

**City Of Vidor
Vidor City Council
Regular Meeting
July 13, 2023**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mayor Misty Songe
Councilmember Mercedes Lee
Councilmember Michael Thompson
Councilmember Nicole McGowan
Councilmember Jessica Barker
Councilmember Gary Herrera
Councilmember Kathryn Weldon

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Administrative Personnel: Robbie Hood, City Manager; Betty Strong, City Secretary; Susan Rushing, Code Enforcement; Richard Oldbury, Code Enforcement; Gary Coker, Attorney; Rod Carroll, Police Chief; Ed Martin, Police Captain

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 Songe presiding.

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

Rod Carroll, Police Chief gave the Invocation and led the Pledges.

A -3. Citizen Comments

Gary McLaughlin 530 East Tram came before the council to inform them of the lack of speed enforcement on East Tram. Mr. McLaughlin stated he has made multiple calls about speeding to the Police Department and wanted Council to know. Mr. McLaughlin also gave examples of vehicles hitting the bridge on East Tram due to speeding.

B. COUNCIL CONSENT AGENDA

B -1. Approval of Accounts Paid:

Paid Invoices:

**General Fund - \$412,432.28
Child Safety - \$104.52
MCBSF - \$339.47
CDBG Fund - \$22,968.00
Hotel Occupancy Tax Fund - \$4,890.93
Disaster Fund – \$37,962.51
Juvenile Case Manager Fund - \$561.93
Proprietary Fund - \$59,606.93
Employee Benefits Trust - \$74,232.54**

B -2. Approval of Minutes: Regular Meeting – June 22, 2023

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 5, 2023: \$ 618.44

B -4. Ratification of the payment of the monthly sales tax in the amount of \$6,446.23 for June out of General Account/Pooled Cash

A motion was made by Councilmember McGowan, seconded by Councilmember Thompson, 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. Discussion and possible approval of a Resolution selecting and approving the staff's recommendation of an Information Technology company, and authorizing the execution of a contract regarding same, if needed

Betty Strong, City Secretary gave an overview of the six (6) bids received and informed the council the staff would like to proceed with Endpoint I.T. LLC. Ms. Strong explained the choice was between Discovery IT, our current provider, and Endpoint. The minimum response time for Discover IT is two (2) hours and Endpoint's minimum response is 15 (fifteen) to 20 (twenty) minutes.

A motion was made by Councilmember Thompson, seconded by Councilmember Herrera, to **Approve the Resolution**. The Council voted six (6) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried.

C -2. Discussion and possible action to approve an Ordinance amending the Code of Ordinances by amending Chapter 10 – Building and Building Regulations, regarding updating adopted Codes (International Code Council Codes) to the 2018 edition and certain provisions to the 2017 edition of the National Electrical Code; providing for a 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 McGowan, to **Approve the Ordinance**. The Council voted six (6) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried.

C -3. Discussion and possible action to approve an Ordinance amending the Code of Ordinances by amending Chapter 74 – Vehicles for Hire, Article III. – Tow Trucks; providing for repeal of conflicting ordinances; providing for severability; providing for penalties; and providing for publication and an effective date

Mayor Songe switched the order of Agenda Items C-3 and C-4.

Ronnie Herrera and Nicole Herrera 20585 IH 10 with Herrera's Wrecker Service, gave a handout for reference to the Council members, City Staff, and other Wrecker owners in the audience. Ms. Herrera read the handout. Mr. Herrera explained the reason for requesting a change to the 1,000 feet rule for a freeway accident. Chief Carrol explained this was an initial request from the Fire Department. A brief discussion ensued, and Chief stated he would be willing to compromise at 750 feet. Nicole McGowan, Councilmember Ward 2 asked for

clarification about the TDLR vs the City requirement for office hours. Mayor Songe asked that Mr. McKee be able to speak before discussing this further.

Kevin McKee 21004 IH 10 with Ray's Wrecker Service, spoke to the Council about how the wrecker services do things for the citizens that they do not get paid for and would like to be compensated for the items they can charge for. Mr. McKee did explain he agrees with the changes brought forth on the handouts given to council from Ms. Herrera. A brief discussion ensued about the office hour requirements.

Chief Carrol and Mr. Hood agree with all the requested changes presented. Mr. Hood stated the wrecker owners have worked together on this and agreed with the Chief, when the wrecker companies are called to a scene of an accident they represent the City of Vidor.

Mayor Songe pointed out a conflict on 74-98 subsection (d) stating one (1) calendar year from offense and asked for clarification on the number of violations and if a violation will be against the employee or company. Mr. Hood gave a scenario on the violation going to the employee versus the company, and a discussion ensued. Mr. Hood also explained the appeal process was changed to go to Council instead of the City Manager making the final decision. Nicole McGowan, Councilmember Ward 2 and Jessica Barker, Councilmember Ward 4, asked for clarification about who will receive the violation. Chief Carroll explained it will go to both the individual and the company. Chief Carroll asked that the third emergency number be dropped and stated he approved for the emergency number to change if needed. Mercedes Lee, Councilmember Ward 1 asked for clarification on the fee change. Chief Carroll explained this will be the Council's decision. Gary Herrera, Councilmember Ward 5 stated he feels the rate survey is too high at \$2,500.00. Chief Carroll explained what the rate survey is, and Mr. Hood suggested the cost be \$500.00. Mr. Hood explained a copy of the updated Ordinance will be given to Council and the Wrecker Services for review before bringing it back to Council meeting to adopt.

The changes agreed upon on the handout are listed below:

- Section 74-93 Subsection (b)(1)- Raise the cap from \$600.00 to \$800.00.
- Section 74-85 Subsection (d)- Only require two (2) phone numbers and the secondary number can be changed in emergency situations.
- Section 74-93 Subsection (b)(2)- drop fee allowed \$100.00 and be placed next out on the rotation list.
- Section 74-98 Subsection (d)- change to five (5) violations instead of four (4). 1st= written notice 2nd=7-day suspension 3rd= 30-day suspension 4th= 60-day suspension 5th= 1 year suspension. All violations will be anniversary dates as of the date of the first violation.
- 74-92 Subsection (E)- delete the required business hours and follow the TDLR rule stating a vehicle storage facility shall release all vehicles in accordance with the requirements of the state.
- Section 74-83 Subsection (4)- Change the allowed distance from an accident from 1000 feet to 750 feet.

A motion was made by Councilmember McGowan, seconded by Councilmember Herrera, to **Approve the Ordinance pending the changes are brought back to the next meeting as discussed.** The Council voted six (6) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried.

C -4. Discussion and possible action regarding adoption and establishment of Zoning in the city limits of Vidor, Texas.

Robbie Hood, City Manager explained the required process of all public hearings and meetings have been completed. Richard Oldbury and Susan Rushing, Code Enforcement covered the revisions and explained there was an existing Mobile Home District area left off the previous revision and this will be corrected on the final map. A brief discussion ensued.


A motion was made by Councilmember McGowan, seconded by Councilmember Weldon, to **APPROVE**

Bringing this back to council to approve an Ordinance adopting Zoning in the City of Vidor. The Council voted six (6) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried.

C-5. Consideration of Adjournment

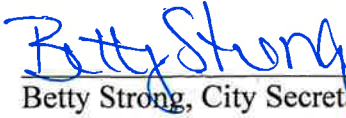
A motion was made by Councilmember McGowan, seconded by Councilmember Herrera, for **Consideration of Adjournment**. The Council voted six (6) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried, and the Regular Meeting of the Vidor City Council adjourned at 7:46 p.m.

These minutes approved July 27, 2023.



Misty Songe, Mayor

ATTEST:



Betty Strong, City Secretary