

CITY OF BLUE RIDGE
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
JULY 6, 2021

THE BLUE RIDGE CITY COUNCIL MET IN REGULAR SESSION AT 7:00 P.M. ON TUESDAY, JULY 6, 2021 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. and called roll with the following members present: Mayor Rhonda Williams, Christina Porath, Keith Chitwood and Colby Collinsworth.
2. Prayer and Pledges of Allegiance
Edie Sims offered the prayer and lead the Pledge of Allegiance to the American and Texas Flags.
3. Announcements relating to items of public interest: Bratcher Park has new playground equipment!! A budget meeting is scheduled for July 20th. Rodeo Tickets will be provided to the City Council prior to the Rodeo.
4. Public Comment
No one signed up or spoke at this time.
5. Consent Agenda: a) Discuss, approve or disapprove the minutes from Regular Session held June 1, 2021, and two Special Sessions held June 15, 2021; b) Public Works Update; c) City Financial Report; d) Fire Department Report; and e) Animal Control Report
Christina Porath motioned to approve the Consent Agenda as presented with Colby Collinsworth seconding the motion. Motion carried unanimously.
6. Consider, discuss and act upon a late fee issue/concern by the McPherson's at 213 High Ridge
Cathy Sproles, Utility Clerk, came before Council to offer information regarding an issue/concern expressed by the McPherson household regarding a late fee. The McPherson's April bill was due, as every month, on the 15th of the following month (May 15th). During this particular time, many customers stated they did not receive their bill thru the mail. Late fees were added at 5pm on May 16th (as is the policy from one year ago due to our new utility billing system. The other customers who received a late fee have paid said fee without incident. The option to come before the Council was given to the McPherson's as City Hall's policy is very clear, if not paid by 5pm on the 15th of each month, a late fee is added. By the time of the Council meeting, the McPherson's have paid the bill including the late fees. With no further issues, Christina Porath motioned to take no action with Colby Collinsworth seconding the motion. Motion carried unanimously.
7. Consider, discuss and act upon Resolution #2021-0706-001 awarding the professional services for product and installation of the Automated Meter Reading Infrastructure Project
Christina Porath motioned to approve the Resolution as presented awarding the services for the Automated Meter Reading Infrastructure Project to Winsupply of Cooke County providing Zenner products with Colby Collinsworth seconding the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

8. Consider, discuss and act upon Resolution 2021-0706-002 for funding the remainder of the Automated Meter Reading Infrastructure Project with Government Capital

With the City receiving \$75,000 grant funds thru the WaterSmart program, the remainder of the project is being requested to be funded by Government Capital. The main portion of the project for the meters and full installation was \$150,000; however other incidentals including software thru Central Square, and any connectivity issues would need to be considered. Therefore, staff is requesting an additional \$15,000 to cover all costs included for the AMR Infrastructure Project. This would bring the total loan amount to \$90,000 with a contract for 5 years at 3.131% interest. The first payment will not be due until one year after issuance. This will allow funds to accrue from the AMR infrastructure which will pay for itself.

Christina Porath motioned to approve the Resolution with a 5-year term loan with Keith Chitwood seconding the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

9. Consider, discuss and act upon interest by a City Councilmember to serve on the Board of Trustees for TML Health Benefits Pool

No member of the Council expressed an interest in serving. No action taken.

10. EXECUTIVE SESSION – In accordance with Texas Government Code, Section 551.001, et seq, the City Council will recess into Executive Session (closed meeting) to discuss the following: a. §551.071(2): Consultation with the City Attorney regarding pending or contemplated litigation, Fran Rappold and Olga Rappold, Individually and as Next Friend of Kelly Rappold, a minor child, and of Frank Rappold, Jr., a minor child, and Linda Rappold v. the City of Blue Ridge; b. §551.071(2): Consultation with the City Attorney regarding pending or contemplated litigation, Blue Ridge v. Flotrend, Inc. and Wasser Logistics Holdings, LLC; and c. §551.074(1): To deliberate the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of a public officer or employee – Public Works Employee Curtis Henderson

Council went into Executive Session at 7:24pm.

11. RECONVENE INTO OPEN SESSION – In accordance with Texas Government Code, Chapter 551, the City Council will reconvene into Open Session to consider action, if any, on matters discussed in Executive Session

Council reconvened into Open Session at 8:24pm. No action was taken.

12. Update on projects and grants

City Funds have funded one street project on East Lamm. Surfacing is 95% completed by Collin County Public Works. Collin County Public Works will return in October and lay a sealant on East Lamm. Jared Webb will be completing a culvert for a resident at 403 E Lamm. Total cost for the entire project was \$35,335.34.

A second City funded project will be on South Main Street to include water/sewer and street improvements. The pipe necessary for the wastewater has been purchased due to high prices which saved approximately \$8,000. We are waiting on a contractor (Glenn Cashon) to schedule this project. Mr. Cashon has all the proper licensing and equipment to complete the project.

Grant Funded Projects: CDBG Sewer Grant (Baker, North Church, Dunn, Davis & Richardson Streets) began on Baker Street by Luther Kennon's building behind the EDC building. The project is now on North Church – sections are impassable to thru traffic for now. About 60' from final manhole on North Church. This would bring the project to 50% completion. The Contractor will circle back to Dunn and Davis and rehab that area with Richardson being last. This includes sewer and streets.

Automated Meter Reading Grant: Council awarding bid 07/06/2021. Once contracting is completed, the installers are expected to meet with City employees for a pre-project meeting.

Downtown Grant: Project is with engineering for final drawings to Texas Department of Agriculture for approval before next steps.

Parks Grant: Bratcher Park new equipment completed. Collin County Open Space grant was declined – needs are greater than their funding. Researching timeline for Texas Parks and Wildlife grants to fund clearing and lake functionality.

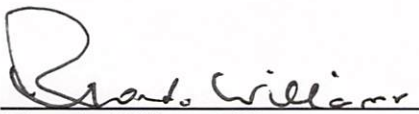
13. Discussion of placing items on future agendas: No items were requested.

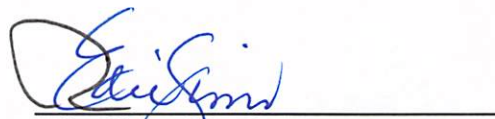
14. Adjournment

Christina Porath motioned to adjourn with Keith Chitwood seconding the motion. Council adjourned at 8:30pm.

APPROVED:

ATTEST:


Rhonda Williams, Mayor


Edie Sims, City Secretary



Faint, illegible text, possibly a header or introductory paragraph.

[Handwritten signature]

[Handwritten signature]

