

**CITY OF VIDOR  
VIDOR CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING  
March 28, 2024**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Mayor Songe  
Councilmember Barker  
Councilmember McGowan  
Councilmember Herrera  
Councilmember Thompson  
Councilmember Weldon

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Councilmember Lee

**Administrative Personnel:** Robbie Hood, City Manager; Chris Leavins, City Attorney; Pebbles Eckhoff, Finance Director; Rachel Duplechain City Secretary; and Rodney Johnson, 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 7:01 p.m., Mayor 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. Proclamation – Autism Awareness**

Mayor Songe read the Autism Proclamation declaring April 2024 as Autism Awareness month. Robbie Hood, City Manager asked to make a comment, Mr. Hood wanted to thank Mr. & Mrs. Smith for their help and support with the event. Mr. Hood and asked that Mrs. Vicki Smith be allowed to speak on behalf of the Autism event. Vicki Smith, a citizen, came up to speak, and to thank everyone for their support and assistance with this event. Mrs. Smith stated she was the parent of an Autism child who was 28 years old and lived in a group home., she remembers the difficulty in navigating what resources were available to her child while growing up and she wants to bring awareness to those resources. Mrs. Smith wants the community to know where to reach out to for help. Mr. Hood requested we take photos, Mayor Songe agreed, and meeting was paused for photos.

**A -4. Citizen Comments**

None

## B. COUNCIL CONSENT AGENDA

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

<b>Paid Invoices:</b>	<b>General Fund –</b>	<b>\$223,029.71</b>
	<b>MCBSF –</b>	<b>\$316.08</b>
	<b>Hotel Occupancy –</b>	<b>\$229.92</b>
	<b>Proprietary Fund –</b>	<b>\$43,590.48</b>
	<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$267,166.19</b>

### B -2. Approval of Minutes: Regular Meeting – March 14, 2024

A motion to **approve the Consent Agenda** was made by Councilmember McGowan, seconded by Councilmember Thompson. The Council voted five (5) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried.

## C. COUNCIL REGULAR AGENDA

### C -1. Discussion regarding monthly Code Enforcement Report

Robbie Hood, City Manager, stated he would not be giving a report, that as everyone was aware the Supervisor for Code Enforcement had turned in his resignation. Mr. Hood stated that he will be actively supervising Code Enforcement starting April 1<sup>st</sup>. Mr. Hood stated that we have a new direction that we will be going and proactiveness is key and we are developing with the help of HR, new weekly documents to report and track violations, so that we may create a spreadsheet of where most violations are happening. Mr. Hood stated that next month he would give the Council a better report. The Mayor and councilmembers thanked him.

### C -2. Discussion and possible action to extend CD with DuGood Federal Credit Union or withdraw and place with another financial institution, (CD matured)

Pebbles Eckhoff, Finance Director stated that our CD at DuGood Federal Credit Union matured on 3-15-2024. Mrs. Eckhoff stated that we went out for a comparison of rates and everyone else is at 4.5% and DuGood is at 5.1%. Mrs. Eckhoff stated we requested permission to leave the CD at DuGood. Robbie Hood, City Manager stated that just so Council was aware we could not leave the CD anywhere longer than 1 year without action from Council.

A motion was made by Councilmember McGowan and seconded by Councilmember Thompson. The council voted five (5) for and none (0) opposed. **The motion carried.**

### C -3. Discussion and possible action to approve a Resolution authorizing the opening of a Business PayPal account and a stand-alone checking account at First Financial Bank, N.A. for Library for Wal-Mart grant.

Pebbles Eckhoff, Finance Director stated that Ms. Colette at the Library gets this grant every year, the past 5 years we have gotten \$8,000.00 for this grant alone. Mrs. Eckhoff stated this year we did not have any of the requirements met to apply for this grant as Wal-Mart had changed the requirements. You now must have either a Business PayPal account, Venmo account, or another account she has never heard of. Mrs. Eckhoff stated that the easiest way to do this was to apply for a Business PayPal account. Mrs. Eckhoff stated that the rules for PayPal were that you had to have a checking account tied to your PayPal account. So, we are requesting permission to open a stand-alone checking account for grants only at First Financial and have it tied to the PayPal account for the Library and that would be it. Mayor Songe stated that made sense. Councilmember

Herrera why did Wal-Mart want to go this route? Mrs. Eckhoff stated that this was a streamlined process for Wal-Mart. Councilmember McGowan asked is it true that PayPal was going to start charging for monies exchanged through PayPal. Mrs. Eckhoff stated that did not apply to us as we are tax exempt. Councilmember Barker asked what was the amount of the grant? Mrs. Eckhoff stated last year the library received \$2,000 and the year before that. The other 5 years the library received \$1,000.00. Councilmember Barker also asked for security purposes this is not attached to the other city accounts? Mrs. Eckhoff stated that is correct.

A motion was made by Councilmember McGowan, seconded by Councilmember Thompson **to approve the Resolution**. The Council voted five (5) for and none (0) opposed. **The motion carried.**

**C -4. Discussion and possible action to approve a Resolution authorizing the execution of the Interlocal Agreement between The City of Vidor, Texas, and The Orange County Drainage District for the Terry Gully Detention Pond Project.**


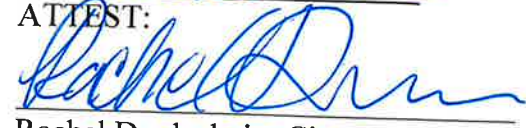
Rodney Johnson, Captain of Vidor PD stated we have been working with the City BG on grants for the last couple of years on detention ponds. The program fell through due to the state changing its rules, so we had to look for another program to utilize funds we were going to get. Mr. Johnson stated we worked with the Drainage District and found that they owned property at the Terry Gully area. So, we are going to put a detention pond on that property. Mr. Johnson stated we are going to do everything they need to do and once that is completed the Drainage District will retain and maintain that property. Robbie Hood, City Manager stated that it was making use of a useless piece of property. Councilmember Barker asked do we have to pay them for the property. Mr. Hood stated we will be using grant funds for the property.


A motion was made by Councilmember McGowan, seconded by Councilmember Thompson **to approve the Resolution**. The Council voted five (5) for and none (0) opposed. **The motion carried.**

**C-5. Consideration of Adjournment**

A motion for **Consideration of Adjournment** was made by Councilmember Thompson, seconded by Councilmember McGowan. The Council voted unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned at 7:11p.m.

*These minutes were approved on April 11, 2024.*

  
ATTEST:  
  
Rachel Duplechain, City Secretary

  
Misty Songe, Mayor