

**CITY OF VIDOR  
VIDOR CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING  
APRIL 22, 2021**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Councilmember Misty Songe  
Councilmember Keith Buesing  
Councilmember Gary Herrera  
Councilmember Jane Hill

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

*(Ward 2 Vacant)*  
Mayor Kelly Carder  
Councilmember Julie Hannon

**Administrative Personnel:** Robbie Hood, City Manager; Vicki Watson, City Secretary; Chris Leavins, City Attorney; 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 Pro-tem Songe 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**

Adriana Kirkpatrick, 3157 Stanley Drive, addressed Council requesting a speed reduction on Stanley Drive. Ms. Kirkpatrick explained the current speed limit is 30 miles per hour. Ms. Kirkpatrick explained she is married with three little boys and has personally placed signs stating there are kids and asking people to slow down, but it has not done much good. Ms. Kirkpatrick stated she reached out to Chief Carroll, and there have been some studies done. Ms. Kirkpatrick reviewed the statistics from those studies and asked for a reduction to 20 m.p.h. but stated she would be grateful for anything.

**B. COUNCIL CONSENT AGENDA**

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

<b>Paid Invoices:</b>	<b>General Fund - \$191,247.20</b>
	<b>Municipal Court Building Security Fund - \$103.61</b>
	<b>Emergency Management - \$156.50</b>
	<b>Hotel Occupancy - \$2,320.00</b>
	<b>Disaster Fund - \$214.38</b>
	<b>Sanitation Fund - \$38,702.96</b>
	<b>Employee Benefits Trust - \$57,040.18</b>

**B -2. Approval of Minutes: Regular Meeting – April 8, 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:**

April 12, 2021:

\$ 3,017.75

**B -4. Ratification of the payment of the monthly sales tax in the amount of \$5,977.75 out of General Account/Pooled Cash**

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

**C. COUNCIL REGULAR AGENDA**

**C -1. Consideration and/or possible approval of Residential Homestead Exemptions regarding Property Tax for the Tax Year 2021:**

1. **Local Option Percentage Homestead**
2. **65 Years of Age**
3. **Disability**

Cheryl Ray, Supervisor of Finance & Accounting, stated we have to do this annually for the tax office. Ms. Ray explained our current homestead exemption is 20%, and the portion approved for 65 or older and disabled exemptions is \$15,000.

A motion was made by Councilmember Buesing, seconded by Councilmember Hill, to **approve the Residential Homestead exemptions (Local Option Percentage Homestead-20%, 65 Years of Age-\$15,000, and Disability-\$15,000)**. The Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried.

**C -2. Consideration and possible action to establish petty cash account for the library in the amount of \$200.00**

Cheryl Ray, Supervisor of Finance & Accounting, explained the library has not had their own petty cash account and are constantly depleting ours, especially during the summer reading program. Ms. Ray stated it will be under the same rules as ours.

Councilmember Herrera moved to **give the library a petty cash account**. Councilmember Buesing seconded. The Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried.

**C -3. Consideration and possible action to approve a permit for the replacement of a pipeline filed and requested by Gulf State Pipe Line Co., Inc. across Church Street and Old Highway 90, for a pipeline beginning in Beaumont, Texas and ending in Silsbee, Texas**

Chris Leavins, City Attorney, stated an application was filed and was unsigned initially, but Mickey Holtzman, Vortech Construction, is here tonight and may be able to answer some questions. Mr. Leavins stated we have now received a signed application, but there are a few things that need to be cleaned up, and they do not have insurance or a bond yet. Mr. Leavins asked if this is the replacement of an existing pipeline or a new one, and Mr. Holtzman explained he is just the controller (accountant) and does not know.

Mr. Leavins stated he believes it is a natural gas pipeline, but whether it is a new one or a replacement of an existing one, he does not know. Mr. Leavins explained our Ordinance does differentiate between the two as far as the process, but it is Council's discretion. A brief discussion ensued between the City Attorney and Mr. Holtzman regarding the requirements per the Ordinance for existing and/or new pipelines. No action was taken.

**C -4. AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF VIDOR, TEXAS, AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES BY AMENDING CHAPTER 10 – BUILDING AND BUILDING REGULATIONS, ARTICLE I. – IN GENERAL, SECTION 10-10, PERMIT FEES, REGARDING PERMITTING FEES IN THE CITY; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE (*Second Reading*)**

A motion was made by Councilmember Herrera, seconded by Councilmember Hill, to **approve the Ordinance**. The Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried.

**C -5. Consideration and possible action to set a time for a Special Called Meeting on May 6, 2021, to canvass the election results**

Councilmember Herrera requested the meeting be held before May 6, 2021, which is his surgery date. Vicki Watson, City Secretary, discussed the time period for the official canvass of the election results. Ms. Watson explained the canvass will not be able to be held early if there are unresolved provisional votes or outstanding FPCA ballots. A brief discussion ensued.

Councilmember Herrera made a motion to **set the special called meeting to canvass the election on May 4, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.** Councilmember Buesing seconded. The Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried.

**C -6. Consideration and possible approval of a Resolution authorizing the execution of an agreement for redistricting projects, if needed**

Chris Leavins, City Attorney, stated he is not 100% sure what this will look like and explained everything was pushed back for the 2020 census. Mr. Leavins stated if redistricting is required based on the census, there are very specific federal requirements. Mr. Leavins stated there are qualifications in the packets for two different firms: one from Alan Bojorquez and one from Allison, Bass & Magee, LLP. Mr. Leavins explained Mr. Bojorquez has been retained by the City of Orange, and his estimate is \$20-75K. Mr. Leavins stated the estimate for Allison, Bass & Magee, who have been retained by Orange County, is \$10,850, or up to \$21,700 if further reapportionment proceedings are required. Mr. Leavins stated we need someone to go through census data to see if something needs to be changed. Mr. Leavins explained there is a little time if Council wants to get other submittals. Mr. Leavins stated one of the firms reached out to us, and the other was recommended by the City of Orange.

A motion was made by Councilmember Herrera, seconded by Councilmember Hill, to **go with Allison, Bass & Magee, LLP**. The Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried.

**C -7. Discussion and possible action to authorize City Manager to purchase a water pump for jet rodder**

Robbie Hood, City Manager, explained the water pump on the jet rodder went out last week, and the cost to replace it is \$9,900. Mr. Hood stated it has been well maintained, but it is 10 years old, which is about the life expectancy. Mr. Hood stated the jet rodder was probably used more in the last four months than it has been in the last nine years. A brief discussion ensued.

Councilmember Herrera moved to **buy a new water pump**, and Councilmember Buesing seconded. The Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried.

**C-8. Discussion and possible action to approve AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF VIDOR, TEXAS AMENDING GENERAL FUND CHARTER DESIGNATED AND STREET AND DRAINAGE – CAPITAL OUTLAY – EQUIPMENT IN THE CITY’S BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2020, AND ENDING ON SEPTEMBER 30, 2021 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$10,000 FOR THE PURCHASE OF A WATER PUMP FOR THE JET RODDER; PROVIDING FOR A REPEALING CLAUSE; PROVIDING FOR A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; PROVIDING FOR A WAIVER OF SECOND READING; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE**

Councilmember Herrera stated this is giving the okay to move money to pay for the (water) pump. Chris Leavins, City Attorney, explained we will have to have a second reading since all of Council is not present. Robbie Hood, City Manager, stated he will request an increase from \$5K to \$10K at the next meeting to prevent delays like this.

A motion was made by Councilmember Herrera, seconded by Councilmember Buesing, to **approve Ordinance 1389**. The Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried.

**C-9. EXECUTIVE SESSION pursuant to Section 551.071 of the Texas Local Government Code – Consultation with Attorney, regarding ordinances governing manufactured homes**

Mayor Pro-tem Songe recessed the regular meeting to go into **EXECUTIVE SESSION pursuant to Section 551.071 of the Texas Local Government Code – Consultation with Attorney, regarding ordinances governing manufactured homes** at 7:27 p.m.

Mayor Pro-tem Songe reconvened the regular meeting at 7:48 p.m.

**C-10. Discussion and possible action resulting from Executive Session under C-9**

No action was taken.

**C-11. Consideration of Adjournment**

A motion was made by Councilmember Herrera, seconded by Councilmember Buesing, 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 7:49 p.m.

*These minutes approved May 13, 2021.*

  
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Misty Songe, Mayor Pro-tem

ATTEST:

  
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Vicki Watson, City Secretary