



City of Arcola

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Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the City Council of the City of Arcola, County of Fort Bend, State of Texas, held on Tuesday, March 9, 2021, beginning at 7:00 p.m. at: Arcola City Hall, Room 124; 13222 Highway 6; Arcola, Texas 77583 for the purpose of considering the following items. The City Council of the City of Arcola, Texas, reserves the right to meet in closed session on any of the below items should the need arise and if applicable pursuant to authorization by Title 5, Chapter 551, of the Texas Government Code.

I. CALL TO ORDER. Mayor Fred Burton called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

II. INVOCATION AND THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Pro Tem Florence Jackson gave the Invocation and Council Member Chloe Sanco led the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. ROLL CALL: Mayor Fred A. Burton, Mayor Pro-Tem Florence Jackson, Council Member Evelyn Jones, Council Member Ebony Sanco, Council Member Chloe Sanco, Council Member Rosie Rojas

All members of City Council were present. Also present were City Secretary Sally Cantu, Chief of Police Michael V. Ellison, Financial Advisor Greg Abarr and City Administrator Annette Goldberg.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS.

GENERAL COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE. Citizens who desire to address the City Council with comments of a general nature will be received at this time. The total amount of time that a member of the public may address the City Council is limited to three (3) minutes, provided that any member of the public who addresses the City Council through a translator is limited to six (6) minutes. In accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, the City Council is restricted from discussing or taking any action on items not listed on the agenda. It is our policy to have all speakers identify themselves by providing their name and residential address when making comments.

COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE FOR CONSENT AND REGULAR AGENDA ITEM Citizens who desire to address the City Council, with regard to matters on the Consent Agenda or Regular Agenda will be received either at this time or, if they state at this time that they elect to do so, during the City Council's consideration of the item. The total amount of time that a member of the public may address the City Council on a given item is limited to three (3) minutes, provided that any member of the public who addresses the City Council on a given item through a translator is limited to six (6) minutes. Comments or discussion by the City Council Members will only be made at the time the agenda item is scheduled for consideration. It is our policy to have all speakers identify themselves by providing their name and residential address when making comments.

City Council heard comments from a representative of Broadband. They are interested in providing broadband solution to the City of Arcola citizens. He requested to a meeting to discuss how to get it done.

City Council heard comments from former Police Officer Anthony Brigham regarding his employment with the City of Arcola.

V. PUBLIC HEARINGS: None

VI. CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS: Mayor Pro-Tem Florence Jackson, Council Member Evelyn Jones, Council Member Ebony Sanco, Council Member Chloe Sanco, Council Member Rosie Rojas

No comments from City Council

VII. CONSENT AGENDA:

A. Approval of previous meeting minutes.

Council Member Ebony Sanco so moved to table previous meeting minutes; **seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Florence Jackson.** All were in favor.

Aye: Council Members Evelyn Jones, Chloe Sanco, Mayor Pro Tem Florence Jackson, Ebony Sanco and Rosie Rojas

Nay: 0

Motion carried. 5-0

B. Discussion, Consideration and Possible Action—January Financial Report by Ham, Langston & Brezina, L.L.P.; including budget amendment to divide a full-time position to two part-time positions.

City Bookkeeper Ruthie Cable of Ham, Langston & Brezina L.L.P. reviewed the January 2021 Financials for the City of Arcola.

Mayor Fred Burton proposed to split a full-time position from the Police Department into two part-time positions for two different departments and transfer half of the funds for a part-time position for a Permit Clerk position. He asked City Council to consider posting the job to assist with permits. No additional costs will be added to the City.

City Administrator Annette Goldberg reviewed the amended budget.

- C. Discussion, Consideration and Possible Action—Water and Wastewater Systems and including Operator’s Report by John Montgomery, Municipal Operations and Consulting; including delinquent sewer accounts, collection agency and related matters.** Nino Corbett noted that bids were opened for the Water Plant and everything was positive. The time for completion of the Water Plant is one (1) year. They will need the water by April 2022. He asked City Council to consider a special meeting to approve the contract instead of waiting another 30 days. He also wants to present the Fenn Road annexation. In talking with the Mayor, City Engineer Llarance Turner and City Administrator Annette Goldberg, they determined that the Lift Station in front needs a lot more work that is anticipated. He can incorporate the cost in the Fenn Road build and make it all go.

John Montgomery, Utility Operator, reviewed the Operations Report for the month of February 2021. He also reviewed the delinquent accounts. He asked City Council to authorize the City Administrator to file liens on the following addresses on the Delinquent Account List: No. 11-703A North Pine, No. 42-827 Coen, No.52-232 South Pine #1 and No. 76- 515 Howell Street A.

Mr. Montgomery proposed the City authorize a collection agency to collect delinquent accounts. He recommended Collections Unlimited.

He also reported that he, City Engineer Llarance Turner, Todd Elston with R. G. Miller got their comments together to send to the FBMUD 141 Board. They will take up the subject for temporary connections.

VIII. REGULAR AGENDA

- A. Discussion, Consideration and Possible Action—Ordinance No. 2021-03-09; AN ORDINANCE APPROVING AND ADOPTING AMENDMENTS TO THE CURRENT BUDGET; AND CONTAINING FINDINGS AND PROVISIONS RELATING TO THE SUBJECT.**

Mayor Burton noted that this ordinance will be amending the budget to convert a full-time position into two part time positions. One part time position for the police department and the other part-time position for a permit clerk.

Council Member Ebony Sanco so moved to approve Ordinance No. 2021-03-09; AN ORDINANCE APPROVING AND ADOPTING AMENDMENTS TO THE CURRENT BUDGET; AND CONTAINING FINDINGS AND PROVISIONS RELATING TO THE SUBJECT; converting a full-time position into two part-time positions. One part-time position for the police department and the other part-time position for a permit clerk; **seconded by Council Member Chloe Sanco.** All were in favor.

Aye: Council Members Evelyn Jones, Chloe Sanco, Florence Jackson, Ebony Sanco and Rosie Rojas

Nay: 0

Motion carried. 5-0

- B. Discussion, Consideration and Possible Action—Update from the Mayor’s Desk, including;**
(a) Protective mask mandate and related matters

Mayor Fred Burton ordered that protective masks will be mandated in the City Hall Building.

- C. Discussion, Consideration and Possible Action—City Administrator’s Report by Annette Guajardo-Goldberg; updates and pending projects and related matters, including;**

- (a) CARES Update**

City Administrator Annette Goldberg reported that the City submitted up to \$255,000.00 of Cares reimbursement. The City has received the check and deposited into the City’s account. She also reported that she processed a couple of submissions last week for \$13,000.00. She is asking for a total of \$269,000.00 and the City has already received \$255,000.00.

IX. ADJOURNMENT.

Mayor Pro-Tem Florence Jackson so moved to adjourn at 7:59 p.m.; **seconded by Council Member Evelyn Jones.** All were in favor.

Aye: Council Members Evelyn Jones, Chloe Sanco, Florence Jackson, Ebony Sanco and Rosie Rojas

Nay: 0

Motion carried. 5-0