

**CITY OF VIDOR
VIDOR CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
May 23, 2024**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mayor Songe
Councilmember McGowan
Councilmember Thompson
Councilmember Barker
Councilmember Bourque

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Councilmember Weldon
Councilmember Lee

Administrative Personnel: Robbie Hood, City Manager; Chris Leavins, City Attorney; Rachel Duplechain City Secretary; Rod Carroll, Chief, and Aleta Cappen, Emergency Management

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

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 for Fair Housing Awareness Month for May

Mayor Songe read Proclamation for Fair Housing Month

A -4. Citizen Comments

Renee Lloyd, 340 Elgia St., um we were just wanting to address the Council about the drainage on Elgie St. because the ditch has not been cleaned out in over ten (10) years and now when it rains the intersection just turns into a big lake, cause it's not able to drain. It's got five (5) culverts coming into a ditch that is unable to drain because it's halfway clogged up and even five (5) days after hard rains it's still holding water because it's not draining down where it needs to be. One hour of rainwater is backing up into people's yards around that intersection if they were to get any more of that rain it would be in their houses before it was able to drain off. So, we were just wondering if we could get that cleaned out. Mayor Songe, yes mam the City Manager took notes for that, thank you. Mrs. Lloyd also gave the City Manager all of the pictures she had taken as well.

B. COUNCIL CONSENT AGENDA

B-1. Approval of Accounts Paid:

Paid Invoices:	General Fund –	\$217,272.83
	MCBSF –	\$369.20
	Hotel Occupancy –	\$2,177.99
	Proprietary Fund –	\$34,614.72
	Total:	\$254,434.74

B-2. Approval of Minutes: Regular Meeting – May 9, 2024

A motion to **approve the Consent Agenda** was made by Councilmember Thompson, seconded by Councilmember McGowan. The Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed. **The motion carried.**

C. COUNCIL REGULAR AGENDA

C-1. Discussion and possible action authorizing the Mayor to sign the letter of support for Legacy CDC for the rehabilitation of Auburn Square Apartments.

Mayor Songe, this is a grant they are trying to get in order to redo the Auburn Square Apartments, which are affordable housing and they are trying to be compliance with all of that. Which our grants require us to be in compliance as well. I need approval from Council to sign this Letter of Support so they can do these grants.

A motion was made by Councilmember McGowan, seconded by Councilmember Thompson to **authorize Mayor signing Letter**. The Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed. **The motion carried.**

C-2. Discussion and possible action authorizing the Mayor or City Manager to sign Amendment No. 1 to the contract between the City of Vidor and Schaumburg & Polk, Inc. pertaining to the City's Community Development Block Grant – Mitigation (CDBG-MIT) grant Contract No. 22-085-010-D238

Aleta Cappen, Emergency Management Good Evening the Federal Government is requiring us to have all of these Assurances on Administrative contracts as well now. They have always required it for the Construction part but are now requiring it for the Administrative part as well. Administrative part is the Engineers, Grants Writes, etc. So that is what this is all about in doing these Amendments and all of the pages, so we have everything in black and white in the event of an Audit. Robbie Hood, City Manager, am I fair in saying this has always been the standard practice we are just doing it in black & white now? Aleta, yes that is correct everything has been done in the past.

A motion was made by Councilmember Barker, seconded by Councilmember Thompson to **authorize Mayor sign Amendments**. The Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed. **The motion carried.**

- C -3. Discussion and possible action authorizing the Mayor or City Manager to sign Amendment No. 1 to the contract between the City of Vidor and Schaumburg & Polk, Inc. pertaining to the City's Community Development Block Grant – Mitigation (CDBG-MIT) HMGP Supplemental grant Contract No. 22-119-013-D523.**

Same as C -2 Item

A motion was made by Councilmember McGowan, seconded by Councilmember Barker to **authorize Mayor sign Amendments**. The Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed. **The motion carried.**

- C -4. Discussion and possible action authorizing the Mayor or City Manager to sign Amendment No. 1 to the contract between the City of Vidor and Leavins Engineering & Design, LLC pertaining to the City's Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) Imelda grant Contract No. 24-067-043-E231.**

Aleta Cappen, this is for the extension of Orange St. grant.

A motion was made by Councilmember McGowan, seconded by Councilmember Thompson to **authorize Mayor sign Amendments**. The Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed. **The motion carried.**

- C -5. Discussion and possible action authorizing the Mayor or City Manager to sign Amendment No. 1 to the contract between the City of Vidor and Leavins Engineering & Design, LLC pertaining to the City's Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) Imelda grant Contract No. 24-067-044-E232.**

Aleta Cappen, same as C -4. But this if for Archie St.

A motion was made by Councilmember McGowan, seconded by Councilmember Thompson to **authorize Mayor sign Amendments**. The Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed. **The motion carried.**

- C -6. Discuss, consider and take action to Adopt the Resolution Regarding the Civil Rights Policies for the GLO Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) Program, Contract # 24-067-043-E231 & Contract # 24-067-044-E232**

Aleta Cappen, this is for Orange and Archie St. Councilmember Barker these have different terms and conditions. Aleta, this is for the Civil Rights only, it will have all of the other terms as well.

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

- C -7. Discuss, consider, and take action to Approve the Resolution Designating Authorized Signatories for Contractual and Financial Documents pertaining to the GLO Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) Program, Contract # 24-067-043-E231 & Contract # 24-067-044-E232.**

Aleta Cappen, this for the Financial documents for Orange and Archie

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

C -8. Discuss and take possible action to award a contract for flood and drainage improvements for the Orange St. Drainage project included in the City's CDBG-MIT contract #22-085-010-D238 to MK Constructors in the amount of \$3,347,664.

Aleta Cappen, Orange St from Woodlawn to Main that will affect the schools. Mayor Songe, Steve Jordan I don't think anyone has any questions we are just ready to get this done. Robbie Hood, City Manager states we have had conversations with the School District and Steve at SPI over congestion issues for traffic. Councilmember Barker what is the time frame? Steve Jordan at SPI states it will take quite awhile possibly the end of the year, but we are holding kickoff meeting in two weeks.

A motion was made by Councilmember McGowan, seconded by Councilmember Thompson **to award the contract to MK Constructors in the amount of \$3,347,664.** The Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed. **The motion carried.**

C -9. Discussion and possible action to approve a Resolution designating certain Watchguard Body Cameras and vehicle Video Cameras as surplus property and authorizing the Vidor Police Department to sell such surplus properties to Orange County Sheriff's Department and Sour Lake Police Department.

Chief Carroll, these are basically end of life bodycam crisis we found out at the end of Budget year they would no longer support them. We have to buy new in order to have working bodycams. So, we are going to sell our old ones to Orange County Sheriff's Department and Sour Lake PD as they contacted us. If we did not sell them, we would just throw them in the dumpster. It's a liability for them to be showing they are recording when in fact they are not. Chris Leavins, City Attorney, just one amendment to the Resolution where it says \$200.00 it should read \$100.00. Councilmember Thompson is there a liability to us for selling them to another City? Chief, there is not a liability to us unless we keep using them, the liability would then fall to the new purchasing Department. We are selling them as is.

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

C -10. Discussion and possible action to approve a Resolution authorizing the opening of a bank account at First Financial Bank, for Chapter 47 Seizure.

Chief these are assets that we have taken off the highway and they have switched VINs on them. So we find out who the actual owners are and most of the time they are Insurance Companies. We have the Auto Theft Task Force come out there are certain hidden VINs on vehicles and trailers. We then notify the Insurance Companies they do not come and pick them up. We then contact Judge Price and do Chapter 47s on them and put them up for sale on Rene Bates. We then take those funds and purchase assets to fight crime, the specifics of what those funds can be used are very specific only can purchase assets to fight crime.

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

C -11. Discussion and possible action to approve a Resolution authorizing the opening of a bank account at First Financial Bank, for the Opioid Trust Fund

Chief these funds are also not to be co-mingled with other funds they have very specific guidelines for them as well. This is a settlement that the State of Texas had with the Opioid Pharmaceutical Companies. We are expecting by the end to have roughly eighty thousand dollars (80,000.00) to date we have received about fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000.00) of the funds. This again has to be used to fighting narcotic crime.

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

C -12. Discussion and possible action to approve a Resolution authorizing the transfer of remaining funds in the I&S 2013 First Financial Account ending in 10810 to TexPool I&S Account ending in 005, via wire transfer.

Robbie Hood, City Manager Mayor/Council this is an account that should have already been closed previously. We are closing account and transferring funds to the TexPool account which has a higher interest rate on funds.

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

C -13. Discussion and possible action to approve a Resolution authorizing the closure of First Financial I&S account ending in 10810.

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

C -14. Consideration and possible action to approve a Resolution authorizing the advancement of replacement housing payment, including rental assistance, for the property located at 980 Leon Street, in the in the amount of \$6,300.00 as party of the City of Vidor CBDG-DR Voluntary Buyout Program, to be refunded by the CDBG Buyout Grant HLO17-31105-P

Aleta Cappen, Emergency Management okay so some of the houses we are buying out on the West Circuit area and other locations, if they have a tenant that they are renting. The tenant is eligible under th grant for rental assistance and moving assistance. That is 100% funded by the grant. This grant is a reimbursement type grant, which means we are to pay for it up front and we get reimbursed. This one we have gotten the GLO to agree to let us pay the first and last month's rent and the security deposit to the tenant and the landlord where he is moving to, to get us started. Then we will ask for all the money to be reimbursed and then pay the whole amount that they are entitled to. This is just to hold this house for this tenant to be able to get into and we have been working hard and long to get him into it. This is for the buyout program on Leon. Councilmember Barker how long is the rental assistance for? Aleta, 12 months we are paying the first and last month's rent and the security deposit and then we will get the whole amount from GLO to the City and then we pay it out. Councilmember Barker on page 5 it says they are eligible for a 42-month period? Aleta some of them would be but this particular one he and his spouse are eligible for up to \$59,000.00. All payable through the grant. He has chosen to pay rent and utilities for one year. They are eligible for relocation costs, moving assistance, extra money for within City limits and not eligible if out.

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


C-15. Consideration of Adjournment

A motion for **Consideration of Adjournment** was made by Councilmember McGowan, seconded by Councilmember Barker. The Council voted unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

These minutes were approved on June 13, 2024.



ATTEST:


Rachel Duplechain, City Secretary


Misty Songe, Mayor