

Regular Meeting Minutes – City of Plantersville
April 11, 2022

The Board of Alderman of the City of Plantersville, Grimes County, Texas, met in regular session at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, April 11, 2022, in Town Hall, 11335 Lodge Lane, Plantersville, Texas.

Members Present:

Karen Hale, Mayor
Kristina Keyser Mayton, Pro-Tem
Kimberly Allphin, Alderman Secretary
Marilyn Bettes, Alderman
Frank Dean, Alderman
Otis Greenwood, Jr., Alderman

Visitors: Gail Kaciuba, David Tullos, Tanya Walters, Joe and Sherry Fauth, Charlotte Holiday, and Joann Kutac

1. Call to Order: Quorum established. Mayor Karen Hale called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. The invocation by Alderman Greenwood and pledges by Judge Joe Fauth.
2. Regular Meeting Minutes from March 14, 2022
Motion to Approve: Alderman Marilyn Bettes
Second: Alderman Frank Dean
Voting Yes: Unanimous
Final Resolution: Motion carries
3. Public Comments: David Tullos
4. Invoices and items currently due and payable: City Attorney Fees \$990.00; Sam's Club \$47.44 and Banner Expense \$44.85. Total payable \$1,082.29
Discussion: Mayor Hale reviewed the invoices
Action – Motion: Alderman Dean made motion to pay the due and payable invoice as presented.
Second: Alderman Greenwood
Voting Yes: Unanimous
Final Resolution: Motion carries
5. Presentation by Sherry Fauth on behalf of Grimes County Child Welfare Board. Mrs. Fauth provided information on the current child welfare services provided in Grimes County including the number of cases under their care and the obligations to each child in the program regarding clothing, essentials and a Christmas item. The program is funded by the Grimes County Commissioners with an allotment of \$20,000. The board in cooperation with the Presbyterian Church in Navasota are in the process of creating a space that will provide essentials to meet the needs of the children and be accessible 24 hours.

Mrs. Fauth stated that the month of April is Child Abuse Prevention, providing awareness of the needs of children in abusive situations. She asked for a city proclamation from the City of Plantersville to recognize the Child Abuse Prevention with proclamation. The proclamation will be posted to help bring attention to this important service to the children of Grimes County. She also advised a non-profit charitable organization 501C is being formed, Friends of the Grimes County Child Welfare Board. This will allow donations to assist the organization by individuals and business. Donations cannot be accepted at this time because of the allotment provided by the county.

Discussion: Mayor Hale read the proclamation recognizing the month of April as “Child Abuse Prevention Month” prepared for the Aldermen to review.

Action – Motion: Alderman Dean moved that the proclamation be accepted and provided to the Grimes County Welfare Board as requested.

Second: Alderman Greenwood

Voting: Yes: Unanimous

Final Resolution: Motion carries

6. Community Outreach: Easter Event “Easter Trunk Eggstravaganza” on April 3, 2022 from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Discussion: Mayor Hale advised the event did not take place and asked Alderman Allphin to provide additional details. Alderman Allphin advised the event notices and social media announcements were not approved in time prior to event date as planned. Many of the past participants contacted by Alderman Allphin had obligations that did not allow them to attend. Alderman Bettes advised that she had five commitments for the function and Mayor Hale also had interested parties. Mayor Hale contacted each Alderman for their participation count. The follow up information received was disappointing and Mayor Hale with board members decided the event should not be held this year.
Action - Motion: None

7. Set Workshop date: Discussion of request from High Meadow Development Company and Subdivision Rules
Discussion: Mayor Hale spoke with the City Attorney, and he is available for next Monday, April 18, 2022, to discuss the Subdivision Rule Ordinance and request from High Meadow Development Company.
Action - Motion: Alderman Mayton moved the Workshop be held on Monday, April 18, 2022, at 6 p.m. in the Town Hall.
Second: Alderman Greenwood
Voting: Yes: Unanimous
Final Resolution: Motion carries

8. Culvert Ordinance and Culvert Letters
Discussion: Mayor Hale reviewed the Culvert Ordinance that was prepared and sent to the Aldermen for review prior to meeting. Alderman Greenwood inquired as to the period of allowing residents to provide needed culverts. Mayor Hale advised that there would be time allotted to residents with advanced notification of the required culvert. Judge Fauth provided additional information regarding the access area required for proper ditches and culverts that continues to be a problem as the easements are not thirty feet from the center of the roadway. The fence lines have migrated over the years and has condensed the available area, this is an issue for the county as well as the city governments in attempts to maintain roadways and ditch drainage. Alderman Mayton inquired what type of culvert will be required and Mayor Hale advised that the standards will be personalized per property driveway by GCR&B Engineer, Harry Walker. The guidelines will follow the driveway instructions/culvert installation standards as listed on the Permit to Construct Access Driveway Facilities – Regulations of Grimes County Texas. Mayor Hale stated that the landowner may purchase the required culvert from supplier they desire, and Grimes County has a list of businesses that supply the county at this time.

*ALDERMAN DEAN ORDINANCE
INQUIRY TO MAYOR HALE
THE COMPARATIVE CITY OF
KATY, TX*

Alderman Dean stated that he did not receive the ordinance for preview and felt that the County and the City cannot enforce a Culvert Ordinance because of discrimination. Mayor Hale advised that the ordinance had been completed by the City Attorney with research and legal statutes as recommended. Alderman Greenwood inquired as to the possibility of purchasing culverts in hardship cases. Mayor Hale responded that the resources required to purchase would extend over and above the budgeted roadwork repair and maintenance. Alderman Mayton mentioned possibility of grants available, and Judge Fauth advised that there are flood mitigation/drainage grants that might be available. Alderman Allphin asked Judge Fauth if Grimes County has any hardship plan for needed culverts, he stated that there is no hardship plan. He advised that GCR&B Engineer and/or Foreman provides landowner the specifications of required culvert and the installation is provided by GCR&B, however the cost of the culvert is the landowners. The culvert is then covered with the soil that was removed for culvert. The landowner provides the additional or different material if they so desire, such as rock or other driveway material covering. Alderman Allphin asked if the landowner needed additional time due to extenuating situations the violation fee may be enforced and the City would take it case by case of situation. Mayor Hale advised that future events would require consideration at that time. Alderman Mayton recommended notification notices be sent certified mail and list of those requiring culverts be made available to City

Aldermen. Judge Fauth advised that a possibility of bulk purchasing through the county may provide a lower cost to citizen/landowner, and he will confer with Mr. Walker, Grimes Co. Road & Bridge.

Action - Motion: Alderman Bettes moved that Culvert Ordinance be accepted as presented.

Second: Alderman Allphin seconded

Voting: Alderman Allphin – Yes Alderman Bettes – Yes
Alderman Dean – No Alderman Greenwood – Yes
Alderman Mayton - Yes

Voting: Yes: 4 No: 1

Final Resolution: Motion carries

Action – Motion: Alderman Allphin moved that the Culvert letter provided by the City Attorney be accepted as presented.

Second: Alderman Bettes

Voting: Alderman Allphin – Yes Alderman Bettes – Yes
Alderman Dean – No Alderman Greenwood – Yes
Alderman Mayton - Yes

Voting: Yes: 4 No: 1

Final Resolution: Motion carries

9. Part Time Law Enforcement Personnel for the City of Plantersville

Discussion: Mayor Hale reviewed information obtained from Judge Fauth, Sheriff Department Chief Green and Constable Jarvis regarding the expenses to hire off duty officers for patrol in the City of Plantersville. Alderman Dean stated he would like to include in the upcoming City Budget of \$100,000 for salary and benefits of a dedicated patrol working 40 hours. He stated payment would be made to Grimes County as a stipend for the contracted officer and the liability associated with the law enforcement be through Grimes County and not the City of Plantersville.

Alderman Bettes advised that she attended a recent meeting of GC Crimestoppers and Sheriff Sowell stated that the department is severely understaffed and has been unable to hire qualified personnel with the budget restrictions, the demand of peace officers, etc. She feels it would be hard to find a law enforcement officer to work full time for the City. Judge Fauth remarked that an option to consider would be to work with the GC Sheriff Department in obtaining an officer that wanted to work overtime with rotation to the City of Plantersville. Mayor Hale recommended further research with GC Sheriff Department and contracting of an officer for rotation and schedules that would provide the best coverage for the City of Plantersville and residents. Mayor Hale advised that the budget could be amended to allocate funds to provide initial patrol service.

Action – Motion: Alderman Dean made motion to place the agenda item on next month’s meeting notice to discuss additional research and updates.

Second: Alderman Greenwood

Voting: Yes: Unanimous

Final Resolution: Motion carries

10. Road Repair/Maintenance

Discussion: Mayor Hale advised that there had been no request for road work since the last meeting. She had been contacted with request from a citizen for the exact and specific road specifications of a road repair. Mayor Hale contacted GC Road and Bridge Engineer, Harry Walker regarding the citizen request and he advised that this information is not provided to the City and has never been requested by any of the cities in Grimes County. Mayor Hale provided information on prior request from a citizen that was unable to access her driveway with heavy rains and flooding. Mayor Hale contacted GCR&B, they responded the same day and assessed the situation. Mayor Hale received the specifications required for replacement culvert with size and dimensions to repair and replace the culvert from GCR&B. She relayed information to citizen and the following day the culvert had been installed and the resident was able to access her property.

11. Board update/discussion items of community interest (no action may be discussed, except to put on an agenda). Upcoming functions discussed Plantersville Crawfish Festival 2022 will be held at Deeproots Vineyard on Saturday, April 30th. St. Joseph’s Bazaar will be held on Sunday of Memorial Day Weekend.

12. Executive Session/Closed Meeting: None

13. No Action Taken

14. Mayor Hale adjourned the meeting at 8:23 p.m.

Approved

Karen Hale

Karen Hale, Mayor

Date: 05-09-2022

Attest

Kimberly Allphin

Kimberly Allphin, Secretary

Date: 05-09-2022