. Cheryl Ray, Supervisor of Financer & Accounting, stated her thoughts were to appoint Councilmember Songe until the next election when we can appoint someone new. A brief discussion ensued.

A motion was made by Councilmember Herrera to **appoint Mayor Pro-tem Songe as interim investment officer until the next election.** Councilmember Hannon seconded. The Council voted five (5) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried.

**C -3. Consideration and/or possible approval of an ORDINANCE calling for the election of a Mayor and three (3) Council members in a City Election to be held on May 1, 2021, and setting up the procedures for the election, the provisions for the officers of the election, establishing a voting precinct and polling place, and ordering a Runoff Election, if necessary, to be held on June 12, 2021**

*Considerar y posiblemente aprobar UNA ORDENANZA DE LLAMAR A LA ELECCIÓN DEL ALCALDE Y TRES (3) MIEMBROS DEL CONSEJO EN UNA ELECCIÓN DE LA CIUDAD QUE SE CELEBRARÁ DEL 01 DE MAYO, 2021, Y CONFIGURACIÓN DE LOS PROCEDIMIENTOS PARA LA ELECCIÓN, LAS DISPOSICIONES DE LA MESA DE LA ELECCION, SE ESTABLECE UNA VOTACIÓN RECINTO ELECTORAL Y CENTROS ELECTORALES, Y OTRA ORDENANZA DE UNA SEGUNDA VUELTA ELECTORAL, SI ES NECESARIO, QUE SE CELEBRARÁ DEL 12 DE JUNIO 2021*

Councilmember Songe made a motion to **approve the Ordinance 1382 calling for the May 1, 2021 election.** Councilmember Herrera seconded. The Council voted five (5) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried.

**C -4. Consideration and/or possible approval of a RESOLUTION calling for a Special Election of an unexpired term of one (1) Council member for Ward 2 in a City Special Election to be held on May 1, 2021, and setting up the procedures for the election, the provisions for the officers of the election, establishing a voting precinct and polling place, and ordering a Runoff Election, if necessary, to be held on June 12, 2021**

**Consideración y / o posible aprobación de una RESOLUCIÓN llamando a una Elección Especial de un término no vencido de un (1) miembro del Consejo para el Distrito 2 en una Elección Especial de la Ciudad que tendrá lugar el 1 de mayo de 2021, y estableciendo los procedimientos para la elección , las disposiciones para los oficiales de las elecciones, el establecimiento de un recinto de votación y un lugar de votación, y el pedido de una Elección de segunda vuelta, si es necesario, que se celebrará el 12 de junio de 2021**

A motion was made by Councilmember Songe, seconded by Councilmember Buesing, to **approve Resolution 963 calling the Special Election to fill the Ward 2 vacancy.** The Council voted five (5) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried.

**C -5. Consideration and possible approval of a Resolution authorizing the execution of an Orange County Election Services Contract between the City of Vidor and Orange County Elections Administrator**

Councilmember Songe made a motion to **approve the Resolution authorizing the execution of the contract between the City and the Orange County Elections Administrator.** Councilmember Hill seconded. The Council voted five (5) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried.

**C -6. Consideration and possible appointment of a member to the Planning & Zoning Commission**

Mayor Pro-tem Songe explained there is someone interested in the position who emailed Council to introduce herself. Ms. Songe asked Council to review before the next meeting. No action was taken.

**C -7. Discussion with possible action on Marketing Proposal presented by Robby Lynn Steptoe**

Robby Lynn Steptoe stated Sunday's Kind of Country has come back to Southeast Texas. Mr. Steptoe explained the country network is in 125 markets across the country, and they air his show twice on Sundays at 8:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. Mr. Steptoe explained it does not matter where you broadcast from, it matters who you broadcast to, and stated he will be setting up a studio within the next six months and will be broadcasting from Vidor.

Mr. Steptoe discussed his proposed plan for Vidor, including spots within the nationwide, regional, and local TV markets, two television spots to run within each program each week, and a "We are Vidor" campaign. Discussion ensued regarding drones, social media, and radio spots.

Mr. Steptoe discussed the number of people from California and New York who have relocated since the pandemic began and suggested inviting them to Vidor. Mr. Steptoe also discussed the success of past songwriter events, the possibility of a secondary George Jones museum in the future, and creating a positive image for Vidor,

Mr. Steptoe explained this would be exclusive to Vidor, Texas, for the first year and stated from March 2021 to March 2022, no other city would be included in Sunday's Kind of Country. A brief discussion ensued.

A motion was made by Councilmember Herrera, seconded by Councilmember Songe, to **approve the full marketing proposal as presented and contract for one year using HOT (*Hotel Occupancy Tax*) funds, pending legal review.** The Council voted five (5) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried.

**C -8. Consideration and possible action to grant or deny Sean and Mary Broussard's request to place a manufactured home outside of a HUD-Code manufactured home park and not within one of the excepted locations as an authorized variant (135 Sargent)**

Chris Leavins, City Attorney, explained this is a request for Council to approve or deny the request for placement outside of an authorized variant. Eddie Jorgensen and Mary and Sean Broussard introduced themselves to the Mayor and Council. Mr. Jorgensen explained they would like to place a brand-new manufactured home at 135 Sargent next to his home. Mr. Jorgensen stated he has gotten signatures from all of the neighbors except three, who are deceased.

Mr. Jorgensen stated the prices for other options (modular and barndominiums) have increased a great deal recently. Mr. Jorgensen explained the Broussards are a family of six, and a four-bedroom is pretty much a minimum. Ms. Broussard displayed pictures of the neighborhood when they started and explained the lot has new culverts and has been leveled. Discussion ensued.

A motion was made by Councilmember Songe, seconded by Councilmember Herrera, **to deny the variance**. The Council voted five (5) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried.

**C -9. Discussion and possible action regarding City's COVID-19 policies and procedures**

Robbie Hood, City Manager, stated we have entered into a new year and discussed the federal requirement last year for employers to pay employees who had, or were exposed, to COVID-19. Mr. Hood explained this expired at the end of the year.

Mr. Hood stated this is not something that will be voted on tonight but asked Council for their thoughts as COVID-19 is still out there. Mr. Hood asked Council for direction going forward on if employees will be paid, or if they will need to use their sick time. Mr. Hood stated he has reached out to the City of Orange, and they require their employees to use sick time. Mr. Hood explained the City of Bridge City is paying 80 hours for employees who did not contract COVID last year and use the 80 hours.

Discussion ensued regarding the CDC's guidelines and direct contact. Rod Carroll, Chief of Police, discussed possible workers' comp presumptions in the future for police officers were exposed on the job. Councilmember Buesing asked what is currently being done for people who get the flu, and Chief Carroll responded they have to use sick time.

Mr. Hood stated there is no one-size fits all for this and reiterated that every city is doing something different. Mr. Hood suggested gathering more information from surrounding cities and bringing it back to Council. Council appeared to be in agreement.

**C-10. Consideration and possible approval of a Resolution authorizing the City of Vidor's application and participation in the DJ-Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program for a Video Server**


Rodney Johnson, Vidor Police Captain and Assistant Emergency Management Coordinator, explained in the past few years, they have been upgrading the in-car cameras and body cameras. Captain Johnson stated now they are running into issues with the video server and explained it is nearing maximum capacity. Captain Johnson explained they are still waiting on quotes, so there are no dollar amounts listed in the Resolution right now. Captain Johnson stated after speaking with the Planning Commission, it can be capped off, so they are requesting up to \$40,000 at this time. Captain Johnson stressed this grant is fully funded, so there is no cost to the City. A brief discussion ensued.

A motion was made by Councilmember Songe to **approve the Resolution for the JAG Program for a video server, up to \$40,000.** Councilmember Hill seconded. The Council voted five (5) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried.

**C-11. Consideration of Adjournment**

A motion was made by Councilmember Songe, seconded by Councilmember Hill, 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 7:43 p.m.

*These minutes approved February 11, 2021.*

  
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Kelly Carder, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
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Vicki Watson, City Secretary