

**MINEOLA CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING - MINEOLA CITY HALL
JULY 23, 2019, 5:30 P.M.**

MEMBERS PRESENT Mayor Kevin White, Council Members Novada Bigham, Jayne Lankford, Sue Jones, Mitchell Tuck, Polly Jones and Greg Hollen

MEMBERS ABSENT None

STAFF PRESENT Mercy Rushing, Cindy Karch, William Crump, David Madsen, Doris Newman, Charles Bittner, Curt Myers, and Lynn Kitchens

OTHERS PRESENT Hank Murphy, Wood County Monitor; Randi Going, Demethrius Boyd, and many members of the Mineola community.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor White called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. and confirmed a quorum of the council was present.

Invocation led by Mitchell Tuck and Pledge of Allegiance lead by Greg Hollen

CITIZEN COMMENT

Randi Going addressed the council to ask them to consider a park on the Southwest side of town because at this time there is none. Children on that side are not able to ride their bikes or walk to any city park. She would also like the council to consider naming the park after the late Christopher Griffin.

PRESENTATIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS

1. Presentation by Pastor Demethrius T. Boyd regarding current events.

Pastor Boyd addressed the council regarding the recent Jason Walters trial, bringing concerns expressed to him by his congregation regarding the outcome of the trial. He expressed that the citizens in attendance were displeased with the handling of the case by local government officials and the Mineola Police Department and asked local government to look into current practices, policies and procedures.

2. Presentation by Mr. Jerry Brooks with Grace Community Healthcare Ministry regarding ongoing ministry at the clinic and services they provide.

Mr. Brooks was not in attendance and the item was postponed.

CONSENT AGENDA

3. Consider approval of minutes of the Regular City Council meeting held on June 24, 2019 and the Special Council meeting held on July 8, 2019.
4. Consider approval of the Financial Statement for the month of June, 2019.
5. Consider approval of the Monthly Investment Report for the month of June, 2019.
6. Consider approval of the Monthly Department Head Reports for the month of June, 2019. (Building Inspections, Code Enforcement, Fire, Police, Main Street, Marketing, Street, Water, Wastewater)
7. Consider approval of an Interlocal Agreement with East Texas Council of Governments (ETCOG) for 911 Database Maintenance for FY 2019-2020 in the amount of \$3,023.30

8. Consider approval of an Interlocal Agreement with East Texas Council of Governments (ETCOG) for Public Safety Answering Points (PSAP) from September 1, 2019 through August 31, 2021

Council Member Mitchell Tuck made the motion to approve the consent agenda. The motion was seconded by Council Member Greg Hollen and carried by a unanimous show of hands.

DISCUSSION ON ACTION ITEMS, PUBLIC HEARINGS, PRESENTATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

9. **Discuss and consider action on final acceptance of Project MN.166, Emergency 18-in Sewer Line Repair, and to approve the contractor's final pay estimate with retainage reduced to 0%. Final payment amount is \$99,064.00.**

A motion was made by Council Member Sue Jones and seconded by Council Member Novada Bigham to approve the project. There being no further discussion, the motion carried by a unanimous show of hands.

10. **Discuss and consider action on bid acceptance for IT services.**

Finance Director Cindy Karch informed the council that bids were solicited for IT services and five were received. Interviews were conducted and the recommendation from staff was to stay with the current IT provider, Sys Logic. The contract price is \$21,000 per year.

A motion was made by Council Member Greg Hollen and seconded by Council Member Sue Jones to accept the bid. There being no further discussion, the motion carried by a unanimous show of hands.

11. **Executive Session: The City Council will now convene into a closed meeting on July 23rd, 2019 at 5:55 p.m. for deliberations about real property as authorized by Government Code, Chapter 551.076, and to deliberate regarding economic development negotiations as authorized by Government Code, Chapter 551.087.**

The City Council will now convene into open session at 6:27 p.m.

12. **Discuss and consider action to solicit bids for city property, partial lot 5A, 5B, 5C Blk D, located on South Street.**

No motion was made on the item.

13. **Discuss and consider action on a resolution authorizing the initiation of the annexation process concerning properties which are contiguous to the Mineola city limits, and located within the Mineola Extraterritorial Jurisdiction, as authorized by Texas Local Government Code, Section 43.001, et seq.**

Mayor White announced that Item 13 would be postponed to a later date. No action was taken on the item.

14. **Discuss and consider action on a proposed tax rate for FY 2019-2020.**

Discussion was held about the appraisal values increasing, therefore increasing the taxes if the city keeps the current tax rate. Cities will be limited to how much they can raise taxes in the future but noted that cities under 30,000 were allowed an exception.

A motion was made by Council Member Sue Jones to propose a tax rate of 0.569. The motion was seconded by Council Member Mitchell Tuck. There being no further discussion, the motion carried with five in favor and Council Member Greg Hollen opposed.

15. Mayor Comments – regarding matters appearing on the agenda; recognition of community members, city employees, and upcoming events; inquiry of staff regarding specific factual information or existing policies.

Mayor informed the council that they will have a workshop on the 5th then two public hearings in August. They must have quorum present for the public hearings. County tax office has given the cities a deadline of September 19th to adopt their tax rates. He may call another workshop again on the 12th if necessary. Mercy will have the budget available on the 1st of August for their review.

16. City Manager Briefing

New employees have not traditionally been introduced to the council until the end of their probation period, which for the police department is one year. Mitchell Tuck indicated that he would like to meet them earlier just so they can become familiar with them. Also, the city is hiring temp help right now and they will not be brought to the council. Background checks and drug screens are done by the temp company, as well as unemployment taxes. First day of school is August 15th.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further items for consideration, a motion to adjourn was made and the meeting adjourned.



Kevin White, Mayor

ATTEST:



Cindy Karch, City Secretary