

CITY OF BLUE RIDGE
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
August 14, 2018

THE BLUE RIDGE CITY COUNCIL MET IN SPECIAL SESSION AT 7:00 P.M. ON TUESDAY, AUGUST 14, 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. Roll was called with the following members present: Mayor Rhonda Williams, Christina Porath, Kevin Bell, Amber Wood, Gerald Young and Keith Chitwood.
2. All stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag. Edie Sims offered the prayer.
3. Consent Agenda: a) Discuss, approve or disapprove the minutes from Regular Session meetings held on July 3, 2018 and the Special Session minutes held July 24, 2018; b) Public Works Update; c) City Financial Report; d) Fire Department Report; e) Animal Control Report; and f) Collin County Calls for Service

City Secretary Edie Sims stated minutes were corrected for both July 3rd and 24th. Christina Porath motioned to approve the Consent Agenda minus item e with Amber Wood seconding the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

4. Consider, discuss and act upon the square closure for "Saturday Night in Blue Ridge" event sponsored by the Blue Ridge Area Sports Association held September 8, 2018

Mayor Williams questioned why port-a-potties were not being provided at this event so businesses would not be overwhelmed and the Community Center wouldn't have plumbing issues. Port-a-potties have been purchased in the past. Amber Wood motioned to table item 4 with Christina Porath seconding the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

5. First Public Hearing to consider and discuss the request for a replat of a Final Plat known as Morris Addition, located in the Blue Ridge Original Donation, Lot 107, containing 0.923 acres to be subdivided into having 2 lots with Lot 1 to contain 0.311 acres and Lot 2 to contain 0.612 acres, also known as the current address of 305 S Morrow, Blue Ridge, Texas, and also located within the City Limits of Blue Ridge

Amber Wood questioned the use for the property. Current owner Juiquitta Morris stated she is wanting 2 parcels out of this one acre tract. The new tract will contain the old derelict house, which the person purchasing will be tearing down. Audience members Mr. and Mrs. Kleisinger questioned what will be built on the lot with Ms. Morris replying the purchaser has not indicated his intent.

Mayor Williams opened the Public Hearing at 7:07pm asking those FOR the Replat to come forward. With no one coming forward, Mayor Williams asked those OPPOSING the Replat to come forward. With no one coming forward the Public Hearing was closed at 7:07pm. No action is allowed as this was a Public Hearing only.

6. Consider, discuss and act upon a Concept Plan for Rockhill Realty, LLC to redevelop the property known as Blue Ridge Original Donation. Lot 26. located and also known as 205 S Business Highway 78 from a Single Family zoning to a Multi-Family designated zoning

Chris Finetto and Ed Lively, owners of Rockhill Realty, LLC, came before Council with a plan to rehab the lot at 205 S Business Highway 78. The current structures will be removed completely and if approved, two multi-family duplexes will be constructed. Per the information provided Council, no variances or other changes will be necessary. The planned duplexes will meet all the setbacks. The demographic currently is not desirable for single family; however a pair of duplexes will flow nicely in the area. The new structures will have brick/stone fronts with siding. This will be a stronger use of the space. Amber Wood really liked the ample parking space and the layout. Mr. Finetto stated there should be no reason to park on the grass or the street (which is a State Highway and would not be allowed). Mr. Finetto also informed the Council there are no challenges with attaining utilities as everything is accessible. Amber Wood motioned to approve the Concept Plan as presented with Christina Porath seconding the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

7. Receive presentation regarding the Collin County Transportation Bond by Randal Shinn

Randal Shinn came before Council promoting information regarding an upcoming bond through Collin County for transportation needs. According to the Collin County Mobility Plan, traffic volumes have exceeded 45,000 vehicles per day. In 2016, Commissioner's Court determined relief must be provided to US 380 and the Southeastern part of Collin County around SH 78. Mr. Shinn also spoke of the economic impact and how new freeways increase jobs and gross product. With the proposed bond once approved by the voters, construction could be underway as soon as 2024-2035. Mr. Shinn informed the audience bond funding is needed to improve the capacity of major roadways that are already congested and will be more severe in the immediate future. Support is requested for this upcoming bond election for Collin County projects which will allow Collin County to partner with TxDOT, the MPO and cities. The total bond election will be in 3 propositions being a) non-tolled freeways \$600 million; b) thoroughfares \$140 million; and c) open space/parks \$10 million totaling \$750 million.

Mr. Shinn also informed the public and for future notation if the bond is passed by voters this coming November, the County's debt service tax rate will not increase and asked everyone to vote FOR the bonds. Christina Porath stated the map on page 15 of the presentation makes the decision very clear for all voters and encouraged support.

8. First Public Hearing to receive public comment on the Proposed 2018 Property Tax Rate for the City of Blue Ridge

Mayor Williams opened the Public Hearing at 7:37pm and asked those FOR the tax rate to come forward. With no one coming forward, Mayor Williams asked those OPPOSING the tax rate to come forward. With no one coming forward, Mayor Williams closed the Public Hearing at 7:37pm.

9. Budget Workshop for Fiscal Year 2018-2019


Council reviewed the Revenue and General Tax Fund Proposed Budget line by line. After reviewing the previous year's expenses along with the comparison of last year's budget; Council agreed to continue working with the figures to come to a zero balance.

Council also discussed the General Tax Fund with three (3) tax rate proposals. The majority of the Council agreed to pursue the rollback tax rate of \$0.594114 which will accommodate services throughout Fiscal Year 2018-2019. Council also discussed going out for bids for Animal Control services. Council also discussed working with the Volunteer Fire Department and requested a meeting with the Council.

Council also requested having a prayer and Pledge of Allegiance at each meeting.

10. Adjournment. Christina Porath motioned to adjourn with Amber Wood seconding the motion. Council adjourned at 7:44pm.

APPROVED:


Rhonda Williams, Mayor

ATTEST:


Edie Sims, City Secretary