

MINUTES OF THE CROCKETT CITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THE 21<sup>ST</sup> DAY OF JULY 2008 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, JAMES HALL, DARIUS KITCHEN, NATHAN GARDNER, JACKIE JONES & BILL HOLCOMB. CITY OFFICIALS PRESENT: CITY ADMINISTRATOR RONALD DUNCAN, CITY SECRETARY MITZI THOMPSON, POLICE CHIEF JIMMY FISHER & FIRE CHIEF DARRELL DECKARD.

1. OPEN MEETING WITH INVOCATION AND PLEDGE

Mayor Mask called the formal session open. Council member Jones gave the invocation and all joined in the pledge.

2. RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

Mayor Mask recognized all visitors present.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: REGULAR MEETING – JUNE 2, 2008

Mayor Pro Tem Holcomb made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 2, 2008 Regular Meeting. Council member Jones seconded the motion. Motion passes 5-0.

4. REPORTS: MAYOR – No report at this time

CITY ADMINISTRATOR – new Emergency Services District agreement from city attorney's office, reception for Jack Shively will be at the Civic Center - August 1<sup>st</sup> from 4:00-6:00 p.m., last home completed for the Home program with the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs

5. POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Chief Fisher reported for the time period of June 16<sup>th</sup> thru July 20, 2008; 13 total manpower, 1 reserve manpower, 2,365 total manpower hours, 20 total reserve manpower hours, 829 total calls, 12 total accidents. A breakdown of the criminal reports is included in the packets. Chief Fisher answered questions from council members regarding criminal mischief.

A) NOMINATION/ELECTION OF NEW POLICE OFFICER

Mayor Pro Tem Holcomb made a motion to approve Theodore Baker as a full time officer. Council member Jones seconded the motion. Motion passes 5-0.

6. FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Fire Chief Deckard reported for the month of June the following: 25 total calls. A breakdown is included in the packets.

7. CONSIDER AND APPROVE AGREEMENT BETWEEN HOUSTON COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 2 (HEREINAFTER REFERRED TO AS THE "DISTRICT") ACTING THROUGH THE DISTRICT'S BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS AND THE CITY OF CROCKETT, TEXAS, A TEXAS HOME RULE MUNICIPALITY, (HEREINAFTER REFERRED TO AS THE "SERVICE PROVIDER") ACTING THROUGH THE SERVICE PROVIDER'S GOVERNING BODY

Mr. Duncan stated that final wording of Paragraph 6.3 has been approved by City Attorney Pemberton. That sentence being that funds will be deposited in the general fund, to be used as the City deems appropriate. Council member Hall made a motion to approve agreement between Houston County Emergency Services District No. 2 (hereinafter referred to as the "District") acting through the District's Board of Commissioners and the City of Crockett, Texas, a Texas Home Rule Municipality; (hereinafter referred to as the "Service Provider") acting through the Service Provider's governing body. Council member Jones seconded the motion. Motion passes 5-0.

8. CONSIDER AND APPROVE A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF CROCKETT AUTHORIZING THE FILING OF A GRANT APPLICATION 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 WILL COMPLY WITH GRANT REQUIREMENTS OF THE DEEP EAST TEXAS COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS, THE TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY AND THE STATE OF TEXAS

Mr. Duncan explained to council that this is a grant for \$19,600.00 to replace a forklift in the solid waste department. Mr. Duncan stated that the actual cost of the forklift is \$22,700.00 and that \$19,600.00 will be paid through this grant. Mayor Pro Tem Holcomb made a motion to approve the resolution authorizing the filing of a grant application 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 in all matters related to the application. Council member Jones seconded the motion. Motion passes 5-0.

9. BUDGET WORKSHOP

Council spent some time going over the proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2009. Mr. Duncan presented a draft copy of the budget that includes a significant rate increase to water and sewer rates. Mr. Duncan anticipates another 10% increase from Houston County Water District #1. The budget draft also includes an 11% increase in basic garbage collection rates. The HOME program will close for this year. The North Waste Water Treatment Plant improvements program will be complete by the end of the fiscal year. The Houston County Appraisal District will have the estimated tax rates by mid July. The current estimate of the tax base is over \$241,000,000. This budget includes a 3% across the board increase for employees and a .70/hr minimum wage adjustment; effective the end of July 2007, as well as the projected July 2008 .70/hr increase. Texas Municipal Retirement System had an increase from 9.60% the first quarter to 11.39 in the last three quarters. Health and life insurance went up by 13%. Mr. Duncan said that a hiring freeze would be necessary throughout next fiscal year.

10. COMMENTS FROM AUDIENCE OR COUNCIL

Council member Hall – bio-diesel update, still working on project

Council member Gardner – questions/zoning, new law enforcement facility

Ansel Bradshaw – 2,300 water customers, would like to see printed message on customer bills reminding citizens that the City sells garbage bags along with the garbage pickup schedule printed, more big item pick up days

11. ADJOURNMENT

With no more business to consider, meeting was adjourned at 7:46 P.M.

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Wayne Mask, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Mitzi Thompson, City Secretary