

Meeting Minutes
July 13, 2020

The Board of Alderman of the City of Plantersville, Grimes County, Texas, met in regular session on Monday, July 13, 2020 at 7:04 p.m. in the Masonic Hall, 11335 Lodge Lane, Plantersville, Texas.

The following members were present

Mayor – Karen Hall, Mayor Pro Tem – Kristina Keyser Mayton

Secretary/Alderman – Kimberly Allphin, Alderman – Marilyn Bettes, and Alderman – Otis Greenwood, Jr.

Absent - Alderman – Frank Dean

Thus, constituting a quorum:

Visitors: Johnny McNally, Chamber of Commerce

1. Mayor Karen Hale called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. The invocation was led by Alderman Greenwood and the Pledge of Allegiance recited.
2. The minutes from June 8, 2020 were read and approved with correction regarding Item 3 - The driveway to access the businesses on the south side of SH 105 at the intersection has been leased to the landowner, including the responsibility of the maintenance and all legal issues. Motion to approve with correction by Alderman Bettes and second by Alderman Greenwood. All in favor, motion carried.
3. Public comments – Johnny McNally made a short public comment regarding live events with the Chamber and proper distancing following COVID procedures with upcoming coffee meeting. Chamber Retreat announcement, it is to be held on July 28, 2020 and CETA online webinar on July 29, 2020. The Governor's Economic Referral program provided possible leads for new businesses in Grimes County during the past month.
4. Mayor Hale announced there were no payables or invoices at this time.
5. Mayor Hale advised the election of Mayor Pro Tem and Secretary was to be held. Alderman Otis Greenwood, Jr. made a motion to elect Alderman Kristina K. Mayton as Mayor Pro Tem and Alderman Kimberly Allphin as Secretary for the City of Plantersville. Alderman Bettes seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
6. Mayor Hale contacted Mr. Walker with Grimes Co. Road & Bridge regarding the charges to the city. The procedure will continue with Mayor Hale receiving first contact to inspect the area and then request to GCR&B if warranted. The GCR&B will provide an estimate of repair to the city for the materials only. The labor and equipment are provided by the GCR&B. The county will invoice the city for the actual cost of the materials used.
7. The State Comptroller's Office responded to Mayor Hale's request regarding taxpayers who are within the city limits and were advised by the Comptroller's Office that these businesses/individuals are not in the city limits. Mayor Hale provided information regarding those in question and was assured this matter would be corrected and updated in their system with the Comptroller's Office.

8. Alderman Kristina K Mayton will again research the identification badges for elected officers to present at the next meeting with cost, id type and time frame for production. Alderman Allphin moved to table this item with second from Alderman Greenwood. All in favor, motion carried.
9. TxDOT project SH249/FM1774 is progressing SH105/FM1774 has had no activity or construction this month. Mayor Hale advised she has received several telephone calls of complaints with the lack of construction or progress. Mayor Hale provided the contact information for the TxDOT District Office, Mr. Chad Bohne. Alderman Bettes moved that the City of Plantersville have a public hearing with a special called meeting for the sole purpose to discuss and address the issues with TxDOT representatives regarding the SH105/FM1774 project. Alderman Mayton seconded. All in favor, motion carried.
10. Mayor Hale advised that the city requires an annual financial audit. Alderman Mayton moved that Mayor Hale contact Dianne Phillips, CPA to request her to complete the financial audit. Alderman Bettes seconded. All in favor, motion carried.
11. Mayor Hale presented sample permit information regarding billboards, peddlers, businesses, etc. The permit process is entailed and recommends a workshop to review details, discuss options and move forward with creating permits that would be applicable to our city. Alderman Mayton made motion to call a Special Workshop Meeting on Monday, July 27, 2020 at 6 p.m. to discuss ordinances and resolutions pertaining to permits, city planning, city codes and public information request fees. Alderman Bettes seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
12. Mayor Hale reported she had further investigated the sales tax collected from telecommunication providers is being remitted to the state comptroller but is not remitted to the city. This is not an additional tax as the taxes are already being collected and paid to the state, just not allocated to the city. She will continue to research this matter and inform Alderman of her findings. Alderman Mayton made motion to table the repeal of exemption of telecommunications company sales tax at this time. Alderman Allphin seconded. All in favor, motion carried.
13. Discussion was held regarding an additional bank account to prevent fraud and secure funds. There would be an operating account for standard operating expenses and a main account that is secure with no electronic debits and credits. This had been recommended by Alderman Dean and many organizations were adopting this method. The city is required to post in newspaper for submission of bids for financial institution. Alderman Marilyn Bettes moved the posting be made in the local newspaper, the Navasota Examiner with second by Alderman Kimberly Allphin. All in favor, motion carried.
14. The Right of Way Rental Fee/Franchise was discussed with notes from initial meeting with Entergy – the representative, Tracy at that time had assured the city there were no additional charges to customers in the city limits. However, a line item charge has been added to Entergy billing as general fund line item. Mayor Hale has contacted Entergy representative, Victor Enman and asked for clarification and details regarding to this matter and will report back with findings. Alderman Greenwood moved that the ROW Rental Fee/Franchise be tabled at this time to further research with second from Alderman Bettes. All in favor, motion carried.
15. Community Interest Items – Mayor Hale mentioned that the American Red Cross is interested in coming to communities to reinforce COVID 19 safety measures and possibly a blood drive with the community participating. The census response is at approximately 50 percent from last update for

Grimes County. Please spread the word to have residents complete the census as it directly impacts the funding for states, counties, and cities/towns.

16. No executive Session/Closed Meeting Needed

17. No Action Necessary

18. Meeting Adjourned at meeting at 9:00 p.m.

Approved

Attest

Karen Hale, Mayor

Kimberly Allphin, Secretary

Date

Date