

Mayor
Dee Grimm

Council Members
Dwayne Padalecki
Susann Baker
Caid Franckowiak
Deborah McInerney
John Hafner

City Secretary
Janice Staudt

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APPROVED MINUTES
of the Regular City Council Teleconference Meeting

December 3, 2020

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Mayor Dee Grimm called the teleconference meeting to order at 7:30 pm.

2. ROLL CALL AND ESTABLISH A QUORUM

Roll call was taken. Members present were Councilman Dwayne Padalecki, Councilwoman Susann Baker, Councilman Caid Franckowiak, Councilwoman Deborah McInerney and Councilman John Hafner. A quorum was established. Janice Staudt presided as City Secretary.

3. READING AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes to approve were from the November 5, 2020 City Council Teleconference Meeting. Councilman John Hafner moved to approve the minutes as written. Councilwoman Susan Baker seconded the motion. All were in favor. The November 5, 2020 City Council Teleconference Meeting minutes were approved.

4. READING AND APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL SUMMARY

The financial summary to approve was for October, 2020. Councilwoman Susann Baker moved to approve the October, 2020 financial summary. Councilwoman Deborah McInerney seconded the motion. All were in favor. The October, 2020 financial summary was approved.

5. REPORT FROM CODE COMPLIANCE

Code Compliance Officer Kim Fornof presented the November report.

Ms. Fornof reported that it's been a busy month. She said that The Rock United Methodist Church is about ready for construction. Still getting a lot of calls from residents in the subdivisions outside the city, but because they're not within the city limits, they need to call Bexar County.

For a complete report, see it on our website at sainthedwightcity.com under the "BUILDING & DEVELOPMENT", "CODE COMPLIANCE" tabs.

6. REPORT FROM PLANNING AND ZONING

Planning and Zoning (P&Z) Commission Chairman, Mr. Charles Mais presented the report. He said their meeting was short and he provided available dates for them to meet with Council for the workshop.

7. CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

There were no citizens to be heard.

8. OLD BUSINESS

A. Roads – Receive Road Maintenance Report, and Take Action on Related Items

1. Road Report

Councilman Caid Franckowiak reported that shredding and brush cutting has been completed for the fall season, and that road crack fill and seal work is scheduled. He also reported the 2020 Roadway Rehabilitation Project is underway, with two feet added to each side of Graytown Road and the same will be added to Lupon Road. Once widening is completed he said, base repair, level up and course treatment will begin, and the project is running smoothly and on schedule. Project Engineer Jess Swaim added that work should begin on Miller Road next week.

2. Matching Fund Project – Gable Road - Discuss and take action

Project Engineer Jess Swaim said the surveying is about 90% complete, next will be geotechnical engineering which will take about 1-1/2 weeks, followed by geotechnical data and plan design. Mayor Grimm said the City applied for a 6-month extension on this project, but has not received a reply yet.

3. Silesia Drive – Update on Silesia Drive Deficiency Issues

Mayor Grimm said the attorneys are still in conversation. City attorney Cynthia Trevino said the City received an open records request for documents related to Silesia Drive, and Council may contact her directly if they have any questions.

4. Status of 2020 Roadway Rehabilitation Project

See item 8.A.1, Road Report, in these minutes.

D. City Park

Councilman Dwayne Padalecki said there was nothing to report. Councilwoman Deborah McInerney reported the County Line Band Concert was a huge success, people social distanced, and hopes for similar events in the future. Mayor Dee Grimm thanked the County Line Band.

E. St. Hedwig's Contract with MD Systems for Exclusive Waste Management Services within the City Limits and the Acquisition of MD Systems by Frontier Waste Solutions. Hear Proposal from Frontier Waste Solutions.

Mayor Dee Grimm corrected agenda by saying that Frontier Waste Solutions will be giving a presentation, not a proposal. She updated everyone saying a contract was signed with MD Systems to include commercial and industrial waste service along with residential waste service. Mayor Grimm said Frontier Waste Solutions has acquired MD Systems, and wants to take on all of the same services MD Systems provided, to include residential, commercial and industrial.

Frontier Waste Solutions Vice President Tim Henderson, along with President and CEO John Gustafson, gave a presentation on their company. Mr. Henderson said the company was founded in 2017, with the acquisition of several disposal companies, and now serves more than 25 municipal contracts with 24,000 homes. He said the founding partners each have between 21 and 35 years of experience in this business. Mr. Henderson talked about the technology they use to communicate with their drivers, track their trucks, monitor waste collection, along with their free waste app for customers.

Councilman John Hafner asked if there will be any change in billing. Mr. Henderson replied that the rates and terms of the MD contract will remain the same. Councilman Hafner also asked if they would provide service for charity events, such as American Legion events. Mr. Henderson said they'd be glad to participate. Mayor Dee Grimm said that in working with Frontier, she wants to assure that the prices and service would be the same, if not better, than when working with MD Systems, and that commercial and industrial rates would be competitive with rates that citizens are currently paying to other vendors.

Mayor Dee Grimm confirmed with City Attorney Cynthia Trevino that a motion was not required for this action, then asked Council if anyone did not have consensus to move forward, allowing Frontier Waste Solutions to take over the contractual provisions that MD Systems formally had. Hearing no objection, Frontier Waste Solutions will be replacing MD Systems services.

F. Determine Workshop Date for the City Council and the Planning & Zoning Commission to Review Revisions to the Zoning Ordinance

Council decided on December 15 to have a workshop with the Planning and Zoning (P&Z) Commission, to review P&Z's and City Attorney's recommendations for changes/revisions to the City's Zoning Ordinance.

G. Update on Potential Property Tax Freeze or Exemption for Saint Hedwig Citizens

Mayor Grimm said the City received numerous citizen responses on this topic, and asked City Attorney Cynthia Trevino to state the difference between a tax freeze and a tax exemption. Ms. Trevino said that a tax freeze, is an irrevocable decision made by Council, whereas a tax exemption can be adjusted by Council each year going forward, should they decide to. You can revoke a tax exemption or change it, but the statutory limit must be met first. Councilwoman Susann Baker moved to implement a tax exemption for citizens age 65 and older. Councilman John Hafner seconded the motion. He also added that he thought this would be a service for the retired community. All were in favor. A property tax exemption for citizens age 65 and older will be implemented.

H. Update on Green Valley SUD proposed project to service wastewater system to the Clearwater Creek residential District

City Attorney Cynthia Trevino said she is waiting for notice on when Green Valley SUD will be accepting public input on this matter. Councilman Dwayne Padalecki inquired about potential surveying related this project being performed on Stapper Road. Mayor Dee Grimm said she didn't think it should involve anything within Saint Hedwig City Limits, only that the wastewater will flow into the Woman Hollering and Martinez Creeks. Councilwoman Deborah McInerney asked about the status of the road flooding that occurs at Abbott and FM 1518. Code Compliance Officer Kim Fornof replied that once the subdivision developments in that area are complete, that they would be responsible for correcting that problem.

I. Update on Internet Services for the City

Councilman John Hafner said he talked to GVEC economic development and set up a preliminary meeting with them. Mayor Dee Grimm said this could be an opportunity to do an exclusive contract with them for these services. Councilman Hafner said he will determine what the city will need to move forward.

J. COVID-19 Coronavirus Update

Mayor Dee Grimm reported that in her real job, she works with emergency management disaster response and was asked to go to El Paso to assist with their mass COVID-19 fatalities. She said today there are 3200 people dying a day in this country from COVID-19, primarily from people not taking it seriously. As an emergency nurse, Mayor Grimm said people should take this seriously and that it is controllable by our own common sense public health measures of wearing a mask and social distancing.

9. NEW BUSINESS

A. May 1, 2021 Election

Mayor Dee Grimm announced that City Council Place 1, 3 and 5 are up for election May 1, 2021. She said the filing period for a candidate to file an application for a place on the ballot is January 13, 2021 through February 12, 2021 (5:00 p.m.).

10. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Merry Christmas to all!

11. DETERMINE DATE FOR NEXT MEETING

The next City Council meeting will be held January 7, 2021.

12. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Dee Grimm adjourned the teleconference meeting at 8:38 pm