

**CITY OF IVANHOE**  
**REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES**  
**November 21, 2024**  
**6:00 PM**

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Blackstone at 6:00 pm. A quorum is present. Councilmember Omsberg is absent. Anna Seale, attorney, was also present. The invocation was given by Councilmember Warren and was followed by The Pledge of Allegiance. This meeting is being audio streamed only on YouTube.

**Communications from the Audience** (None)

**Consent Agenda Items**

- Minutes of Regular Council Meeting of October 17, 2024 at 6:00 pm.
  - Motion made by Councilmember Warren to approve minutes. Motion seconded by Councilmember McWhorter. Councilmember Gregory asked for a correction regarding the memorandum with the Polk County SPCA. Motion carried.

**Agenda Item #1 – Swearing in of Elected Councilmembers**

Mayor Blackstone swore in Councilmembers Karen Fidler, Bobby Tull and Chuck Vonderlin.

This agenda item is for information only, no action taken.

**Agenda Item #2 – Consider for Discussion/Action Councilmember Omsberg's Resignation and Appointment Replacement for a Period of One Year**

Mayor Blackstone appointed Karen Fidler to fill the remaining one-year position vacated by Councilmember Omsberg.

This agenda item is for information only, no action taken.

**Agenda Item #3 – Authorization of Newly Elected/Appointed Councilmembers for Bank Signatory**

Only the following mayor and councilmembers shall have bank signatory authorization until further notice:

- John A. Blackstone, Mayor
- Karen L. Fidler, Councilmember
- Justin Gregory, Councilmember
- Joe D. McWhorter, Councilmember
- Robert G., Councilmember
- John C. Vonderlin, Councilmember

Mayor Blackstone appointed Councilmember McWhorter as Mayor Pro-Tem.

This agenda item is for information only, no action taken.

#### **Agenda Item #4 - Mayor's Report**

- The city received a letter from TCEQ's Dam Safety Program saying that the city's application for High Hazard Dam Rehabilitation grant has received preliminary approval for \$405,000 with a 35% city matching fund for a total of \$263,000. The application has been sent to FEMA for a final review. The original request from the mayor was \$300,000.
- The Texas GLO has \$136 million of Hurricane Harvey and Hurricane Ike funds not yet awarded. If awarded any of these funds, they would be used to rebuild 28<sup>th</sup> Street in its entirety.
- The electrical pole in the middle of Mill Creek at Sir Jim Drive, and in the city's right-of-way, continues to be a conflict and is delaying construction. Entergy wants to charge the city to move the pole even though the 1963 Platte clearly shows that the pole is in the city's 60-foot right-of-way. The mayor has filed a complaint with the Public Utility Commission and was told that the city would have to file a formal legal complaint which would be very time-consuming. The city's grant administration has approved the use of grant funds to move the pole so that construction can continue.
- The hump on Ivanhoe Drive near the entrance is due to 24" culvert installation. Originally, it was 36" culverts. Tyler County has a \$1.2 million grant to rebuild Ivanhoe Drive from Camelot Drive to Charmaine Drive East. If there are funds remaining, they will be used to finish rebuilding Charmaine Drive East. The city's contractor will be rebuilding Ivanhoe Drive from US 69 to Camelot Drive and will be raised to match the current culvert hump.
- A pre-construction meeting will be held tomorrow to discuss the layout of Lakewood Dr. The contractor selected to rebuild Lakewood Dr. from Camelot Dam to Galahad Dam and Galahad Dam to Tristan Dam with a 4" limestone base and 2" asphalt.
- There are issues with cracks on Camelot Circle and 22<sup>nd</sup> issues. It appears that Texas Materials base installed improperly. The longer it takes for Texas Materials to repair the issues and until the city signs off on completion, the longer the warranty will be in effect. This was a \$200,000 mistake on the part of Texas Materials.

This agenda item is for information only, no action taken.

#### **Agenda Item #5 – Law Enforcement Activity Report for October 2024**

Total Calls: 32	Traffic Stops: 72	Traffic Citations: 52
Traffic Warnings: 20	Accident Reports:	Arrests: 2
Code Enforcement Actions:	Assists:	Animal Control:

There was a rollover accident on Ivanhoe Dr. due to excessive speed.

Call Tyler County Sheriff Department at 409-283-2172 for officer dispatch. Call 409-283-2223 for non-emergency issues and leave a message if no one answers. As always, call 911 for all emergencies.

This agenda item is for information only, no action taken.

**Agenda Item #6 – Public Works Activity Report for October 2024**

**A. Roads & Maintenance:**

- Culverts are being installed throughout the city by Public Works. By Public Works performing culvert installation and ditch work is allowing more money to be spent on road construction.

**B. Dams**

- Lake Charmaine is being lowered to dry out the spillway and spilling basin so Marsh Waterproofing can finish caulking the dam. Marsh Waterproofing missed one seam and there is area at the toe that needs to be caulked.
- GPR on Galahad Dam was conducted on October 28, 2024. The city is waiting for the data analysis report.
- Epoxy Designs performed a walk-thru of Charmaine and Galahad Dams and will drill bore holes after the data analysis report is received.

This agenda item is for information only, no action taken.

**Agenda Item #7 – Discuss/Action Planning & Zoning Activity**

- Laurie Siems said that two new members have been appointed to the Planning and Zoning Committee, Curtis Moncrief and Mary Friedrich.
- P&Z is still working on certification for AirBNB and formulating new ordinance.

This agenda item is for information only, no action taken.

**Agenda Item #8 – Report on Tyler County Appraisal District** (No report.)

This agenda item is for information only, no action taken.

**Agenda Item #9 – Discuss/Action to Approve Resolution for Submission of the 2025-2026 Texas Community Development Block Grant Fund Program Application to the Texas Department of Agriculture**

Motion made by Councilmember Gregory to approve the Resolution. Motion seconded by Councilmember McWhorter. Motion carried.

**Agenda Item #10 – Discuss/Action Concerning Award of an Administrative Services Contract for the Preparation of the City's 2025-2026 Texas Community Development Block Grant Fund Pre-Application, Application and Subsequent Administrative Services Contract, If Funded**

The city sent 5 emails to prospective contractors and placed an advertisement in Tyler County Booster. Two contractors responded. Public Management was given a score of 237 due to primarily working in wastewater and sewage construction. Langford was given a score of 291. The mayor recommended Langford as the contract administrator.

Motion made by Councilmember Gregory to award administrative services contact to Langford. Motion seconded by Councilmember McWhorter. Motion carried.

**Agenda Item #11- Consider for Discussion/Action Financial Report for October 2024**

Motion made by Councilmember McWhorter to approve the October 2024 financial report. Motion seconded by Councilmember Gregory. Motion carried.

**Agenda Item #12 – Recess to Executive Session** (No recess.)

**Agenda Item #13 – Council Comments**

The mayor welcomed the new council members.

**Agenda Item #16 – Adjourn Meeting**

Councilmember Gregory made the motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilman McWhorter and the motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 6:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Hailey Williams, City Secretary

Approved by Council December 19, 2024

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Skip Blackstone, Mayor