

The regular meeting of the Rule City Council was called to order at 5:33 P.M. on May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2022. In attendance was Mayor Delle Watkins, Sandy Flores, Bob Clark, Kimberly Eaton, and Krissy Richards. Kyle Kittley was absent. Also in attendance was Judge Tamara Smart, Hugh Brady, Joyce Ramirez, and Doris Williams.

Mayor led the meeting in Prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

MINICIPAL COURT- Tamara gave her report. She said the city had issued two tickets for dogs. For non-compliance she has issued warrants. One should show up Tuesday. Tamara is looking forward to going to Court Clerk school in July. She mentioned that Texas has never had a county-to-county communication policy, but one has been implemented in April with a new software program and she is looking forward to learning it. She said Hugh is doing a great job with picture evidence in the cases she has with the dogs.

Approve minutes from April 7<sup>th</sup>, 2022. Krissy Richards made the motion to approve the minutes and Kimberly Eaton seconded. All in favor.

PUBLIC COMMENTS- None

WRITTEN COMPLAINTS- None

Doug Burks – the Code Enforcer did not come and will not be able to help the city with code enforcement.

Approve the Engagement Letter from the City Auditors. The Budget was for \$11,000.00 but they had an increase so we will have to move \$1500.00 from account # 50051 Salaries and Benefits to cover this increase Bob Clark made the motion to approve the cost of \$12,500.00 Sandy Flores seconded. All in favor.

PUBLIC WORKS- Hugh gave his update. He stated he had gone to a school in Abilene for 3 days. Did 18 line locates for Atmos. Order the Speed Bumps and signs, the signs came in, but the speed bumps are on back order. The Bypass is complete except for the vaults being installed. He is waiting on them to be delivered. The 10-inch clay valve, 10-inch meter, 10-inch valve, 2- 8-inch valves, 8-inch swing check and 80 ft of 8-inch pipe, 10 inch to 8 inch tee, 8 inch 90and a 8 inch tee has already been installed. Dug up manhole on 1100 block of 8<sup>th</sup> St and installed new manhole rig with lid and risers to bring it up to road level, ran sewer machine. Dug up manhole on 200 block of 9<sup>th</sup> St and installed new manhole rig with lid and risers to bring it u to street level and ran the sewer machine. Sprayed weeds around town. Weed eating and mowing sewer plant. TCEQ will be here Tuesday May 10<sup>th</sup> to inspect the sewer plant at 9:00. We will probably be written up for the pile of dirt left from the sewer pond on the last project in 2020 that wasn't cleaned up after the pond was completed. We may also get wrote up for missing paperwork from 2020 and the cattails. Hugh wanted to purchase a Cub Cadat Push Brush mower for \$449.99 but the council thought he should get a good heavy duty one that is self-propelled.

CEMETERY REPORT- Jeffery Pippin was not here but submitted his report. The cemetery has been mowed twice, filled in some graves and is in the process of spraying weeds.

Delle spoke about Memorial Day coming up and how did the council want to handle the putting out of flags. Sandy said she would speak with the school and see if we could get some school kids to help with this project. It was also mentioned that we would call Jerry Coker with AEP and see if he could come with the lift truck so the rope on the flagpole at the Park Memorial could be restrung for the flag to be put back on.

FIRE DEPT.- Hugh gave the Fire Dept. report. They responded to one house fire, grass fire in Rochester, grass fire at Lake Stamford, grass fire in Sagerton, grass fire south of Haskell on 277, tree fire at 610 Cardiff -two times and a grass fire north of Rule- two times. Sheriff Chris Keith came to their fire meeting to discuss radios. Chris is wanting all fire depts. to file for a grant that will be open in January for Mobile Repeaters. It has become a big problem with wore out equipment that the fire depts. can't communicate with each other when fighting fires, especially the big grass fires. The Fire dept. is already looking to replace two handheld radios, but they cost about \$1500.00 apiece. They are having a fundraiser at the Wild Horse Prairies Day in Haskell and Sandy mentioned after the fundraiser the city would get together with them to see if we could match what they raised for these radios.

Financials of Deposits were looked over.

Approve Bills. Krissy Richards made the motion to approve the bills and Sandy Flores seconded. All in favor.

Cemetery Lot Fees was discussed. Delle had checked around with the neighboring towns and we were in line with what they also charged but there was discussion about the perpetual care cost. It was decided we would table this for a later date.

Hiring of Bob Turnbow to use equipment to smooth out the big dirt piles left at the sewer plant that wasn't tended too and about tearing down and removing the house at 707 Union. It was decided to have him give an estimate for both jobs. Bob Clark made the motion to have him give estimates and Sandy Flores seconded. All in favor.

Policy Book was tabled until next meeting, but the Temporary Employee amendment was approved.

Placing city lots up for bid was discussed and decided we would place an ad in the paper for a month to accept bids.

Sandy Flores made the motion to adjourn, and Kimberly Eaton seconded. All in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 7:16 P.M.