

Meeting Minutes
October 12, 2020

The Board of Alderman of the City of Plantersville, Grimes County, Texas, met in regular session on Monday, October 12, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. in the Plantersville Town Hall, 11335 Lodge Lane, Plantersville, Texas.

The following members were present:

Karen Hale, Mayor
Kimberly Allphin, Secretary
Marilyn Bettes, Alderman
Frank Dean, Alderman
Otis Greenwood, Jr., Alderman

Absent: Kristina Keyser Mayton, Alderman Mayor Pro Tem

Thus, constituting a quorum:

Visitors present: David Tullos, Tanya Walters, Carol Kurten, Letha Kurten, Sandra Kuta, Julee Kuta Wilson, and Judge Joe Fauth.

1. Mayor Karen Hale called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
2. The minutes from September 14, 2020 were read. Alderman Bettes moved that the minutes be approved as read. Alderman Greenwood seconded the motion. Motion carried. The minutes from September 30, 2020 workshop were read. Alderman Bettes moved minutes be approved as read. Alderman Dean seconded the motion. Motion carried.
3. Mayor Hale reviewed the City of Plantersville Rules of Procedure and Texas Statutes on meeting procedures.
4. Public Comments: David Tullos, Sandra Kuta and Carolyn Kurten
5. Invoices and Items currently due and payable: None
6. Public Information Request Pricing Ordinance:
Discussion: Conforms to Texas Government Code
Action: Alderman Frank Dean moved to table discussion of ordinance until copies are sent to all board members. Alderman Kimberly Allphin seconded. The motion carried unanimously.
7. Appoint Board Committee on Business and Peddler Permits:
Discussion: Additional research and investigation as to the value of such permits to the city with defined goals, benefits and protection of citizens and established businesses.
Action: Mayor Hale, Alderman Mayor Pro Tem Mayton and Alderman Allphin will serve on this committee.
8. SH 249 at FM 1774 Published Information and Literature Incorrect:

Discussion: Publications continue to list the new SH 249 construction at FM 1774 as being in Todd Mission. This has been brought to the attention of TxDOT and Road Construction Contractor for correct location in Plantersville since 2017.

Action: Mayor Hale and Alderman Bettes continue to pursue correction. Mayor Hale stated all interested parties could contact TxDOT to assist in the location correction.

9. Burn Ban Procedures:

Discussion: Mayor Hale reviewed the current Burn Ban procedure in Grimes County concerning the county Burn Ban does not include incorporated areas. Plantersville needs an ordinance to include our city to be part of the county wide burn ban procedure, as we do not have the necessary meeting schedule to prudently issue burn bans nor the resources needed. Judge J. Fauth was in attendance and he reviewed the resources utilized by the county regarding facts and information the county receives daily during these weather conditions and the importance of Burn Ban ordinances. Mayor Hale provided an ordinance to board for review to immediately issue Burn Ban procedure for the City of Plantersville, that follows the Grimes County Commissioner's Court when ban is initiated and when it is removed.

Action: Alderman Dean made motion to issue Burn Ban Ordinance. Alderman Bettes seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

10. City Email:

Discussion: Alderman Allphin advised the available email service through City website for Mayor and Secretary is ready for purchase as previously approved with additional security, features and resources. The cost of service is \$215.76 per email account and this is an annual fee with discounts applied.

Action: Mayor Hale instructed Alderman Allphin to obtain services and present copy of invoice at next meeting for payment.

11. City Website:

Discussion: Alderman Allphin reported that the city domain has basic services with SSL security. The recommendation is to increase security protocols, website protection and daily maintenance. The renewal fee for website and domain is due in January.

Action: Alderman Allphin will obtain cost of upgraded services to present to board.

12. Grantworks:

Discussion: Mayor Hale presented information received from Grantworks, a reputable organization that assists municipalities with grant resources available for different projects and infrastructure.

Grantworks provides all research, engineering, and documentation on behalf of municipality to obtain available grants. They receive a fee only if the grant is provided to the municipality, otherwise there is no fee or charge. Mayor Hale asked Judge Fauth if he had heard of Grantworks and he said yes, the county had used them in prior grants obtained. Mayor Hale advised that the grant she thought might be of interest to the city would provide improved drainage along city roadways and low water areas.

Action: Mayor Hale will seek additional information for presentation.

13. SH 105/FM 1774 Construction and Traffic:

Discussion: TxDOT representatives announced the current construction on SH 105 will shift lanes, working on the south side of new roadway. Transition is to begin on 10/13/2020 and increased activity to complete road work.

14. Community Interest:

Local events – Renaissance; Halloween/Fall Festivals in Anderson and St Joseph's, Stoneham. High Speed Rail and objection by letter of our Rep. Ben Leman and other elected officials to the inaccurate letter Gove. Abbott's office wrote to Japan.

15. Executive Session/Closed Meeting: None required

16. No Action Taken

17. Mayor Hale adjourned the meeting at 8:12 p.m.

Approved

Attest

Karen Hale, Mayor

Kimberly Allphin, Secretary

Date

Date