

# Regular Meeting Minutes

January 20, 2022

1. **Call to Order @ 6:00**
2. **Pledge of Allegiance/Invocation**
  - a. The United States Flag
  - b. The Texas State flag: " Honor the Texas flag, I pledge allegiance to thee, Texas, one state under God, one and indivisible."
3. **Roll Call – All Present**
4. **Conflict of Interest Statement - None**
5. **Citizen Comments:**
  - Dale Darby – Attorney- Concerns on PIR that are not answered. CPA – Look into how the books are being done.
6. **Report**
  - a. **Utility Innovations – Charlie & Marty Adams**
    - Charlie explains who they are and their experience in the water and sewer utility. Mrs. Marty clarifying the correct on call number. States that Councilman Merendino put her home phone number on Facebook. She emphasizes that the home phone number is not always answered, so the on-call phone number is the best one to be answered. They work by work orders.
    - Councilman Smith – Who sets the fee on call-out fee.
    - Councilman Merendino – What happens when sewer backs up? What does the Utility company charge?
    - Nancy Larousse- How do they check the water quality? How often is it checked?
    - Charlie Adams explains how the sampling works.
    - Dale Darby – What does the monthly tests, test for?
    - Bud Merendino- How do you feel about the Chlorine injection system that we have?
    - Charlie- explains that he would use sodium chloride if he were to install a new system vs. what we have now.
    - Bud Merendino – Would you advise switching over to that system
    - Charlie – It would be something that would need to be further investigated. When Danny was here, they were looking into a 5-year plan
7. **Review/Approve Consent Items – Approved - M/M/2/C – Councilwoman Mitchell/Councilman Emmons**
  - a. Financial Report for City of Bevil Oaks
  - b. Financial Report for Public Works
  - c. Report by Utility Specialties
  - d. Previous Meeting Minutes
8. **Review/Discussion/Approve Action Items – Approved - M/M/2/C – Councilman Emmons/Councilwoman Vautrot**
  - Mayor Emmons – Public Management is the only company that turned in a bid.
  - Bud Merendino – Do we have time to go out for bid again to see if more people turn in bids

- **Dru Montgomery** - Explains why we need a Grant Administrator and why there was probably not more people to turn in a bid.
- **Bud Merendino** – thought that we had until 2026 to spend it
- **Dru Montgomery** – Explains that what he means by we need to hurry and get a Grant Administrator and get the funds designated to projects because the projects that are occurring right now are the type of projects that the ARPA funds are designated to.

**9. Adjourn Regular Meeting @ 6:40**

**10. Executive Session**

- a. The City Council may convene in Executive Session to discuss confidential information about City personnel. The City Attorney may be consulted on issues pertaining to potential legal matters and specific to confidential personnel decisions/evaluations/suggestions.

**11. Call regular meeting back to order @ 7:06**

**12. Discussion**

- a. **Councilman Merendino**- will come back to it if it is not discussed or he has questions about what his report was over
- b. **Councilman Mullins** – explains that there have been issues at the sewer plant with the new pumps that we just installed. Explains the process that himself and Sabrenna went through to get the issue resolved. The pump that was causing the issue was pulled. Hahn equipment was able to repair the two of the pumps that they had already. Now there are 3 pumps installed and we will have 2 spare pumps once the other ones are repaired.
  - Explains the expenses that the City has had to spend to repair everything at the sewer plant with the pumps.
  - **Councilman Mullins**- He would like the City to form committee's. States that our biggest issues are drainage and water rates. Thinks that it would be beneficial to fresh eyes on the issues.
  - **Mayor Emmons** – Tells Councilman Merendino that she thinks that it would be beneficial for him to investigate the drainage. States that she would like him to go to meetings with her with the County, DD6 and the County Commissioner.
  - **To Cheryl Mitchell** would like her to be over the water rates.
  - **Mayor Emmons** – tells the Council that she would like all of them to make a report over something.
  - **Councilman Merendino**- states that when he and the Mayor went to the Sewer Plant, there wasn't much consumption in there. States that the City received a grant years ago to smoke test the sewer lines and that the City was supposed to smoke test yearly, but there was only one smoke test done. Explains that the problem with the sewer system is that citizens need to cover their clean outs.
  - **Councilman Mullins** – Explains that some of our problem is the items that are being flushed.
  - **Councilman Emmons** – FEMA was going to give us funding to cut out specific sections of each road. Michael Miguad with Public Management said that we should apply for capped improvement through FEMA so that we can spend the funding however we need to spread it out. States that it will take 60-90 days to get an answer from FEMA on the capped improvement project. It will be around April when the project is ready to go

out for bid. Goes over the construction drawing that was sent to him by the Engineer. Goes over what the material is going to be.

- Mayor Emmons- states that the City has told them that we will not use more than \$20,000 out of our road fund.

#### **11. Report**

- **Mayor Emmons:**
- **City Hall and Civic Center-** Got Blueline to comply with everything that City was asking. Explains that Brad Scurria from TDEM was under the impression that the new buildings were already built. We also spoke with the insurance agent about the insurance claim that was made. The total amount that the City received for the buildings is \$118,741. The claim for the contents of the old City Hall and Civic Center was never filed. We do have some insurance funds other than the check that we have received from the insurance company.
- Explains that there is some things that we could put up for alternates bids. Blueline suggested some items that could be used for alternates.
- We don't have a Grant Administrator for the City Hall and Civic Center. The Attorney was over this grant.
- Councilwoman Mitchell – when she met with the attorney that he told her that he was the only one that had access to the FEMA portal.
- Mayor Emmons – states that Brad Scurria would be getting her access to the FEMA portal
- Mayor Emmons- Lift Station grant - they are working on the lift station on Riverbend right now. The lift station on River Oaks, is not as far because there was a manhole that had to be relocated because it was in the way of where they were building the elevated tower.
- Mayor Emmons – Elevation Grant – The first round of houses is almost complete. There are 5 people that have not responded back to whether they want their house to be elevated or not.
- Golf Cart – Suggests that the golf cart goes out for bid. Suggest that a gas allowance for Sabrenna would be preferred. Council can get together later to discuss that.
- Meeting with the County Commissioner- Met with the County Commissioner several times about getting the meeting set up with the County and DD6 about our drainage. There will be a town hall meeting in February with all of them.
- Town Hall Meeting for the Sherriff's office to come out and do a report on animal control.
- Charollette -City's CPA- said that she can come to the next Council meeting
- Councilman Smith – There is a major issue with people running stop signs. There needs to be something done. We need to install speed bumps or something because Jefferson County can't be out here all the time.

- Councilman Emmons – Speed bump- the speed bump that is installed now is what I was allowed to do and I was only allowed to install the one.
  - Councilman Smith – The speedbump that is there now is not tall enough.
  - Councilman Merendino – Has spoken with someone before about hiring an off-duty cop.
  - Councilman Smith – Tickets would be a great thing but having something else that would make them stop.
- 12. Adjourn Meeting @ 8:33 pm M/M/2/C – Councilwoman Vautrot/Councilwoman Mitchell**



**Mayor Emmons**

Attest:   
**Doug Mullins, City Secretary**