

CITY OF SMITHVILLE

January 14, 2019

COUNCIL MEETING

Present: Mayor Scott Saunders Jr. Councilmembers, Bill Gordon, Joanna Morgan, Rhonda Janak, Cassie Barrientos, City Manager Robert Tamble. Not present Bennie Rooks.

**Open Meeting:** Call to order: Mayor Saunders called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

*Invocation:* Mike Murphy gave the invocation.

*Pledge of Allegiance:* Councilwoman Barrientos led the pledge.

*Recognition/Awards/Proclamations/Announcements/Presentations:* Mayor presented a proclamation for "MLK Day". Mayor presented a proclamation for "It's Time Texas". Mayor read a pledge for "It's Time Texas City Council's Pledge". Mayor presented William Gordon a certificate for representation of the City of Smithville at the "CAPCOG" organization. April Daniels gave an update on the "Way-Finding Signs" for downtown.

*Approval of the minutes from the December 10, 2018 Council Meeting and Public Hearing:* Councilman Gordon moved to approve of the minutes as written. Councilwoman Janak seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Hear recommendation from Planning and Zoning on a Special Use Permit for 107 Bishop, Burleson Addition, Block 39, Lot 5, Owner- Charla & Holly Wood - Brian Riewe said the P&Z recommended approving the Special Use permit.

**Public Hearing:**

Hear Citizens Comments on a Special Use Permit for 107 Bishop, Burleson Addition, Block 39, Lot 5, Owner- Charla & Holly Wood: No one signed up to speak for or against the request.

**Open Meeting:**

Discussion and Action on a Special Use Permit for 107 Bishop, Burleson Addition, Block 39, Lot 5, Owner- Charla & Holly Wood: Councilwoman Morgan made a motion to approve the Special Use Permit. Councilman Gordon seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Discussion and Action on a License Agreement for an Encroachment onto City Property at 105 5th Ave., owner-Britanie Olvera: Ms. Olvera is requesting a license agreement for an encroachment onto City property to allow construction of an ornamental fence. Councilwoman Morgan made a motion to approve the agreement for an Encroachment. Councilman Gordon seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Discussion and Action on an amendment to the City Code of Ordinances, Chapter 13 Utilities, Article 13.600 Electric, Sec. 13.609 New Installation and/or Upgrade of Electrical Service  
Discussion: All new residential and commercial electric service installations and/or upgrades will require underground connection unless circumstances prevent such connections to be made in a code compliant and/or safe manner. Once installed, the City will maintain and repair all electric utility connections within our easement like we currently do with overhead lines. Meter loop installation and/or repair will remain the customer's responsibility. The installation of electric services underground will increase performance reliability as such lines are not subject to electrical short from fallen limbs. Similarly, the pad mount transformers are enclosed and protect the electrical circuit from squirrels. Councilwoman Morgan made a motion to the amendment to the City Code of Ordinances. Councilwoman Janak seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Discussion and Action on a Resolution setting the rates for New Installation and/or Upgrade of Electrical Service: The majority of municipalities in our area require utility customers to pay 100% of the cost for electric service installation, connection, and/or upgrade. Historically, the City has paid for all new connections and/or electrical service upgrades within the City easement up to the property line for residential and commercial customers. This is a cost that is very difficult to forecast and absorb in any given budget year---especially, when dealing with

commercial properties. The typical cost for installing a new 200 Amp electrical service for a residential home is approximately \$1,500. As such, it is my recommendation that the customer pay COST+10% to cover the equipment, mobilization, and installation of new electrical service or upgrade. Councilwoman Janak made a motion to approve the Resolution. Councilman Gordon seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Discussion and Action on a Resolution Calling for the May 4, 2019 Municipal General Election: Approving this resolution is required for holding Councilmember elections in May. Three places will be on the ballot: Place 1 - currently held by Bennie Rooks, Place 2 - currently held by Rhonda Graham, and Place 3 - currently held by Bill Gordon. New and incumbent candidates may file beginning January 16, 2019. The deadline to file is February 15, 2019 at 5:00 pm. Councilwoman Barrientos made motion to approve the Resolution Calling for the May 4, 2019 Municipal Election. Councilwoman Janak seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Discussion and Action on the approval of the new Electronic Voting Machines used by Bastrop County Elections Division, the ES&S's EVS 5.4.0.0: The County purchased upgraded electronic voting machines and the State requires the voting entities approve the new equipment. Councilwoman Janak made a motion to approve the new Electronic Voting Machines. Councilwoman Barrientos seconded and the motion passed unanimously

*Discussion and Action on the Financial Report:* Councilwoman Janak made a motion to approve the Financial Report. Councilwoman Barrientos seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

*Adjourn:* at 6:43 p.m.

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Scott Saunders Jr., Mayor

Attest:

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Jennifer Lynch, Asst. City Secretary