

STATE OF TEXAS §
COUNTY OF POLK §
CITY OF LIVINGSTON §

MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING &
PUBLIC HEARING
CITY COUNCIL
AUGUST 15, 2023
5:00 P.M.

The City Council of the City of Livingston, Texas convened in regular session in Council Chambers at City Hall at 5:00 P.M., August 15, 2023, with the following members present:

Judy B. Cochran	)	Mayor
Alan Cook	)	Councilmembers
Elgin Davis)	
Bobby Jackson, Sr.)	
Billy S. Wiggins	)	City Manager
Ellie Monteaux	)	City Secretary/Assistant City Manager
James Wright	)	City Attorney

and the following others present:

Jeff Hunter	)	Community Development Coordinator
Josh Mohler	)	Fire Marshal/Code Enforcement Officer
Joshua Grant	)	Self
Corey Dickerson	)	Self
Emily Wooten	)	Polk County Enterprise

Mayor Cochran called the meeting to order at 5:00 P.M. and called on Alderman Davis to open the meeting with prayer and the pledges.

It was moved by Alderman Cook and seconded by Alderman Davis that the minutes of the regular meeting of July 11, 2023 be approved. All present voted aye.

Mayor Cochran opened a Public Hearing at 5:03 P.M. to receive comments regarding the City of Livingston's Texas Municipal Retirement System Retirement eligibility and vesting. The City Manager provided an overview of the proposed changes to the retirement eligibility and vesting.

There being no further comments to be received in the Public Hearing, Mayor Cochran closed the Public Hearing at 5:11 P.M.

The City Manager introduced a proposed ordinance regarding the City of Livingston's Texas Municipal Retirement System retirement eligibility and vesting. Upon the recommendation of the City Manager, it was moved by Alderman Davis and seconded by Alderman Cook, that the ordinance regarding the City of Livingston's Texas Municipal Retirement System retirement eligibility and vesting, including the authorization of twenty (20) year retirement eligibility and authorization for five (5) year vesting, be approved and adopted as presented, to be effective October 1, 2023. All present voted aye. The ordinance, as approved, is captioned as follows:

"ORDINANCE NO. A-840

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL, CITY OF LIVINGSTON, TEXAS, REGARDING THE CITY OF LIVINGSTON'S TEXAS MUNICIPAL RETIREMENT SYSTEM RETIREMENT ELIGIBILITY AND VESTING."

The City Manager presented a proposed ordinance amending Article I of Chapter 34 (Solid Waste) of the Code of Ordinances to revise the City's sanitation service fees for all customer classifications from twice weekly pickup to once weekly pickup. Discussion ensued relative to the transition from the previous sanitation provider to Piney Woods Sanitation. It was moved by Alderman Jackson and seconded by Alderman Cook that the proposed ordinance, as presented, be approved and adopted. All present voted aye. The proposed ordinance, as approved and adopted, is captioned as follows:

"ORDINANCE NO. A-841

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL, CITY OF LIVINGSTON, TEXAS, AMENDING ARTICLE I OF CHAPTER 34 (SOLID WASTE) OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES."

The City Manager presented a proposed resolution supporting the adoption and approval of the Texas Opioid Abatement Fund Council and Settlement Allocation Term Sheet and designating the City Manager as Authorized Signatory. It was moved by Alderman Cook and seconded by Alderman Jackson that the resolution, as introduced, be approved and adopted. All present voted aye. The resolution, as approved, is captioned as follows:

"RESOLUTION NO. 614

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LIVINGSTON, TEXAS, SUPPORTING THE ADOPTION AND APPROVAL OF THE TEXAS OPIOID ABATEMENT FUND COUNCIL AND SETTLEMENT ALLOCATION TERM SHEET AND DESIGNATING CITY MANAGER AS AUTHORIZED SIGNATORY."

The City Manager presented the Accounts Over \$500 for approval. It was moved by Alderman Cook and seconded by Alderman Jackson that the accounts over \$500.00, as submitted, be approved for payment. All present voted aye.

The City Manager reported on the following items:

- A) Sales Tax - The August sales tax report from the State Comptroller for the month June reflects \$492,344.56, a decrease of 2.68% over June, 2022. The year-to-date amount for the previous 12 months reflects an increase of 4.84% over 2022.
- B) Update of Projects and Development - The City Manager provided an update of current projects and development.
- C) Piney Woods Sanitation - Piney Woods Sanitation began sanitation service on August 1st. Information and route map have been added to the City's website.
- D) Save the Date for the 5th Annual Smoke in the Pines State Championship BBQ Cookoff - The 5th annual BBQ cookoff will be held at Pedigo Park on June 28-29, 2024.

- E) County-Wide Burn Ban and Disaster Declaration - Polk County issued a declaration of local disaster regarding the severe dry weather resulting from the lack of rainfall and the threat of wildfire. This declaration activates the County/City Emergency Management Plan.
- F) Trinity River Authority - The City has been in contact with TRA. The City currently has sufficient water storage and water supply. At present, we do not have a need to implement the City's drought contingency plan and will continue to monitor this closely.
- G) Sam Rayburn Municipal Power Agency - The City Manager reported that at today's meeting of SRMPA it was announced that the City's wholesale cost of power would be reduced in price. The City Manager is researching lowering the City's rates to be discussed at the September meeting.


The City Manager presented the preliminary budget for the 2023-2024 fiscal year and requested that Council continue its review of the preliminary budget prior to the September meeting so that any questions can be discussed prior to its scheduled adoption on Tuesday, September 12, 2023.

(Josh Mohler and Jeff Hunter retired from the meeting.)

Mayor Cochran called a public hearing for Tuesday, September 12, 2023 at 5:00 p.m. on the budget for the fiscal year 2023-2024.

There being no further business to come before the City Council, it was moved by Alderman Cook and seconded by Alderman Jackson that the meeting be adjourned at 5:57 P.M. All present voted aye.

SIGNED:


Judy B. Cochran, Mayor

ATTEST:


Ellie Monteaux, TRMC, MMC, CPM
City Secretary/Assistant City Manager

