

The regular meeting of the City Council was called to order at 5:30 P.M. on Feb. 8<sup>th</sup>, 2023. In attendance was Mayor Delle Watkins, Kimberly Eaton, Sandy Flores, Kyle Kittley, and Bob Clark. Marshall Bradford was absent.

Also in attendance was Hugh Brady, Joyce Ramirez, Danny Barrett, Doris Williams, and Tamara Smart.

The first order of business was discussing the purchase of a city pickup. We had a deadline by 6:00 pm to let the dealership know. The pickup is a used 2020 Ford 250 with 11,000 miles. It has a flatbed with a gooseneck hitch. The money for the purchase of this pickup will come from the ARP money we received. The old city pickup had some work done to it and now it is having some unknown engine trouble. It was discussed trading it in on the new purchase but they would only give a \$500.00 trade in so it was decided to keep it and put it out on seal bid. The price for the 2020 Ford will be \$52,548.00. Kyle Kittley made the motion to buy the pickup with the ARP money and Kimberly Eaton seconded. All in favor. Kimberly made the motion to sell the 2004 pickup in seal bids and Kyle Kittley seconded. All in favor.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Delle Watkins.

**MUNICIPAL COURT-** Tamara said she needed to change her hours from 7 – 7:30. She said she didn't want to come in and be paid if we didn't have any tickets issued. The council said it would be better to just let us call her when she would be needed. Tamara agreed to this.

**DANNY BARRETT ( REBOOT)-** Danny came from Lubbock to discuss the Reboot Texas program with the City council. When a property comes back to the City in trust, the city doesn't own the properties outright. There are other entities involved. Rather than divided the percentage to each entity when they sell the whole amount goes into a pot for the City of Rule. When the money is built up enough and we have other properties in trust, that money can be used to clear off the dilapidated structure and have a cleared lot to be sold. The sell of any properties goes through the Texas Community Group and they handle all the bids and deed paperwork. This program does not cost the city anything. This is what ReBoot Texas is about. Kimberly Eaton made the motion to sign the agreement with ReBoot and Bob Clark seconded. All in favor.

Danny also spoke about the Code enforcement that they can offer. They specialize in sub-structure properties, weed sweeps and junk vehicle sweeps. If we use TCG for this there is a charge and it depends on what they are looking at doing. We would send in pictures and they could give a quote on that violation that they would handle for us.

Approve Meeting Minutes. The minutes were looked over from Jan. Bob Clark made the motion to accept the minutes and Kyle Kittley seconded. All in favor.

No Public Comments or Written Complaints.

**PUBLIC WORKS REPORT-** Hugh gave his report. The pickup is back from Neal's and need to discuss getting a new one. Fixed a leak on 1 ½ in lake line, fixed leak on Loup and 8<sup>th</sup> put in a 2 in valve. Going to

take the zero turn mower to Abilene to get serviced and front spindle replaced. Service starting price \$200 plus parts and labor. Purchasing a new weed sprayer for \$1,100.00. Started working on the permit renewal process with Jacob and Martin for the sewer plant. The cost will be around \$5000.00 and permit is good for 10 years. Looking at buying a used generator on a trailer to run the water plant and tower pumps. 52W or bigger. Paul Leonard can do the install for around \$11,000. This cost will come from the ARP money. Sandy said to get quotes on a new one but if we get a chance to buy a used one the permission was given up to \$20,000.

**FIRE DEPT. REPORT-** Hugh gave the fire Dept. report. They had 2 EMS calls, 1 wreck. They ordered 2 radios. Purchased 2 medical bags. 1 for the car and 1 for the rescue truck.

**CEMETERY REPORT-** Jeffrey came over to knock down any weeds that were sprouting up. He will be trimming trees as soon as they are marked.

Financial of Deposits- The deposits were looked over and Sandy Flores made the motion to approve and Bob Clark seconded. All in favor.

The bills to approve were looked over and all signed.

For Christmas lights downtown. The council said to get with AEP and see if we could get the electrical outlets back on the poles.

We won't know until Thursday Feb. 16<sup>th</sup> if we will have a joint election with the school.

Regular session ended at 7:36 pm to go into executive session to discuss hiring procedures. Executive session started at 7:37

Executive session ended at 7:53pm to go back to regular session.

Sandy Flores made the motion to adjourn, Bob Clark seconded. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 7:54 pm.