

CITY OF BLUE RIDGE
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
June 5, 2018

THE BLUE RIDGE CITY COUNCIL MET IN REGULAR SESSION AT 7:00 P.M. ON TUESDAY, JUNE 5, 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, Amber Wood and Gerald Young.
3. Consent Agenda: a) Discuss, approve or disapprove the minutes from Special Session meetings held on May 8, 2018; b) Public Works Update; c) City Financial Report; d) Fire Department Report; e) Animal Control Report; and f) Collin County Calls for Service

Christina Porath motioned to approve the Consent Agenda as presented with Amber Wood seconding the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

4. Consider, discuss and act upon the audit for Fiscal Year 2016-2017 presented by Robert Lake of Rutherford Taylor and Company

Robert Lake with Rutherford Taylor and Company met with the City Council and presented the audit for Fiscal Year 2016-2017. The audit performed is an unmodified audit which is the best audit to be received. During the audit process, tests were performed and the results disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported. This does not reflect internal issues which were addressed and corrected.

During 2016, an entry should have been made in the financial statement for pension liabilities which was not accomplished. To correct the issue through the auditors correction, the liabilities were increased. Even with this correction, the changes in Net Position went from -\$150,000 to -\$35,000 which is a positive direction of \$115,000. There is also a good reflection of the overall Capital Assets since the General Fund earned \$46,239 more directly resulting from an increase in tax collections, fines and fees.

Other concerns included issues with the IRS which are in the process of being rectified. Other federal taxes are also being investigated to ensure prior payments and reports are corrected.

Even though the Community and Economic Development Corporations are not part of the City, their audits are included with the City's audit under the umbrella of the City since sales tax dollars are their source of income.

Overall, current staff has really improved the financial condition of the City and is making definite improvements.

5. Swear in elected Council members and recognize Council by nominating and electing a Mayor Pro Tem for May 2018 - May 2019.

Mayor Rhonda Williams, Christina Porath and Keith Chitwood were sworn in. A ceremonial moment was taken to thank Allen Cunyningham for his service.

Amber Wood nominated Christina Porath as Mayor Pro Tem with Kevin Bell seconding the nomination. Motion carried unanimously.

6. Consider, discuss and act upon Resolution # 2018-0605-001 regarding the Mayor's spending limitations for Year May 2018 - May 2019

Amber Wood motioned to approve the spending limitation per the Resolution presented with Christina Porath seconding the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

7. Public Works update and planning discussion

Brad Meserole, Public Works Director, updated the Council on open work orders and other projects. Several outstanding work orders have underlying issues. For instance, a ditch requested to be cleaned out cannot be done until the property owner purchases and has the culvert ready for installation. We have 2 fire hydrants which have been leaking for some time. The hydrants have been turned off at the valve and basically out of service until repairs are made. The contractor has been contacted and scheduling is currently a factor. Another issue has been the speed bumps for Pecan Street. Due to the design of the street for drainage, the speed bumps cannot be placed as on a crowned street. Further options will be sought to help slow down drivers.

This portion then segued to discuss the cost for street improvements. A spreadsheet with formulated costs was presented to the Council by City Secretary Edie Sims. Using the scarify method of surfacing, all streets were considered in this planning tool. Staff confirmed the greatest traveled and need of improvement to the least which is the order reflected on the spreadsheet. Ridgeway fits the criteria of the greatest traveled

It is recommended the Council consider funding through a Certificate of Obligation. Two scenarios were requested, \$350,000 or \$300,000. The request was made for a 10 year note with the anticipated timeline for funding in early September if we move forward with this project.

As of the meeting date, City Hall was notified of an issue at the sewer plant which now takes high priority. The drying beds are approximately 40 years old and one of the beds does not drain properly. It stands to reason the others are probably at the same level of deterioration. There are a multitude of questions/considerations to resolve this issue. There is opportunity for a transfer from the General Fund to help support some funding to the Revenue for this project; however, we are waiting on the engineer to provide more details of method and cost. Council agreed to move expeditiously to have this issue rectified and will consider a budget amendment should the need arise.

Council agreed to investigate the cost of Ridgeway Drive and will entertain a Certificate of Obligation for funding.

8. Consider, discuss and act upon Ordinance # 2018-0605-002 regarding a budget amendment for a transfer from the General Tax Fund to the Revenue Fund for sewer plant repairs

Council took no action until budget amounts can be presented.

9. Consider, discuss and act upon Resolution # 2018-0605-002 regarding the sale of surplus property

Christina Porath motioned to approve this item with Amber Wood seconding the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

10. Consider, discuss and act upon Resolution # 2018-0605-003 regarding a rate change for Texas New Mexico Power

Amber Wood motioned to approve this item with Christina Porath seconding the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

11. Consider, discuss and act upon Ordinance # 2018-0605-001 amending the Master Fee Schedule to include a Retainer Fee for engineering, attorney and other subcontracted costs associated with all plats/developments

City Secretary Edie Sims stated public funds should not be used to pay for a developer's costs of bringing a development into the City when engineering or other subcontracted costs would need to be incurred.

Christina Porath motioned to approve the Ordinance as presented with Amber Wood seconding the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

12. Consider, discuss and act upon accepting Zane Clay's resignation from the Blue Ridge Economic Development Corporation and appointing Justin Garner as the Interim President

Christina Porath motioned to approve this item with Amber Wood seconding the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

13. Consider, discuss and act upon holding a City-Wide garage sale event on a designated weekend annually

Council discussed this item and agreed this is a good event. Early May would be a good timeframe each year to hold this event. One contention regarded registration fees. Amber Wood motioned to hold this event with no registration fees, the first date to be May 4, 2019. Christina Porath seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

14. Citizen Participation. No one spoke during Citizen Participation.

15. Adjournment. Christina Porath motioned to adjourn with Gerald Young seconding the motion. Council adjourned at 8:29pm.

APPROVED:



Rhonda Williams

Rhonda Williams, Mayor

ATTEST:



Edie Sims

Edie Sims, City Secretary