

MINUTES OF THE CROCKETT CITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THE 3<sup>rd</sup> DAY OF AUGUST 2020 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: IANTHIA FISHER, DARRELL JONES & MIKE MARSH. CITY OFFICIALS PRESENT: CITY ADMINISTRATOR JOHN ANGERSTEIN, CITY SECRETARY MITZI THOMPSON, POLICE CHIEF CLAYTON SMITH AND FIRE CHIEF JASON FRIZZELL. MICHAEL CALVERT, ERNEST JACKSON & MARQUITA BEASLEY JOINED MEETING REMOTELY.

1. OPEN MEETING WITH INVOCATION AND PLEDGE

Mayor Fisher called the formal session open. Mayor Fisher gave the invocation and all joined in the pledge.

2. RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

Mayor Fisher recognized all visitors present.

3. COMMENTS FROM AUDIENCE OR COUNCIL *(At this time, anyone will be allowed to speak on City related matters only; no personnel matters or matters under litigation will be allowed. The length of time may not exceed three minutes. NO Council discussion or action may take place on a matter until such matter has been placed on an agenda and posted in accordance with law.)*

- Carolyn McKnight – thanked police department for the escort during the Walls coming Down rally

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: REGULAR SESSION – JULY 6, 2020

Council member Jones made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 6, 2020 Regular Meeting. Council member Jackson seconded the motion. Motion passes 4-0.

5. POLICE DEPARTMENT MANPOWER & CRIMINAL INCIDENT REPORT FOR JULY 2020

Council member Beasley joined meeting remotely at this time.

Chief Smith reported for the month of July 2020; 13 total manpower, 2181 total manpower hours, 471 total calls and 7 total accidents. A breakdown of the criminal reports is included in the packets.

6. FIRE DEPARTMENT MONTHLY ACTIVITY AND STATUS REPORT FOR JULY 2020

Fire Chief Frizzell reported for the month of July the following: 43 total calls. A breakdown is included in the packets.

7. CONSIDER AND APPROVE AUTHORIZING FIRE CHIEF FRIZZELL TO NEGOTIATE DETAILS FOR RENEWING CONTRACT WITH HOUSTON COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT #2

Mayor Pro Tem Marsh made a motion to approve authorizing Fire Chief Frizzell to negotiate details for renewing contract with Houston County Emergency Services District #2. Council member Jones seconded the motion. Motion passes 5-0.

8. AWARD BID: SPLASH PAD PROJECT - A PROJECT OF THE TEXAS PARKS & WILDLIFE DEPARTMENT LOCAL PARKS RECREATION GRANT #54-000211

Mr. Angerstein reported to council that two bids were received: Seaspray, LLC. in the amount of \$76,150.00 and PTI Sports and Recreation Construction in the amount of \$118,940.00. Mayor Pro Tem Marsh made a motion to award bid for the splash pad project to Seaspray, LLC in the amount of \$76,150.00. Council member Jones seconded the motion. Motion passes 5-0.

9. CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE ACCEPTANCE OF THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION DISASTER SUPPLEMENTAL GRANT: PROJECT #08-79-05379 AND COMMITTING FUNDS FROM WATER UTILITY RESERVES UP TO \$500,000.00

Mr. Angerstein explained that the project budget total is for 2.5 million dollars and includes replacing water lines down S. 4<sup>th</sup> Street from Anson Jones to the Loop and then down S. 5<sup>th</sup> Street from Anson Jones to the Loop, it also includes laying a gas line and installation of broadband internet service in the Crockett Economic Industrial Park. The match for this grant is \$500,000.00 to be paid by the City and CEIDC equally. The construction of the gas line was pulled out of the grant by the Department of Commerce due to the City not owning the gas line after it is installed. It would belong to CenterPoint Gas. The installation of the gas line now needs to be funded by the City and CEIDC, the cost of construction of the gas line is approximately \$117,057. Mr. Gentry stated he took that portion of the gas line out of his 250,000.00 match therefore the City's match would be approximately \$350,000.00 to make up the difference. Mayor Pro Tem Marsh ask Mr. Gentry if Economic Development could contribute more towards the share of the cost so that there would be less of a burden on city property taxpayers. Mr. Gentry stated he would need to present this to his Board on August 10, 2020. Mayor Pro Tem Marsh made a motion to table this item until August 10, 2020 after the CEIDC Board meeting. Council member Jones seconded the motion.

Motion passes 4-1. Council member Jackson voted against the motion. Item tabled.

10. CONSIDER AND APPROVE AN INTERLOCAL GOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION CONTRACT FOR MANAGEMENT SERVICES FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION GRANT BETWEEN DEEP EAST TEXAS COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS AND CITY OF CROCKETT

Mayor Pro Tem Marsh made a motion to table this item until August 10, 2020 council meeting. Council member Jones seconded the motion. Motion passes 4-1. Council member Jackson voted against the motion. Item tabled.

11. CONSIDER AND APPROVE A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CROCKETT DESIGNATING AUTHORIZED SIGNATORIES FOR CONTRACTUAL DOCUMENTS AND DOCUMENTS REQUESTING FUNDS PERTAINING TO THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION DISASTER SUPPLEMENTAL GRANT: PROJECT #08-79-05379

Mayor Pro Tem Marsh made a motion to table this item until August 10, 2020 council meeting. Council member Jones seconded the motion. Motion passes 5-0.

12. CONSIDER AND APPROVE PARTNERING WITH HOUSTON COUNTY TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH EARL'S APPAREL TO PRODUCE FACE MASKS TO BE DISTRIBUTED TO LOCAL BUSINESSES

Mayor Fisher noted that the cost of production for these masks will be paid for with funds from the Coronavirus Relief Act (CARES) and also noted that the Houston County Commissioners Court has already voted to pass the same at a commissioner's court meeting. Mayor Pro Tem Marsh made a motion to approve partnering with Houston County to enter into a contract with Earl's Apparel to produce face masks to be distributed to local businesses. Council member Jackson seconded the motion. Motion passes 5-0.

13. CONSIDER AND APPROVE 2020-2021 FISCAL YEAR BUDGET FOR THE CROCKETT ECONOMIC & INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Mr. Gentry presented council with the 2020-2021 budget and explained the budget projects \$1.325 million in total income and \$1.252 million in total expenses. Mr. Gentry noted sales tax is down for the year. He also noted the budget includes a 5% across the board salary increase. In addition, there are increases for Prospect Incentives which include; funding for small business, which will be reimbursed, also, the Board had approved an incentive for Piney Woods Sanitation which was at \$40,000.00, his board will review that amount to

possibly fund the project at 100% of cost. It includes the gas line for the EDA Grant, and also the match for this grant. Mr. Gentry noted his Board will meet on August 10, 2020 to discuss the requests for additional funding. After discussion; Council member Jones made a motion to approve the 2020-2021 fiscal year budget for the Crockett Economic & Industrial Development Corporation. Council member Jackson seconded the motion. Motion passes 5-0.

14. FISCAL YEAR 2021 BUDGET UPDATE

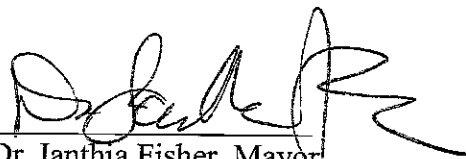
Mr. Angerstein updated council on the Fiscal Year 2021 budget. He noted the budget is balanced and is set on a voter approval rate which will be a tax rate decrease. Some of the capital requests could not be included in the budget; the street sweeper has been removed; the Fire Marshals vehicle has been removed. There will be a truck internally transferred to the Fire Marshal. Additionally, the police radios are not going to be pursued in this budget, but the police station repairs are included in the budget along with the purchase of a radar gun. Overall, the budget is reduced by \$43,872.00 with significant losses in water and sewer. Mayor Fisher stated there were a lot of sacrifices that had to be made in regards to capital requests but there have been alternative's set up to offset these requests and there is no impact to city services.

15. CONSIDER AND APPROVE PROPOSED TAX RATE

Mayor Pro Tem Marsh made a motion to approve the proposed tax rate of .582529. Council member Jones seconded the motion. Motion passes 5-0.

16. ADJOURNMENT

Without objection, Mayor Fisher adjourned the meeting at 7:16 P.M.

  
Dr. Ianthia Fisher, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
Mitzi Thompson, City Secretary