

Meeting Minutes  
June 8, 2020

CORRECTED -

The Board of Alderman of the City of Plantersville, Grimes County, Texas, met in regular session on Monday, June 8, 2020 at 7:32 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, Alderman – Frank Dean, and Alderman – Otis Greenwood, Jr..*

Thus, constituting a quorum:

Visitors: Ashley Hill, TxDOT Engineer, Bryan Office and Johnny McNally, Chamber of Commerce

1. Mayor Karen Hale called the meeting to order at 7:32 p.m. with notation that the meeting began late as Town Hall facility not available, the above individuals were here on time at 7:00 p.m. The invocation by Alderman Greenwood and Pledge of Allegiance recited.
2. Motion was made by Alderman Marilyn Bettes for the presentations of TxDOT Engineer Ashley Hill and Chamber of Commerce, Johnny McNally be moved ahead to item 3 and 4. Alderman Allphin seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
3. TxDOT Engineer Ashley Hill presented the report and status of the project SH 105/FM1774. She had a layout with the project details with the changes made with turn lane that will allow a left turn without the added danger of stopping all traffic. The project delays continue with the water issues as the specialty fabric did not accomplish the goal to stabilize the roadway. The current alternative method is to place larger culverts and/or cut deeper ditches. Mayor Hale advised that this project has had many delays and is very frustrating for the citizens and those traveling through the city. The safety issues with the current traffic signal and intersection should be addressed as soon as possible. Also, the landowners on the construction route that are still contending with the black plastic protective sheeting and unable to mow, trim and maintain their property is stressful as this has been in place since 2014. The Mayor recommended Ms. Hill take notice of the intersection and traffic signal when leaving tonight in order to see the lane divisions and oncoming traffic as it heads north and south on FM 1774; with attention to the west and eastbound lanes with turns from SH 105. Mayor Hale asked for an improvement to provide a safer traffic signal/lane assignment. Ms. Hill advised that the project should begin in July and possible completion date of 2021. The driveway to access the businesses on the south side of SH 105 at the intersection has been leased to the landowner, <sup>INDIVIDUAL</sup> The responsibility for the maintenance and all legal issues. SH 249/FM 1774 Project was discussed with the information of widening of FM 1774 from the current construction heading north. Alderman Bettes, Mayton and Greenwood advised the natural springs are along FM 1774 also and should be noted for the construction to avoid the same delays. Mayor Hale and the Aldermen thanked Engineer Hill for her attendance and presentation. CORRECTED
4. The current happenings in Navasota and Grimes County were reported by Johnny McNally. Mr. McNally explained that with the COVID 19 virus and the major impact it made to the local businesses in Navasota and Grimes County. The chamber had provided information to the businesses regarding the programs being provided with federal funds available. The City of Navasota also had a program available and utilized for city businesses with the funds collected for economic development purposes. There has been interest in economic development in Grimes County even during this period from investors and corporations. Recovery plans have been made for the Navasota Freedom Festival with a

on July 4, 2020. Information is being provided about the events via newspaper, social media and postcards. Mayor Hale and Aldermen thanked Mr. McNally for his continued hard work and his report to the City.

5. The minutes were read and corrected by Mayor Pro Tem Kristina K. Mayton. Her name was omitted from the March 09, 2020 title heading. This was corrected and approved.
6. Mayor Hale advised there were no invoices or payables at this time.
7. There were no public comments as no public in attendance.
8. Mayor Hale noted that the Plantersville Cemetery Sign had been received and was installed on FM 1774.
9. Mayor Hale received notification letter and email from Grimes County Road and Bridge, Mr. Harry Walker regarding the Interlocal Agreement with the City of Plantersville. The upcoming renewal of Interlocal Services with GCR&B will require the City of Plantersville to purchase materials and the GCR&B will provide the installation and equipment for said road repairs and maintenance as is the normal agreement with other cities in Grimes County. This will begin with the new fiscal year that goes into place October 1, 2020. Mayor Hale advised that most of our roads are state highways and maintained by the state. Alderman Marilyn Bettes asked if additional information of costs be obtained before any said service or repair. Mayor Hale advised that an estimate request in advance of any road work and/or maintenance planned that will incur material costs.
10. The Cybersecurity Training HB 3834 is required to complete a training session. TML advised that the elected officials will need to complete. Mayor Pro Tem Kristina K. Mayton advised that she had taken this class and it was available online. Mayor Hale will get additional details and report at the next meeting.
11. The Ordinance relating to telecommunication service of exemption was discussed with information obtained from TML. Mayor Hale presented the sample ordinance. The sales tax collected from telecommunication providers currently remitted to the state comptroller but is not allocated to the city. This is not an additional tax as the taxes are already being collected. Alderman Dean requested more in-depth clarification to confirm no additional tax to the citizens. Alderman Kimberly Allphin asked for the Ordinance issue be tabled at this time with more research to confirm that this ordinance does not negatively affect the citizens. Mayor Hale will provide finding at the next monthly meeting.
12. The Disaster COVID 19 Declaration was reviewed by Mayor Hale and the state of disaster that was declared for the City of Plantersville. The new declaration would be in effect until rescinded. Mayor Hale advised that this was based on the local Emergency Management Team and TML so that if funds were to become available, the disaster would be on file for the city and residents/businesses. The declaration will follow the stated declaration of Gov. Abbott's with the restrictions imposed based on the Texas requirements. A motion was made by Alderman Marilyn Bettes to reissue the Disaster Declarations COVID 19 with the suggested changes and seconded by Alderman Otis Greenwood, Jr. Motion carried, none opposed.
13. Discussion of the state requirement when there is no election because of unopposed candidates of a resolution stating this and the confirmation of candidates as elected officials. Alderman Allphin moved that a Resolution Declaring the Unopposed Candidates be completed for Marilyn Bettes, Frank Dean

and Kristina K. Mayton. Alderman Greenwood seconded the motion. Motion carried, none opposed. Resolution completed for each and recorded.

14. Billboard and Signage discussion was held for signs in the city limits and permits and/or approvals. Mayor Hale reported that signage is under the Beautification Program of the State of Texas. Cities can place some requirements in coordination with TxDOT and the Beautification Program. She will update as the referral person was out of the office at this time and had not returned her call. Alderman Dean advised a permit fee can be simply based on the size. The larger signs of approximately 10 x 10 or larger. The highways are controlled by TxDOT and the approval is through them with their codes and guidelines. Additional research of similar permits/fees to be obtained and presented at future meeting.
15. Alderman Allphin reported the damage that was being done by commercial heavy trucks and equipment on County Road 311. Citizens had reported damage to ditches, mailboxes, shoulders and potholes with the new construction of pipeline pump station. Alderman Dean reviewed infrastructure is required to enforce compliance with any type of permit or fees for oversized trucks and/or equipment. Alderman Mayton recommended contacting Commissioner Dobyanski as he had stated previously that he was maintain photos of before and after road issues with commercial construction in areas. Mayor Hale also advised that the county has the enforcement with GC Weights and Measures that might be of assistance.
16. Community Interest Items – Alderman Bettes mentioned that she had heard of local development of new RV Parks being built in the city limits and close to the Montgomery County line. She also mentioned that she had been on a tour of SH 249 with Williams Brothers representative.
17. No executive Session/Closed Meeting Needed
18. No Action Necessary
19. Meeting Adjourned at meeting at 9:22 p.m.