

CITY OF SMITHVILLE
SEPTEMBER 14, 2020
COUNCIL MEETING

Present: Mayor Scott Saunders Jr, Councilmembers, Bill Gordon, Joanna Morgan, Cassie Barrientos, Sharon Foerster, and City Manager Robert Tamble. Not Present Jason Hewitt. This meeting was a zoom Conference call.

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

Invocation: Mike Murphy gave the invocation.

Recognition/Awards/Proclamations/Announcements/Presentations: Mayor Saunders read a proclamation on "Golf Cart Town", "Emergency Preparedness Month" and "Constitution Week".

Approval of the minutes from August 10, 2020, Council Meeting and Public Hearing, August 26, 2020, Special Called meeting & Budget Workshop, and September 9, 2020, Special Called Meeting, Tax Rate Public Hearing, Budget Public Hearing, and Budget Workshop: Councilwoman Barrientos moved to approve all of the minutes. Councilman Gordon seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Hear recommendation from Planning and Zoning on:

- a) A fence variance at 154 FM 2571, Tobin Addition, Block 5 Lot 11, owner Linda. D. Allen. P&Z Chair Brian said the P&Z recommends approving the variance.
- b) A minor re-plat at 1400 NE 7th Street A46 Lomas, L., Acres 2.0002 (Riverdale) Owner James & Patsy Welch Agent Mitchell Jameson P&Z Chair Brian Said the P&Z recommends approving the minor re-plat.

Public Hearing:

- a) A fence variance at 154 FM 2571, Tobin Addition, Block 5 Lot 11, owner Linda. D. Allen. No one signed up to speak for or against this item
- b) A minor re-plat at 1400 NE 7th Street A46 Lomas, L., Acres 2.0002 (Riverdale) Owner James & Patsy Welch Agent Mitchell Jameson. No one signed up to speak for or against this item.
- c) Smithville Economic Development Strategic/Resiliency Plan. Sarah O'Brien spoke and said she was not informed properly on this item even though she was on the Economic Development committee.

Open Meeting:

Council Discussion and Action on:

- a) A fence variance at 154 FM 2571, Tobin Addition, Block 5 Lot 11, owner Linda. D. Allen. Mrs. Allen spoke about her fence and asked to keep the 8' foot fence for her privacy. Councilwoman Foerster said she didn't think it met our variance criteria. Councilwoman Morgan said she doesn't like approving something that was already done. Morgan doesn't want to set a precedence. Councilwoman Foerster made a motion to deny the variance. Councilwoman Barrientos seconded and the motion passed unanimously.
- b) A minor re-plat at 1400 NE 7th Street A46 Lomas, L., Acres 2.0002 (Riverdale) Owner James & Patsy Welch Agent Mitchell Jameson. Councilwoman Morgan made a motion to approve the minor re-plat. Councilwoman Foerster seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Citizen Comments on: None

Discussion and Action on a License Agreement for an Encroachment onto City Property at 304/306 Main Street for an awning, owner-Erin Earley, CLEQ, LLC. Councilman Gordon made a motion to approve the encroachment. Councilwoman Morgan seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Citizen Comments on: Pam Mundo, April Daniels, and Sarah O'Brien spoke.

Discussion and Action on the Smithville Economic Development Strategic/Resiliency Plan. Pam Mundo of Mundo & Associates will be providing an overview of the Economic Development Community Resiliency Strategic Plan for Smithville that was developed through a \$30k grant from the Texas Department of Agriculture. The Plan offers proposed recommendations and actions resulting from stakeholder input, examination of previous plans, and a review of the current state of economic development policies and codes. The Plan is a living document and offers a blueprint for project implementation that includes tasks, action item owners, and realistic timelines designed to help Smithville develop a thriving economic and community-oriented future. Following the prescribed plan of action or doing any of the recommended tasks is not required. However, Mundo & Associates have found in their experience that these activities and resources are extremely useful in moving small communities towards their envisioned economic future. Adopting/accepting the plan is a condition of the TDA grant and will provide a resource tool to help guide Smithville to navigate the economic development opportunities going forward. Councilwoman Morgan made a motion to approve the plan as a tool for the City to us. Councilwoman Foerster seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Citizen Comments on: Tom Etheredge spoke

Discussion and Action on the Smithville Residents for a Quality Lifestyle Plan: Ted LeVieux and Bernadette Noll represented a group of citizens who would like the Council to consider additional/alternative ideas for community economic development and growth. The group's mission is to advocate for an enhanced quality of life and community in Smithville, by organizing and supporting efforts that strengthen our community bonds, preserve the unique character of Smithville, protect and celebrate our natural environment, allow for and

encourage artistic expression and experience, honor the history of the town, and build a solid, sustainable economy based on a community -first mindset. Councilwoman Foerster thought they should go to the chamber and share their ideas, participate, and come together.

Councilwoman Morgan made a motion to accept this plan as an additional tool. Councilman Gordon seconded and the vote was:

For: Gordon, Morgan, Barrientos

Against: Foerster

Citizen Comments on: None

Discussion and Action on an Ordinance adopting the 2020/2021 Fiscal Year Budget. - Our projected FY20/21 BUDGET (revenues and expenditures) is currently BALANCED at \$12,400,439. This is \$271,800 greater than our FY19/20 budget of \$12,128,639 and represents a 2.2% INCREASE in projected spending in support of city-wide services, projects, plans, and initiatives. Councilman Gordon made a motion to approve the Ordinance. Councilwoman Morgan seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Citizen Comments on: None

Discussion and Action on an Ordinance adopting the 2020/2021 Fiscal Year Tax Rate - Recommend setting 2020/2021 AD VALOREM TAX RATE of 0.54906 cents per \$100 valuation --- a DECREASE of approximately 0.02 cents from our current rate of \$0.56902. The assessed property values in Smithville increased by 5.9% this year which will bring in an additional \$130k of revenue to the General Fund to help pay for drainage improvements and street repairs. The impact on homeowners is an additional \$3 per year based on an average home value in Smithville of \$169k. Councilman Gordon made a motion to approve the Ordinance. Councilwoman Morgan seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Citizen Comments on: None

Discussion and Action to update a Resolution and add Action Item(s) to the 2016 Bastrop County Hazard Mitigation plan on behalf of the City of Smithville: The GLO CDBG-MIT grant (for which the City is applying) requires the identification of city-wide flood mitigation projects in an adopted plan. The proposed projects are represented below:

AREA-WIDE MITIGATION ACTIONS AND IMPLEMENTATION										
TABLE 19-2.										
Action No.	Title	Description	Mitigation Action Ranking	Action Type	Applicable Goals	Responsible Department	Estimated Cost	Potential Funding Sources	Timeline in Months	Benefit
6	City-wide Drainage Improvement to Mitigate Flooding	(1) Upgrade / improve drainage on NE 2nd and NW 2nd Street from Gresham to Hwy 95 South to mitigate repetitive flood loss (2) Construct regional detention pond between Loop 230 East and Woodress Lane to capture sheetflow from LMI area before dispersing into Willow Creek (3) Construct regional detention pond in LMI area (RVICS, Gentry, Anderson) to mitigate repetitive flood loss. (4) Expand SE 2nd drainage ditch and line with concrete to provide additional stormwater runoff capacity from LMI area to Gazley Creek. (5) Construct 60" stormwater line in Byrne / Baker subdivision additions to the Colorado River to alleviate flooding potential.	1	CDBG-MIT	G1, G5, G6	City Administration	\$10,000,000 - \$30,000,000	Federal & State Grants	Long Term 36-48 Months	High
7	Expand Willow Creek Wastewater Treatment Facility	(1) Expand wastewater treatment facilities to provide additional capacity and prevent sewer backflow during flood events	2	CDBG-MIT	G1, G4, G5, G6	City Administration	\$3,000,000 - \$10,000,000	Federal & State Grants	Long Term 36-48 Months	High

Councilwoman Foerster made a motion to approve the Resolution. Councilwoman Barrientos seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Citizen Comments on: None

Discussion and Action on a Resolution authorizing the submission of a Community Development Block Grant-Mitigation (CDBG-MIT) Project Application to the General Land Office (GLO) and authorizing the City Manager to act as the City's Executive Officer and Authorized Representative in all manners pertaining to the City's participation in the GLO CDBG-MIT Program: Approving this resolution will authorize the City Manager to act as the City's Executive Officer and Authorized Representative in all manners pertaining to the City's participation in the GLO CDBG-MIT Program. Councilwoman Barrientos made a motion to approve the Resolution. Councilwoman Foerster seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Citizen Comments on: None

Discussion and Action to Adopt a Citizen Participation Plan for the General Land Office CDBG-MIT Grant Program: Adopting a Citizen Participation Plan for the GLO CDBG-MIT grant program will help increase the City of Smithville's application "score" and certify that implementing the plan will encourage citizen participation by persons who are residents of blighted areas, by residents in low-and moderate-income neighborhoods, or targeted revitalization areas. This is a competitive grant and the City needs to take every action it can to maximize our point score while ensuring citizen participation during the process. Councilwoman Morgan made a motion to approve the plan. Councilwoman Barrientos seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Citizen Comments on: None

Discussion and Action to Adopt a Financial Management Policy for the General Land Office CDBG-MIT Grant Program: Adopting a Financial Management Policy for the GLO CDBG-MIT grant program will help increase the City of Smithville's application "score" and certify there are documented policies and procedures for financial planning, budget amendments, non-routine expenditures, inter-departmental transfers, debt service, accounting, auditing, and fixed asset management, etc. This is a competitive grant and the City needs to take every action it can to maximize our point score while ensuring citizen participation during the process. Councilwoman Morgan made a motion to approve the plan. Councilman Gordon seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Citizen Comment on: None

Discussion and Action on an appointment to the General Assembly CAPCOG (Capital Area Council of Governments) Board: Councilmember Bill Gordon is currently serving on the CAPCOG Board and would like to continue as Smithville's representative. Councilman Morgan made a motion to appoint Bill Gordon. Councilwoman Foerster seconded and the vote was:

For: Foerster, Barrientos, Morgan

Abstained: Gordon

Citizen Comments on: None

Discussion and Action on an Ordinance Amending Chapter 14 - Zoning, Section 4, "Standards for Particular Uses", paragraph 4.1.4, "Placement of Manufactured Homes" to remove "Mixed

Residential": Amending this ordinance will remedy a typo in the previously approved and released document to ensure safety standards and requirements (e.g., tie downs, underpinning, foundation runners, etc.) are applicable to manufactured homes in areas zoned Mixed Residential. Councilwoman Foerster made a motion to approve Ordinance. Councilman Gordon seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Citizen Comments on: Sarah O'Brien

Discussion and Action on an Ordinance Amending Chapter 14 - Zoning, Section 2, "Zoning Categories", paragraph 2.2.1 (C), "Single-Family Residential District - Dimensions" by adding 65-foot setback of accessory buildings from the front property line: Amending this ordinance will remedy a typo (omission) in the previously approved and released document. Councilwoman Barrientos made a motion to approve the 2019/2020 tax rate. Councilwoman Foerster seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Discussion and Action on the Financial Report: Councilman Gordon made a motion to approve the Financial Report. Councilwoman Foerster seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Adjourn: at 8:20 p.m.

Scott Saunders Jr., Mayor

Attest:

Jennifer Lynch, Asst. City Secretary