

CITY OF BLUE RIDGE
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
April 3, 2018

THE BLUE RIDGE CITY COUNCIL MET IN REGULAR SESSION AT 7:00 P.M. ON TUESDAY, APRIL 3, 2018 AT THE BLUE RIDGE COMMUNITY CENTER, LOCATED AT 200 W. TILTON, BLUE RIDGE, TEXAS 75424 AT 7:00 P.M. WITH THE FOLLOWING ITEMS ON THE AGENDA FOR CONSIDERATION AND/OR ACTION.

1. Mayor Williams called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
2. Roll was called with the following members present: Mayor Rhonda Williams, Allen Cunyningham, Christina Porath, Kevin Bell and Gerald Young. Amber Wood was absent.

3. Proclamation declaring the month of May as Motorcycle Safety and Awareness Month

Mayor Williams read a Proclamation declaring the Month of May as Motorcycle Safety and Awareness Month. The Blacksheep Motorcycle Club was present to receive the Proclamation.

4. Consent Agenda: a) Discuss, approve or disapprove the minutes from Regular Session and Special Session meetings held on March 6, 2018; b) Public Works Update; c) City Financial Report; d) Fire Department Report; e) Animal Control Report; and f) Collin County Calls for Service

Council was informed item 4(e) was not available, Animal Control Report, as it was not the end of the month. Christina Porath motioned to approve the Consent Agenda as presented with Kevin Bell seconding the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

5. Receive update from Student Council from their Washington, DC trip

The following students from Blue Ridge Student Council came before the Council for an update of their Washington, DC trip: Ellery Martin, Abigayle Avery and Marlaina Morgan. Our students reported they met with Senator Ratcliff and other members of Congress and had a discussion regarding Section 8 housing and how it affects small towns. A recommendation was made to aid people in need of Section 8 housing by building developments specific to those needs.

6. First Public Hearing to hear a request for rezoning, replatting, and receive public comments on the proposal for properties described as 1) Lot 20, Blue Ridge Original Donation, also known as 320 East Lamm and 2) Tract 154, Abstract A0557 M Mowery Survey, Sheet 2, containing 0.366 acres. The rezone request is to change a portion of Commercial Core Business (B2) zoning to Residential (R1) zoning. The rezoning request is also to change the Multi-Family (R2) zoning to Residential (R1) zoning.

Mayor Williams opened the Public Hearing at 7:10am and asked for those FOR the replat/rezone request to come forward. With no one coming forward, Mayor Williams requested those OPPOSING the replat/rezone to come forward. With no one coming forward, Mayor Williams closed the Public Hearing at 7:11pm. The next Public Hearing will be held April 17, 2018.

7. Consider, discuss and act upon reimbursement of a house demolition at 301 Benjamin Lane (Previously known as 301 W Heap) by Billy John Dickson

Council received documentation from 08/10/2000 where a lien was placed on the property located at 301 W Heap Street (now known as 301 Benjamin Lane) for demolition of a structure. The structure was demolished by Billy John Dickson at his expense with the promise in a letter from then Mayor Slater to purchase the property. This action was taken solely on then Mayor Slater's action and not proper procedure nor authority by the City Council. As such, Mr. Dickson should be reimbursed the amount spent for demolition (\$3,500) as this is the amount that will be reimbursed to the City thru the sale of the property. Council approved the sale of this property on 10/03/2017 to Hugo Mondragon as it was a struck off property and was purchased through the process with Perdue, Brandon, Fielder, Collins & Mott, LLP (property attorneys). Gerald Young motioned to reimburse the proper amount to Billy John Dickson with Christina Porath seconding the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

8. Consider, discuss and act upon holding a Special Session on May 8, 2018 to canvass the Election and use this meeting as the monthly meeting for May 2018

Due to the General Election falling after our regularly scheduled meeting, Mayor Williams requested the Council consider moving the date to May 8, 2018 so canvassing of the election can be accomplished as well as use May 8th as the date to hold regular business. Christina Porath motioned to change the regularly scheduled meeting from May 1 to May 8, 2018 with Kevin Bell seconding the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

9. Consider, discuss and act upon codification of ordinances through Franklin Legal and expenditure for project

Council was given a comparison of pricing for the codification process including Municode, Franklin Legal, Code Publishing, American Legal Publishing. In order to take our City forward, codification of our ordinances is imperative. Franklin Legal is more conducive to our needs and they are willing to start the project with \$1,000 down and the remainder can be spread over two (2) budget years. Kevin Bell was unclear regarding a publishing company versus attorneys and if their position was in the interest of the City. Edie Sims explained the attorneys are there to make sure our ordinances within the codification meet all State and Federal laws and do have the best interest of the City. The publishing portion of the business is to allow publication of the ordinances in different media formats, one of most importance is online. Having this tool will give the public access to our ordinances which helps with all aspects of going forward. Christina Porath motioned to approve the codification project with Franklin Legal and pay expenditures as discussed with Kevin Bell seconding the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

10. Consider, discuss and act upon an Interlocal Agreement with Collin County for Animal Control and Animal Shelter Services

Tonya Harrison requested an opportunity to ask specific questions regarding the contract with Collin County for Animal Control and Animal Shelter Services. Under Section 3.3 of the contract, you are asking the City to change their Animal Control Policies to conform to the County. If the City's ordinance is more stringent, which would you follow? Is there a standardized policy for Animal Control?

Per the conversation from Danny Davis on 02/06/18 Council Meeting, he stated the AC Department has hired additional staff with 11 certified officers. On Exhibit A, 3 ACO are designated. We need clarification whether there are actually 11 certified officers in the field or if a portion of these officers are kept at the Animal Shelter.

Under Exhibit A 24/7 on call services for emergencies: Does gravely injured animals include wildlife such as raccoons, squirrels, coyotes, possums, bobcats

Also on Exhibit A, Response times: the answering machine offers the caller to leave a message with a 2 hour call back. Would the response time now equal 2 hours and 45 minutes and when will the actual 2 hours start?

If the contract doesn't have citations coming to the City's Municipal Court, could any citations written go to any other court since the contract isn't specific?

With the staff and volunteers, why can the phone not be answered for each incoming call? It seems with so many volunteers this task could be handled more efficiently.

Lastly, due to issues brought up by Ms. Homer at a previous meeting, what happens with the animals that are frozen and if sent to a crematory, where is said crematory and who pays for the disposal? What purpose are freezers?

These are questions of concern that is felt needed clarification before going into a contract and Ms. Harrison asked Council to review these items closely. Also the cost has increased \$86.62 per month over what is currently being paid by NCACA. Ms. Harrison also stated she has witnessed contracts with both Animal Control Services and feels Collin County will not provide the services the City needs. Gerald Young motioned to table this item to the next Special Session meeting with Christina Porath seconding the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

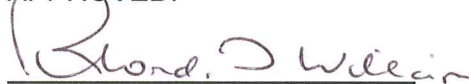
11. Consider, discuss and act upon designation of the Emergency Management Coordinator for the City of Blue Ridge

Christina Porath motioned to appoint City Secretary Edie Sims as the Emergency Management Coordinator for the City of Blue Ridge. Gerald Young seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

12. Citizen Participation. No one spoke during Citizen Participation.


13. Adjournment. Christina Porath motioned to adjourn with Allen Cunnyngnam seconding the motion. Council adjourned at 7:31pm.

APPROVED:



Rhonda Williams, Mayor

ATTEST:



Edie Sims, City Secretary