

CITY OF SULPHUR SPRINGS, TEXAS

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE
CITY COUNCIL**

JULY 5, 2011

7:00 p.m.

Mayor Craig Johnson called the regular meeting of the Sulphur Springs City Council to order at 7:03 p.m. The following council members and staff were present:

Mayor Craig Johnson
Councilman Clay Walker
Councilman Gary Spraggins
Councilwoman Kayla Price
Councilman John Sellers

Absent: Mayor Pro Tem Freddie Taylor
Councilman Oscar Aguilar

Staff: Marc Maxwell, City Manager
Gale Roberts, City Secretary
Jim McLeroy, City Attorney
Peter Karstens, Director of Finance
Gordon Frazier, Director of Human Resources
Jim Bayuk, Chief of Police
Roger Feagley, Executive Director of EDC

PLEDGE AND INVOCATION

Mayor Johnson led in the pledge and Councilman Spraggins led in the invocation.

PRESENTATION OF PLAQUE TO OUTGOING COUNCILMAN CHARLES OXFORD

Councilman Spraggins made the presentation since he had served as mayor for two of the three years Charles Oxford was in office. Councilman Spraggins thanked Mr. Oxford for his time served and presented him with a plaque. Mr. Oxford addressed the City Council with a prepared statement which included congratulations to John Sellers on his victory and Kayla Price an opportunity to complete a full term.

MANAGER'S REPORT

TWO WAY CONVERSION - KCS construction crews and R.K. Hall paving crews are set to converge on Oak Avenue and Gilmer Street on July 11th.

R. K. Hall will repave and restripe Oak and Gilmer for a two-way configuration. At that time, the inside lanes of both Oak and Gilmer will be closed and will remain closed until the actual conversion on the 24th. Orange barrel-type barricades will be placed along the center stripe to prevent traffic from using the inside lanes.



While R.K. Hall is repaving Oak and Gilmer, KCS will install an additional crossing signal on the north side of the tracks at Oak, and on the south side of the tracks at Gilmer to accommodate two-way traffic. They will not remove the old crossing signal until after the conversion is complete.

Once R.K. Hall and KCS have finished their work it will be time to make the conversion. We've chosen Sunday, July 24th in the afternoon to make the conversion. On that day, all of the new signs will be uncovered, and the old obsolete signs will be covered or removed. Traffic will be allowed on the inside lanes flowing in the opposite direction. The orange barrels will remain in place, separating opposing lanes of traffic for another month.

City employees will drive city vehicles with flashing lights south on Oak, north on Gilmer, and east on Main/College for several hours during the conversion.

HOUSTON STREET - Phase 3 is progressing well. The Capital Construction Division has finished construction of all water, sewer and drainage utilities in the Houston Street project. Concrete street construction is also moving along well. We should begin pouring concrete in the Houston/Church intersection in 2 weeks.

The Church/Houston intersection will become a 4-way stop when it is completed.

SUMMER PAVING PROGRAM – We will undertake a substantial summer paving program this year. Expect the following streets to be paved with asphalt this summer: Park, Brinker from Lee to Industrial, Davis from Hinnant to Kyle, Vaughn, Carter from MLK to Fuller, Fisher from Spence to Kyle, Georgia from Lee to concrete section, Clayton, Dena, Elizabeth, Seventh and Jackson from College to MLK. We will also be able to include a portion of Lamar Street in the program, and possibly Gladys Alexander Drive.

CLAIMS - We had two worker's compensation claims in June, one for a sprained ankle and another for insect bites.

We had no liability claims in June.

REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES – Finance Director, Peter Karstens will present a year-to-date summary of revenues and expenditures.

MISCELLANEOUS – Elsewhere around the City, employees:

- Sold 7,919 gallons of JetA fuel and 2,478 gallons of AvGas.
- Attended a TXDOT aviation conference in Austin.
- Assisted the Sulphur Springs Symphony League with planning and preparation for the Independence Day Celebration.
- Serviced auxiliary generators.
- Performed preventative maintenance on the Raintree lift station and the Cantex lift station.
- Repaired the #1 filter at the wastewater treatment plant.
- Performed preventative maintenance on the 911 power supply system.
- Disconnected school zone lights for the summer.
- Underwent an annual inspection at the wastewater treatment plant...no problems.
- Repaired the sludge belt press and cleaned the primary and final clarifiers.
- Hauled 1,654 cubic yards of sludge to the landfill.
- Treated wastewater to a total suspended solids (TSS) reading of 2.1 mg/L, well within our limit of 12 mg/L.
- Received police training in officer safety on interdiction stops, roadside interviews, vehicle searches, dispatch management and use of Taser weapons.
- Seized 44 pounds of marijuana and 10 ounces of methamphetamine.
- Achieved a 73% adoption rate at the animal shelter.
- Responded to 41 accidents, wrote 578 traffic citations, made 90 arrests and recorded 79 offenses.
- Responded to 158 fire/rescue calls including 2 structure fires.
- Conducted 43 fire inspections.
- Performed preventative maintenance on 121 fire hydrants.
- Issued 32 weed citations.
- Repaired 12 water main ruptures.
- Installed 3 water taps and replaced 21 water meters.
- Unstopped 12 sewer mains.
- Repaired 16 sewer mains and/or sewer taps.
- Installed one new sewer tap.
- Washed approximately 80,000 feet of sewer mains.
- Checked out 4,358 materials from the Library.
- Registered 134 readers for the Summer Reading Program.
- Treated 156 million gallons of water.
- Processed 620 tickets through Municipal Court.
- Patched potholes at 32 locations.
- Made 9 street repairs due to prior water/sewer repairs.
- Erected truck route signs all around town.
- Replaced 9 “Children Playing” signs and 2 “Stop” signs.
- Made an extensive street repair on Westbrook Circle.
- Mailed consumer confidence report to water customers.

- Flushed 37 dead-end water mains.

CONSENT AGENDA

The following items on the Consent Agenda were reviewed: Consider for approval the regular City Council meeting minutes of June 7, 2011; Special City Council meeting minutes of June 28, 2011; Planning and Zoning Board minutes of June 20, 2011; and the Economic Development Corporation meeting minutes of May 23, 2011. There was no one to speak to the issue. Councilman Spraggins moved to approve the consent agenda as presented. Councilman Sellers seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

The motion carried.

CONDUCT A PUBLIC HEARING TO RECEIVE INPUT REGARDING THE SUBMISSION OF AN APPLICATION TO THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE/OFFICE OF RURAL COMMUNITY AFFAIRS FOR TEXAS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (TCDP) GRANTS TO ACQUIRE FUNDS TO CONSTRUCTION INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS IN THE FORM OF A SIDEWALK AND ADA RAMPS IN THE DOWNTOWN AREA TO ELIMINATE AREAS OF SLUM AND BLIGHT

Mayor Johnson opened the public hearing. There was no one to speak to this issue. Mayor Johnson closed the public hearing.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ON RESOLUTION NO. 1009 APPROVING AN APPLICATION FOR FUNDING THROUGH THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE TEXAS CAPITAL FUND DOWNTOWN REVITALIZATION PROGRAM

This resolution authorizes the City Manager to apply for \$150,000 of grant funds from the Texas Department of Agriculture. The funds would be used to construct sidewalks on the square, specifically, both sides of Gilmer and both sides of Main/College. Kim Lacey, Municipal Development Services, was available to answer any questions and gave a brief synopsis of the process. There was no one else to speak to the issue. Councilman Spraggins moved to approve the resolution as presented. Councilman Walker seconded and the vote was as follows:

Ayes: Spraggins, Walker, Johnson, Sellers
Nays: None
Abstain: Price

The motion carried.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ON FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 2594, A REQUEST BY OWNER ROSE ENIX TO REZONE PROPERTY LOCATED AT

1337 ARBALA ROAD, BEING FURTHER DESCRIBED AS LOT 4-01 OF BLOCK 235, FROM SINGLE FAMILY (SF-6) TO HEAVY COMMERCIAL (HC)

The owner wants to rezone the back half of the property to Heavy Commercial to match the zoning classification of the front half. The Planning and Zoning Commission conducted a public hearing and recommends approval. There was no one to speak to the issue. Councilman Sellers moved to approve the ordinance on the first reading. Councilwoman Price seconded and the vote was unanimous.

The motion carried.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ON RESOLUTION NO. 1010 APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF A CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENT FOR THE DONATION/TRANSFER OF EQUIPMENT THROUGH THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE, OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR; AND AUTHORIZING THE CHIEF OF POLICE TO ACT AS THE CITY'S EXECUTIVE OFFICER AND AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE IN ALL MATTERS PERTAINING TO THE CITY'S AGREEMENT OF PARTICIPATION IN THE TEXAS 1033 PROGRAM

This application will be submitted to the Department of Defense, Office of the Governor. It is a contractual agreement for the donation of surplus equipment from the Department of Defense to the Sulphur Springs Police Department. This is a program that allows law enforcement to select surplus items from the Department of Defense for law enforcement use. Surplus items can consist of anything that was issued to the Department of Defense such as but not limited to furniture, tactical supplies, vehicles, etc. Any and all items donated or transferred will require inventory records for audit purposes. Police Chief Jim Bayuk was available to answer any questions and present the staff report. There was no one else to speak to the issue. Councilman Spraggins moved to approve the resolution as presented. Councilwoman Price seconded and the vote was unanimous.

The motion carried.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ON RESOLUTION NO. 1011 APPROVING A RESOLUTION OF THE SULPHUR SPRINGS HOPKINS COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION APPROVING A LOAN FROM THE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR TEXAS LEVERAGE FUND TO CONSTRUCT IMPROVEMENTS TO THE PIONEER BUSINESS PARK ON THE WEST SIDE OF SULPHUR SPRINGS

The loan is for \$1,746,475 to construct a roadway, water, waste water and storm drainage systems in the Pioneer Business Park. This will open up 73 acres for development and complete the business park. All payments associated with this loan will be paid from the EDC funds and the debt is not the responsibility of the City of Sulphur Springs. Roger Feagley, Executive Director of the Sulphur Springs Hopkins County EDC, was available

to answer any questions and present the staff report. There was no one to speak to the issue. Councilman Spraggins moved to approve the resolution as presented. Councilwoman Price seconded and the vote was unanimous.

The motion carried.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ON WHOLESALE WATER SERVICE AGREEMENT WITH PLEASANT HILL WATER SUPPLY CORPORATION

City Manager Marc Maxwell presented the staff report. This agreement was modeled after the agreement with Shady Grove Water Supply Corporation that was approved last October. The term of this agreement is twenty years. There was no one to speak to the issue. Councilman Spraggins moved to approve the agreement as presented. Councilman Sellers seconded and the vote was unanimous.

The motion carried.

VISITORS/PUBLIC FORUM

None.

ADJOURN

With all business complete the meeting was adjourned at 7:26 p.m.