

Lavon City Council Meeting Minutes



July 20, 2010

I. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 7:04 P.M. BY MAYOR MARTIN

Members Present: Mayor Norma Martin
Council Member Place 1, Chris Kane, Mayor Pro-Tem
Council Member Place 2, Deborah Nabors
Council Member Place 4, Aaron Heatley

Members Late: Council Member Place 5, Charles Teske

Members Absent: Council Member Place 3, Gary Meeks

Staff Present: City Manager, Mike Jones
City Secretary, Linda Ardis
City Services Coordinator, Jennifer Wolfe

Commission and
Board Members: EDCB Member Paul Lemmon

II. MAYOR MARTIN TO LEAD THE COUNCIL AND VISITORS IN THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

Mayor Martin led the City Council and visitors in the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. INVOCATION

Council Member Heatley led the invocation.

IV. ITEMS OF INTEREST/CITY COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS

Members of City Council have the opportunity to notify others of community events, functions and other activities. There will also be an opportunity to briefly comment on City Council business, City operations, projects and other items coming before the City Council.

Mayor Martin informed the Council from August 1st thru August 14th there will be a Back to School Roundup for either school supplies and/or cash donations for the Nesmith Elementary School children. Sponsors and drop off locations include Big Daddy's BBQ, First Bank Lavon and Grand Heritage.

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On Thursday, July 29th, Mayor Martin said there would be an Open House from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. and a Public Hearing at 7:00 p.m. at the City Hall in Wylie. TxDot will hold the Public Hearing pertaining to the widening of SH 78 from Spring Creek in Wylie to SH 205 in Lavon.

V. CONSENT AGENDA

A. City Council to Consider and Act on approval of the consent agenda:

1. July 6, 2010 City Council Meeting Minutes. *

Council Member Nabors reported the following errors in the Minutes:

1. Page 3, Item A, second sentence add "Teske" after "Member"
2. Page 4, Item B, strike first paragraph
3. Page 4, Item B, second paragraph, second sentence needs to be re-written to determine what was cost prohibitive

Motion: Council Member Kane, "I move we table this item until the next meeting."

Second: Council Member Nabors

In Favor: Mayor Pro-Tem Kane, Council Member Nabors, Council Member Heatley and Council Member Teske

Opposed: None

Abstained: None

Motion: Passed

VI. PUBLIC RECOGNITION

None

VII. CITIZENS' COMMENTS

Citizens, who wish to address the Council, may discuss matters not on the agenda and who have not previously expressed to the Council or City Hall a desire to discuss such matters. The only response from the Council can be to request these items to be placed on a future agenda for action.

None

VIII. PUBLIC HEARING

None

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IX. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

A. City Council to discuss employee health plan rate increase. (Jones/Ardis)

City Manager Jones told the Council this was a continuation of the last Council meeting's discussion. The City was told by our health plan carrier that there would be a 26% increase in the City's coverage of the employees. The Council had looked at several options to decrease the increase. The Council had said they would like to hear from some of the employees. City Manager Jones then called on Chief of Police Jason Rector.

Chief Rector and Lt. Curtis both shared with the Council their thoughts concerning the City's current carrier. Since 2008, both men have had personal health care needs and the quality of service they received was very good. Chief Rector felt unless the City was willing to throw more money into the budget for more coverage, it would be hard to improve on the level of service.

Public Works Director Kevin Dudley said that he lives in Josephine and their Council had put their insurance for the employees out to bid. The City of Josephine chose TML-IEBP, which is the City of Lavon's current carrier.

Mayor Martin expressed her feelings that the City staff is an asset to the City. The Council agreed stating they only wanted to make sure the staff was satisfied with the insurance coverage they had.

Council Member Kane asked if the proposed budget reflected the increase. City Manager Jones said the 26% was already added into the cost of insurance for the FY 2010-2011 Budget.

B. City Council to discuss Budget Process. (Jones/Ardis)

City Manager Jones asked if the item could be moved to the end of the meeting because of the length of his presentation. Mayor Martin continued on with the next item.

C. City Council to discuss City of Lavon Logo. (Mayor)

Mayor Martin told the Council the EDC Board planned to print a brochure and she would like to get a City Logo as soon as possible for them to use. Council Member Nabors had turned in a logo for the Lavon Logo Contest held this past Spring. Due to other events going on at that time, the Logo Contest had to be cancelled. Mayor Martin had visited with Council Member Nabors and asked her to address the Council.

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Council Member Nabors passed out a handout on City Mottos and Taglines which represent what a city is about. She told the Council that she felt before Lavon could develop a Logo or Tagline, they needed to develop a Branding Process considering the target audience that will see it, what the City needs to overcome, what the City wants to be in the future and developing the City's position as a whole.

The Mayor and Council agreed. The Mayor said the EDCB could use the City Seal for their brochure. She suggested putting a committee together and asked if Council Member Nabors would help with the project.

D. City Council to discuss boundary/welcome markers for the City. (Mayor)

Mayor Martin said this was another project along SH 78 that she would like to see accomplished. The Mayor suggested tying this in with the committee to be formed for the City Logo. City Manager Jones suggested that first the City should come up with the Branding Process. The Mayor and Council agreed.

E. City Council to discuss internet service and providers for the City. ((Mayor)

The Mayor told the Council that many hours of research had been dedicated to trying to find an internet service and provider for the City. She introduced Paul Lemon, a member of the EDC Board in Lavon, who had been asked to be the lead on this project for the EDC Board.

Mr. Lemmon reported he had talked with Verizon, ATT, Time Warner and others concerning the feasibility of bringing the internet into Lavon. At this time, they are not planning on doing this any time soon, but he checks back with them on a monthly basis.

City Manager Jones and Mayor Martin both talked about Tier One. City Manager Jones told the Council that Tier One installed a dedicated access point that has tripled the speed at City Hall with no loss of connectivity since being installed. Mayor Martin has volunteered to have Tier One install a tower in her back yard that hopefully will eliminate some of the dead zone problems in the Lavon area.

Citizen Ken Willis voiced his opinion that he was not pleased with Tier One and their service. Tier One pulled his service and he was told he would not be offered their service again.

The problem of finding an internet service provider for the City has not been solved yet. However, the City continues to look for a solution that will resolve this issue.

X. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION AND ACTION

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A. City Council to Consider and Act on a new contract for Solid Waste Service. (Jones)

City Manager Jones recommended that the Council approve the new contract for Solid Waste Service. Council Member Heatley asked if the homeowner could choose the size of the recycle containers. City Manager Jones replied according to the contract, only the small container was available unless the customer was willing to pay more for the larger one.

Motion: Council Member Nabors, "I move we accept a new contract with IESI for Solid Waste Services."

Second: Mayor Pro-Tem Kane

In Favor: Mayor Pro-Tem Kane, Council Member Nabors, Council Member Heatley and Council Member Teske

Opposed: None

Abstained: None

Motion: Passed

B. City Council to Consider and Act on an Interlocal Purchasing Agreement with Parker County. (Jones)

Chief of Police Jason Rector said this would enable the City to obtain better price options when purchasing police vehicles. He recommended the Council approve the Purchasing Agreement with Parker County.

Motion: Council Member Nabors, "I move we accept the Interlocal Purchasing Agreement with Parker County."

Second: Mayor Pro-Tem Kane

In Favor: Mayor Pro-Tem Kane, Council Member Nabors, Council Member Heatley and Council Member Teske

Opposed: None

Abstained: None

Motion: Passed

C. City Council to Consider and Act on a lease for office space and City Hall. (Jones)

The Council vigorously discussed options for office space and the City Hall. A recess was taken at 8:17 p.m. and the meeting resumed at 8:22 p.m.

Several counter offers were suggested. However, the Council declined to approve an official counter offer. They finally asked the City Manager to make a counter offer

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and to ask the property owner to come to the next City Council Meeting and discuss the matter with the Council.

Motion: Council Member Heatley, "I move we table this item until the next Council Meeting."

Second: Council Member Nabors

In Favor: Mayor Pro-Tem Kane, Council Member Nabors, Council Member Heatley and Council Member Teske

Opposed: None

Abstained: None

Motion: Passed

IX. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

B. City Council to discuss Budget Process. (Jones)

Mayor Martin went back to the skipped item. City Manager Jones passed out a handout on the "City of Lavon Budgeting Process 2010". He discussed the Budget Officer, the Filing of the Proposed Budget with the City Secretary, the Budget Hearing and date and the City Council Action on the Budget.

City Manager Jones then handed out copies of the "2010 Truth-In-Taxation" which is a guide for setting tax rates for taxing units other than schools. He gave a brief overview of the handout and suggested the Council finish the booklet at their convenience.

The City Manager concluded by telling the Council that the City is waiting to receive the Effective Tax Rate Calculations (ETR) from Collin County. These figures reflect the previous year's tax rate, the effective tax rate for this year and a roll-back tax calculation. He told the Council he was hopeful to have these figures before the next meeting.

XI. SETTING FUTURE MEETINGS AND AGENDAS

Council Members and staff may request items to be placed on a future agenda or request a special meeting be called. Each request that passes by a majority vote will be placed on the schedule by the City Secretary.

The Mayor reminded the City Secretary to place the two tabled items back on the Agenda for the next meeting. She also asked for a discussion item for the FY 2010-2011 Budget to be placed on the August 3rd Agenda.

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XII. MAYOR MARTIN TO ADJOURN THE LAVON CITY COUNCIL MEETING.

Mayor Martin adjourned the City Council Meeting at 9:09 p.m.

Duly passed and approved on this 4th day of August, 2010.

Mayor Norma Martin

Attest:

Linda Ardis, City Secretary