

MINUTES OF THE CROCKETT CITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THE 20th DAY OF JULY 2009 IN THE CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS, LOCATED AT 200 NORTH FIFTH IN THE CITY OF CROCKETT, HOUSTON COUNTY TEXAS AT 6:00 P.M.

THE COUNCIL MET IN REGULAR SESSION WITH THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS PRESENT: WAYNE MASK, ANSEL BRADSHAW, ROBERT MEADOWS, NATHAN GARDNER, JACKIE JONES AND BILL HOLCOMB. CITY OFFICIALS PRESENT: CITY ADMINISTRATOR RONALD DUNCAN, CITY SECRETARY MITZI THOMPSON, POLICE CHIEF JIMMY FISHER AND FIRE CHIEF DARRELL DECKARD.

1. OPEN MEETING WITH INVOCATION AND PLEDGE

Mayor Mask called the formal session open. Mayor Pro Tem Holcomb gave the invocation and all joined in the pledge.

2. RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

Mayor Mask recognized all visitors present.

3. COMMENTS FROM AUDIENCE OR COUNCIL

Ms. Hill – complaints against Police Department

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: REGULAR MEETING – JUNE 15, 2009

Mayor Pro Tem Holcomb made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 15, 2009 Regular Meeting. Council member Meadows seconded the motion. Motion passes 5-0.

5. REPORTS: MAYOR:

- A) ORCA - TEXAS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT LETTER – Approval of grant for Pease Street Inceptor Project

6. REPORTS: CITY ADMINISTRATOR:

- A) INTRODUCTION OF CITY OF CROCKETT/HOUSTON COUNTY REFUSE CONTROL OFFICER – Mr. Duncan introduced Mr. Raymond Fleming to Council
- B) HOME PROGRAM UPDATE – Received 12 applications and these applicants are being evaluated
- C) SUMMER YOUTH WORK PROGRAM UPDATE – Have employed between 40 and 43 youth from Crockett ranging in ages from 15 to 19 along with 5 adult supervisors, have been very pleased with the cleanup work they have already done

7. POLICE DEPARTMENT MANPOWER & CRIMINAL INCIDENT REPORT FOR JUNE

Police Chief Fisher reported for the time period of June 1, 2009 thru June 30, 2009; 16 total manpower, 0 reserve manpower, 2271 total manpower hours, 0 total reserve manpower hours, 662 total calls, 10 total accidents.

8. FIRE DEPARTMENT MONTHLY ACTIVITY AND STATUS REPORT FOR JUNE

Fire Chief Deckard reported for the month of June the following: 42 total calls. A breakdown is included in the packets.

9. CONSIDER AND APPROVE REQUEST FROM HABITAT FOR HUMANITY FOR SURPLUS BUILDING MATERIALS FROM THE OLD ETMC HOSPITAL LOCATED 201 N FIFTH STREET

Habitat President Carlton Jones thanked the city for their support. Mr. Joe Garms requested commodes, sinks and shelves that could be reused in the houses they build and the glass blocks to sell. Mr. Garms said that they are working to have enough funds to be able to build a house every year. Mayor Pro Tem Holcomb made a motion to approve the request from Habitat for Humanity for surplus building materials from the old ETMC Hospital located 201 N Fifth Street. Council member Meadows seconded the motion. Motion passes 5-0.

10. CONSIDER AND APPROVE EXTENSION OF CITY DEPOSITORY AGREEMENT UNTIL AUGUST 2011

Mr. Duncan recommended approving the extension to stay with Prosperity Bank by stating the bank has done a terrific job with the services they have provided the city in billing, payments, online transactions and direct deposits. Mayor Pro Tem Holcomb made a motion to approve the extension of the city's depository agreement with Prosperity Bank until August 2011. Council member Meadows seconded the motion. Motion passes 5-0.

11. CONSIDER AND APPROVE REQUEST TO TXDOT TO ORDER "CELL PHONE USE PROHIBITED IN SCHOOL ZONES" SIGNS

Mr. Duncan said the request from TXDOT indicated the state would pay for the cost and installation of the signs for state highways, he said that he would contact them to see what can be worked out on the installation of others that may fall outside the state's right-of-way. Council member Bradshaw made a motion to approve request to TXDOT to Order "Cell Phone Use Prohibited in School Zones" Signs. Council member Meadows seconded the motion. Motion passes 4-0. Mayor Pro Tem Holcomb abstained.

12. CONSIDER AND APPROVE EMPLOYEE HEALTH/LIFE INSURANCE INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT WITH TEXAS MUNICIPAL LEAGUE INTERGOVERNMENTAL EMPLOYEE BENEFITS POOL THRU OCTOBER 1, 2010

Mr. Duncan stated there were no increases in the health or life insurance premiums. Mayor Pro Tem Holcomb made a motion to approve the employee health/life insurance Interlocal Agreement with Texas Municipal League Intergovernmental Employee Benefits Pool thru October 1, 2010. Council member Meadows seconded the motion. Motion passes 5-0.

13. CONSIDER AND APPROVE RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF CROCKETT AUTHORIZING THE FILING OF A GRANT APPLICATION, IN CONJUNCTION WITH HOUSTON COUNTY, WITH THE DEEP EAST TEXAS COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS (DETCOG) FOR A REGIONAL SOLID WASTE GRANTS PROGRAM GRANT; AUTHORIZING WAYNE MASK, MAYOR, AND RONALD M. DUNCAN, CITY ADMINISTRATOR TO ACT ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF CROCKETT IN ALL MATTERS RELATED TO THE APPLICATION; AND PLEDGING THAT IF A GRANT IS RECEIVED THE CITY OF CROCKETT, AS WELL AS HOUSTON COUNTY, WILL COMPLY WITH THE GRANT REQUIREMENTS OF THE DEEP EAST TEXAS COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS, THE TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY AND THE STATE OF TEXAS

Mr. Duncan explained that this grant provides \$21,000.00 over an 18 month period for a refuse control officer. Council member Bradshaw made a motion to approve resolution of the City of Crockett authorizing the filing of a grant application, in conjunction with Houston County, with the Deep East Texas Council of Governments (DETCOG) for a Regional Solid Waste Grants Program Grant; authorizing Wayne Mask, Mayor, and Ronald M. Duncan, City Administrator to act on behalf of the City of Crockett in all matters related to the application; and pledging that if a grant is received the City of Crockett, as well as Houston County, will comply with the grant requirements. Mayor Pro Tem Holcomb seconded the motion. Motion passes 5-0.

14. BUDGET WORKSHOP

City Administrator Duncan presented a draft copy of the budget that contains no increase in water, sewer or garbage rates. Houston County Water District has delayed any further rate increases for at least one year. The City will build five or six homes this year through the HOME Program. Funding for the Texas Block Development Program grant project to upgrade the Pease Street Interceptor at the North Waste Water Treatment Plant is listed in the budget. ORCA Hurricane Ike Disaster Relief Project funding of \$761,191 is included in the budget. This budget does not include a pay increase for employees, but employees did receive .70/hr minimum wage adjustment in July 2009. Texas Municipal Retirement System had an increase from 11.39% the first quarter to 12.10% in the last three quarters. Health and life insurance premiums have not increased. Mr. Duncan said in addition to freezing wages, he recommends a hiring freeze; only refilling critical shortfalls on a case by case basis. Mr. Duncan also said that he would recommend a Cost of Living increase of 3% after mid-year review if revenue picks up. Mr. Duncan stated that he received capital requests totaling \$750,000 but that he could not recommend funding any of them based on the current economic situation. Council discussed

various ways to generate additional revenue for the city. Council member Bradshaw presented to council the possibility of advertising the selling of clear garbage bags to generate revenue from the sales.

13. ADJOURNMENT

With no more business to consider, meeting was adjourned at 7:50 P.M.

Wayne Mask, Mayor

ATTEST:

Mitzi Thompson, City Secretary