

CITY OF BLUE RIDGE
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
OCTOBER 6, 2020

THE BLUE RIDGE CITY COUNCIL MET IN REGULAR SESSION AT 7:00 P.M. ON TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2020 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, Amber Wood, and Allen Cunnyngnam.
2. 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: Blue Ridge Community Development Corporation received a grant and is matching funds for updated playground equipment at Bratcher Park
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 September 1, 2020; b) Public Works Update; c) City Financial Report; d) Fire Department Report; and e) Animal Control Report
Amber Wood motioned to approve the Consent Agenda as presented with Christina Porath seconding the motion. Motion carried unanimously.
6. Consider, discuss and act upon appointing Colby Collinsworth to the vacant seat on the City Council. If appointed, swear in for service
Christina Porath motioned to appoint Colby Collinsworth to the vacant City Council seat with Amber Wood seconding the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Mr. Collinsworth was sworn into office by City Secretary Edie Sims.
7. Consider, discuss and act upon the theme for the Christmas Parade scheduled for December 5, 2020
Christina Porath motioned to use "Christmas Vacation" as the theme for this year's Christmas Parade. Amber Wood seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.
8. Consider, discuss and act upon approving the Economic Development Corporation Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2020-2021
The Blue Ridge Economic Development Corporation's budget was presented. Keith Chitwood asked several questions including, the length of the loan(s) and what the cleaning under the Commercial Complex is for. Both Amber Wood and Christina Porath serve on the BREDC Board and answered most of Mr. Chitwood's questions. Keith Chitwood motioned to approve the BREDC Budget as presented with Allen Cunnyngnam seconding the motion. Motion carried unanimously.
9. Discuss an error made posting sales tax receipts for the Blue Ridge Community Development Corporation and the Blue Ridge Economic Development Corporation and measures taken to resolve the error and measures to prevent future errors
Council was informed of an error found where two months of sales tax revenues did not get posted to either BRCDC or BREDC. After the error was found, we are anticipating funds to refund both Corporations the funds due. City Hall is also asking for both Corporation's

Treasurers to participate monthly to review the bank statements and the accounting to ensure this type of error does not re-occur. As a result of the Corporations not meeting as regularly due to COVID-19, the monthly check will allow a checks and balances for both the City's records and the Corporation's records. Both Corporations were informed of this incident due to their ownership of funds prior to Council knowledge.

10. Consider, discuss and act upon impact fee schedule adopting a system wide Land Use Assumptions and Capital Improvement Plan

In an effort to prepare for upcoming development, the City hired an engineer to perform an impact fee study. This study has been completed and the next step will be the Advisory Committee to meet and begin making recommendations to the City Council. A schedule has been presented which meets the legal requirements to ultimately adopt the Impact Fees. Christina Porath motioned to approve the schedule as presented with Amber Wood seconding the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

11. Consider, discuss and act upon the need of an additional water meter at 600 FM 981 (Long Enterprises) and the provision of sewer services to said property

City Secretary Edie Sims informed the Council of a situation found at 600 FM 981 when the water service was disconnected for non-payment at the mobile home on the property. Upon said disconnection, City Hall was called being informed the water was also off at the Commercial Building at the same address. Originally the Commercial Building was a shop for his mother who lived at this residence. Having one meter was sufficient at the time as there was not restroom facilities or other water uses to the Commercial Building. Over time, additions were made but permits were not pulled and no one knew of the conditions until the service was disconnected for non-payment by his renters.

Since that time, owner Steve Long was notified that two meters are required. Council was also given the requirement for individual meters per lot/use. Mr. Steve Long was present at the meeting and stated if he is required to have 2 meters on this property then he wants City sewer. Unfortunately, City sewer has not been an option for this property due to its location and lack of "fall" to allow the sewer to gravity flow. Mr. Long went back and forth trying to get a "deal" but when refused, Mr. Long stated he would pursue action through the State since the one meter has been sufficient for 30+ years. Council offered Mr. Long to have the City install, at the City's expense, an additional meter with a tap; however, if he chose to pursue action, the offer for costs incurred by the City would be null and void. Mr. Long insisted on having the City pay to install City Sewer to this location. After further discussion, Mr. Long agreed he is required to have 2 water meters constituting two water bills however he still requested City Sewer for the current building uses.

Christina Porath motioned to install a tap and an additional water meter at 600 FM 981 at the cost of the City with Amber Wood seconding the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

12. Consider, discuss and act upon Ordinance 2020-1006-001 adopting the North Central Texas Council of Governments Public Works Construction Standards, Fifth Edition

With development knocking on our door, the City must have construction standards to allow for proper growth practices. With no questions, Amber Wood motioned to approve the Ordinance as presented with Keith Chitwood seconding the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Council took a break at 8:05pm.

Council resumed at 8:12pm.

13. 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, Frank 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, City of Blue Ridge v. Flotrend, Inc and Wasser Logistics Holdings, LLC; and c) 551.071(2): Consultation with the City Attorney regarding pending or contemplated litigation, Willard Hancock v. City of Blue Ridge

Council went into Executive Session at 8:13pm.

14. 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 Regular Session at 8:46pm. No action was taken by Council.

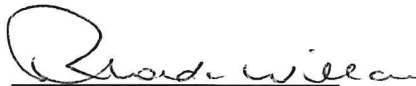
15. Discussion of placing items on future agendas


Mayor Williams asked for the following items to be discussed at a future meeting: a) an update from both BREDC and BRCDC on projects planned or in progress; b) an update from the BRCDC regarding the Stimulus Package; c) will BREDC offer a Stimulus Package; and d) why BREDC did not accept an offer from Frognot Water Supply for the EDC building. No one else requested an item to be placed on a future agenda.

16. Adjournment Christina Porath motioned to adjourn with Allen Cunnyngnam seconding the motion. Council adjourned at 8:48pm.

APPROVED:

ATTEST:


Rhonda Williams, Mayor


Edie Sims, City Secretary